



| | |
|---------------------|----|
| CALENDAR | 27 |
| CROSSWORD | 30 |
| OBITUARIES | 9 |
| ENTERTAINMENT | 29 |
| SUDOKU | 30 |

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NO INJURIES REPORTED IN FIRE

Fire crews cut away the encasement for a downstairs chimney after a wood stove caused a fire in the rear of this 4,000-square-foot residence off Route 611. Crews from Berlin and Ocean City operated for more than an hour to extinguish the fire and check for potential spreading. The Showell Volunteer Fire Company sent a tanker to the scene. See full story page 5.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Investigation clears fire co. on patient care, notes issues

Paramedic fired four days after officials hear from state investigators

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN — Four days after the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems issued a report determining that on-scene medical care rendered during a fatal car crash that occurred just after Christmas last year met the appropriate standard of care, the paramedic involved in treating and transporting the victim was fired by the Berlin Fire Company.

In a March 7 letter to Berlin Mayor Gee Williams, MIEMSS officials said “We have determined that the pre-hospital emergency medical services care rendered to the victims of the motor vehicle crash met the standard of care for the delivery of such services; appropriate care was rendered to the patients; and there was no delay in transport.”

However, the letter, which was

signed by State Emergency Medical Services Medical Director Richard Alcorta, also said, “that the significant, underlying tensions surrounding the delivery of emergency medical services in Berlin have the potential to impact patient care and must be addressed.”

After a review of the Dec. 26 incident that included 48 interviews with 26 individuals and a review of medical records, Alcorta told Williams, “The Town of Berlin, the Berlin Fire Department (sic) and the Worcester County EMS operational program and its Medical Director will need to engage meaningful efforts to resolve this situation as soon as possible.”

At the center of the controversy was an emergency medical technician who filed a workplace harassment complaint with the town in February 2012. The EMT drove one of three ambulances that responded to the scene and allegedly requested assistance in transporting one of the victims, who was later pronounced dead at the hospital, with the help of a police officer when other responders at the scene allegedly failed to respond.

Continued on Page 4

County schools announce their ‘Teacher of the Year’ candidates

Selection to be revealed at banquet next Friday at Clarion in Ocean City

By Zack Hoopes

Staff Writer/Ocean City Today

WORCESTER COUNTY — Worcester County will reveal its champion teacher for 2013 next Friday during the annual Teacher of the Year Banquet, held at the Clarion in Ocean City as part of the larger state-level contest to determine who will be Maryland’s educational ambassador for the year.

“It’s a great way to celebrate the teaching profession and exceptional teachers,” said county schools’ Director of Special Programs Barb Witherow. “Often times

our teachers are unsung heroes.”

Every year, the state of Maryland charges each of its 24 school districts — 23 counties, plus Baltimore City — with selecting a top teacher to serve as a candidate alongside teachers from other districts in the contest for Maryland Teacher of the Year. Although the state does not dictate exactly how the districts are to select their candidate, Worcester’s process mirrors a similar rubric to what its winning teacher will face at the state level.

At each of the county’s 14 schools, according to Witherow, a selection committee of administrators is formed to receive nominations for that school’s best teacher. Nominations can be made by anyone involved — students, parents, and fellow teachers.

Following a review, the administrative

panel selects one nominee to represent the school at the county level. At the point, the process becomes much more intensive, Witherow said.

“Ours mirrors almost exactly what the state requires; however, it is a little more stringent,” she noted. The 14 finalists must submit an extensive portfolio of their work experience, which will also be used if they advance to the state level.

But beyond that, each of Worcester’s candidates is interviewed by a six-person panel, consisting of four education specialists from local universities, as well as one retired veteran teacher and the county’s current Teacher of the Year.

The interview and portfolio review process goes through practical classroom methods, and beyond.

“All of the candidates are great instruc-

tion leaders and teachers,” Witherow noted. “The portfolio has seven sections ... including student career readiness, teaching philosophy, and what their platform would be if they were to be Maryland’s state Teacher of the Year. It’s very comprehensive.”

The top performer, as judged on a 1,200-point composite rubric, will be named during next week’s event. The winner will serve throughout the year as a leader for teaching initiatives in the county, as well as an ambassador and champion of education at the state level.

Last year’s winner, Worcester Technical High School social studies teacher Tony Bevilacqua, “is very involved at the state level,” Witherow said. “All of the county Teachers of the Year participate in

Continued on Page 17

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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.

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Russell A. Queen
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State probe says patient care standard met; cites internal issues

Continued from Page 1

On Tuesday, the morning after Berlin officials received the response from MIEMSS's review, the EMT was fired by the BFC.

Separately, livid Williams responded to the MIEMSS understatement that the situation needed resolution with a press statement of his own.

"The Berlin Fire Company maintains they are not answerable to anyone, and so far in this sorry episode, apparently they are correct in assuming this is true," Williams said.

"I believe I have the upbringing and experience to know right from wrong, and if there is any accountability for the unacceptable misdeeds of a few members of the Berlin Fire Company, then I must trust that the legal ramifications of this sordid mess have only just begun."

According to Williams, "The first Berlin Fire Company EMS ambulance crew did their job, the Ocean Pines Fire Company EMS personnel did their job, but the only reason the third ambulance, which ultimately transported the patient who died, left the scene was because a Berlin Police Officer drove the ambulance when over 20 Berlin Fire Company members either refused or failed to provide this very basic and simple task."

Williams accused MIEMSS of passing the buck.

"The letter from Dr. Alcorta in essence says, yes, there is a problem here, but it is up to the Town of Berlin to resolve the issue," Williams said. "Someone in a position of oversight will eventually realize the Town of Berlin has no legal authority to make changes in the command structure or

leadership of the volunteers of the Berlin Fire Company, which is the root of this and other serious problems at the Berlin Fire House."

BFC President David Fitzgerald said Tuesday he had not seen the MIEMSS report, but had been contacted by press seeking comment on it and the town's press release.

"We have the highest regard for MIEMSS and their ability to investigate EMS incidences in Maryland," he said. "We hold MIEMSS to a very high standard, as they hold the EMS providers to a high standard," he added.

Fitzgerald said the BFC had initiated its own investigation and request for a MIEMSS review prior to the town's request. The fire company is still waiting for their response from MIEMSS, he said.

BFC officials were very pleased that the patient care rendered at the scene of the accident was found to be timely, Fitzgerald said.

Both the town of Berlin and the Berlin Fire Company had asked MIEMSS to review why Berlin Police Lt. Robert Fisher had to drive one of the three ambulances that responded to the call of a fatal accident on routes 818 and 50 that occurred Dec. 26, when other emergency and firefighting personnel were on the scene.

The accident claimed the life of Stephen Mumpower, 26, who was a passenger in a Toyota driven by Amberle Booker, 25, as the two were heading north on Route 818, the stretch of road that leads out of downtown Berlin and to Route 50.

Although both parties calling for the investigation agree that Fisher responded to a request to drive an ambulance to Atlantic General Hospital, they disagree on what transpired at the scene and the events leading to Fisher being pressed into service.

Fire company officials, however, vehemently deny that no assistance was given to the EMT, but did ask MEIMSS Region IV Administrator John Barto in Easton, Md., to find out why Fisher drove the ambulance as two EMTs in the back administered care to the crash victim.

Prior to the accident and unable to reach consensus over the validity of the claims, or actions against the personnel involved in the alleged harassment, the town moved to put the kibosh on \$560,000 in financial support that was slated to go to the BFC and to demand that \$150,000 already spent on payroll be repaid.

Last August, the town reallocated \$557,000 to the town's contingency fund of the fiscal year 2013 budget. Last month, during its Feb. 25 meeting, the town council voted unanimously to transfer \$300,000 from the contingency fund to the town's new stormwater utility fund.

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Court dismisses wrongful termination appeal, but it isn't over

Fired BFC supervisor's attorney says next step court of special appeals

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN -- The Circuit Court for Worcester County on March 5, granted the Town of Berlin's motion to dismiss an appeal claim for a wrongful termination lawsuit filed by a former supervisor of the Berlin Fire Company. The plaintiff was dismissed as acting Emergency Medical Services Supervisor in May 2012.

Circuit Court Judge David Mitchell "dismissed without leave," which completely dismisses the case, an appeal by Norris Phillip Donohoe Jr.

Donohoe's attorney confirmed the court's ruling on Tuesday, adding that attempts to appeal the case are not over.

Donohoe was acting EMS supervisor for the fire company when the town received multiple complaints of workplace harassment. Donohoe responded to his dismissal with a \$200,000 lawsuit, asserting that Berlin wrongfully terminated his position as retaliation for his disputing its claim that the harassment had not ceased.

In a March 12 statement on behalf of the town, Mayor Gee Williams noted the lawsuit was originally dismissed by Judge Mitchell Oct. 15, 2012.

"The court has once again disagreed and we are pleased the judge has dismissed the action and found the claims against the town did not have merit," Williams said. The court concluded the Town of Berlin is protected from governmental immunity and ruled there was no breach of contract, he said.

"We look forward to a time when we can resolve this dispute," Williams said, "but it is our understanding that the legal ramifications of the allegations of workplace harassment at the Berlin Fire House have only just begun."

According to the statement, the

mayor and council had also asked for a full accounting of the Berlin Fire Company's financial status in early January, but have not yet received any information in response to the request.

"In the meantime, we will simply allow the judicial process to follow its due course," Williams said.

Robin Cockey, senior partner at Salisbury firm Cockey, Brennan & Maloney L.L.P., said he has filed an appeal with the Maryland Court of Special Appeals, on the basis that the circuit court did not reach the merits of the case.

He said the circuit court ruled that

the town was entitled to sovereign immunity and that the town's councilmembers, who were also named in Donohoe's lawsuit, were entitled to legislative immunity.

"We think the judge is mistaken," Cockey said of the immunity ruling "to the extent that it still survives in legal doctrine." He predicted the process could take another six months to a year to run its course. He said the unfortunate human side of the case was that after 23 years "Mr. Donohoe is now out of a job for reasons for which there is no accountability."

Companies respond to house fire on Route 611

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN -- Firefighters from Berlin, Ocean City and Showell responded to a homeowner who reported that his South Point residence on Woodside Drive was "fully engulfed" late last Friday afternoon. But as it turned out, a wood stove had set the downstairs chimney on fire.

According a Berlin Fire Department incident report, no damage could be seen on the outside of the 4,000-square-foot, single-family dwelling, although smoke was seen from the side of the structure, off Route 611. "Investigation found fire in the enclosed framing that contained the chimney pipe that had extended to the roof," it said.

The Ocean City Fire Department reported that it had responded by sending two engines, two tankers, and two bucket trucks to assist. Crews from the OCFD created a second attack line to the second floor to check for damage that might have spread into the attic area, and, once that area was cleared, assisted with opening the area around the fireplace and checking for any further extension of fire there, the department said in an incident report.

According to its own incident report, the Berlin Fire Company received a call from the homeowner around 3:30 p.m. stating that the fire was in the chimney and had extended to the wall. Fire crews responded and set up a 1 3/4-inch handline to the rear of the house, where the downstairs chimney was located, it said.

Crews from both Berlin and Ocean City operated for more than an hour completing overhaul and extinguishment, according to OCFD officials. A tanker from the Showell volunteer Fire Company was also on the scene, they said.



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SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Robin Tomaselli, co-owner of Baked Dessert Café and Gallery, and Chef Hugo Cardenas serve Alsatian onion tarts with capers and a "Romeo and Juliet" dessert with Mexican cheese and togarashi spiced guava.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Beth Cooper's vibrant acrylics, watercolors and oil paintings were featured at the Worcester County Arts Council during the Berlin Art Stroll on March 8.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

"Spare Change" duo, Mike Hughes on drums and Kevin Compher on guitar, entertain patrons at Sisters during Berlin's Art Stroll on March 8.


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Berlin council approves events, official directives

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN – The Berlin Town Council gave its approval to several upcoming events it was briefed on during its Monday meeting, including a 5K Walk/Run, an outdoor beer event, a decoration project for an upcoming cancer awareness event, and a “Reindeer Run” at the end of the year.

Bryan Brushmiller, owner of Burley Oak Brewing Co., briefed the council on his plans to hold an outdoor beer festival on his property. While the town’s permission was not specifically needed, the council voted 4-1 to approve supporting the event. Councilmember Paula Lynch voted against supporting the event.

Debbie White and Donna Compher asked the council for permission to decorate town lampposts with purple ribbons, the trademark color for the American cancer Society’s Relay for Life Program, from April 6 through Mother’s Day, May 12. The pair is sponsoring a “Paint the Town Purple Event” which will include a “Quest for Hope” scavenger hunt on April 12.

After receiving assurances that any ribbons that become worn or damaged

Continued on Page 8



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Race won't mean street closure, but help from police

Continued from Page 7

would be promptly replaced, Councilmember Dean Burrell moved to approve the request, which the council did unanimously.

April is National Cancer Control Month.

The council also unanimously approved a request for police assistance for traffic control for a 5K Walk/Run Memorial Walk that St. Paul United Methodist Church plans to sponsor on April 13 from the church's Flower Street location to Seahawk Road.

John D. Smack III told the council registration for the event would begin 7 a.m. and the walk and run was scheduled from 8-10 a.m. He said that while the event would not require street closure, temporary assistance would be needed to direct traffic around the participating pedestrians during the event. Buses would also be on hand for participants who cannot complete the route, he added.

The 2013 Reindeer Run 5K, scheduled for Dec. 7, was approved unanimously by the council. The annual event will be fundraiser for the Worcester County Youth and Family Counseling Services.

The council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2013-02 to limit collection of special bulk or yard waste to regular residential and commercial collection account holders. The public hearing on the proposal yielded no public comment.

Nor did Resolution 2013-02, which declared the town's intention to reimburse prior expenditures for capital improvements related to implementing the town's stormwater management system. The expenses would be paid from the proceeds of one or more obligations to be issued by the town or any related interim financing, according to the resolution.

The council voted to approve an \$18,858 contract with Shore Siding to make minor repairs and replace siding on the Multipurpose Building on Flower Street, one of the last remaining buildings at the site of the old Flower Street Elementary School. The predominantly African-American school, was closed in 1970 when the public schools in Berlin were fully racially integrated.

"I know it is going to be a big improvement for the community," said Diana Purnell, who manages the building for the Berlin Community Improvement Association. In a March interview, she thanked the town for working with the community. "It was something that has been needed. It is a historical building," she said.



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OBITUARIES

Melvin Carroll Littleton

BERLIN — Melvin Carroll Littleton, 75, died Sunday, March 3, 2013, at the Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Born in Berlin, he was the son of the late Lester and Thelma Bethards Littleton.

He is survived by his sister, Katherine "Kitty" Littleton and brother, Kenneth N. Littleton and his wife, Debbie, of Libertytown near Berlin. He was preceded in death by his sister, Melva C. Littleton Campbell in 2011. He is survived by his nephews, Kenneth N. Littleton Jr. and Keith Littleton of Libertytown, Merrill Campbell Jr. of Snow Hill and Michael Campbell of Libertytown; two nieces, Thelma E. Littleton of Berlin and Marsha Littleton Tull of Whaleyville; and several cousins.

Mr. Littleton was a retired farmer and poultry grower. He was a member of the National Trappers Association and a lifetime member of the Maryland Fur Trappers, a member of the Fur Takers of America and a sustaining donor to the Fur Takers of America.

A graveside service was held Thursday, March 7, at Riverside Cemetery in Libertytown. The Rev. Dr. Olin Shockley officiated. Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin. Letters of condolence may be sent to the family at www.burbagefuneralhome.com.

Edward Albert Monk

BERLIN — Edward Albert Monk, 86, died Monday, March 4, 2013, in Berlin. Born in London, England, he was the son of the late Thomas Monk and Elsie Slater Monk. He was preceded in death by his wife, Peggy E. Monk.

Mr. Monk is survived by his daughter, Jacqueline M. Geiger and her husband, Joseph, of Berlin; three grandchildren, Alan Geiger and his wife, Vanessa, Eric Geiger and his wife, Ashley, and Joseph Geiger; and four great-grandchildren, Reese, Bailey, Saylor and Blake.

Services will be private in Lancaster, Pa., at a later date. Letters of condolence may be sent to the family at www.burbagefuneralhome.com.

James Henry Seltzer

SNOW HILL — James Henry Seltzer, 84, of Snow Hill, died Wednesday, March 6, 2013, at his home. Born in Washington, D.C., he was the son of the late Warren Ray Seltzer and Lillian Daly Seltzer.



James Seltzer

Mr. Seltzer is survived by his daughter, Soraja Buckholtz and her husband, Walter, of Snow Hill; two brothers

Continued on Page 10



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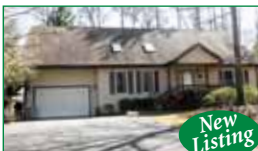


46 WOOD DUCK DRIVE

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9 WHITECAP LANE

Classic Custom Built Cape Cod with skylights and single car garage. 4 BR/2.5 BA & delightful large sunroom. Super Florida room with HVAC & cozy electric fireplace. Nice high elevation wooded lot close to park and swim club. New microwave and many newer appliances. 2 Zone gas heat. Central A/C. Recently painted & new carpet in Living Room. Paved driveway.

\$275,000

SADDLE CREEK GEM



11106 CATTAIL COURT

Queen Anne Victorian on 2+ acres in Saddle Creek Estates. Upgrades thru-out. Custom designed 4BR/4BA Home. Lovely gardens w/ vinyl screened gazebo. Surrounded by over 60 large evergreens. 2-car detached garage w/storage. Hardwood & tile in living areas. Full bath on 1st floor. Formal living & dining rooms.

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Spacious Contemporary home w/ cathedral ceilings & open floor plan located on 7th hole of Golf Course. Large all Season Sunroom w/HVAC plus rear deck. 2 car garage with 20ft wide driveway. 1 Year HMS Warranty. Seller will contribute \$5K decorator allowance for carpet & painting with acceptable offer. Square footage is larger than tax records shows. Home has been pre-inspected & summary is available on request.

\$257,500

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NEW LISTING



51 PINEHURST ROAD

Beautiful updates. New master BA while walk-in shower. Trex 17x14 rear deck. New heating system; stainless steel appliances & carpet in living rm & hallways. HWH replaced in 2010. New wave spa hot tub. Huge guest bedroom w/full BA & bonus room on 2nd floor. Corian countertops. Hardwood in dining rm. Ceramic tile in kitchen, baths, laundry rm & sunrm. Gas tip. 10x12 storage shed. Lg garage door opening to accommodate boat/van. New sliders in sunrm w/blind. Sq. Footage is larger than tax records b/c of finished upstairs.

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33 NEWPORT DRIVE

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OBITUARIES

Continued from Page 9

ers, Richard Seltzer of Massachusetts and Paul Seltzer and his wife, Susan, of Nova Scotia, as well as several nieces and nephews.

He was a well-known and beloved minister of Jehovah's Witness for 56 years and worked with the Worcester County Health Department for 25 years.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, at the Kingdom of Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses on Moonglow Road in Fruitland, Md. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family, c/o Soraja Buckholtz, 110 South Drive, Snow Hill, Md. 21863. Letters of condolence may be sent to the family at www.burbagefuneralhome.com.

Elsie Mae Townsend

BERLIN — Elsie Mae Townsend, 85, of Ocean City, died Thursday, March 7, 2013, at the Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.



Elsie Townsend

Born in Milford, Del., she was the daughter of the late Walter Thomas Warrington and Mary C. Savage Warrington. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Townsend.

Mrs. Townsend is survived by a son, Charles Thomas Townsend and his wife, Joan, of Berlin; a daughter, Martha E. Wilkins and her husband, William Gordon, of Ocean City; three grandchildren, Kandis Kulyk of Berlin, Wendy Ann Dibuo of Bish-

opville and William Gordon Wilkins II of Ocean City; 11 great-grandchildren, Candace, Tony, Nathan, Madison, James, Mark, Thomas, Gabrielle, Gavin, Brandon and Tyler; and one great-great-granddaughter, Mariah.

A graveside service was held Monday, March 11, at Sunset Memorial Park in Berlin. The Rev. Matt Trask officiated. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Berlin Volunteer Fire Company, Ambulance Fund, 214 N. Main St., Berlin, Md. 21811.

Letters of condolence may be sent to the family at www.burbagefuneralhome.com.

Joseph H. Larsen

SELBYVILLE, Del. — Joseph H. Larsen, 52, of Selbyville died Sunday, March 10, 2013, at home. Born in Wilmington, Del., he was the son of the late Leonard I. and Margaret M. (Werts) Larsen.

Mr. Larsen had been a store clerk at 7-Eleven in Ocean City and was a member of Salem United Methodist Church in Selbyville.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Shockley Larsen; a son, Todd Larsen, at home; a sister, Rosemary Reyes of Selbyville; a nephew, Miguel Reyes Jr. of Bishopville; and three great nieces.

A memorial service will be held at noon on Friday, March 15, at Salem United Methodist Church in Selbyville. The Rev. Dr. James Van Der Wall will officiate. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Todd D. Larsen Trust Account, c/o PNC Bank, P.O. Box 470, Selbyville, Del. 19975.

Trip set to see 'Sister Act' in Phil.

OCEAN PINES — The smash hit based on the Whoopi Goldberg movie! "Sister Act" will be showing at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. Ocean Pines will be offering a trip on Sunday, April 7, to see this musical comedy.

The bus will depart the Ocean Pines Community Center at 8:30 a.m. to arrive at the theater for the 1 p.m. show. The bus will stop for lunch at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Immediately following the show, the tour will return to Ocean Pines, stopping for dinner in Wilmington. The bus is scheduled to return to Ocean Pines at approximately 9 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$80 and includes transportation and the cost of admission to the show.

For more information, contact the Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks Department at 410-641-7052.

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Commission to mark 'Women's History Month'

Annual celebration this year will concentrate on achievements in science

OCEAN CITY — The Worcester County Commission for Women will celebrate National Women's History Month with a luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on March 27, at the Clarion Resort Hotel in Ocean City. This year's theme is "Women Inspiring Innovation through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics."

The luncheon will recognize women whose lives exemplify exceptional vision and leadership.

Brenda J. Dingwall of Snow Hill will be honored as the 2013 Woman of the Year for her commitment to education and im-

proving people's lives. Dingwall has a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and a master's in rehabilitation counseling. She has worked at U.S. Army Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, and currently at NASA Wallops Flight Facility. Throughout her career, her focus has been on improving people's lives. At the beginning of her career, it was by developing improved technology for our soldiers. Now it is by assuring that all employees and future employees have the opportunity to develop their maximum potential. One of her greatest passions is serving youth.

She is the Camp Agape director at the Episcopal Diocese of Easton, where she works with children of incarcerated parents to assure that they have a chance to thrive.

Virginia Dale Ayres Swindler (1895-

1964) will be honored as the 2013 Woman in History for her extraordinary life, worthy of celebration and remembrance.

Swindler lived in Worcester County her entire life. She was born in Whaleyville as the first of twin daughters to parents James and Florence Dale. In 1913, she married Guy Robins Ayres, who was an attorney in the Berlin/Ocean City area. In 1923, he built the Ayresbilt Apartment Complex in Ocean City, which is part of the Lankford Hotel complex on Eighth Street in Ocean City.

When Swindler was widowed in 1938, she became the sole supporter of their three children. She moved to Ocean City and began her career in real estate, an occupation mainly held by men. She placed her emphasis on beach property rentals and claimed to be the first realtor on the beach. She was an active member of St.

Continued on Page 12

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Burger Night - \$5.00 Burger

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
Meat & Cheese Lasagna \$9.95

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Steak Night \$14.95

FRIDAY NIGHT
Fried Shrimp \$11.95

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Blackened Salmon Dinner \$12.95

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Olivia Hutt, a retired Showell Elementary School teacher, returned to read two books to second-grade classes to supplement their study of black history. She chose the anniversary of Rosa Parks' brave decision to demand to be treated the same as the other people on a bus to be her story day. Jenna Olafsson, Pierce Redmond, Autumn Drew and Ethan Suplee enjoyed hearing about Henry's Freedom Box, a true story about a man who hid in a box and had someone ship him to a free state to escape slavery.

Pioneer Realtor to be honored

Continued from Page 11

Paul's by the Sea by contributing her time and talents to church endeavors.

She helped to organize the Ocean City Women's Club and served as its first president. She was the first president of the Coastal Realty Board and was instrumental in its growth and success.

Ticket price is \$35 for a salad, entrée, dessert and beverage. The event will include a keynote speaker, awards, exhibitors and raffles. Sponsorships are

available for \$35 for a student or \$350 for a table of eight. Proceeds from the luncheon benefit the McGuffey Bookworm Club, the summer reading literacy program for elementary students in Worcester County.

Register by March 17. Pay online at www.friendsofwccw.org or mail checks made payable to FWCCW, P.O. Box 1712, Berlin, Md. 21811. For information, call 410-208-2569 or e-mail mcgrawdb@mchsi.com.

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FINANCE

Understanding how COBRA works helps if you lose a job

Health insurance basics something everyone should learn these days

In today's uncertain economy, losing a job can be the cause for much concern, not just because of the tough



Chip Gordy,
MBA, CRPC

job market, but also because of the loss of employer provided health insurance. The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) provides benefits that help displaced workers keep their health benefits after a job loss. Understanding health insurance basics and COBRA and how they work are key to successfully using this program to your advantage.

When an employee loses their employer provided coverage, they may have trouble finding other coverage, particularly if they have conditions that may cause the insurer to charge high amounts for coverage. COBRA coverage can help ousted workers keep their insurance; providing that employers with more than 20 employees must give laid off employees the option to pay for continuing their insurance for up to 18 months after termination.

When employees are laid off from their jobs, employers are obligated to inform them of their COBRA rights. Employees usually have 60 days written notice of their rights or termination of their insurance to sign up for COBRA coverage (COBRA benefits are not extended to employees who are displaced because their employer is going bankrupt).

The downside of COBRA insurance after a job loss is that the employee is required to pay the whole cost of the insurance; both their employee contribution and the amount

that their employer had been paying toward their coverage. As employer contributions to health plans are typically larger than the employee's share, this can be a drain on recently fired employees, who are also struggling with a loss of income.

In some cases, the cost of COBRA coverage can take up 70 percent to 80 percent of a displaced worker's unemployment check. According to recent numbers, only about 10 percent of displaced workers eligible for COBRA benefits made use of them, with many citing lack of affordability as the reason they didn't take advantage of this program.

However, if the employee or a dependent of the employee has a costly medical condition and loss of insurance would cause an interruption in treatment or cause treatment to become out of financial reach, COBRA does provide somewhat of a safety net.

Reforms made to health care are expected to make cheap health insurance coverage available to all Americans. Under the reforms, health insurance exchanges will be set up and subsidies will be implemented to make health insurance more available and affordable. However, the future of these reforms is uncertain.

If you're losing your job and are interested in COBRA coverage, be sure that you speak with your employer's human resources department to make sure that you're covered. Also, check into more affordable insurance options such as catastrophic care coverage to minimize your financial burden as you seek new employment.

— 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.



READY FOR SPRING

Nearly 200 vendors attended the 29th annual Ocean City Home, Condo, and Outdoor Show, held last weekend at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center.

ZACK HOOPES/OCEAN CITY TODAY

OP Chamber prepares for third annual business expo

Some 50 exhibitors to be on tap, when event takes place next Wednesday

BERLIN — The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce will present its third annual Chamber Business Expo on Wednesday, March 20, in the former Ocean City Harley-Davidson building on Route 50, across from Stephen Decatur High School.

Approximately 50 exhibitors will be on hand from 5-7 p.m. to discuss their businesses, products and services. This is a great opportunity for members of all chambers, and local businessmen and women, to mingle with fellow business

owners, learn about new businesses in town and talk to hundreds of potential customers.

There is no admission fee, and complimentary food and beverages will be available. There will also be door prizes available and a 50/50 raffle.

Member exhibitor space is available for \$125, and includes a 10-foot by 10-foot space and an 8-foot table. Double spaces cost \$200. Space is also available for non-chamber members for \$225 (\$300 double space).

The event is sponsored by Royal Plus, Inc. and WMDT.

For more information, contact the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce at 410-641-5306 or visit www.oceanpineschamber.org/events.



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Stephen Decatur High School students rehearse for a production of "The Moonstone," a romantic mystery that will be performed March 14-16, in the auditorium.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SDHS to perform 'Moonstone'

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN — The Stephen Decatur High School Theatre Production class will present an adaptation of "The Moonstone," a romantic mystery based on the novel by Wilkie Collins from March 14-16, at 7 p.m. in the SDHS auditorium.

The play is a tale, narrated from a series of letters and documents. It is set in the 19th century, and chronicles mysterious events connected to an extraordinary yellow diamond that, despite being guarded by three mysterious Brahmin priests, was stolen from an ancient Hindu idol and gifted to a young girl.

A curse of certain disaster has been vowed against anyone who would dare disturb the sacred gem, "and to all of his

house and name who received it after him," according to the novel.

The performance is under the direction of SDHS performing arts teacher Gwen Lehman and the novel was adapted for the stage by R. N. Sandberg.

Madison Pope will portray the central character, Rachel Verinder, while Reeves Dark and Connor Neville play Godfrey and Franklin, rivals for her affection. Summer Gayan will play Lady Verinder and Justin Hommel will portray the detective Sergeant Cuff.

Also appearing will be Emma Ditzel, Ali McLoota, Ami Oliver, Jules Baptiste, Jamel Showell, Alex Cooley, Ta'Shawn Collins, Wyatt Bishop, Brooke Elliott, Emily Knopp, Nicole Confer, Cole Mar-

Continued on Page 16

Rural counties finding more strength with unified voice

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

MARYLAND — No longer content to make do with new laws passed by the General Assembly's larger urban and suburban jurisdictions, Maryland's rural counties have begun forming a political alliance to leverage their collective numbers in an attempt to present a greater specifically rural voice in the decision-making process in Annapolis, according to organizers.

Maryland Rural Counties Coalition President Michael McKay told members of the Eastern Shore Delegation on March 8 that the coalition had grown to include Allegany, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Dorchester, Frederick, Kent, Somerset, Washington and Wicomico counties — representing 939,980 rural Maryland residents — since its inception in December 2011. Turns out, the delegation meeting had competition, which diminished the usual turnout. It occurred the same morning as the state prayer breakfast, which this year hosted Johns Hopkins Hospital pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin Carson.

Nevertheless, McKay said he felt comfortable that five of his coalition's representatives attended. He said he was told by the state representatives that the coalition's work was both appreci-

ated and needed.

The four original member jurisdictions — Allegheny, Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties — each contributed \$5,000 to create an operating budget of \$20,000 to use during the state's 2012 legislative session.

Most of the funding was spent to retain Annapolis consultants to advocate on behalf of rural issues in tandem with the coalition's new partner, the Maryland Association of Counties. The idea is to complement, not compete with, MACo, McKay said.

During the 2013 session, the coalition retained Maryland lobbyist Bruce Bereano to help the coalition navigate through the legislative maze in Annapolis. Bereano was convicted of mail fraud in 1994. Asked about that, McKay said coalition members were well aware of Bereano's spotted past, but still responded by overwhelmingly choosing him to represent them because of his political weight and effectiveness in Annapolis politics.

Worcester County Commissioners President Bud Church said March 8 that the county had been approached when the coalition was initially forming. But at that time it was only a small number of counties and they were asking for a

Continued on Page 16

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| Daily | Assateague Pointe | — | Mobile | From \$120,000 | Resort Homes/Tony Matrona |
| Daily 11-4pm | Belmont Towers, Boardwalk & Dorchester #506 | 2 & 3BR/3BA | Condo, Townhome | From \$499,000 | Mark Fritschle Group/Condo Realty |
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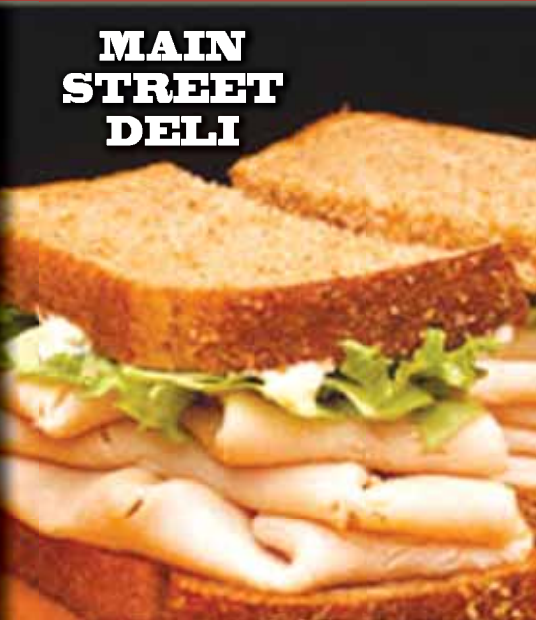


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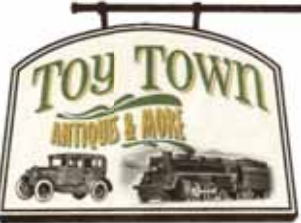
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Rural counties hope to find more strength in numbers

Continued from Page 14

large amount of money as an initiation fee.

The membership issue "will probably be brought before us again," Church said. "We might reconsider, now that the group is a member of MACo," he said.

The coalition listed several bills it is tracking during the current session of the assembly. However, seven specific proposals, labeled "Legislation of Interest" were highlighted as measures for which the group has taken positions. Four of the bills the coalition is supporting are:

■ HB 409/SB 443 – which would generally increase the time period of a local government's comprehensive planning and zoning cycle from six to 10 years, to coincide with the release of federal census data, and would allow local jurisdictions to have access to that data at the beginning of their comprehensive plan review processes;

■ HB 694 – which would exempt a county or municipal corporation from permit requirements under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, if the local jurisdiction maintains adequate program funding to support stormwater management infrastructure and programs approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment;

■ House Bill 796/SB 427 – which would create a state income tax credit for farmland owners who experience diminished value of their real property as a result of either the Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act, or state nutrient management plan regulations; and

■ HB 1257 – which would provide various clarifications and corrections to state law relating to zoning, planning, subdivision and other land use.

The three legislative proposals the coalition is actively opposing this year include:

■ HB 294/SB 281 – which would significantly modify and expand the regulation of firearms and ammunition and would restrict individuals with certain mental health issues from possessing firearms;

■ HB 735/SB 698 – which would generally require employers to allow employees to earn at least one hour of paid sick and

safe leave for every 30 hours they work; and

■ HB 1266/SB 799 – which would require the MDE to establish minimum recycling rates, maximum solid waste landfill disposal rates, and compliance fees that would be imposed on counties that fail to achieve the specified rates.

McKay said the annual membership fee for counties is still \$5,000, but "This year we are actually allowing counties to contribute what they think membership is worth or what they can afford." He added that some counties had provided resources in addition or in lieu of part of their membership fees, such in-kind services.

For example, he noted, Alleghany County was providing its chief financial officer to serve as the coalition's treasurer; Frederick County's Ethics Compliance Administrator and Legislative Coordinator, Ragen Cherney, was serving as secretary; and Ernie Crawford, who was transitioning from serving as Caroline County's attorney to Kent County's, was providing legal advice.

McKay said the financial accommodations were meant to help small or economically struggling counties join the coalition, and at this time representational numbers can be as important as money. "There is a lot of power that comes with the unified voices of county commissioners," McKay said.

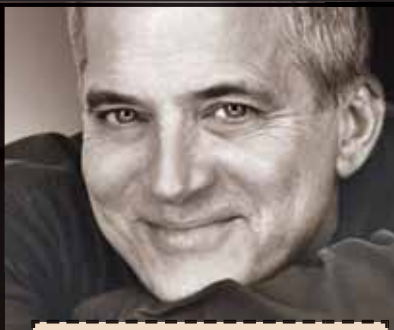
Referencing "The Big Seven," the nickname for the state's most populated jurisdictions, McKay said his goal was to make the rural coalition "The Lean Mean 17."

SDHS students offer 'Moonstone'

Continued from Page 14

shall, Liam Strang, Victoria Miller, Stephanie Bianca, Victoria Williams, Sadie Helvig, Sarah Hill, Gabe Solomon, and Wade Wilkins.


Performances will begin at 7 p.m. in the SDHS auditorium, at Route 50 and Seahawk Road. Tickets can be reserved by calling 410-641-2171. Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for students.



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Candidates await Worcester 'Teacher of the Year' announcement

Continued from Page 1

a number of functions, one recently was that they got to go to the House of Delegates and the State Senate and talk to our representatives about education."

Next Friday's dinner and award ceremony will also bring back as many former county Teacher of the Year winners as possible, even if they no longer live in the area. The award was first presented in 1988.

"We have wonderful sponsors for our banquet," Witherow noted. "Because of them, we are able to bring our former Teachers of the Year back for the celebration."

The 14 candidates, one representing each school, for the county's Teacher of the Year are:

ELIZABETH ATWOOD, CEDAR CHAPEL SPECIAL SCHOOL

Atwood graduated with a Bachelor of Science in organizational management from Robert's Wesleyan College and earned a master's in special education from Wilmington University. Currently in her sixth year at CCSS, Atwood integrates the Common Core State Standards with a functional living skills curriculum, while incorporating the principles of structured teaching. Atwood seeks to empower all children to be lifelong learners,

contributing members of society, and productive citizens. As a mentor teacher for University of Maryland Eastern Shore student teaching interns, an AFG team member, ALT-MSA representative, Equal Measurements Coordinator and president of the Bishopville VFD Auxiliary, Atwood advocates and celebrates diversity in partnerships with family and community.

MINDY BANKERT, STEPHEN DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Bankert earned two Bachelor of Science degrees in marketing management and physical education and health, as well as a master's in post-secondary education from Salisbury University. In her 15 years of teaching, Bankert has concentrated on teaching disability awareness, diversity appreciation, and character building through physical activity.

Bankert applied her passion to create an after-school club called Equal Measurements, which encourages interaction between special and general education students as they collaborate on projects and train for Special Olympics. Dedicated to the community, Bankert is an advisor for the Builders Club and coordinator of the annual Veteran's Day tribute. She currently teaches seventh- and eighth-grade physical education.

TANYA CALL, BUCKINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Call is in her seventh year of teaching kindergarten at BES. Call graduated Cum Laude from Salisbury University with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology. She earned a master's from Wilmington University, with dual certification in early childhood and elementary education and has completed 30 post-graduate credits in reading and special education.

Call's greatest reward is seeing her students' excitement for learning. Her favorite moment is when a child first says, "I just read! I can do it!" Call is a member of the AFG Technology Team, PTA vice president, a mentor teacher for interns and an after-school program teacher for kindergarten and first grade.

TARA CUPLIN, SNOW HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Cuplin attended Frostburg State University, graduating Summa Cum Laude with departmental honors and a Bachelor of Arts degree in foreign languages and literature. She majored in French, minored in Spanish, and received her secondary education teaching certificate. Cuplin has been

teaching French and Spanish for nearly 14 years and is currently pursuing a master's in education from Wilmington University. Cuplin believes that in order for students to learn, they must feel safe and valued in the classroom. She seeks to inspire her students to expand their horizons beyond their own culture and learn about the world around them, both through learning a foreign language and studying different countries.

GINA DEAN, POCOMOKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dean is a physical education teacher of 13 years, currently at PES, teaching kindergarten through third grade. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in physical education, Bachelor of Science in elementary education and master's in post-secondary education from Salisbury University. Dean strives to create a positive learning environment where students develop both physical and mental skills, achieving success through individual and team interaction. Utilizing cross-curricular connections by integrating lessons with Common Core subject standards, she believes that by promoting effective physical activities in schools, students will develop the necessary knowledge.



E. Atwood



M. Bankert



T. Call



T. Cuplin



G. Dean

Continued on Page 23



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EDITORIAL

Issues not put to rest in findings by MIEMSS

The findings from an investigation of emergency personnel response at an accident scene in December were released this week by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) with a finding that patient care was not compromised.

But with that finding, the question that begs to be asked is why the person, an EMT, who was at the center of these allegations and the human resources complaint a year ago, was terminated. Within days of the MIEMSS report being issued, the EMT who had been on leave since the investigation began was permanently relieved of his duties.

Both the Town of Berlin and the Berlin Fire Company separately requested an investigation when allegations of a stand down for assistance at the accident scene were reported. In addition to a request to investigate company members on the scene, the fire company additionally asked MIEMSS to investigate any missteps on the part of the EMT assisting a victim who was ultimately transported by a member of the police department rather than the fire company personnel at the scene.

While the finding from MIEMSS was that patient care did not suffer in this instance, they did express concern that the ongoing issues between the town and the Fire Company have the potential to do so and should be addressed. How MIEMSS expects that to occur is not clear, as the town and fire company are no closer to resolution of their issues than they were a year ago. The firing of the EMT certainly will only serve to widen that divide.

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The Bayside Gazette office is located in
 Downtown Historic Berlin at
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"Riding a horse in the St. Patty's Parade is one thing, but riding a wild Assateague pony while intoxicated is a Federal Offense."

COMMENTARY

Private mortgage insurance roars back

By Robert Nusgart

The Daily Record Newswire

BALTIMORE — There are only a few more weeks before changes in Federal Housing Administration mortgage insurance go into effect — changes that will cost millions of borrowers who need a government-insured loan to get into a home more money.

But if you hear that snickering sound, it's because what is bad for FHA has become better for the private mortgage insurance industry — an industry that is rising out of the ashes of the mortgage firestorm of five years ago.

Come April 1, FHA will increase its annual mortgage insurance premium to most buyers by 0.10, going from 1.25 percent of what is borrowed to 1.35 percent.

Over the last several years, FHA has steadily increased that premium, mainly because it has been losing money in covering the riskiest of America's borrowers. Currently it is trying to cover a \$16.3 billion budget shortfall.

Borrowers gravitate to FHA because it offers a small down payment of 3.5 percent and it doesn't penalize borrowers who have low credit scores in the same manner that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac do.

For instance, a borrower with a credit score of 650 would be eligible for a 3.25 percent, 30-year fixed mortgage with FHA. That same borrower on a conventional mortgage would get a rate about 1 percent higher at 4.25 percent. On a \$300,000 mortgage that would mean a FHA payment of \$1,328 vs. a conventional payment of \$1,476, a difference of \$148.

But that 650-score borrower has that score because every now and then he misses a payment on a bill. Therefore, he's more a risk and that is what FHA has been dealing with.

Now let's take a similar borrower, one who does not have credit issues but still needs a low down payment, and see how much his monthly mortgage insurance under FHA will now cost beginning April 1. The monthly mortgage insurance for that loan will cost \$337.50.

For the borrower, who is able to put down at least 5 percent and with a loan amount of \$300,000, the monthly private mortgage insurance premium is roughly \$167 a month.

So if a borrower, with good credit, can find that extra 1.5 percent of down payment, the mortgage insurance obligation from a

private mortgage insurance company is going to be much less in the long run than the borrower who is considering FHA.

I hear that snickering again.

In addition to that change, FHA will also no longer release its mortgage insurance once a borrower has paid down the mortgage to 78 percent of its value.

The reason behind this is that FHA will still fully insure the loan to the lending bank beyond that loan to value.

So if a borrower has 30 percent equity in the home, but allows the mortgage to go into foreclosure, FHA will still cover the lender's losses even though it is not collecting any premium.

That is different for private mortgage insurance companies, in that once a borrower hits 80 percent loan to value and the mortgage insurance falls off, the PMI company is off the hook with the lender.

Because of these changes of all mortgage insurance policies written, the private MI companies have seen their market share grow from 21 percent in the first quarter of 2012 to 35 percent in the fourth quarter, according to Inside Mortgage Finance, an industry publication.

Top teacher will represent Worcester in statewide competition

Continued from Page 17

edge to make informed, healthy lifestyle choices which can aid in preventing or reducing costly health care in the future.

KAREN EURE, SNOW HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Eure graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish language and literature and a minor in early childhood education from Mary Washington College. She earned a Master of Education, with a concentration in reading, from Salisbury University. Eure began teaching at SHES in 1987, enjoying the ever-changing world of Kindergarten for 25 years. She believes that every child has potential to grow. Will her students learn a love of reading and a flair for the drama of good literature? Will they realize that numbers are fun to manipulate? Will singing, dancing, and painting inspire them? Eure believes it is her mission to foster their interest in answering these questions.



K. Eure

JENNIFER FOHNER, OCEAN CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fohner graduated from Bowie State University with a Bachelor of Science in early childhood/special education and a Master of Science in reading and literacy from Walden University. She has been teaching for 14 years and is currently teaching pre-kindergarten at OCES. Fohner believes that all students can learn when they are in a safe, nurturing, and respectful environment. She also believes that students respond when they are engaged in lessons that involve hands-on activities and are meaningful. She is a member of the Math Team for Accreditation for Growth and teaches the after-school homework academy for fourth grade students.



J. Fohner

ARLENE HAGER, SHOWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Hager began her career in education as an advocate, supporting early education and quality childcare in Worcester County. Currently, she is in her seventh year of teaching kindergarten at SES. Hager's philosophy is based on providing hands-on, encouraging, and literature-enriched instruction. She provides a supportive learning environment that inspires individuality, creativity, respect and imagination. She finds that it is through music and rhyme, wonder and discovery, that critical thinking, problem solving and discussion are daily adventures where students are encouraged to learn something new every day. Hager is always cognizant of Benjamin Franklin's adage: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."



A. Hager

MONICA FORRESTER, POCOMOKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Forrester is in her seventh year of teaching at PMS, where she teaches art and gifted and talented, and serves as the school's Arts Immersion Specialist. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Salisbury University and a Master of Arts in teaching from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She believes that encouragement and praise for a job well done builds self-esteem in her students and creates a desire to achieve more. Forrester is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and serves on the Maryland Fine Arts Education Advisory Panel. In 2012, Forrester was recognized as an Outstanding Maryland Art Teacher.



M. Forrester

BETH PRICE, POCOMOKE HIGH SCHOOL

Price graduated from The College of William and Mary with a Bachelor of Arts in English and earned her Master of Arts in English at Salisbury University. She has taught for 23 years, the last four of which have been at PHS, where she teaches English 10, British literature and college writing. Price is chair of the English department at her school. She strives to engage her students in the challenging work of English scholars. Believing in the enormous potential of every teen that comes into her classroom, Price sets very high expectations and guides students toward reaching them.



B. Price

TRACY HUNTER, WORCESTER TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Tracy Hunter graduated from Salisbury University with a Bachelor of Science in nursing and a master's in post-secondary education. Hunter is a 14-year teacher who teaches biomedical sciences and nursing at



Tracy Hunter

WTHS. She is also an adjunct nursing instructor at Salisbury University. Holding high expectations for her students, she uses project-based instruction to help students acquire the qualifying skills needed to become healthcare professionals. Hunter is the current science technology engineering and mathematics high school master-teacher for Worcester County Public Schools. She coordinates student internships and nursing clinical experiences, and serves as a mentor for new teachers.

EMILY INSLEY, STEPHEN DECATUR HIGH SCHOOL

Insley graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Delaware with Bachelor of Arts degrees in history and French education. She has taught students in all grade bands, from elementary through post-secondary. Insley believes that student engagement is the key to effective education and classroom management. She maintains that high expectations do not mean that learning has to be dull. In her sixth year at SDHS, she teaches French to ninth- through 12th-grade students. She is currently the Legal Interns' teacher advisor and has served as a mentor teacher for Salisbury University interns.



E. Insley

AMANDA SENTER, BERLIN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Senter has been teaching reading/language arts and mathematics to fifth-graders at BIS for 12 years. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Salisbury University with a Bachelor of Science in elementary education and a master's in post-secondary education. She believes that building a community of learners helps students become comfortable tak-



A. Senter

ing risks and helps to build more autonomous learners. Senter motivates her students with lessons that are hands-on and infused with the arts, and believes hosting Salisbury University's co-teachers (interns) plays an important role in her students' success. Senter serves on the AFG reading committee, mentors new teachers, and is a former team leader.

BEAU WILLIAMS, SNOW HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Williams graduated from Salisbury University with a Bachelor of Arts in history and a Master of Arts in teaching. Williams is in his 10th year of teaching at SHMS and currently teaches eighth-grade social studies. He believes fostering cooperative group work and providing students with the opportunity to solve real-world problems in the classroom will enable them to develop the skills they need to be successful citizens in the 21st century. Williams is a Maryland Service Learning Fellow and advises the Student Government Association at his school. He serves as the eighth-grade team leader and is a PDS mentor teacher for interns.



B. Williams



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BAYSIDE LIFE

St. Patrick's Day parade celebration marks more than holiday

It's also first major fun outdoor event following a long and dreary winter

By Lisa Capitelli

Assistant Editor/Ocean City Today

OCEAN CITY — The resort's annual St. Patrick's Day parade traditionally takes place on the Saturday before the holiday. Because March 17 falls on a Sunday this year, parade coordinator Buck Mann anticipates the celebration one day prior will draw a significant crowd.

"It's going to be the biggest and the best. We're up about 15 percent [parade participants] from last year," he said. "The way [St. Patrick's Day] falls on the weekend, it makes for a whole weekend of festivities. We're expecting a tremendous crowd."

Sponsored by the Delmarva Irish-American Club, the 32nd annual parade will begin at noon on 58th Street. Participants will travel south on Coastal Highway to 45th Street, where an Irish festival — complete with traditional Irish food, such as corned beef, and drinks, including green beer, Guinness and Irish coffees — will take place.

The festival will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until about 4 p.m. There will be holiday attire available, as well as entertainment provided by Pat Garvey.

The resort event, Maryland's second-largest St. Patrick's Day parade, will feature approximately 120 entries this year. Participants will be coming from all across Maryland, as well as from Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Jersey and Washington, D.C.

The parade was not always as big as it is today. During its inaugural procession, the parade featured just five or six walkers. The following year, it grew to include a Pontiac convertible and four waitresses from McGee's, the local Irish bar now known as Shenanigan's Irish Pub.

Located on the Boardwalk at Fourth Street, Shenanigan's continues to be part of the annual celebration. Other area businesses that will sponsor floats in the parade include Seacrets, Hooters, BJ's on the Water, Greene Turtle, Pepper's Tavern, BJ's on the Water, Ocean 98.1 and the Grand Hotel.

Local clubs and organizations such as the DIAC, Raven Roosts, Maryland Coastal Bays, Delmarva Emerald Society, Sons of Italy and American Legions, among others, will also be represented.

The Chesapeake Caledonia Pipe



Teenage Rust performs on BJ's on the Water's float during the 31st annual Ocean City St. Patrick's Day parade last year.

and Drum Band, the Ocean City Pipe Band and Stephen Decatur and Sussex Central high schools' marching bands will provide just some of the musical entertainment.

This year, a St. Patrick's Day hat, big enough to hold 1,724 pints of stout, will be featured in the parade. The hat is made up of more than 19 square feet of paper mache and 10 pounds of glitter, weighs nearly 200 pounds.

It took more than three weeks to create.

Requesting world record book status, CPRDelaware's float will also include baby and adult CPR manikins celebrating the day under a rainbow and a pot of gold claiming "Erin Learned CPR, because you can't always depend on luck," according to a press release. The floats creators, Glenn (Burns) Bisogno and Evelyn Bisogno are members of the Delmarva

Irish-American Club.

Spectators may watch the parade from along the street or from the bleachers set up at the 45th Street shopping center. Judges will be stationed at 45th Street to evaluate parade participants.

The top marching band, commercial float, non-commercial float, motorized unit, best adult and youth marching unit, special committee award and best overall entry in the parade will receive trophies.

Wayne Cannon will serve as parade emcee.

John and Molly O'Brien are the 2013 parade grand marshals. They have been active members of the Delmarva Irish-American Club for more than 10 years. John is the vice-president of the club, serves on the board of directors and runs the DIAC Web site. Molly works behind the scenes, serv-

ing as the parade-day face-painter. She also makes Irish-inspired crafts to sell at the parade.

According to the demoflush statistics, which uses wastewater flows to estimate the city's population, 108,907 people were in town during parade weekend last year. The 2012 parade was held March 17.

Mann describes the town's atmosphere on parade day as "fun."

"It's a party weekend," he said.

The Delmarva Irish-American Club, founded in 1980, has a membership of more than 300. Anyone who is Irish, Irish at heart or who just appreciates Irish things may join. The club has awarded more than \$250,000 in scholarships to local students from the proceeds of previous parades.

For more information, visit www.delmarvairish.org or call Mann at 410-289-6156.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Fire Company President David Fitzgerald said 150 people, like the guests pictured, attended the company's fundraiser breakfast on March 10. The monthly events will begin again in September.

BFC holds fundraiser breakfast

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN — Berlin Fire Company President David Fitzgerald said 150 people attended the company's March 10 fundraiser breakfast, the last one before the summer hiatus. The breakfasts will begin again in September.

The BFC sponsors the morning fundraisers every month except during the summer, Fitzgerald said. On average,

100-200 attend the breakfasts, which this fall will again be held on Sunday mornings.

The breakfasts are served by the volunteers of the BFC from 7:30-11:30 a.m. and include homestyle breakfast favorites such as sausage, bacon, eggs, pancakes and biscuits, as well as beverages.

The location of the fundraisers is the Berlin Fire Company headquarters 214 N. Main St.

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Schedule of Events

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Pancakes with the Easter Bunny 3 Seatings: 8:30/9:30/10:30 Raynes Reef Children \$6 • \$8 Adults Pictures with Easter Bunny Available</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt Stephen Decatur Park 11 a.m.</p> | <p>Hippity Hop Easter Workshop Worcester County Arts Council Jefferson Street 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.</p> <p>Easter Bonnet & Mad Hatter Parade Registration 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Chamber Tent Parade Begins 3 p.m.</p> |
|---|--|

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SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Rick Fatula, left, and David Seth bare their heads for a good cause as the Delmarva Emerald Society hosts a head-shaving event to raise money for kids battling childhood cancer.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Austin Seth's dad, David, called him "the main culprit" in putting others up to getting their heads shaved for an anti-cancer fundraiser held at Station 7 in West Ocean City on March 8.

Bold baldies of St. Baldrick's raise \$4,054 for cancer victims

Emerald Society event calls for loss of hair, but gain of aid for children

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

WEST OCEAN CITY – There are 18 newly shorn people braving the winter chill in the area after the Delmarva Emerald Society's head-shaving event on March 9, according to President James Jester.

In total, the fraternal organization, made up of members of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Department, raised \$4,054 during the event, which was held at Station 7 on Route 707 in West Ocean City.

After registering, the brave – albeit hairless – souls collected donations from friends and family to raise money for the Monrovia, Calif.-based St. Baldrick's Foundation, which helps in the battle against childhood cancer.

Jester said his organization was proud to be a part of the foundation's efforts and that the participants viewed the event as a way to both contribute to a great cause and highlight their Irish heritage.

Skip Carey was the top fundraiser, Jester reported. Carey raised a whopping \$775. Attendees at the full house were treated to Irish-themed performances by the bagpipe band Pipes and Drums, in full regalia. Band members, Jester said, are career and volunteer firefighters. He said the group welcomes new members and practices at Salisbury Fire Department Firehouse No. 16 every Thursday night at 6 p.m.

According to the foundation's blog site, "St. Baldrick's head-shaving events began as a challenge between businessmen and have grown from one event in 2000 to over 1,300 events in 2012, raising critical funds for childhood cancer research." Events take place in pubs, restaurants, schools, churches, parks, malls, military bases, firehouses and any other place you can imagine, it said.

Additional information on the Delmarva Emerald Society is available at www.delmarvaemeraldsociety.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Delmarva-Emerald-Society/109283442448490. Information about the Delmarva Emerald Society Pipes & Drums is available at www.facebook.com/pages/Delmarva-Emerald-Society-Pipes-Drums/13103058365574.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Sean Guschke, a volunteer firefighter from St. Michaels, shows his talent on the bagpipes as a member of Delmarva Emerald Society's Pipes and Drums.

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
Pineëer 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.

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, 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 1917 meets the second Thursday of every month (except July and August) at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 99th St. Social begins at 9:30 am, meeting at 10am. Visit aarp1917.org for more information.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Meets the third Wednesday of everymonth 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health Department, 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.jessespaddle.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 gmsnell@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, MARCH 14

CELIAC SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, Conference Room 1, 7-8 p.m. Support and information for those affected by celiac disease. For more info, contact Betty Belarin: 410-603-0210.

STORY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road. Stories, rhymes, finger plays, music and crafts. For 2- to 5-year-old children. Info: 410-208-4014.

ATTRACTING HUMMINGBIRDS TO YOUR HOME

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 1 p.m. Learn different techniques to attract hummingbirds to your yard and keep them coming back. Presented by Lloyd Foard. Info: 410-632-3495

WRITING WITH RUTH

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1-3 p.m. Local writers join monthly to share poems, essays, memoirs, prose, etc and receive feedback from fellow participants. Hone writing skills and improve quality and comfort of oral presentation. Ruth Alcorn will lead the group. All writers welcome. Info: 410-524-1818

BEACH SINGLES

Every Thursday, Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour at Harpoon Hanna's, Route 54 and the bay, Fenwick Island, Del., 4 p.m. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577; Kate, 410-524-0649; or Dianne, 302-541-4642.

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 avail-

able. 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. Andrea Schlottman, manager of the Ocean City library, will discuss libraries of the future. Representatives from the Delmarva Shorebirds will also be on hand with special pricing for senior tickets. Numerous travel opportunities for 2013 will also be presented. All those 50 and older are welcome. Info: aarp1917.org or 410-352-5748.

OCEAN PINES GARDEN CLUB

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10 a.m. Plant exchange and Chinese auction of "gently used" garden items. New members are welcome.

OCEAN CITY POWER SQUADRON

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, 7 p.m. Light refreshments at 6:30 p.m. OCPS Webmaster Pete Fox will give brief overview of the OCPS Web site. OPA General Manager Bob Thompson will discuss issues important to the boating community. All are welcome. Info: www.ocpowersquadron.org.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

BERLIN BOOK OF THE MONTH

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 1 p.m. Eckhart Tolle presents readers with an honest look at the current state of humanity. His book "A New Earth" will be discussed in two sessions. Info: 410-641-0650

ROHLIGRAPHY

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 11 a.m. Artist Dale Rohl of the Pocomoke Library introduces participants to her style of calligraphy. Traditional calligraphy has definite rules and styles that make it what it is. Learn how to abandon those constraints and use your creativity. Info: 410-957-0878.

ST. PATRICK'S INDOOR SOCCER TOURNEY

Northside Park, 200 125th St. in Ocean City. Estimated attendance of more than 150 teams over four weekends, Feb. 22-24 (U18), March 1-3 (U10 and U14), March 8-10, (U12 and U16), March 15-17 (adult). Registration: www.oceancitymd.gov. Info: 410-250-0125.

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.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, FESTIVAL

Ocean City parade begins at noon at 58th Street and marches south on Coastal Highway to the 45th Street Shopping Center, where the reviewing and judges stand will be located. Featuring pipe and drum bands, area high school marching bands and festively decorated St. Patty's Day floats. Festival at the 45th Street shopping area will feature Irish entertainment, dancers, face painting, Irish apparel and food and drink, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. Info: www.delmarvairish.com or Buck Mann, 410-289-6156.

ST. PATRICK'S GOLF SCRAMBLE

Eagle's Landing Golf Course, 12367 Eagle's Nest Road, Berlin. Golf and food for \$50 per player. Four-player teams. Traditional Irish-American lunch served after play. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. Info: 410-213-7277 or <http://eagleslandinggolf.com>.

ST. PATRICK'S INDOOR SOCCER TOURNEY

Northside Park, 200 125th St. in Ocean City. Estimated attendance of more than 150 teams over four weekends, Feb. 22-24 (U18), March 1-3 (U10 and U14), March 8-10, (U12 and U16), March 15-17 (adult). Registration: www.oceancitymd.gov. Info: 410-250-0125.

'HISTORY AND ART OF SCREEN PAINTING' WORKSHOP

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students, ages 10 and older, can create a large "easel size" screen painting. Cost is \$50. Materials fee is \$35. Register: 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

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.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City, noon to 7 p.m. Corned beef and cabbage dinner for \$8 or corned beef sandwich for \$6. Irish cof-

Continued on Page 28

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 27
fee and Irish music. Walk-in or carryout. Info: 410-524-7994.

KIDS POTTERY CLASS

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon. Two sessions for students, ages 5-12, to explore clay and the ceramics process. Cost is \$60 for Art League of Ocean City members and \$72 for non-members. Materials included. Register: 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

TEENS AND ADULT POTTERY CLASS

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Saturdays, 1-3 p.m. Two sessions for students, ages 13 and older, to explore clay and the ceramics process and learn about glazing and firing. Cost is \$60 for Art League of Ocean City members and \$72 for non-members. Register: 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

'PIGGY PARTY' PAPER

MACHE CLASS

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 10 a.m. to noon. Students, ages 7-12, will construct paper mache piggy sculptures. Be prepared to get messy. All tools and materials provided. Cost is \$30 for Art League of Ocean City members and \$36 for non-members. Materials included. Register: 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED

CHICKEN DINNER

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

BOATER SAFETY COURSE

Brandywine Senior Living at Fenwick Island, 21111 Arrington Drive, Selbyville, Del., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Course meets regulations for those born on or after Jan. 1, 1978. Cost is \$10. Boater certifications issued after passing a written test. Register: Bob Adams, 302-541-4038. Lunch provided.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

ST. PATRICK'S INDOOR SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Northside Park, 200 125th St. in Ocean City. Estimated attendance of more than 150 teams over four weekends, Feb. 22-24 (U18), March 1-3 (U10 and U14), March 8-10, (U12 and U16), March 15-17 (adult). Registration: www.oceancitymd.gov. Info: 410-250-0125.

HOMEcoming

Showell United Methodist Church, 10115 Pitts Road, 2 p.m. Speaker is Joyce Davis

LeCates. Music provided by Sacred Sounds. Meal to follow.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS AND LUNCHEON

St. Luke Church, 9903 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 11:30 a.m. The Most Reverend W. Francis Malooly, Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington, will preside. Luncheon will follow Mass at 1 p.m. at St. Andrew Catholic Center, 14401 Sinepuxent Ave., Ocean City. Sister Mary Bader, Daughter of Charity, will be the guest speaker. Tickets cost \$15 and are available from St. Luke Parish Office, 410-250-0300; Bill McGarrity, 410-641-7992; or Charlie O'Brien, 302-988-1498.

'SHARING SUNDAY' DONATIONS

Ocean Pines South Side Fire Station, 1-3 p.m. Collecting nonperishable food, paper goods and grocery cards. Donations collected every third Sunday of each month. This month's drive is for Noel, St. Paul's By the Sea Church. Info: Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County, 410-641-6683.

'FORGIVENESS SUNDAY RITE'

DIVINE LITURGY

St. Andrew Orthodox Church, 33384 Mackenzie Way, Lewes, 9:30 a.m. This inaugurates fasting until "Pascha" on May 5. All services are in English. Visitors are welcome. Lenten schedule, 302-645-5791 or www.orthodoxdelmar.org.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

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.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Berlin group No. 169, Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 1, 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.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Ocean Pines library, 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, 410-208-6613.

BASIC COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 1 p.m. In this two-part class participants will learn the basics

of working with computers and computer software. Learn how to set up and access e-mail account, and how to navigate the Web. Space limited, Register: 410-957-0878

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AWARENESS

series: immigrant population Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 2 p.m. Dr. Timothy Dunn of Salisbury University will discuss immigrant populations, their cultural differences, challenges. Sponsored in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. Info: 410-641-0650

BE A BETTER YOU!

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Right accessory can quickly transform your look from average to awesome. Bring yourself, a favorite scarf, a piece of jewelry or other accessories to this fun and informative program. Owner of several beauty salons and specialty shops, William Hyle will share his insight and style acumen to help present a "better you." Info: 410-208-4014.

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.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF WORCESTER COUNTY MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 9:30 a.m. for coffee, followed by meeting at 10 a.m. Speaker is Dr. Karen L. Olmstead, dean of the Henson School of Science and Technology at Salisbury University. She is an ecologist by training and received her doctorate in entomology. All Democratic and Independent women welcome. Info: 410-641-6683.

OPA 2013 SEARCH COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 7 p.m. Offering information to those interested in running for Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

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.

STORY TIME

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St. Stories, Rhymes, Finger Plays, Music and Crafts. For 2 to 5 year old children. Info: 410-641-0650.

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Creative science, art and music activities for 3 to 5 year old children. Dress for a mess. For reservations: 410-957-0878.

SALSA DANCE FEVER

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 6:30 p.m. Dance instructor Mary McCormick teaches the art of Salsa dancing. Come alone or bring a partner. This course takes place every other Tuesday. Info: 410-957-0878.

BOATING COURSE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, March 19-21, 6-9 p.m. Learn about the local Ocean City waters. Get practical boating knowledge and advice from Coast Guard Auxiliary instructors, while obtaining a Maryland Boating certificate. Course meets the requirements of the Maryland Boating Safety Education Act for those born after July 1, 1972. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for those 16 and younger.

OPA GM TOWN HALL MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 6 p.m. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

HOLT PAPER & CHEMICAL CO. TRADE SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway. Info: 800-626-2326.

WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY SEMINAR

Atlantic Bariatric Center, Berlin Main Place Complex, Berlin. 5-6 p.m. Receive information about lap band and gastric sleeve weight loss procedures. To register: 410-641-3960.

AGH HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Walgreen's, 32979 Coastal Highway, Bethany Beach, Del., 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

AGH HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Walgreen's, West Fenwick Boulevard, Selbyville, Del., 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AWARENESS SERIES: AFRICAN AMERICANS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 3:30 p.m. Worcester County NAACP President Dr. Roxie Dennis will discuss the organization and challenges African Americans still face in modern society. Sponsored in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. Info: 410-208-4014.

COUNTRY DANCE STEPPING

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1 p.m. Learn to two-step, contra style dance and

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.

much more in this course taught by dance instructor Mary McCormick. Info: 410-524-1818.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 8 a.m. This four-part class provides a foundation to be able to use the computer and the internet. First two weeks will introduce to Microsoft Word and accessing Internet. Second two weeks includes further work on Microsoft Word. E-mail accounts, online purchasing and banking are covered. Advance registration required. Classes fill up quickly. Register: 410-208-4014.

FOREIGN POLICY KEY ISSUES: DISCUSSION GROUP

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Reading and discussion of major foreign policy issues which meets bi-monthly through May. Moderated by Jim Young. Study guide provided. Register: 410-208-4014

PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Parents and children explore educational toys together in an interactive, free play program. Great place to make new friends and learn new skills while having fun! 410-524-1818

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, 3:30-4:30 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info:

302-436-3682.

RETIRED NURSES OF OCEAN PINES ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Lighthouse Sound, 11:30 a.m. Honored guests are Michael Franklin, Atlantic General Hospital CEO, and Coleen Waring, vice president in charge of patient care. To attend luncheon, dues must be current. Cost is \$17. Reservations by March 12. Info: Gail Alford, alfordgra@aol.com or 410-208-1590.

SUICIDE GRIEVERS' SUPPORT GROUP

Worcester County Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, every third Wednesday, 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.

TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS

Southern Delaware School of the Arts, 27 Hoosier St., Selbyville, Del., 7 p.m. Performed by Southern Delaware School of the Arts Jazz and Rock Bands. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and \$10 per family. Info: melody.oneschuk@irsdk12.de.us. Proceeds benefit the instrumental music program.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

ADULT KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP

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

STORY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road. Stories, Rhymes, Finger Plays, Music and Crafts. For 2- to 5-year-old children. Info: 410-208-4014.

PLAY TIME

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Parents and children explore educational toys together in an interactive, free play program. Great place to make new friends and learn new skills while having fun. Info: 410-632-3495.

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.

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FRIDAY - Chris Button
SATURDAY - Geoff Kilian

■ BJ's on the Water

75th St. Bayside,
Ocean City
410-524-7575

FRIDAY - Full Circle
SATURDAY - North Point
WEDNESDAY - 2 Guys & A Mama

■ Clarion Resort

101st St., Ocean City
410-524-3535

FRIDAY - Power Play
SATURDAY - Power Play

■ Dead Freddies

64th St. Bayside,
Ocean City
(410) 524-3733

FRIDAY - DJ Wax
SATURDAY - DJ Wax

■ DeNovo's

South Gate - Ocean Pines
410-208-2782

THURSDAY - Al Prescott
SATURDAY - Al Prescott
TUESDAY - Al Prescott

■ Fager's Island

60th St. & the Bay, Ocean City
410-524-5500

FRIDAY - The ShamRogues
SATURDAY - Opposite Directions / Animal House
SUNDAY - Everett Spells

■ Globe Theater

12 Broad St., Berlin
410-641-0784

FRIDAY - Live Music
SATURDAY - Comedy Show
SUNDAY - Patrick McAllorum

■ Harborside

12841 S. Harbor Rd.,
West Ocean City
410-213-1846

THURSDAY - Opposite Directions
FRIDAY - DJ Billy T
SATURDAY - Simple Truth / DJ Jeremy
SUNDAY - Opposite Directions

■ Harpoon Hannas

142nd St.,
Fenwick Island
800-227-0525

FRIDAY - Dave Hawkins
SATURDAY - Dave Sherman

■ Ristorante Antipasti

3103 Philadelphia Ave.,
Ocean City
410-289-4588

FRIDAY - Linda Sears & Michael Smith

■ Seacrets

49th & the Bay,
Ocean City
410-524-4900

FRIDAY - Garden State Radio
SATURDAY - Face Parade / Jon Mauer Band
SUNDAY - Full Circle



Patrick McAllorum @ The Globe

PUZZLES

CONDENSATION By Finn Vigeland / Edited by Will Shortz

Across

1 Direct descendant of the Mayflower Pilgrims, e.g.

5 Way up a mountain

9 Dutch flower

14 Humorist Bombeck

18 Sun Valley locale

20 Tony of the Dallas Cowboys

21 Lancaster County folk

22 Kings of ____ (“Use Somebody” band)

23 Claw

24 Puccini piece

25 Prop in many an action film

27 Subject of big 1970s headlines

30 Elliptical

31 Adriatic resort

32 Western nickname

33 Exchange

35 The second African-American, after Hattie McDaniel, to be nominated for an Oscar

37 Completes at the request of

39 Old TV’s ____ Club

40 Hero of a Hindu epic

42 Zip

43 Papal court

45 Ape

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.

46 ____ Bo

47 Enjoy

50 Seltzer

53 Many altar paintings of the Middle Ages

56 Long-distance letters

57 Onetime art glass manufacturer

61 Rock subgenre

62 Not loco

63 Some college dorm rooms

65 Pickle juice

66 Bud

67 Best Picture inspired by a Pulitzer-winning series of newspaper articles

71 Sporty cars

72 In other words

75 Book after II Timothy

76 Sitcom diner

78 Quipster

79 Femme fatale of cartoons

82 Director Van Sant

83 Ignite

85 Necklace decoration that’s not from the sea

88 Pressed upon

89 20-20, e.g.

91 Places to eat a late breakfast, maybe

92 Nitpick

95 Sound at a checkup

96 Means of inheritance

97 Unilever soap brand

98 Auto-shop offerings

102 Coastal structures countering erosion

104 Tale written in runes, perhaps

106 Unconvincing reason, informally

107 ____ Islands

108 Pong maker

109 Historic event on June 18, 1815

112 Like many Playboy Playmate photos

117 Certain nest eggs, for short

118 Actress Eleniak

119 Greek war goddess

120 SeaWorld resident

121 Irish county

122 Up to

123 Snookums

124 Leaves used in Mediterranean cuisine

125 Chop ____

126 Hens and vixens

11 D.M.V. issue

12 Relative of -esque

13 Symbol of the golden ratio

14 Last possible moment

15 Robes, scepters and such

16 Ski-mask feature

17 Queen ____ lace

19 20/20

26 Japanese drama

28 Adaptable aircraft, for short

29 Cobbler’s tool

34 HP product

35 Gives off

36 “Be quiet,” on scores

38 Line of defense?

39 Pasta primavera ingredients

41 Doc grp.

44 Marge who owned the Cincinnati Reds

45 Recurring ideas

47 Intervene

48 Fleet

49 N.Y.U. athlete

51 Where people are always changing?

52 One coming out

54 N.B.A. star Ming

55 “AC360” channel

58 Nabob

59 Unabridged

60 Like matryoshka dolls

63 Frame jobs

64 Horn of Africa resident

68 What an optimist has

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | | | | 19 | | 20 | | | | 21 | | | | | | 22 | | | |
| 23 | | | | | | 24 | | | | 25 | | | | | 26 | | | | |
| 27 | | | | | 28 | | | | 29 | | | | | | 30 | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | 32 | | | 33 | | | 34 | | 35 | 36 | | | | | |
| 37 | | | | 38 | | | | 39 | | | 40 | 41 | | | | 42 | | | |
| | | | 43 | | | | 44 | | | 45 | | | | | | 46 | | | |
| 47 | 48 | 49 | | | | 50 | | | 51 | | | | | | 52 | | | | |
| 53 | | | | | 54 | 55 | | | 56 | | | | 57 | | | | 58 | 59 | 60 |
| 61 | | | | 62 | | | | 63 | | | | 64 | | | 65 | | | | |
| 66 | | | | | 67 | | | 68 | | | | | 69 | 70 | | | 71 | | |
| 72 | | | 73 | 74 | | | 75 | | | | | 76 | | | 77 | | 78 | | |
| 79 | | | | | 80 | 81 | | 82 | | | 83 | | | | | 84 | | | |
| | | | 85 | | | | 86 | | | 87 | | | | | 88 | | | | |
| | 89 | 90 | | | 91 | | | | | 92 | | | 93 | 94 | | | | | |
| | | 95 | | | 96 | | | | 97 | | | | 98 | | | | 99 | 100 | 101 |
| 102 | | | | 103 | | | | 104 | 105 | | | | 106 | | | 107 | | | |
| 108 | | | | | | | | 109 | | | | 110 | | | | 111 | | | |
| 112 | | | | | | 113 | 114 | 115 | 116 | | | | | | | 118 | | | |
| 119 | | | | | 120 | | | | | | 121 | | | | | 122 | | | |
| 123 | | | | | 124 | | | | | | 125 | | | | | 126 | | | |

69 Kind of income

70 Antique restorer’s “touch,” in brief

73 Sanctuary

74 Old Dungeons & Dragons co.

77 Coach Don with two Super Bowl victories

80 “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” song

81 Word on either side of “to”

83 Pivotal point

84 Prominent features of the theme from “Star Wars”

86 Cupcake

87 Swimming, diving, etc.

89 Open-faced sandwich topped with a fancy spread

90 “Amen to that!”

93 It’s clear

94 Dolt

97 N.Y.C. airport

99 Early stone tool

100 First-year

101 Toasts

102 Responded sheepishly?

103 Wine aperitif

105 Former “American Idol” judge

106 Irish county

110 Drop ____

111 Coup de ____ (gunshot: Fr.)

113 Kind of connection from a mobile device to a PC

114 Doo-wop syllable

115 Suffers from

116 U.K. record co.



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HARD – 12

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.

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

Answers to last week’s puzzles

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

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

CUISINE

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Tilefish, a favorite, with plenty of versatility

As summer approaches, I start to get excited for the prospect of fresh fish from the docks. From Martin Fish



By Paul Suplee,
CEC PCIII

Co. to other fishermen in the commercial marina, you can find fresh bounty from the sea that hasn't made a trip from Ocean City to Boston to New York to Jessup and then back down to Ocean City.

It's the epitome of fresh seafood at its finest.

And from the catch of the Atlantic comes one of my favorite fish, the Golden Tilefish. A deepwater fish, this big, flaky whitefish is known for its flavor and ability to retain its oils through cooking, making it a great candidate for sautéing and frying.

Reminiscent of something between cod and sea bass, the golden tilefish marries well with just about any flavor you can think of — as long as said flavors are complementary to seafood, of course.

Last summer at The Reel Inn, locals would bring in tile and we would dip it in tempura or dip in buttermilk, and then dust and fry. Both preparations were fantastic, and as tile tend to be big fish, there was always plenty for us to sample so we got our fill.

Not well known in the consumer market, when you find it you need to snatch it up to work with it. Treat it like you would cod (I wouldn't recommend grilling) and you will be fine.

In this recipe I used a light cornstarch breader, which gives the finished product a nice coating. When cooking fish in a frying or sauté pan, I use cornstarch instead of flour for two reasons. First, the cornstarch won't leave as heavy or notable a flavor as the wheat flour and second, the cornstarch has a higher starch content and as a result gives a better bite to the fish.

One nice addition to this recipe is "fresh" sweet corn with natural juices, and I can thank my brother for that



idea. He has been saving Kent Island sweet corn from late summer for a number of years and after tasting it enough times, I started doing it myself.

It couldn't be any easier and hopefully, you will start doing this as the summer moves on. Just find a good local farm with sweet corn, support aforementioned local farmer by buying said corn and continue with shucking. Then, simply remove the kernels with a knife and reserve the cob. Set the cob in a wide bowl and scrape with the back of the knife. You will be amazed at how much juice you can scrape out of a fresh cob. Place the corn with juice in a vacuum pack bag and process as you would any other food with a vacuum sealer.

Freezing it in this manner lets us enjoy the summer's bounty in late winter and as today marks daylight savings, it becomes a beacon of things to come.

Oh summer, I can smell you. I can feel you. It might be a busy one but I

know you're coming and it sure beats the heavy rain on a 37-degree day. I'm headed to the docks.

TILE RAGOUT For the Fish

(per serving)
6 ounces cod
cornstarch, for dusting
a small sprinkle granulated garlic
salt and pepper to taste

Step 1: Clean the fish, removing any bones and skin, and then pat dry

Step 2: Combine the remaining ingredients and spread out on a plate

Step 3: Dust (dredge) the fish with the cornstarch breader and shake off any remaining so as to leave you with a nice, thin crispy surface

Step 4: Heat a combination of clarified butter and olive oil if you want to cook a la Point (French neoclassicist chef from the '40s and '50s) or just clarified butter if you have read the scary reports on cooking with olive oil

Step 5: When your pan is piping

hot and the oil is just below smoking, add the fish presentation side down

Step 6: Turn the temperature down so as to prevent the pan from getting too hot and maintain a medium heat for a few minutes

Step 7: At this point, the fish should release fairly easily from the pan. Carefully flip it and cook until the fish is cooked through

Step 8: Set aside and keep warm. When the ragout is done, place the fish on top and garnish with minced herbs and candied lemon

For the Ragout

(makes enough for 4-6 servings)

2 Tbsp. clarified butter
2 cups broccoli, small cut
1 cup corn, with juice (see article)
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 can Cannelini beans
1 tomato, fine diced
2 Tbsp. tomato paste
1 cup fish or light chicken stock
1 Tbsp. sherry vinegar
2 cups fresh spinach

Step 1: Heat the butter and add the broccoli. Cook for 3 minutes

Step 2: Add the corn with juice and garlic. Cook for 3 minutes

Step 3: Add remaining ingredients except the spinach and stew until everything is cooked through

Step 4: Remove from heat and add spinach and stir in

Step 5: Set aside until ready to plate

For the Candied Lemon

2 very thin slices per serving
1 cup sugar
1 cup water

Step 1: Combine the water and sugar and bring to a low simmer so that the sugar is dissolved

Step 2: Add the lemon slices and cook "slow and low" until the syrup has reduced but not caramelized

— 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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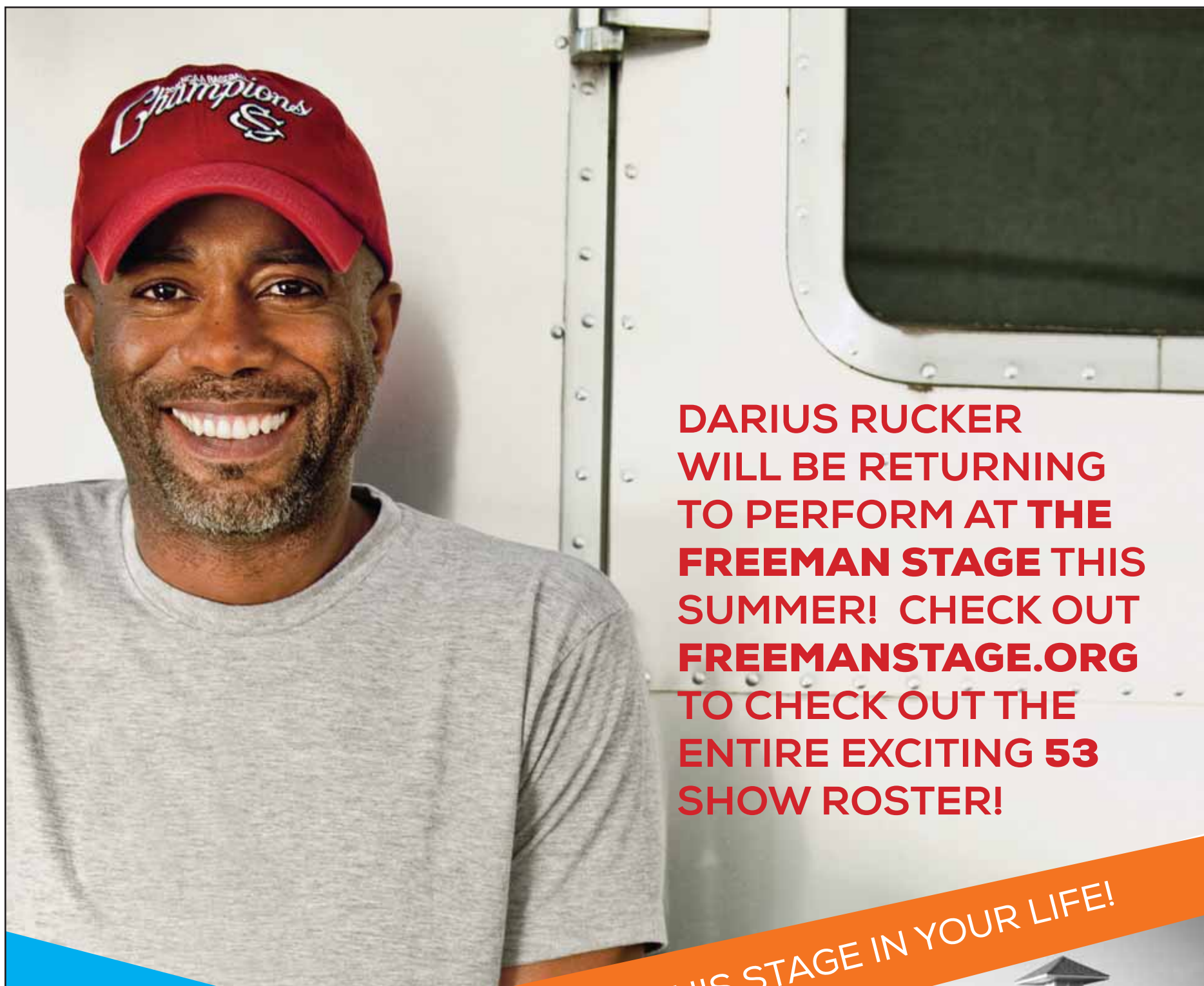


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