■WEATHER







SATURDAY SUNDAY **■SPORTS**

Decatur falls short in comeback try

Senior Leigh Anne Flounlacker (15) scored 36 in 64-60 loss to Delmar

PAGE 15



CUISINE

Southern Pride pit beef sandwich

Its the lingering smell of a fresh mesquite fire wood-fired smoker

PAGE 31



ZETTE BAYSID

FEBRUARY 24, 2011

BERLIN → BISHOPVILLE → OCEAN CITY → OCEAN PINES → WEST OCEAN CITY → SELBYVILLE



DAMN YANKEES - Elise Harmon dances with the Washington Senators in a scene form Worcester Prep's "Damn Yankees" during a dress rehearsal onstage at the school. The production will be presented 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25 and 26 in the Athletic and Performing Arts Center. For information and tickets, contact the school at 410-641-3575.

OPA board still ironing out next year's budget

BY TONY RUSSO

STAFF WRITER

OCEAN PINES - After what board president Tom Terry said were more than 15 meetings on the matter the Ocean Pines Association board of directors decided they needed a few more before passing a budget for the coming fiscal

The board is expected to hold a conference call on Feb. 24 aimed at settling the budget, but it is unclear that they will reach consensus.

Under pressure from a number of residents to reduce or eliminate the \$45 assessment increase the board had previously agreed upon, the directors voted 4-3 against passing the fiscal 2012 budget for the OPA and sent General Manager Bob Thompson back to the drawing board to make more reductions.

While \$30 of the proposed increase is slated for debt-reduction and future capital improvement funds - \$4 and \$26 respectively - the cuts are likely to come from the \$15 slated for operations as part of Thompson's "Open for Business" plan to increase revenue.

The increase was to give the general manager the latitude to keep amenities open longer and hire specialized personnel if necessary as a means of driving revenue. Instead the board is expected to remove some or all of those options from the table, electing to reduce spending and

See OPA, page 7

Wind energy touted

Mathias sponsors bill to erect turbines off **Ocean City coast**

BY TONY RUSSO STAFF WRITER

BERLIN - State Sen. Jim Mathias' appointment to the Senate Finance Committee didn't take long to begin paying area dividends as the committee prepares to consider a bill that would make the area off the Ocean City coast the lynchpin of the state's move toward energy independence.

Mathias is a co-sponsor of the bill that would, if passed, pave the way to erect wind turbines off the coast and require the power provided by it be purchased and used by companies providing electric power to Maryland.

As it stands now, one of the reasons for the continuing rise in the cost of energy is the transmission fees and backups that occur as power created in the mid-west makes its way into the state. Mathias said that by beginning to generate power locally the benefits will likely outweigh the cost, although he was clear that he's not yet heard all the industry evidence on the matter.

See WIND, page 8

CALENDAR 28 ◆ SNAPSHOTS 27 ◆ EDITORIAL 22 ◆ CROSSWORD 30 ◆ HEALTH 13 ◆ SUDOKU 30 ◆ CLASSIFIED 19 ◆ ENTERTAINMENT 29



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HERE'S HOW

Just call us anytime at 410-641-1434. I will come out and measure your home to determine the availability of the proper size. (Don't forget, I only have 29 matched systems in four sizes. When they're gone, this remarkable offer ends too.) I will show you the real world price of the heating and cooling system that fits your home so you know EXACTLY how much you're saving. My quote will include all labor and installation materials. Nothing is left out.

NO OBLIGATION

Even after I completely explain the installation, there is absolutely NO OBLIGATION. If you decide you don't want to take advantage of the spectacular savings, that'sOK. 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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You don't even have to pay me right away. I have set up a terrific financing program offering low monthly payments for your convenience. I even decided not to mark up the interest rate like most companies do. Consider this: if you decide to make monthly

payments instead of paying cash, the entire amount of your payments could be more than offset by the savings on your utility bills. It's like having your cake and eating it too.

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afford to make such a promise.

I'm so confident that you save at least 25 percent on your heating and cooling bills the first year - I'm really projecting more like 30 to 50 percent. - that I will pay you DOUBLE THE DIFFERENCE if you don't. If these premium systems were not among the best on the market, I couldn't

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BEAT

BURGLARY

On Feb. 16 a Trooper from the Berlin Barrack responded to 13000 block of Rollie Road, Bishopville, for the report of a burglary. Upon arrival the trooper learned that an unknown suspect had burglarized the residence by leaning a ladder against the house and climbing on the roof to enter the house through a window.

Once inside the suspect stole several items to include a computer and money. Interviews have been conducted in an attempt to develop a suspect. At this time there is no suspect information. Further investigation is being conducted. Anyone with information in this case is asked to call the Maryland State Police Berlin Barrack.

COPPER WIRES THEFT

On Feb. 15 Troopers responded to the

cell phone tower located at 11280 Hall Road, Whaleyville for a theft. Upon arrival, Verizon Wireless employees informed police that numerous copper wires were cut from the main tower.

The wires were attached to several buildings and are property of Verizon, Nextel, Connectiv and AT&T. The Worcester County Bureau of Investigation responded to the scene to conduct scene processing and take over the investigation.

Police believe the theft may be related to other similar thefts. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Worcester County Bureau of Investigation.

OUTSTANDING BENCH WARRANT

On Feb. 15 a Trooper from the Berlin Barrack conducted a traffic stop on a silver Ford van driven by the accused, Michael John Murphy, 26, of Churchville. The Trooper conducted a check of the driver's record and court/warrant databases

It was learned that Murphy was wanted by the Worcester County District Court on an outstanding bench warrant for failing to pay a deferred payment. He was arrested and taken before a Worcester County District Court Commissioner where he posted a cash bond and was released.

DNA TRAINING SEMINAR

On Feb. 15, State's Attorney Beau Oglesby hosted a regional DNA training seminar for members of the law enforcement community which attracted over 30 participants from all over the state.

Presenters for the seminar included foren-

sic scientists from the Maryland State Police Forensics Sciences Division, the director of Baltimore City's State's Attorney's Office forensic science unit, and former state's attorney for Wicomico County, Davis Ruark.

The seminar included the types of DNA testing available, with an emphasis on advantages and limitations of the science, and a thorough explanation of the possible results reported by the discipline. Also included among the topics were trial strategy, court procedures, and how best to communicate the complexities of DNA testing to potential jurors.

In attendance were members from the Snow Hill Police Department, Maryland State Police, Pocomoke City Police, Ocean Pines Police, Worcester County Bureau of Investigation, University of Maryland Eastern Shore Police, the Worcester County Sheriff's office, and the Ocean City Police Department.



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Funding available to help coastal communities prepare for climate change

ANNAPOLIS – Maryland is now offering grants to help local communities prepare for responding and adapting to the anticipated impacts of climate change.

Launched by Gov. Martin O'Malley in April 2009, Maryland's CoastSmart Communities Initiative (CCI) has provided over a half-million dollars to help local communities brace for the effects of accelerated sea level rise, shoreline erosion, increased storm frequency and intensity, and changes in rainfall and related flooding.

"Without significant preparation and

planning, communities foresee considerable losses to public infrastructure, water dependent industries and livelihoods," said O'Malley. "The most costeffective approach to dealing with the anticipated impacts of climate change is to prepare for these consequences before they occur."

CCI provides financial and technical assistance to local governments to promote the incorporation of natural resource and/or coastal management practices into local planning and permitting activities.

Through the planning process, pro-

gram partners and communities will identify best management practices, education opportunities of both municipal officials and the public, potential code and ordinance changes, and any relevant restoration and protection opportunities.

In partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the State will provide grants from \$10,000 to \$75,000 to coastal communities to support the planning and preparation needed to adapt to climate related impacts in the short and long term.

In addition to competitive grants, the state will offer on-the-ground expertise, planning guidance, training and tools to support local planning efforts. Applications are being accepted through March 24.

"Land planning decisions in coastal areas along the Chesapeake Bay shoreline are made primarily by local municipalities. Without support from the Chesapeake and Coastal Program, Queenstown and many other small municipalities would not have the necessary tools to plan for potential storm events, shoreline changes, and protecting our water resources," said Kathy Boomer, the project manager for Queenstown's CCI project and member of the Queenstown Planning Commission.

Due to its geography and geology, the

Chesapeake Bay region is ranked the third most vulnerable to sea level rise, behind Louisiana and Southern Florida. Maryland's low-lying coastal communities, public infrastructure and vital habitats are particularly at risk to the impacts to climate change, especially with respect to accelerated sea level rise, shoreline erosion and increased storm frequency and intensity.

With the adoption of the Climate Action Plan in 2008, the state committed to provide sea level rise planning guidance to advise adaptation and response planning at the local level.

The Maryland Commission on Climate Chance recently released its Phase II Strategy for Reducing Maryland's Vulnerability to Climate Change. For more information about the Commission's efforts, visit www.green.maryland.gov/climate.html.

Recent CoastSmart Communities projects have included: the development of a strategic plan targeting sea level rise and climate change in Anne Arundel County; a sea level rise adaptation and response plan for the City of Annapolis that includes a vulnerability and impact assessment as well as outlines policy response options; improvements to Caroline County's floodplain and stormwater management programs; an integrated community and watershed design project and transportation element for the town of Queenstown.

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SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

United Way board member and Worcester County chair, John Gaddis of Worcester County Board of Education shows his support of the 2010 United Way Campaign, which is currently at 82 percent of its goal of \$1.6 million.

United Way campaign hits the final stretch

SALISBURY - United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore recently announced it has reached 82 percent of its \$1.6 million campaign goal to support local non-profit agencies and programs in Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset and Dorchester counties.

The monies raised throughout the campaign will directly impact over 100,000 of the less fortunate on the Lower Shore this year. The annual campaign officially kicked off on Sept. 17 and will culminate with an announcement of the campaign total at the United Way Annual Meeting on Thursday, March 31, at the Carousel Resort Hotel in Ocean City.

"It is important the United Way meet the campaign goal in order to continue providing critical help for individuals, children, and families right here at home," said campaign chair and civic leader Bill Middleton

The local United Way depends on over 200 businesses and organizations along with the 12,000 individual donors who generously sacrifice to help the Lower Shore community. The majority of funding comes from employee giving at the workplace through payroll deduction.

"It is our sincere hope that more local businesses will open their doors to allow their employees the opportunity to give through workplace campaigns and make a difference for those who need it the most this year," said Kathleen Mommé, United Way executive director.

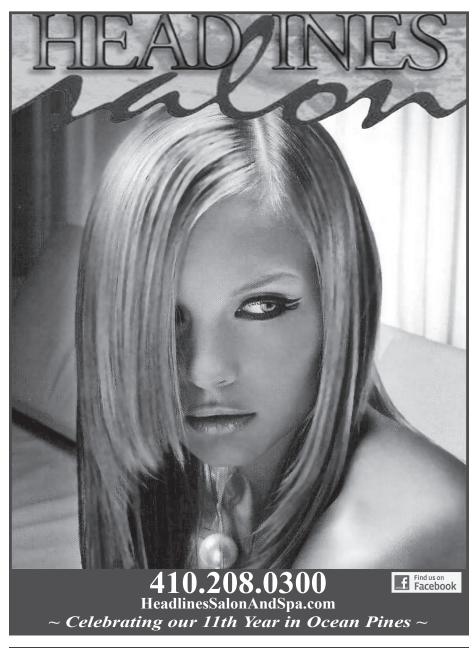
United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore is the largest non-governmental source of funding for area health and human services in Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset, and Dorchester counties. As a local and independent organization, 100 percent of all donations stay on the Lower Shore

Community Emergency Response Team Program is scheduled to begin in April

OCEAN CITY - Citizens can make a difference for their families by enrolling in the Community Emergency Response Team courses planned to begin in April at the Ocean City Public Safety Building.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training is designed to help citizens help themselves and their families in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Due to the fact that emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately following a disaster, CERT is a free training course that aims to provide citizens with basic information for preparedness and techniques when dealing with emergencies.

CERT classes begin Thursday, April 7 at 6:45 p.m. and will run each Thursday evening for seven weeks, ending on May 19. (There will also be one class on Saturday, May 14 at 8:30 a.m.).





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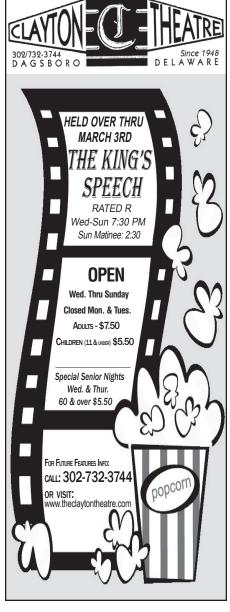
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Oglesby reaches settlement with **Gulyas lawsuit**

BY TONY RUSSO STAFF WRITER

SNOW HILL - Worcester County State's Attorney Beau Oglesby this week reached a settlement with creditor Thomas Gulyas. Oglesby was investigated by the Maryland Elections Committee after allegations that then-candidate Oglesby misappropriated funds from his 2006 campaign for the office.

Gulyas was prevented from discussing the terms of the settlement because of a confidentiality agreement negotiations included.

"It's settled and I'm very happy," Gulyas said.

Gulyas, who owns Ace Printing in Berlin, sued last year before the election, claiming Oglesby still owed more than \$5,700 for printing and mailing services provided as part of the 2006 campaign.

According to Oglesby, Gulyas agreed to absorb the cost as if it was a campaign contribution and he listed Gulyas and his wife Belinda as contributors to his 2006 campaign in the amounts of \$4,000 and \$2,000 respectively. Gulyas said there was no such deal but acknowledged he was aware of the reported contribution in January 2007.

Last May, in a response to Guylas notifying Oglesby of his intent to sue for the full amount owed, Oglesby paid \$2,000 of what was at the time an over \$7,700 debt.

Oglesby was cleared by the Maryland Elections Board and allowed to amend his 2006 filing to reflect the cost as an expense rather than a donation.

New venture offers a one-stop-shop for all eye care needs

SALISBURY - When Dr. Alex Azar saw an opportunity to expand his practice into the Ocean Pines area, he didn't waste any time. He immediately reached out to his colleagues at Accurate Optical (whom he already shares building space with in the Salisbury, Winterplace Park location) to see if they would be interested in sharing the market and office space in Northern Worcester County.

"Economically it made sense to share office space in the Pines and bring all of our specialties together in one centralized location," said Dr. Alex Azar. "Not only do we share equipment, office space and exam rooms, but we all value the ability to deliver expert eye care in a convenient and comfortable setting.

Two key elements were factored into the decision to expand in the Ocean Pines/Berlin area. One - the Pine's growing senior population. Two - an existing patient-base.

•Azar Eye Institute will treat patients in the office three days a week.

FROM PAGE 1

curtail operations rather than increasing revenue as a way of improving amenities performance. Although he was unable to attain a majority for the budget, Terry had earlier endorsed Thompson's "Open for Business" plan.

"We challenged the staff to make the best out of what we've got and try to turn it into a plus," he said. "Using the amenities we've got and keeping them open."

The recommendations made by the Ten-Year Task Force for planning to repair and replace facilities as needed will likely remain untouched.

Terry spoke in response to member worries that a large reserve was only a temptation for future boards to spend unwisely. Many people complained that the board was able to cover the Sports Core pool without member consent.

While he said he understood people's concerns, Terry reiterated that he trusted the people of Ocean Pines to make the best decisions for themselves. He also stressed the need for the people who are using the facilities today to pay for their replacement.

Although the board didn't pass the budget, they did take care of other business items at last week's meeting, including a review of their collection processes.

As part of his monthly general manager's report Thompson told the directors about enhancements to the collection "We challenged the staff to make the best out of what we've got and try to turn it into a plus."

> -Bob Thompson, OPA general manager

process for delinquent dues.

Instead of only sending letters as part of the process, the OPA will pursue a more aggressive telephone collection program where staff members try and secure payments before running up attorney, court and filing costs associated with foreclosure.

Thompson said foreclosure is still an option the association uses in a timely manner but that the phone calls and workout agreements have increased collections significantly. Outstanding dues are over \$400,000.

Ginny Reister, chair of the OPA aquatic advisory committee, petitioned the board of directors to consider passing a resolution banning smoking from the areas around the pools, particularly around the Yacht Club pool. She said the committee did not require an answer at this meeting.

Reister also reported to the board, with a few interruptions from the crowd, on increased participation numbers and asked the board to again consider allowing patrons to pay a fee monthly rather than annually.





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Wind power

FROM PAGE 1

The preliminary estimate for the project's cost to consumers is an electric bill increase of \$1.50-\$1.70 per month. Mathias said the industry estimates might be higher but that, once the investment is made, the payback will be relatively quick and likely result in significantly reduced, or at least stabilized, electric costs.

"There's a flatline with the wind as an ingredient in producing power," he said. "Compared with energy costs that are tied to foreign imports and coal plants the costs are much more predictable."

Mathias said that an important part of that would be the "circuit breaker" inserted into the law that puts the Public Service Commission in a position to evaluate all of the power prices and applications. So passage of the law will give neither the wind nor

Buy Something SHOP LOCAL!

the traditional power companies' carte blanche with public money. The PSC will be able to make sure that the wind company's proposals are in line with national costs and expected costs.

Mathias said this is a critical part in making sure that the investment in wind power pays off in rate predictability and reduced costs.

The jobs likely to be created both by the construction process and the continued maintenance of the turbine field will benefit both the county and the region, which was another reason Mathias said he wanted to be a sponsor of the bill. Moreover, his hope is that if the landings for the operation can be established on Maryland's shores both the area and the county will have a say in and a benefit from any required easements.

"I wanted to make sure the county could participate in the process," he said. "This is a premier area for wind power and it should be a beneficiary of that."

Looking beyond both the state and federal funding opportunities, Google has evinced interest in helping to establish a reliable power source along the East Coast to help ensure both cost and performance predictability.

The finance committee will continue to review the bill and hold hearings but Mathias said he has every expectation that it will make it out of committee and onto the floor for debate and, if acceptable, the governors desk.



SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETT

WINTER FORMAL – Three of Worcester Prep's well-dressed young men at the Winter Formal were Hunter Harmon, Rehoboth Beach; Christopher Fisher, Ocean City; and Wesley Scott, Lewes.



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BAYSIDE SINESS

Delmarva Two Way Radio now offers SafetyCare

BY TONY RUSSO STAFF WRITER

WEST OCEAN CITY – The myth about evolving technologies is that it tends to kill older businesses. This is patently untrue. Emerging technologies are only a danger to businesses that refuse to acknowledge them. Companies with business models that treasure stasis above all else are often the ones first dispatched by innovation and market shift.

So when cellular technology supposedly moved to put a significant dent in the two-way radio business, Milt Warren, president of Delmarva Two Way Radio, adapted. By understanding the service his company provided better than anyone else, Warren was able to take advantage of opportunities, rather than clinging to an obviously changing model.

The first and most important thing he realized was that if there would indeed be a transition away from the two-way radio, it would be a glacial process. Construction sites, EMS, and other businesses where central communication was critical would still require superior products and services. In many of these industries, getting in touch with an area quickly is more critical than



TONY RUSSO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Milt Warren, president of Delmarva Two Way Radio, adapted his business model to the fast-changing communications business by maintaining superior service in both established and emerging communications technologies.

getting in touch with an individual. Finding the correct cell phone number isn't as convenient as pressing a button and getting in touch with the person in a section that can help you.

But Warren and the other folks at Delmarva Two Way

Radio also recognized that the communications business was changing and would continue to change so they began to adapt to the new and future market demands that would be put on their industry.

Among their most innova-

tive changes was the decision to begin providing cellular amplifiers. The selling point of two way radios is that they're significantly more reliable than cell phones, but as amplifiers began to emerge it was clear that the technology-change was con-

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tinuing. Cellular amplifiers are kind of like antennae, improving the cellular signal strength in places where it tends to be weak.

Warren said they've installed a significant number of these amplifiers not only in area homes where the cellular coverage is spotty but also in pre-fabricated metal buildings, which tend to have terrible interference problems.

Delmarva Two Way Radio has also been dealing in cellphones and cellphone plans for years but recently took that aspect of the business to a mostly online experience. They are certified purveyors of plans and phones from all of the major providers and can provide service both via a toll-free help line as well as online or in their store.

In addition to finding ways to keep their communications expertise relevant in changing times, they've also adopted an approach that finds new uses for two way radios. As the only locally-owned Motorola deal-

TO PAGE 1

FINANCIAL ADVICE

Important economic reports



I'm often asked about what reports or news that I think are the most important when gauging the health of our economy. Following are the ten most important in my opinion.

Jobless Claims. The number of people who file for unemployment benefits in a given week. This data is collected by the Department

of Labor, and published as a weekly report. The number of jobless claims is used as a measure of the health of the job market.

Non-Farm Payroll. A statistic gathered by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which represents the payroll data for the bulk of the United States. The employees that are not included in this report include government employees, nonprofit employees, individuals who work within a private household, and farm employees. This calculation represents roughly 80 percent of United States work force.

Consumer Price Index (CPI). An inflation indicator that

measures the change in the cost of a fixed basket of products and services, that include: housing, electricity, food, and transportation. The CPI is published monthly. It's also been called the cost-of-living index.

Producer Price Index (PPI). An inflationary indicator published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to evaluate wholesale price levels in the economy.

Beige Book. This report on current economic conditions is published by the Federal Reserve Board eight times each year. The Beige Book is part of the Federal Open Market Committee's planning for its meetings. The book is a summary of economic conditions in each of the Fed's regions and is primarily seen as an indicator of how the Fed might act at its upcoming meeting.

Housing Starts. The number of residential building construction projects begun during a specific period of time; usually a month.

Consumer Confidence Index. A measure of consumer optimism toward current economic conditions. The consumer confidence index was originally set at 100 and is adjusted monthly based on a survey of about 5,000 households. The index considers consumer opinion on both current conditions (40% of the index) and future expectations (the other 60%).

Durable Goods Orders. A government report which measures consumer spending on long-term purchases that are expected to last more than three years. It is intended to act as a gauge for the future of the manufacturing industry.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The total market value of all final goods and services produced in a country in a given year. This is figured out by adding total consumer, investment and government spending; plus the value of exports, minus the value of imports.

Retail Sales index. A monthly measurement of all goods sold by retailers based on a sampling of retail stores of different types and sizes. The retail sales index is often taken as an indicator of consumer confidence.

These ten reports, when studied objectively, can help spell out where our current economy is heading.

Chip Gordy, MBA, CRPC is an investment advisor representative with Coastal Wealth Management, LLC, specializing in wealth and retirement planning. He can be reached at 410-208-4545 or chip@coastalwealthmgmt.com. Registered representative, securities offered through Cambridge Investment Research Inc., a broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC.

Free online tax prep services offered

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Free File Alliance, a coalition of industry-leading tax software companies partnered with the Internal Revenue Service, today announced the launch of the 2011 IRS Free File program. Since its inception in 2003, IRS Free File has offered low-to-moderate income taxpayers free access to leading commercial tax preparation software.

This year, every taxpayer with a 2010 Adjusted Gross Income of \$58,000 or less may visit www.IRS.gov to prepare, complete and e-file their federal tax

returns at no cost.

"IRS Free File returns this year to proudly give 98 million Americans free access to the industry's best tax preparation software," said Tim Hugo, executive director of the Free File Alliance.

"We are committed to making taxes simple, fast and free by offering stepby-step help that takes guesswork out of the process. More than 30 million people have already taken advantage of IRS Free File, and our goal this year is to serve each and every taxpayer making \$58,000 or less."

Two Wav Radio

er in the region, Delmarva Two Way Radio now offers SafetyCare a personal communication medallion.

Although there are several different plans for which a person can register, the basic premise is that if a person is having any trouble — from being locked out of their home to a fullblown medical emergency — they can use the medallion for one-touch communication with people who can help.

One of the more popular plans can be set to dial through a list of potential numbers before dialing 911, although a plan is available that just dials 911

immediately. As Warren explained, what makes this particular service superior to the other medallion-type person safety communications devices is the direct connection to people who can help. Rather than have to explain through an intermediary what the problem is, or just setting off an alarm that tells authorities there is some kind of nondescript problem in your home, the SafetyCare puts its wearer in direct contact with whomever the settings

With the range of communication products and services they offer, Delmarva Two Way Radio is poised to remain a strong player in the area's communications industry well into the future.



IF I WERE MAYOR – Meeting with Berlin Mayor Gee Williams are Worcester Prep fourth grade students Virginia Bateman, Baera Bischoff, Jack Walinskas, (Mayor Williams), Kendall Whaley, Liam Hammond, Jack Burbage, Cooper Richins, and Joanne Unger, Williams' assistant. Williams and Unger visited to discuss the 2011 essay competition, "If I Were Mayor."







SWEET MATH – Mrs. Christine Lieb's Kindergarten students from Ocean City Elementary School had a very sweet math lesson graphing candy hearts on Valentine's Day. Pictured are Jessie Bevard, Andrew Cummings and Logan Intrieri.

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WINTER FORMAL DANCE - Some of the girls at Worcester Prep's Winter Formal Dance for Upper School students are Hannah Gaskill, Ocean City; Ariella Anthony, Seaford; Sarah Freund, Whaleyville; Lydia Pritchard, Fenwick Island; Maddie Pilchard, Pocomoke; Sophia Tomaselli, Berlin; Megan O'Donnell, Georgetown; Erin Royal, Rehoboth Beach; and Sibel Tekman, Rehoboth Beach.

Proposed school budget reflects more reductions

NEWARK - At the Feb. 15 Worcester County Board of Education meeting, the Board adopted a proposed FY 2012 operating budget that reflects the current state of Worcester County's local economy. The proposed Maintenance of Effort operating budget of \$90.6 million includes reductions, reallocations, and deferments of over \$1 million, including a reduction of up to 12 positions. In addition, the proposed budget includes no pay raises for the third consecutive year.

The proposed Maintenance of Effort budget for FY 2012 freezes or reduces 149 of the 151 budget line-items. The largest categorical reduction is in the area of textbooks and classroom supplies, with a proposed reduction of \$361,472. Since FY 2009, textbooks and classroom supplies have been reduced by 27 percent, or \$579,233. "Although we have always taken pride in providing our teachers with the most current textbooks," said Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Dr. John Gaddis, "when we have to choose between teachers and textbooks, we will always choose teachers. Teachers have the greatest impact on student learning; it is that simple."

Three areas that will not realize a reduction are the budget categories of maintenance of plant, operation of plant, and fixed charges. "As our Worcester County "When we have to choose between teachers and textbooks, we will always choose teachers."

> -Dr. John Gaddis, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

families know," said Chief Financial Officer Vincent Tolbert, "it will cost more to operate a household next year than this year. The same is true of our schools." In fact, the proposed FY 2012 budget estimates an increase in fixed business costs - which include utilities - of over \$665,000.

In addition to costs associated with daily operations, the proposed FY 2012 budget includes one-time expenditures such as technology, capital outlay, and school construction. Since FY 2009, these three budget categories have realized significant reductions. Technology, which was previously funded near \$1 million in FY 2007, has maintained a minimal funding level of \$200,000 since FY 2010, down 50 percent from FY 2009. "The \$200,000 budget allocation simply funds licenses for software and contracts for student information systems in our schools," said Gaddis. "It does not include any funding for computer replacements or upgrades."

Since FY 2009, capital outlay - which includes the maintenance and repair of sidewalks and parking lots - has been reduced by 75 percent. School construction - which includes the replacement of rooftop HVAC units - has been dropped to zero for the third consecutive year. "We currently have 21 HVAC units in our middle schools alone that have been identified as being in poor condition," said Tolbert. "We are extremely proud of our Maintenance Department for keeping them operational."

The proposed FY 2012 operating budget also accommodates estimated reductions in Federal stimulus funding of over \$950,000. It does, however, include a Maintenance of Effort increase in county appropriations of \$600,756, due to an increase in the student population (in grades Kindergarten to 12) of 53 students. (The state's Maintenance of Effort formula does not include funding for Pre-Kindergarten, a state mandated program, for which the school system has 368 students.)

Even with reductions and reallocations of over \$629,000, a revenue deficiency of \$388,946 still existed in the proposed FY 2012 operating budget. "To address this revenue deficiency," said Tolbert, "our

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION Ocean City Elementary School will

SCHOOL BRIEFS

begin the registration process for the 2011-2012 pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs in January. Children who will be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2011 may be eligible for the OCES pre-kindergarten

Space is limited and children from families who meet the income guidelines will be given priority. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2011 must register for kinder-

Children who are currently attending pre-kindergarten at OCES must register for kindergarten. Call Ocean City Elementary School at 410-632-5370 to schedule a registration appoint-

MARCH 4 IS ACT DEADLINE

Area residents have until Friday, March 4, to register for the American College Testing (ACT) examination, which is being offered by Wor-Wic Community College on Saturday, April 9, at 7:30 a.m., at the college campus in Salisbury.

Anyone who takes the ACT can have their scores sent directly to any college or university that requires the ACT assessment. Test results are used by educational institutions for admission decisions, course placement, academic advising or to identify candidates qualified for scholarships and loans.

Students interested in Wor-Wic's nursing and radiologic technology programs can use their scores from this examination as one of the criteria for admission. Those who take the April 9 test will be eligible for admission consideration for the nursing program beginning in September 2011 or the college's full-time radiologic technology program beginning in July of 2012.

To register for the ACT test, visit www.actstudent.org.

JOB FAIR AT WOR-WIC

The public is invited to attend a free job fair being offered by the career services office at Wor-Wic Community College. It will be held on Thursday, March 24, from 2:30-6 p.m., in Room 103 of the Workforce Development Center at the college campus on the corner of Route 50 and Walston Switch Road in Salisbury.

Job seekers do not need to register to attend, but they should come dressed in interview attire and bring résumés. Individuals and employers needing more information can call 410-334-2903.



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School budget

FROM PAGE 11

proposed budget currently includes an estimated reduction of up to 12 positions, which we hope to achieve through retirements and normal attrition." The 12 positions to be reduced in FY 2012 will be added to the 19 positions reduced in FY 2010, resulting in the total workforce reduction of about 3 percent.

In addition to the \$1 million in reductions, reallocations, and deferments, the proposed FY 2012 Maintenance of Effort operating budget does not include a pay raise, for the third consecutive year. "We have the best and brightest working right here in our school system," said Superintendent Dr. Jon Andes. "We are proud of the positive attitudes that our staff has each and every day, despite the fact that they are being asked to do more with less."

"Over the last two fiscal years," added Tolbert, "17 of the 24 Maryland school systems have provided their employees with some type of pay raise. Due to the current local economy, this has not been possible in our county."

Due to the state's wealth-based formula which determines a school system's state aid, Worcester County Public Schools is considered the wealthiest county, thus receiving the second-lowest amount of state aid. "With comparatively minimal state aid," said Tolbert, "75 percent of our budget is funded by our local government. Based on projec-

tions released by our county government last week, FY 2013 could be even worse, with a projected reduction in county revenues of \$7 million."

Because salaries have remained frozen since FY 2009 for Worcester County Public Schools, beginning teacher salaries have continued to fall when compared with the state, down from ranking 11th in the state in FY 2009 to 14th in the state in FY 2011. "With no salary increases included in our budget for this year (FY 2011), this ranking could drop even farther next year. This makes recruiting the best teachers to fill positions – those positions that must be filled – much more challenging," said Tolbert.

In addition to no pay raises, the proposed FY 2012 operating budget does not include any new programs.

"With reductions in Federal and restricted grant funding, our greatest concern is keeping the programs and services that we have, such as the after school and summer school academies," said Andes. "We are doing everything we can to seek grants to supplement funding, but it is a very competitive grant market.

"We simply cannot lose programs that are critical to the success of our students. We must maintain the programs that we have; they are moving our students forward, as performance standards continue to rise."

The state mandates that for the upcoming fiscal year, local jurisdictions must not fund below the current year's per-student funding level (in grades Kindergarten through 12).



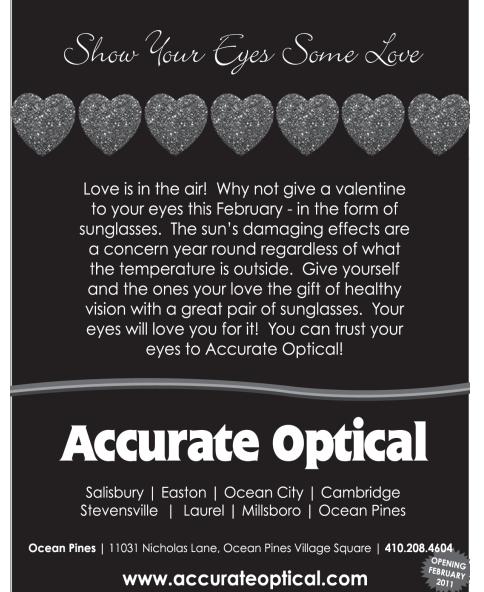
SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FAST FORWARD – In the BIS and Beyond Afterschool Academies, students can participate in Fast ForWORD, a computer program to strengthen students' reading skills. The reading games are fun and engaging. Ms. Val Vigorito, Autumn Wyatt, Thomas Turner, Aylssa Webb, Jhymir Blake.



SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIENCE — The BIS and Beyond Afterschool Academy "Environmental Experience" group at Berlin Intermediate School learned all about birds and owls in February. Caroline Cardamone, Emily Malinowski, and Kelsey Dunlap dig right in to investigate the owl pellets!



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Trying to de-stigmatize discussing mental health problems

Inaugural Eastern Shore Suicide Prevention Conference in Ocean City

BY TONY RUSSO STAFF WRITER

BERLIN - When Kevin Hines jumped off the Golden Gate Bridge he knew it was a mistake and was fortunate to end up one of only 32 people to survive the fall. Beforehand he'd been on the bridge waiting for someone to say something that would help him to change his mind. He was obviously distraught and had been crying but the only person who spoke to him was a tourist who asked him to take a photo.

Hines' survival and recuperation led him to a life of advocacy for suicide prevention, trying to get the word out that anyone can be a lifesaver if they're not afraid to ask the right questions. This week he'll speak both at Salisbury University and as part of the Worcester County Health Department-sponsored Suicide Prevention Conference at the Clarion Fontainbleau Resort in Ocean City.

Jennifer LaMode, L.G.S.W., who is the director of the Core Service Agency for the health department said one of the most difficult things to overcome in helping people recognize the signs of depression and suicidal thoughts in the people around us is the stigma associated with mental health issues.

Simply asking a person if they're feeling OK can be the



SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Kevin Hines, who survived jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge, will speak at the inaugural Eastern Shore Suicide Prevention Conference will be held 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., March 3 at the Clarion Fontainbleau Resort in Ocean City.

difference between whether they seek help or not and overcoming the fear of asking is everyone's responsibility.

She said that she and several people members of the conference's partner agencies, saw Hines speak at a conference and decided he would be a critical part of their own conference.

Alisa Crockett, who supervises the health department's suicide prevention program, said that the most important aspect of suicide prevention is knowing the signs and responding to them. The program focuses on helping children and young adults ages 10-25 who have been identified as at-risk by their doctors, teachers, family or members of law enforcement.

"Suicide is oftentimes preventable if you know how to look for the signs," she said. Teachers, coaches, and friends can be a huge help to people who are having suicidal thoughts.

LeMade said that the conference is designed for lay people as well as public service professionals. The hope is to destigmatize discussing mental health problems among peers and show people how it is possible to talk honestly and openly with people about whom one might be concerned.

The conference is only part of the continuing push the health department is making to try to eliminate suicides. Between 2007-2009, the most recent statistical reporting period for suicides, 63 people in Worcester, Somerset and Wicomico counties successfully committed sui-

SUICIDE PREVENTION

The inaugural Eastern Shore Suicide Prevention Conference will be held 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.. March 3 at the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City.

To register for the visit, www. suicidepreventionconference. org, registration is full but likely to be expanded.

Keynote speaker Kevin Hines will also be presenting his talk 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, in the Wicomico Room of the Guerrieri University Center at Salisbury University.

Admission is free and open to the public.

cide and the number of unreported or unsuccessful attempts is likely much higher. More than one-third of the successful suicides occurred in 2009 and of the 63 total, 51 were male. The most common method was firearms, followed by hanging or asphyxiation, overdose and other.

In addition to providing counseling services for those who have already sought help, Crockett's department runs regular classes aimed at helping both professionals and laypeople identify symptoms that might indicate suicidal thoughts in a person.

For more information on the health department's suicide prevention programs contact the mental health program at 410-629-0164.

ITNESS ADVICE

Are your kids really fit?



By David & Lisa Long

Your kid plays lacrosse, takes gymnastics after school, and/ or has a tennis lesson every weekend. But are they getting enough exercise?

That seems like a silly question, but with our experience in the past 10 years working with kids involved in various sports programs being on

a team does not necessarily mean they are getting enough exercise.

There's lots of scientific evidence that youth sports like soccer, swimming, tennis and gymnastics are good for kids. Kids who take part have lower levels of so-called bad cholesterol and higher levels of healthy cholesterol. Participation in organized programs has also been associated with leaner body mass in children. Some researchers have found that kids develop denser bones when they take part in sports like basketball, gymnastics, tennis, soccer, lacrosse and distance running.

Please do not assume your child is enjoying himself and getting exercise just because you signed them up and got them to practice. Stay for a practice and attend a game to see what kind of exercise your kid is getting. Are they having fun? Do they get playing

If your child plays on a competitive club team, unless they are starters they will be spending quite a bit of time on the sidelines watching and that is how it's supposed to be – it is a competitive club so they

will be playing the best players.

So, what should a parent do if they are looking to get their child some exercise?

Look for sports programs that have a limited number of participants, as well as those with coaches who emphasize fun and encourage every kid to take part. Small groups – say, a tennis lesson with no more than four kids - can eliminate long waits for a turn.

It's important also to consider whether your child is having fun, even if he or she is not typically breaking a sweat at practice. If a kid enjoys the time, let them, but parents should think about adding another, more active, class. Better yet, parents can take time themselves to kick the soccer ball around with their kids.

Lisa and David Long are trainers who own Live Long Fitness in West Ocean City. 410-213-1078, www. livelongfitness.com, livelongfitness@live.com

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SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Carrie Subity, chamber executive director; Kevin Brady, chamber president; Valor Award Winner, Cpl. Brandon Elliott, Bethany Beach Police Department; Doug Brown, vice president community development, golf and sports/hospitality Carl M. Freeman Cos.

Chamber's annual awards ceremony honors local police and firefighters

FENWICK ISLAND, Del. – The Bethany-Fenwick Area Chamber of Commerce honored eight area police officers and firefighters at the 2011Joshua M. Freeman Valor Award luncheon on Friday, Feb. 11, at DiFebo's Bistro on the Green at Bear Trap Dunes in Ocean View, Del.

The awards ceremony, named for developer and philanthropist Joshua M. Freeman (1964-2006), recognizes outstanding police officers and firefighters within the Chamber's service area.

One member from each local police and fire companies received an Officer of the Year or Firefighter of the Year award. One overall winner was chosen from all of the awardees and was presented with the 2011 Joshua M. Freeman Valor Award.

This year's recipient was Cpl. Brandon

Elliott from the Bethany Beach Police Department. His heroism led to an on foot pursuit and arrest of a wanted murder suspect from Baltimore who now sits on death row.

The event wouldn't have been possible without the continued support of Presenting Sponsor, Carl M. Freeman Cos. and Supporting Sponsors Banks Wines & Spirits, Beebe Medical Center, Coastal Point and Delmarva Power.

OUTSTANDING OFFICER OF THE YEAR:

- •Cpl. Brandon Elliott, Bethany Beach Police Department;
- ■Cpl. Stephen Majewski, Fenwick Island Police Department;
- Patrolman First Class Sidney Ballentine, Ocean View Police Department;
- Master Corporal Eric Watkins, South Bethany Police Department;
- Lt. Robert Reed, Selbyville Police Department.

OUTSTANDING FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR:

- •Firefighter Richard Parrett Jr., Bethany Beach Volunteer Fire Company;
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- •Firefighter Craig Temple, Millville Volunteer Fire Company.





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SPORTS BAYSIDE



THOMAS MELVILLE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Stephen Decatur forward Monique Wise reaches for a rebound during the fourth quarter of the Seahawks 64-60 loss to Delmar last Friday evening. (Below) Senior Sarah Wootten attempts to dribble past a Delmar defender. For more Stephen Decatur basketball photos, visit www.melvillemediaphotos.com.

Seahawks comeback falls short

BERLIN – Stephen Decatur played the role of Sisyphus against Delmar last Friday and like the Greek mythological figure, the Seahawks could not push the boulder all the way to the top of the hill.

Decatur mounted comebacks in the third and fourth quarters but never could take the lead. Down 12 points in the third, the Seahawks charged back and pulled to within 43-40 with two minutes left but then Delmar hit consecutive three-pointers and built a 51-40 lead.

In the fourth, led by Leigh Anne Flounlacker, who finished with a game-high 36 points, Decatur rallied again to 55-50 and then 61-57 with less than two minutes left. But with less than a minute to go Delmar hit a three-pointer and the Seahawks comeback ran out of time.

"We kind of killed ourselves by letting them get way ahead," Flounlacker said. "Then we had to play catch-up and that was a lot harder on us. We would get so close and they would score and it was like climbing a mountain."



SPORTS BRIEFS

CHRIS HOILES TO APPEAR AT SHOREBIRDS OPENING NIGHT

The Delmarva Shorebirds, class "A" affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles, has released the schedule of national acts and special appearances that will take place this season at Perdue Stadium.

Headlining the schedule is a special appearance by former Orioles catcher Chris Hoiles on opening night, April 7.

The Shorebirds will host a meet and greet with 10-year MLB veteran Chris Hoiles in the Executive Club at Perdue Stadium. Hoiles played for the Baltimore Orioles from 1989-1998. He was the primary catcher for the Orioles for eight of his ten seasons in the major leagues.

In 894 career games, Hoiles hit .262 with 151 home runs and 449 RBIs. The Bowling Green, Ohio, native had his best season in 1993, when he posted career highs in: batting average (.310), home runs (29), hits (130), doubles (29) and slugging percentage (.585).

On April 29, the nationally renowned traveling act, Inflatamaniacs, will be in attendance to entertain fans.

The Shorebirds will celebrate Sherman's birthday on Friday, May 27 with Mascot Mania. There will be a meet and greet in the Executive Club with the Oriole Bird, the official mascot of the Baltimore Orioles and Poe, the mascot of the Baltimore Ravens.

Other mascots that are expected to attend include: Harry the Hawk from UMES, Sammy the Sea Gull from Salisbury University, Ferris from the Aberdeen Ironbirds and Louie from the Bowie BaySox.

On June 3, the Shorebirds will welcome Miss USA International pageant winner Casandra Tressler for a special meet and greet. Tressler represented the United States in the Miss USA International competition in China last year. Tressler, originally from Damascus, Md., won the Miss Maryland pageant in 2008 and represented the state in the Miss USA pageant in Las Vegas.

IRISH SCRAMBLE

Eagle's Landing Golf Course will host the St. Patrick's Irish Scramble on Saturday, March 12.

The format will be a four-player scramble with 30 percent of the team average being your handicap. Teams will play six holes from each gold, white and blue tee. Teams choose the holes they play from each of the tees.

The cost is \$50 per player, which includes a 9:30 a.m. Irish coffee.



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SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Coach Shannon Tustin (coach), Bo Bischoff-Warfield, Sierra Eiseamnn, Carmella Solito (coach), Amiyah Rounds, Alexa Eisemann and Davina Graybill all Twisters Level C teammates and coaches.

Twisters host Sweet Treat Meet

BERLIN – The Twisters Gymnastics team hosted the Mason Dixon League's third invitational of the year, the Sweet Treat Meet, on Feb. 5-6.

The meet was held at Twisters Gymnastics on Worcester Highway in Berlin. Nine Twisters gymnasts competed against a field of over 350 gymnasts representing 27 teams.

All Twisters gymnasts placed on at least one event, some girls competing at their level for the very first time. Twisters was represented by Davina Graybill, Sierra Eisemann, Bo Bischoff, Amiyah Rounds, and Alexa Eisemann in the Level C competition.

Girls earning first place were Davina Graybill (vault, 9.6) and Sierra Eisemann (beam, 9.3 and all around, 36.95). In the Level D competition, Kayla Janek and Alyvia Ciurca placed first and second all around respectively.

They also earned first place on individual events: Janek (bars, 9.6; beam, 9.15; all around, 37.3) and Ciurca (vault, 9.2 and floor, 9.6). In the Level E competition Mallory Rolleston was third place all around and Jennah Lupiwok earned first place on beam with a 9.2.

Twisters is coached by Carmella Solito, Fran Fennell, Donna Miller, Shannon Tustin, and Joanne Hunsicker.

Ocean Pines Recreation programs through February and March

ZUMBATOMIC

Zumba for kids is here. The Ocean Pines Recreation Department is offering a new fitness program for kids. ZumbAtomic is an exhilarating 45 minute workout designed specifically for kids' minds and bodies.

This program fuses the original Zumba with the science behind children exercise programs. Kids ages 8-12 will enjoy movement and exercise that incorporates urban dance styles (like hip-hop, raggaeton and pop) with fundamental concepts (such as coordination, discipline, confidence and teamwork).

The goal of the program is to develop healthy lifestyle, to incorporate fitness as a natural part of children lives, not just a class that they attend once a week. ZumbAtomic is a way to show kids how exercising, dancing and staying fit can be a blast.

ZumbAtomic will begin on Saturday, March 5 at 10 a.m. The fee for this six week class is \$45 for Ocean Pines residents and \$55 for all others. To register for this class or if you have questions, call the Ocean Pines Recreation Department at 410-641-7717 ext. 3050.

ZUMBA

Zumba combines high energy and motivating music with unique moves and combinations that allow the Zumba participants to dance away their worries. It is based on the principle that a workout should be "fun and easy to do" allowing Zumba participants to stick to the Zumba Fitness program and achieve long-term health benefits.

Zumba is a fusion of Latin and international music with dance themes that create a dynamic, exciting, effective fitness system. The routines feature aerobic/fitness interval training with a combination of fast and slow rhythms that tone and sculpt the body.

Zumba utilizes the principles of fitness inter-

val training and resistance training to maximize caloric output, fat burning and total body toning. It is a mixture of body sculpting movements with easy to follow dance steps.

This exercise class will be offered in the gymnasium of the Ocean Pines Community Center on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 28. The fee for this six week class is \$55 for Ocean Pines residents and \$65 for non-residents. For more information or to register for this class, call the Ocean Pines Recreation Department at 410-641-7717 ext. 3050.

COOKING TECHNIQUES

The Ocean Pines Recreation Department and Paul Suplee CEC, PC III has teamed up to offer this exciting cooking class. Paul is a chef, instructor, writer and artisan chocolatier in the Ocean City area.

With 24 years in professional kitchens, Paul decided to start a new life and teach the craft to young culinarians. Now the culinary and baking and pastry instructor for Worcester Technical High School, he is also a columnist for national service magazines, a weekly food writer and photographer.

Fundamental Cooking Techniques will teach aspiring home cooks the basic cooking techniques, knife skills and sauce making. Learn how to use various fresh ingredients to make simple, flavorful dishes that can be accentuated with delicious sauces and accompaniments.

The fee includes lunch, all material with written instructions as well as a copy of Paul's book from 2006, "The Heart of a Kitchen; Quips of a Rambling Chef."

This one day class will be held March 12 in the kitchen of the Ocean Pines Community Center from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Register now as this class is limited to 6 students per date. The fee is \$65 for Ocean Pines residents and \$70 for nonresidents.



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DNR announces deer season harvest

ANNAPOLIS – Maryland deer hunters harvested a total of 98,663 deer during the 2010-2011 bow, muzzleloader and firearm seasons combined. This figure is down just 2 percent from last year's record harvest of 100,663 deer.

The antlered harvest declined 1 percent to 33,341 deer this year, while the antlerless harvest decreased 2 percent to 65,322 deer. The harvest totals include 2,780 sika deer; a 17 percent increase over last year's total for this species.

"Deer hunting was more challenging this year but success rates were high in most areas by the end of the season," said DNR's Deer Project Leader Brian Eyler.

"The strong winds and very cold weather that plagued hunters during many of the most popular hunting days initially kept harvest down. We also had an abundant acorn crop that changed deer movements and had many hunters wondering where the deer were.

"Despite these challenges, hunters adapted and finished with a strong antlerless deer harvest — something we consider essential to managing the State's deer population."

A regulation change enacted in 2010 moved the western half of Washington County into Deer Management Region A, which includes Allegany and Garrett counties. The regulation change was instituted to reduce the deer harvest

in that portion of Washington County. As a result of the boundary change, deer harvest numbers for the region are not directly comparable to previous years. A total of 9,324 deer (5,412 antlered, 3,912 antlerless) were harvested in Region A during the 2010-2011 season. The Garrett County harvest remained stable while the harvest in Allegany and Washington counties dropped approximately 30 percent.

The decline in Washington County was an expected outcome of the change in the Region A boundary. While the decline in Allegany County was partly due to a decrease in the overall deer herd, the boundary change further reduced harvest by putting several popular public hunting areas in the same Management Region, removing the option to take deer under two separate bag limits.

The reported deer harvest in the remainder of the state (Deer Management Region B) was similar to the previous year. Hunters in Region B reported taking 89,339 deer for the year; down 2 percent from last year.

The antlered harvest of 27,929 deer was 3 percent lower than last year, while the antlerless total decreased 2 percent to 61,410 deer. Frederick County led the state this year with 7,942 deer, followed by Baltimore County with 6,919 and Washington County with 6,035 deer.



DAMN DANCERS — Practicing for the dancing for Worcester Prep's Broadway musical Damn Yankees to be presented Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25 and 26 are Elise Harmon, Rehoboth Beach; Katie Lawrence, Salisbury; Caroline Klug, Salisbury; dance instructor Paulette Derosa Matrona, Ocean City; Megan Kuczma, Salisbury; Mattie Pilchard, Pocomoke; and in front Katherine Pavlos, Salisbury.





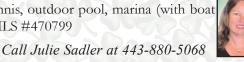
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#1181	Jeep Liberty 4x4	\$30,225	\$25,990

PRICE ARE GOOD THROUGH FEBRUARY 28TH, 2011

Student safety a top priority in Worcester County

NEWARK – At the Worcester County Board of Education's Feb. 15 meeting, the Board agreed to further define a replacement school bus as one having no more than five years of previous service, while meeting all other state and local standards. A replacement bus is typically purchased by a bus contractor to replace an existing school bus – one that has become ineligible for student transportation due to the number of years the bus has been in service.

"Although our established procedures regarding additional or replacement buses, adopted in 1988, states that replacement buses should be 'generally new," said Superintendent Dr. Jon Andes, "I commend the Board for qualifying what 'generally new' means. When it comes to the safety of our students, there is no room for ambiguity."

In compliance with Maryland law, school buses that meet all standards may be operated for a maximum of 12 years. On the Lower Shore (Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester), the law provides an extension of service by three years (or up to a maximum of 15 years of service) should a bus meet all standards, requirements, and regulations and have the approval of the Superintendent of Schools. "When the extension was passed by the General Assembly about 10 years ago," said Andes, "our Board of Education opposed the Lower Shore

exception. Why should the definition of a 'safe bus' be different from one end of the state to the other? In Worcester County, we have a tradition of having higher standards, not lower."

According to school officials, the extension of service to 15 years has been limited to those instances where school buses have reached the 12-year mark after having served most or all 12 years in Worcester County Public Schools. "Our school buses undergo three safety inspections and a preventative inspection annually," said Steve Price, Supervisor of Transportation. "When a bus transporting students for our school system reaches the 12-year mark, we have extensive inspection records on the bus, which enables the Superintendent of Schools to make an informed decision on whether or not the bus should qualify for three more years of service."

The new definition of a replacement bus, having a maximum of five years of previous service, will prevent older buses from making it into the Worcester County Public School transportation system for the first time and serving as a regular-run bus (transporting students on a daily basis). "The new replacement-bus definition means that a retired or ineligible bus from the Western Shore, one that has had 12 years of service, cannot be used in our school system," explained Andes. "If a bus is not deemed

safe on the Western Shore to transport students daily, then it is not safe here on the Lower Shore. I will not approve any service extensions when it comes to older buses that have not had a long-standing history as part of our fleet. The five-year maximum for a replacement bus means that we continue to keep safety first, above anything else."

School buses which transport Worcester County Public School students are owned and operated by private contractors. The school system's fleet includes 73 regular-run buses (with 10 spare buses), traveling 1.5 million annually, or 8,397 miles a day. Ninety-two percent (92%) of the school system's student population is eligible for bus transportation.

"We have the best contractors anywhere," said Andes. "They are dedicated professionals who genuinely care about the students they transport. Like our teachers, they do not enter this occupation for the compensation. When you speak to our contractors, you will know first-hand that the safety of our students is paramount. Our school system places students first, in everything. This defines our school system."

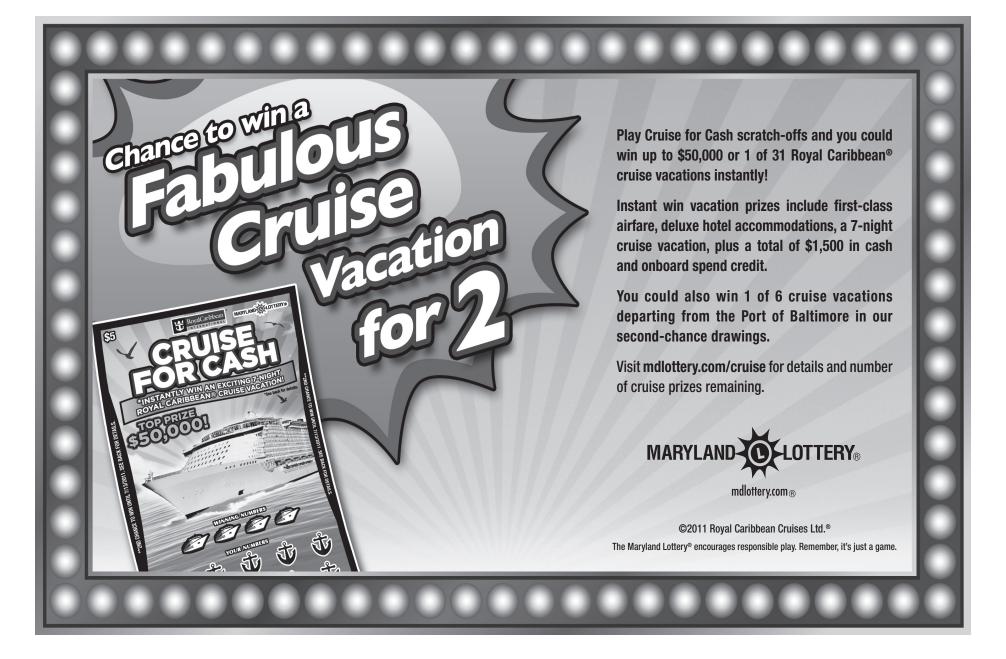
In terms of the compensation package, bus contractor pay is comprised of mileage reimbursement, salary, a per-vehicle-allotment (PVA), and an administrative fee. For FY 2011, Worcester County

bus contractors are paid \$63,595 (based on traveling 100 miles and five hours per day). (Comparatively, Wicomico pays \$57,527, while Somerset pays \$54,040.) In addition, if a Worcester County Public School bus contractor drives for an after-school program, summer school, field trips, or athletic events, the opportunity for additional income increases. "In fact, the average compensation paid to our bus contractors last school year was approximately \$71,000," said Price.

"Parents can be assured that we have the highest expectations for our contractors and buses," added Andes. "They can also be assured that our bus contractors meet and exceed our expectations. We are blessed to have these caring professionals as part of our educational team."

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-Thomas Gulyas, on the lawsuit against Beau Oglesby

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EDITORIAL

OPA board should re-think the \$45 assessment increase

Although the reason is suspect, it's a good thing the OPA board of directors caved to the pressure of budget meeting attendees by deciding to re-think the \$45 assessment increase. However, rather than focus too intently on reducing the operating costs the directors should consider cutting the contribution to reserves.

While the operational increase is something that may or may not be used if deemed necessary by the general manager, the fact that a group of people can so thoroughly unhinge the board as to make them double back on months worth of work is in itself the best argument against building the reserves beyond necessary maintenance items.

The most reliable fact about the OPA board of directors over the years, that doesn't change with personnel, is that they can be induced into anything with the right amount of pressure from a small group of property owners.

Given the ease with which a vocal minority can historically influence decision making, the board should be excluded from raising excessive reserve amounts for big projects. Should a facility require the kinds of repair that would require a referendum it should include a financing plan wherein the work is paid for over the long term.

This would not only solve the problem of making sure that the expense is distributed fairly but also ensure that needed work is done while big projects are paid for by those who will most benefit from them.

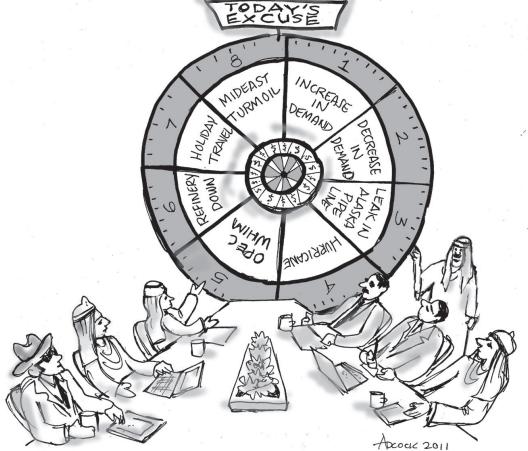
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The Science Behind the Rise in Gasoline Prices.

LETTERS EDITOR

Cat colony needs to be re-located

Editor:

The Delmarva Association of Animal Rescuers just received an email from one of it's members, Town Cats, and the contents of said email have inspired us to reach out to the local community for ask for their assistance.

Town Cats maintains a working colony of 35-40 cats at Ocean Downs but was recently informed by track management that they would like the number reduced to just 12. They have given Town Cats manager Jeanne Donovan until the end of March to

accomplish the reduction or they will have animal control start removing and euthanizing some of the colony.

All of the cats in the colony have been through TNR so all are spayed/neutered and fully up to date on their shots. One of the biggest hurdles, according to Ms. Donovan, is "None of these cats would be considered adoptable. They are all three or older and most of them were born on the track."

What this means, basically, is that any of the cats that are removed must be placed as barn or farm cats or in another setting where they will have minimal contact with humans. They would not make very good housecats but

will be quite beneficial to anyone who needs a four-legged watchcat to protect their property against mice and other rodents.

The DAAR is asking the Delmarva Community to step up and help save these precious lives. If you have a farm or know of someone with a farm or similar setting and would like to adopt one of these sweet animals before they are put down we urge you to contact Jeanne and make arrangements to view her colony so that you may choose a couple of her colony members to take home.

Paul Toulotte, founder Delmarva Association of Animal Rescuers

DEADLINE for submission of letters, news briefs, photos and calendar items is 5 p.m. Monday. Send to: editor@baysidegazette.com

OBITUARIES

Aaron Cohen

OCEAN CITY - Aaron Cohen of Ocean City, loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, died peacefully in his sleep surrounded by his family on Friday, Feb. 18, 2011 at his second home in Fort Collins, Colorado. He was 90.

Aaron was born and raised in Schenectady, N.Y. Growing up, he excelled in athletics, participating in basketball, tennis, and gymnastics in high school. He attended Union College in Schenectady, where he majored in physics. Having studied during World War II, upon graduation he was hired by the General Electric Co. as an engineer. where one of his first jobs involved the development of Sonar technology to detect enemy submarines. His work at G.E. also involved research and development of jet aircraft engines.

G.E.., however, offered Aaron more than a career. It was there that he met Grayce Cohn, another G.E. employee, who became his wife and best friend. They married in 1946 and built a family: daughter, Sharon, and son, Bruce. They shared a long life together filled with familv and friends.

Aaron and Grayce lived in Schenectady until, in 1961, GE transferred Aaron to Bethesda, Maryland where he worked on the Apollo space program. Soon after, Aaron started a new career taking his technical skills to the federal government. For nearly 20 years he worked in information technology as a deputy director for the U.S. Department of Commerce in Economic Development Administration.

While living in Bethesda, Ocean City became the traditional destination for their family summer vacations. After falling in love with the beach, Aaron and Grayce bought a home in Ocean City in 1975.

Upon Aaron's retirement in 1982, he and Grayce moved from Bethesda to Phoenix, Ariz. where he helped Grayce run her small medical related business. For years, they would split their time between homes; wintering in Phoenix and summers in their home in Ocean City. Aaron and Gravce anchored their Ocean City life through their involvement in the development and growth of Temple Bat Yam.

In 2006, to be closer to their family, Aaron and Grayce sold their Phoenix home and moved to Fort Collins, Colo. Thereafter, they split their time between the foothills of Fort Collins and the beach in Ocean City.

Besides his interest in computers and

technology, Aaron loved animals, never missing an opportunity to pat a passing dog or cat. He also enjoyed tennis, classical music, and spending time walking the beach and boardwalk at his Ocean City

Aaron is survived by his wife, Grayce; children Sharon and Bruce; grandchildren Jason, Adam, Danielle, and Sarah; and great-grandchildren Abe, Eliana, Zev and Max.

The family extends special and heartfelt thanks to Don Lange, Mario Burton, and the personnel of Pathways Hospice for the loving care they provided to Aaron at the end of his life. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Temple Bat Yam in Berlin www.templebatyam-oc.org, or Pathways Hospice of Larimer County in Fort Collins www.pathways-care.org, The Cohen family invites friends to sign Aaron's guest book at www.resthavencolorado.com.

Eugene Michael Lucas Sr.

OCEAN CITY - Eugene Michael Lucas Sr., age 89, died Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011 at Coastal Hospice at the Lake in Salisbury. Born in Broddack, Pa., he was the son of the late Dorothy Kanisak. He was preceded in death by his wife, Margaret Hager Lucas in 2000.

Mr. Lucas was a World War II Army veteran and had worked as an administrator for the Social Security Administration.

He is survived by his daughter-in-law, Erika Lucas. He was preceded in death by his son, Eugene M. Lucas Jr.

No service will be held at this time. Arrangements are being handled by the Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

Sally D. Bunting

OCEAN CITY - Sally Crisfield Dennis Bunting, age 91, died Sunday, Feb. 20. 2011, quietly at her home with her family. Born at "Beverly" in Pocomoke, she was the daughter of the late Philip C. Dennis and Margaret Harmonson Dennis.

She was the last Dennis to live at Beverly. She was preceded in death by her husband Joshua J. Bunting Sr. in 1977. She is survived by her daughter Mary Jane Marvil and her husband Charles of Wilmington, Del. and Joshua J. Bunting Jr. "Skip" and his wife Yvonne of Ocean City.

Also surviving are grandsons Joshua J. Bunting III "Josh" and his wife Michael Anne of Berlin and Bradley W. Bunting and his wife Amanda, of Ocean City. There is one great-grand-daughter Aberle Bunting of Berlin. She was also preceded

10:00 AM

in death by her sister, Margaret Ann Dennis in 1939.

Sally was a graduate of Buckingham High School in Berlin and Stuart Hall in Stanton, Va., and was the owner and manager of apartment rentals in Ocean City for many years. She will be remembered for her gift of gab, and her wonderful story telling.

She was a member of St. Paul's bythe-Sea Episcopal Church in Ocean City, where she served on the Alter Guild for many years. She was a member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society Daughters of the American Colonists, Worcester County Historical Society, and Somerset County Historical Society.

A graveside service was held Wednesday at Evergreen Cemetery in Berlin. The Rev. Michael Moyer officiated.

Donations in her memory may be made to Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company Station 5 Building Fund, 1409 Philadelphia Ave. Ocean City, MD 21842 or Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box1733, Salisbury, MD 21804

Arrangements are in the care of the Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

James Edward Lynch BERLIN – James E. "Snooks" Lynch, 86, died at his residence on Sunday, Feb. 20, 2011 surrounded by friends and family. He was born July 3, 1924 in Berlin to the late Lee and Katie Holland Lynch.

After attending Buckingham High School he entered the United States Army and served during World War II in the 29th Infantry Division. Upon his return he began building with his older brother, Charles. He later became a self-employed building contractor.

He was a member of Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Berlin, a Charter Member of Boggs-Disharoon American Legion Post 123 in Berlin, and the 29th Division Association.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Jane Cropper Lynch of Berlin; two sons, J. Edward Lynch and his wife Beverly of Easton and James Gary Lynch and his companion Beth A. Cook of Berlin: one daughter Barbara Lynch Porter and her husband Jeffrey of Berlin; one brother Franklin Lynch and his wife Paula of Berlin; five grandchildren, Robert Lynch and his wife Amy, Lee Lynch Newcomb and her husband Trevor, Claire Porter, Chase Porter and Colin Porter; four great grandchildren Kristen and Carter Lynch and Baker and Ellis Newcomb. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Six brothers, Elmer, Lloyd, David, Charles, Paul and William and three sisters. Mary Cropper, Pauline Cropper and Maude Gaskins preceded him in death

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, Feb. 24, at 11:30 a.m. at Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Berlin. The Rev. Gary Baer will officiate. Interment will be in Bishopville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Buckingham Presbyterian Church, PO Box 248, Berlin, MD 21811 or to Coastal Hospice, PO Box 1733, Salisbury, MD 21802.

Mary Rose Laroche

BERLIN - Mary Rose Laroche, age 91, died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011 at Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Born in Lyndonville, Vt., she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Josephine St. Pierre Ouellette. She was preceded in death by her husband Eugene Laroche.

She is survived by her son, Maurice Constant and his wife Joyce; her daughter, Jeannette Burke and her husband Joseph; four grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and two great great grand-

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m. at the Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin. Interment will be private.

Catherine Bell Littleton

BERLIN - Catherine Bell Littleton, age 84. died on Sunday, Feb. 20, 2011 at Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin. Born in Berlin she was the daughter of the late Arthur and Daisey Dennis Williams. She was preceded in death by her husband Calvin B. Littleton in 1992.

Mrs. Littleton had worked for Cargill Co. as a chicken vaccinator. She was member of Roxanna Methodist Church in Roxana. Del.

She is survived by her daughters, Darlene E. Collins and her husband Dale of Frankford, Del., Donie Mae Hitchens and her husband Richard J. of Millsboro, Del., Berrie Lee Bostic and her husband Randall of Whaleyville, and Tammv Jarman and her husband Jimmy of Berlin. She was preceded in death by her daughter Gail S. Mears in 2008.

She is also survived by a brother, Arthur Henry Williams of Salisbury and a sister, Betty Johnson of Selbyville. There are 11 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

A private graveside service will be held. Arrangements are being handled by the Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

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SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Optimist Charles Smith introduces Lou Taylor, principal at Stephan Decatur High School who draws the winners of the Scholarship Lotto. The grand prize winner of the Scholarship Lotto, \$75,000, is David Hambury from Berlin. The \$15,000 is going home to Debbi and Angela Lokey from Salisbury. John Cornwell from Kensington won the \$10,000 third prize. Mark Bereen from Coopersburg, Pa., won the pontoon boat.

Successful weekend for Seaside Boat Show

More than 13,000 people attend; about 60 boats sold

BY TONY RUSSO STAFF WRITER

OCEAN CITY – Charlie Dorman, chairman of the Optimist Club's Annual Seaside Boat Show, was having a busy day Friday even for the opening morning of the boat show. Some last minute position shifts had been required and as a result several new vendor spaces had opened up.

By the end of the weekend the 28th Annual Seaside Boat Show, would draw more than 13,000 people to the area. As a result, especially given the fantastic weather predicted, the spots were worth having for any of the vendors who were interested. Dorman had been coordinating interested last-minute vendors in addition to the already bustling day the opening tends to be.

There was a steady stream of people right from the opening with many patrons making beelines for specific areas. According to Dorman, some people who have been browsing at the boat shows this season have come to get a quick once over

"This wasn't our biggest year but it was one of our best."

-Charlie Dorman, chairman of the Optimist Club's Annual Seaside Boat Show

and then to buy. Salesmen were engaging customers familiarly and at length, going over specifications and prices. One salesman broke off one such chat and asked another how much longer the prices were good for.

"These are boat show prices," the other said.

Dorman made his way around the main floor, taking what would be a regular tour of the various sales floors throughout the day.

There were other Optimist Club members available for giving help and directions all over the building, Dorman made the rounds mostly to see how well everything was going and to let the vendors know he and the others were on the job.

The showroom floor was in excellent shape. Dorman pointed out how some had improved since the last show and praised some of the really creative set-ups.

The upstairs conference rooms of the Roland E. Powell Convention Center, where the rest of the show was held, was equally organized. Although fewer people had made their way upstairs early, the frequency with which they made it to the escalator was increasing and the number of vendors who were unengaged was shrinking significantly.

Upstairs still had a number of watercraft dealers showing their jet ski or motor lines but there were also people from every kind of ancillary industry from boat lifts to fishing equipment to beach gear.

As a community and a region, the area has enough of a boating population that an annual trip to the boat show is akin to a spring-cleaning trip to a home center. People buy items for improving their boating experience and, like many shows

TO PAGE 25

Snow Hill Blues Jam in April

SNOW HILL – Snow Hill's 4th Annual Blues Jam will take place Friday, April 15. This year the headliners are Daryl Davis and the Snow Hill Blues Jam All Stars. Daryl Davis, from Washington, D.C., is a multi-talented musician who is a vocalist, guitarist, composer and keyboard master.

He has played with many music greats like Muddy Waters, Chuck Berry, Elvis Presley's Jordanaires and the Coasters. His credits include being the pianist on Cephas & Wiggins 1992 Grammy Award winning album "Flip, Flop & Fly." His latest is CD "American Roots." Whether playing Blues or pounding Boogie Woogie, Davis aims to make his audience happy.

The Snow Hill Blues Jam All Stars include vocalist Margo Resto and instrumentalists Angel Resto, Mike Armstrong, and Burley Strand. The past three years they have played to a sold out crowd and received rave reviews.

Blues Jam will be held at the Old Firehouse on Green Street with the doors opening at 7 p.m. Barbecue will be available for purchase and a cash bar will be provided. The evening ends at 11 p.m. with all performers jamming.

Tickets are \$30 with sales starting March 1 online through PayPal at www.sharpworks. org or by cash or check from Bishop's Stock, Fine Art, Craft & Wine, 202 W. Green St. For more information, call 410-632-3555.

BIS Art Fest set for next Saturday

BERLIN – This year, BIS will host the 11th annual Artfest. Children are asked to attend with an adult on Saturday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$4, which includes admission, an official 2011 ArtFest T-shirt, and canvas tote bag (while supplies last).

The theme, "Kaleidoscope of Colors," will involve projects that deal with color and light as an emphasis. We are featuring a large collaborative "stained glass" mural in the lobby of BIS. Children are encouraged to take part, and make their mark on the window.

FROM PAGE 24

of this kind, attendance provides an opportunity to see what this year's boating trends are before the season is even underway.

As part of his tour, Dorman made his way outside and, upon trying to reenter was questioned by one of the Optimist Club members. The man was gentle and polite and asked to see our tickets. Dorman introduced himself and the man shook his hand

Dorman said that it was a good sign. Growing membership consisting of enough volunteers to run one of the largest boat shows on the coast means that the boat show will be able to continue to grow as well.

'This wasn't our biggest year but it was one of our best," Dorman said after the show had closed. "Dealers sold a lot of boats, they left with smiles on their faces."

He estimated that in addition to the thousands of ancillary product sales dealers sold 50-60 boats during the weekend.

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Nashville comedian/impressionist to perform at OC Jamboree

WEST OCEAN CITY – Nashville based comedian and impressionist Johnny Counterfit has announced that he will bring his critically acclaimed "Johnny Counterfit Show" to West Ocean City as part of his busy spring tour schedule.

A veteran of live concerts, radio, television, film and video finds this unique artist blending nostalgia with current comedy, music and political satire unlike anyone else in show business. Johnny promises to perform over 30 impressions during his 90 minute laugh-packed musical show.

Some of which could include Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Julio Iglasias, Garth Brooks, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Archie & Edith Bunker, Frank Sinatra and more. Johnny has performed all over the world during his successful career. Recent performances include The White House, ABC, CBS, TBS, Fox Family, RFD Television Network, Disney Channel and The Grand Ole Opry.

Johnny will perform two shows only at The OC Jamboree in West Ocean City on Thursday, March 17, at 2 and 7 p.m. Reservations are strongly recommended for these performances.





DARE WINNERS — Student medal and essay winners in the DARE program led by Matt Crisafulli at Worcester Prep and sponsored by the Worcester County Sheriff's Department were: (front) Kendall Holmes, Padraig Loftus, Matthew Wilson; (back) Marissa Grosso, Connor Cebula, Ocean City, Cameron Langler, Salisbury. With the students is Matt Crisafulli.



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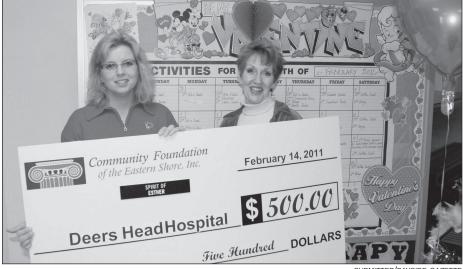
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PENGUIN DONATION — Michael Franklin, president and CEO of Atlantic General Hospital and Patricia Ilczuk-Lavanceau, chair of the AGH Penguin Swim accept a check for \$20,052.47 from Phil Houck, owner of Bull on the Beach. Over the past 17 years, Bull on the Beach has contributed a total of over \$290,000 towards the Atlantic General Hospital Penguin Swim.



DONATIONS FOR SOLDIERS — On Feb. 13 at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club, Star Charities presented the \$2,500 proceeds check from their January Annual Beef 'n Beer Fundraiser to provide calling cards for soldiers overseas to call home. Pictured are Gilly Foultz, Lt. Colonel Charles Kohler, Major General James Adkins, Colonel with the Maryland National Guard Richard Knauer Jr., Director of Star Charities Anna Foultz, Maryland State Senator Jim Mathias and Worcester County Commissioner Judy Boggs.



CARE CARTS — The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore disbursed \$500 from the Carol Steffy Spirit of Esther Fund to establish a Care Cart Program at Deer's Head Hospital. This Fund was established by Carol Steffy in memory of her mother, Esther Sinnott Moore. Care Carts contain books and magazines, stuffed animals, and small toiletries. Helen Young, director of volunteer services, Deer's Head Hospital and Carol Steffy, donor representative.



AGH DONATION – Emergency Services Associates, the physician group that provides emergency medical care for Atlantic General Hospital, recently made their final \$5,000 pledge payment for the \$25,000 pledged to the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation Major Gifts Campaign. Michael Franklin (left), CEO of Atlantic General Hospital, with Michael Dillard, administrator for Emergency Services Associates, PA.



MAC DONATION — United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore recently presented M.A.C. Inc. with \$188,500 to support Meals on Wheels, Alzheimer's Services and Senior Job Training, programs vital to senior citizens on the Lower Shore. Since 1992, M.A.C. has received \$2,314,774 in United Way Funding. Pictured United Way donor relations director Amy Luppens and M.A.C.'s executive director Peggy Bradford, and board member Lee Hammond.



PLUMBING DONATION — SDHS Alumni Association Building Chair Ryan Bergey, (left) presents a plaque to Sandpiper Plumbing co-owners Tom Kolarik, and Gill Simpson, in appreciation for the firm's donation of discounts for providing plumbing installation and related services for the building of the athletic field house at Stephen Decatur High School's Seahawk Stadium.

CALENDAR BAYSIDE

ON-GOING EVENTS

TOPS

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets weekly. For more info: 410-629-1006.

sos

Survivors of Suicide Support Group, Atlantic General Hospital Conference Room 1, meets monthly. 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more info: 443-235-9493.

BUILDING MATERIALS SALE

Every first and 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.

MARDI GRAS EVENTS

Through February
Barrett Chevrolet will make a \$100
donation to king candidate John
Barrett on any new or used car
sold. Contact Barrett Automotive at
410-641-0444; Wells Auto Care will
donate \$5 for every oil change to
king candidate Todd Bescak; ThirtyOne Gifts online will donate 50% of
their profits for the month to queen
candidate Tara Gates. Contact Tara
at 302-829-8550.

STORY TIME AT THE ZOO

Every Tuesday 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Salisbury Zoo, for children 3-5 years old. Story and craft project. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 410-546-3440 for more information.

HOUSE RAFFLE

Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department annual fundraiser. Win a new 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Limited tickets will be sold - \$100 each. Call 410-641-8272. Drawing will be on Labor Day.

BINGO

Every Friday Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City. Doors open 6 p.m. Games begin 7 p.m. 410-524-7994.

BREAKFAST

Every Sunday Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City. 9 a.m. to noon. \$8 per person, \$4 children. 410-524-7994.

BEACH SINGLES

45 plus, meets every Thursday for Happy Hour, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Clarion Hotel, 10100 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City. For more information, 302-436-9577.

DROP-IN ART CLASS

Every 3rd Saturday, Ward Museum, Salisbury. Projects related

to art, nature and culture for the whole family. Activities are free, regular admission charges apply. 410-742-4988 for more information.

Thursday, Feb. 24

CAREER FAIR

UMES for college students and alumni of UMES, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Student Services Center Ballroom. 410-651-6669 for more information.

MYSTERY DINNER

Meet at the Market Street Inn, Salisbury, 5 p.m. Limo bus will leave at 5:30 for a mystery destination. Beer and champagne provided, tapas style dinner. \$65 per person. Proceeds benefit Cancer Support Community Delmarva. 410-430-6838 for reservations.

YOUR STORY

Ocean Pines Library. Digital storytelling opportunity. Interviews with those who practiced a unique trade or those who have stories about life in Worcester County from 1914-2000. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 410-632-3970 for information.

LECTURE

Guerrieri Center, Wicomico Room, Salisbury University. 'Racial Wealth & Inequality in American Government and Politics", presented by Professor Christopher Whitt.

REPUBLICAN WOMEN

February general meeting, The Captain's Table, 15th St., Ocean City. 11 a.m. Linda Creighton, Worcester Co. Health speaker. \$20 per person. Reservations and info: 410-208-9767.

Friday, Feb. 25

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Worcester Preparatory School, Performing Art Center, 508 S. Main St., Berlin will present the Broadway musical 'Damn Yankees', February 25 and 26 at 7 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call 410-641-3575 for information and tickets.

BINGO

Bishopville Volunteer Fire Dept Longaberger Basket/Vera Bradley Bingo. Doors open 6 p.m., games begin 7 p.m. \$20 in advance. Raffles, 50/50, door prizes and refreshments. For tickets call Tammy, 410-629-6800 or 410-726-6043. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

FAMILY BINGO

Ocean Pines Community Center, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Free – donations accepted. Kids will win small prizes. 410-641-7717 to register.

HOMEMADE PIES

Showell Christian Workers, Showell UMC, 10115 Pitts Rd., Showell. Homemade pies \$9; chicken salad \$6 pt. Call 410-352-5163 or 302-436-8942 by March 2nd to place your order for pickup.

POT OF GOLD BINGO

Ocean Pines Community Center, sponsored by The Republican Women of Worcester County, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$25 per person includes lunch, beverage and 20 game pack. Doors open at 11. Reservations, 410-208-0183.

THEATRE

'Lisistrata', presented by Salisbury University's Bobbi Biron Theatre Program, February 25-27 and March 3-6. 8 p.m. curtain Thursday – Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. \$15 per person, \$12 senior and non-SU students. SU ID holders receive one free ticket. 410-548-5588 for information and tickets.

MARDI GRAS EVENT

Fun Night at Coins, Coins Pub, 6 p.m. Buffet and drink specials. Donations at the door. Music by Electric Co. and Full Circle. 410-251-3004.

Saturday, Feb. 26

TOWN MEETING

Ocean Pines Library, 10 a.m. Judy Boggs with guest speaker Dr. Jon Andes, Superintendent of Schools and Kathleen Momme, United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore. All are invited

PACZKI DANCE

The Polish-American Club of Delmarva, St. Andrews Center, North Ocean City. Open to the public. \$20 per person. 410-250-8625 or 410-723-2639 for tickets. Tickets also available at the door.

CHEFS FOR HABITAT

Black Diamond Lodge, Rt. 13, Fruitland, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Seven chefs will prepare samplings of their signature dishes. Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity.

COASTAL CONCERTS

Bethel United Methodist Church hall, West Fourth and Market St., Lewes. Featuring Royal Philharmonic award winner Stephen Hough. 8 p.m. \$25 per person, youth ages 10 to 18 free with one adult. Call 888-212-6458 for info.

CHICKEN & RIB FEAST

American Legion Post 166, 23rd St., Ocean City, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. All you can eat fried chicken, ribs, hot dogs with sides, dessert and beverages. \$25 per person. For info or tickets 410-289-3166 or 443-735-1942.

REPTILE FESTIVAL

Delmarva Discovery Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shows at 1,2 & 3 p.m. Free with paid admission.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Sound United Methodist Church, Williamsville, DE. 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. All you can eat. Adults \$8, children 10 and under, \$4, under 3 free.

Sunday, Feb. 27

DANCE NATIONALS

Reach the Beach dance teams from the East Coast compete for national championships. Ocean City Convention Center, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OYSTER ROAST

Snow Hill, old Firehouse, sponsored by the Snow Hill Chamber of Commerce. Featuring the best oyster dishes from Harvest Moon Tavern, The Blue Dog Café and The Palette Bistro and Bar. BBQ for non-oyster eaters. \$25 adults, \$10 children 12 & under. Music, beer available. Call Lee for tickets, 410-632-1700.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Granville Trimper Pancake breakfast, American Grill, 16th St., Ocean City. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$7 per person, children 5 and under free. Open to the public.

Monday, Feb. 28

AUDITIONS

New Faces of Shakespeare will conduct auctions for April 29-May1st perfornances of 'As You Like It', 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and on Saturday, March 5th from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Auditions will consist of readings. For more information call John Marino, 302-645-1773.

Tuesday, March 1

HYPERTENSION CLINIC

Rite Aid, Selbyville, DE. 10 a.m. to noon. Free blood pressure screening and health information. 410-641-9268.

NAMI

Connections Recovery Support Group. Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 1. Geared to help learn how to cope with everyday stressors and setbacks. 443-523-2153 for info.

Wednesday, March 2

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Salisbury University, Wicomico Room, Guerrieri University Center, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Speaker, light refreshments. Conference on Thursday, Clarion Hotel, Ocean City. To register call 410-632-6366.

QUILTERS

Quilters by the Sea will make quilts for local charities. 12:30 p.m. Ocean Pines Community Center. 410-641-8898 for info.

Thursday, March 3

PARENTING WORKSHOP

Worcester Youth and Family, 5 week dinner workshop for parents of kids of all ages. 6 p.m. to 7:30

p.m. Are your kids pushing your limits? Have power struggles become a part of life? Learn how to raise happy, self-reliant kids. Call 410-641-4598 to register.

Friday, March 4

OPPORTUNITY SHOP

Whatcoat United Methodist Church, 100 W. Federal St., Snow Hill. 8 a.m. til noon Friday and Saturday.

BYE BYE BIRDIE

Premier Centre for the Arts, 27 Anderson St., Middletown, Del. Runs through March 20, Fridays and Saturdays 8 p.m.; matinee Saturdays and Sundays 3 p.m. 302-378-1384 for info. and tickets.

ART RECEPTION

Art League of Ocean City, 94th St. Featuring the hidden talent of the River Run Community. Opening reception 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Show runs through March 27th. Gallery hours Tuesday – Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 410-524-9433 for info.

ARTS ON THE RIVER

Snow Hill, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. This month features youth art. Art openings, music and wine tastings. 410-632-2080 for info.

Saturday, March 5

FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET

Mt. Pleasant Church, Willards. 11 a.m. until. Adults \$11, children \$5, under 6 free. Bake table and carryouts. 443-614-9898.

CASINO NIGHT

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, 3rd Annual Casino Night and Auction. 6 p.m. to midnight. \$10 free chips, money wheels, 50/50 raffle, silent auction. Food, music and dancing, cash bar. \$40 per person in advance, \$50 at the door. Reservations, 443-528-9028.

SAILORS BRACELETS

U.S. Life-Saving Service, Delaware Seashore State Park, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Make your own Turks-Head know bracelet. \$7.50 per person. To register 302-227-6991.

${\tt DR.\ SUESS\ DAY}$

Delmarva Discover Center, Pocomoke. Book reading 2 p.m. Costumes are encouraged, best costume will win a family membership. 50% off admission for locals. 410-957-9933 for info.

INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Bethany United Methodist Church, Rt. 611 & Snug Harbor Rd., Berlin. Breakfast and lunch, baked goods. For info or table rental call 410-629-0926.

ENTERTAINMENT

ATLANTIC HOTEL

Main Street Berlin MONDAY - Earl Beardsley



BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th St. Bayside 410-524-7575

FRIDAY - Mood Swigers w/Lauren Glick SATURDAY - Full Circle SUNDAY - Teenage Rust



CLARION RESORT

10100 Coastal Hwy. Ocean City 410-524-3535

410-524-3535 FRIDAY - Power Play SATURDAY - Power Play



DENOVO'S

South Gate - Ocean Pines 410-208-2782

SATURDAY - Al Prescott TUESDAY - Al Prescott WEDNESDAY - Al Prescott THURSDAY - AI Prescott



FAGER'S ISLAND

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

FRIDAY - DJ Hook SATURDAY - Scotts New Band



GLOBE THEATRE

12 Broad St. Berlin 410-641-0784

FRIDAY - Lower Case Blues SATURDAY – Bryan Russo & Paul Cullen SUNDAY - Bryan Russo



lower case blues @ The Globe

GREEN TURTLE NORTH

11601 Coastal Hwy. 410-723-2120 FRIDAY - DJ Wax SATURDAY – DJ Wood



GREEN TURTLE - WOC

410-213-1500 FRIDAY - DJ Skip Dixxon



Mood Swingers @ BJs on the Water

HARBORSIDE

West Ocean City THURSDAY - Opposite Directions FRIDAY - DJ Billy T SATURDAY - Under The Outhouse



HARPOON HANNAS

142nd St. Bayside WEDNESDAY - Bobby Burns



HOUSE OF WELSH

1106 Coastal Hwy. Fenwick 1-888-666-0728

FRI. - SUN.- Tony Vegia WEDNESDAY - Bob Hughes

MARYLAND LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS **WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2011**

Midday			Evening		Daily	
Date	Pick 3	Pick 4	Pick 3	Pick 4	Bonus Match 5	Bonus
02/13/11	587	3590	844	8270	08.10.24.26.30	16
02/14/11	746	9429	398	9487	10.22.26.31.34	12
02/15/11	276	8102	695	1358	01.05.09.12.19	34
02/16/11	831	8038	493	9188	08.16.20.29.35	27
02/17/11	885	8893	255	0175	10.13.18.28.39	34
02/18/11	722	5158	252	7157	01.09.12.17.36	35
02/19/11	056	8277	317	0352	06.11.13.34.37	14

Date	MULTI-MATCH
02/14/11	03 07 09 26 31 36
02/17/11	04 10 21 25 27 33

Date	Powerball	Bonus	POWERPLAY	
02/16/11	09 13 21 23 48	24	2	
02/19/11	03 12 34 37 42	36	5	

Date	Mega Millions	Bonus	Megaplier
02/15/11	17 18 24 35 39	18	4
02/18/11	05 06 07 30 45	42	3

For the most current Lottery information, go to mdlottery.com

MARINA DECK

Penington Commons - Rt. 589 Ocean Pines, 410-641-5590

FRIDAY - Barbara Claire on Piano SATURDAY - Patrick McAllorum



THE PALETTE

104 W. Green St. Snow Hill 410-632-0055

FRIDAY – Zen Monkeys Band



PIT & PUB

28th St., Ocean City 401-289-2020 FRIDAY - D.J Bean SATURDAY - DJ Big T



Mario Rocco @ The Yacht Club

SEACRETS

49th & the Bay, Ocean City 410-524-4900 THURSDAY - DJ Wax FRIDAY - The Benderz

SATURDAY - John McNutt/Table Ten/Lucky You

STEER INN

Rt. 589 - Racetrack Rd. 410-208-1900

FRIDAY – Overtime Band SATURDAY - Bond & Bentley WEDNESDAY - Hey Mick Karaoke



WHISKERS BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Rd. Ocean Pines 410-208-3922

FRIDAY - Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey



Ocean Pines 410-641-7501 FRIDAY - Mario Rocco



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- Small local businesses are the largest employer nationally and provide the most new jobs to our residents.
- One-of-a-kind businesses are what give our communities character - people prefer to shop somewhere rather than anywhere.
- Local businesses invest in their communities they are owned by people less likely to leave and are more invested in the community's future. Additionally they provide 350% more in donations to local charities.
- Local businesses offer better customer service and product knowledge
- Reduced environmental impact as most make purchases locally
- Local businesses require comparatively little infrastructure investment and make more efficient use of public services than large national chains.

INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

19

23

42

66

102

107

112

119

36

95 96

116 117 118

106

115

121

124

15 16

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

46

84

103

WUNDERBAR! By Elizabeth C. Gorski / Edited by Will Shortz

Across

- 1 Words before a discounted price
- 7 TV network force
- 13 Pickle juices
- 19 Go-getter
- 20 Hometown of old radio's Fibber McGee and Molly
- 21 Noted parent in tabloids
- 23 Not level
- 24 Did sleight of hand with
- 25 Food often dipped in soy sauce
- 26 Band whose 1998 song "One Week" was #1 for one week
- 29 Tennis's Ivanisevic
- 30 Astrologer to the rich and famous
- 33 Softens
- 34 More furtive
- 36 PC key
- 37 Lab instructor?
- 39 Reduced amount?
- 40 1950s pinup queen ___ Page 42 Spartan walkway
- 43 Bridge position
- 44 ___ generis
- 45 "After you"
- 46 Pear variety
- 48 Milky Way, for one
- 50 Didn't accept, with "on"

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.

- 53 One way for
- drivers to turn 55 NASA recruiting
- site 56 In the past, once
- 60 "Give ___ rest!"
- 61 ___-ray Disc
- 63 Gift from above
- 65 Shreve who wrote "The Pilot's Wife"
- 66 Onetime head of the Medellín drug cartel
- 69 Mattel announced their breakup in 2004
- Name in 2000 headlines
- 72 Set up
- 76 Alphabet trio
- 77 Tapping site
- 78 Big name in lens care
- 79 Dernier
- 80 Sandler's "Spanglish" costar
- 82 With good order
- 84 Classic western slugfest
- 87 It's just below a
- 89 Really use an opportunity well
- 92 CPR pro 93 Slinky, e.g.
- 94 Togo's capital
- Writer/philosoph er Hannah 99 General name on
- a menu? 100 Three-stringed
- instruments
- 102 Roman 1,002
- 103 Children's song

- 105 "Death of a Salesman" role
- 106 Best Buy buy
- 107 Wars, in ancient Rome
- 109 Plan on ordering a drink, say
- 112 Loose
- 114 Actress Dolores of the silent era
- 115 Brand advertised with a cow
- 119 Member of an assaulting party
- 120 Leveling tool
- 121 Blue boys? 122 Fervid
- 123 Choir supports
- 124 Currency replaced by the euro
 - Down
 - 1 Rushing stat: Abbr.
 - 2 Popeye's gal
 - 3 Juan's one
 - 4 New Year's Eve
 - 5 Egyptian god of the universe
 - 6 "Star Wars" guru
 - 7 Beseeches
 - 8 Resolved
 - 9 Suitcase convenience
 - 10 "Aunt ___ Cope Book
 - 11 Multicolored
 - 12 Really mean
 - 13 Giving orders 14 Pioneer in quadraphonic
 - records 15 "I love this!"

- 16 Big Apple neighborhood
- 17 Gulf state
 - 18 Civil war locale beginning in 1991
 - 22 Made, as money
 - 27 Sharply reprimanded
 - 28 Just 30 Takes too much
 - 31 Witty saying
 - 32 Fifth word of the Gettysburg Address
 - 35 W.W. II craft
 - 38 Etui item
 - 39 Jails, in British slang 41 Finis

 - 44 Drop
 - 45 Quiet transportation 47 Simon of Duran
 - Duran 48 ____- Magnon
 - 49 Present opener?
 - 50 Parade tootler
 - 51 Dickens title
 - opener 52 Vaccine pioneer
 - 54 "The Killing Fields" actor
 - Haing S. 57 "___-Tikki-Tavi"
 - 58 Word with plate or plant
 - 59 Like grapefruit juice 62 Grp. whose seal has the words
 - "This we'll defend" 64 Irving Bacheller Holden"
 - 65 Caper

67 Ralph Lifshitz

22

90

- 68 Steal
- 70 Equal in height
- 73 Avis alternative 74 Lizard look-alike
- 75 Football score abroad
- 79 South American animal with a snout
- 81 Quarantine advocates
- 83 Part of the nextto-last line of the Lord's Prayer

92

114

120

123

24

85 "My stars!"

109

- 86 Mend, in a way.
- as a metal joint 88 Lounge in many a hotel
- 89 Fearsome snakes
- 90 Mozart's "Un bacio di mano,'
- 91 Garrison in Minnesota

69

93

87

- 93 More like Bette Midler stage shows 95 Green-lights
- 96 Common middle name for a girl
- 97 Biblical verb ending
- 99 Cravat holder 100 Recurring Matt Damon title role
- 101 Not out
- 104 "The Great Movies" author 105 Actor Waggoner
 - and others 108 Product of
 - fatback 110 Italian author
 - Primo
 - 111 Recipe abbr.
 - 113 Brig. 116 Rap's Dr.
 - 117 Little amphibian
- 118 Hush-hush grp.

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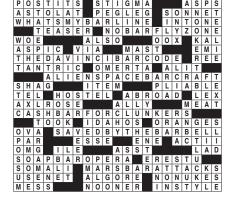
MEDIUM - 3 Fill in the blank spaces in the grid so that every vertical column, every

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.

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

The answers to last week's puzzles



YSIDE

Southern Pride pit beef sandwich and BBQ sauce

Recently I was breezing through some old ramblings and I ran across a piece I wrote in which I quipped on

my first job. In



1983, the Chart House changed my young life. I learned things probably shouldn't have By Paul Suplee, at 15, and yet CEC, PC III

still managed to hone skills I was lucky to have at that age.

From there I moved on to Key West Shipping Company, a restaurant at the bottom of Main Street in Annapolis where Buddy's Crab House has since been docked for years.

At Key West, there was a distinct and glorious smell permeating the property even prior to opening, when other restaurants tend to smell of nursing homes and auto shops, somehow fascinatingly combined. It was the lingering smell of a fresh mesquite fire in our Southern Pride wood-fired equipment.

The grill was a firebox in which we would start a fire in the morning and stoke it all day and night with mesquite logs shipped in by the pallet once a month. The buffalo burgers are still the best I have ever had.

Then came the smoker. Also a Southern Pride piece, it was a monster of a machine, and if memory serves me correctly, it cost somewhere around \$25,000 in 1983. It was a rotisserie in which we would smoke ribs, trout, salmon, marlin, chicken, bluefish and anything else we could think of.

Simply put, this brand of smoker still elicits certain emotions as I recall the shenanigan's of a less politically correct industry. Oh, we had us a time at Key West. The smoker is merely a reminder. It is my

Just this past week, with a hankering for a pit beef sandwich I called a buddy of mine for a suggestion, and he mentioned that his friend had recently given fairly high kudos to the new pit beef stand at The Alamo in the West Ocean City.

"I'm game" I thought, but



I had to play my cards right since I could tell from my wife's response that I would have to convince her. The Alamo; what an iconic Ocean City landmark. And now there's pit beef?

So we gambled. As I approached the campus, I noted the apparently new smoker, sizable and still shiny, attached to the newly added portion of the building. I walked around and inspected. Could it be?

I ordered a couple of sandwiches, started some small talk and finally asked the question: "What kind of smoker are you using?"

"Southern Pride" the chef murmured as he assembled our order; comfort food. I soon learned that Steve, the chef and partner, comes from a long line of pit beef kings in Baltimore, and the man knows what he's

He uses the Southern Pride

well. That's about all that I can say. And while I can't give you his recipe, I included a BBQ sauce that I make and a very skeletal guide for smoking your own pit beef should you want to go through the trouble.

Otherwise, you know where to go. Of course, there are other pit beef joints in town, but so far this was our favorite. Maybe it's the smoker. Maybe it's the chef's heritage. Either way, it was a seriously good way to usher in the next winter storm as I reminisced on the halcyon days of a misguided youth.

PIT BEEF SANDWICH

Top Round or brisket Dry rub of choice Mesquite and hickory chips for smoking

Chewy rolls

BBQ sauce (recipe follows) Horseradish

1. Rub your beef down with the dry rub and place it in a smoker 2. I wrote about the chips and

smoking a couple of months ago, but if you have a high-quality smoker, you do not need to soak your wood, but the smoker needs to have a very tight seal. For best results, refer to the manufacturers' recommendations

3. If you use the proper amount of wood, you will only be smoking it for a couple of hours. After that, there's really not much smoke getting in there, and if there is, you risk the chance of adding too much of that infamous acrid taste

4. I love the Cookshack smoker that I use, and it serves me well. I simply cannot afford a Southern Pride. With my digital controller, I simply set it to 225 and insert the probe. Then, when the beef hits the proper internal temperature just remove and slice.

5. For medium beef, take the internal temperature to around 145F. For brisket to be done all the way, 165F is generally considered 'done'. If you take it up to 190-195, this will further break down the meat and make it tender

6. Slice the beef as absolutely thinly as possible. If you can get your hands on a slicer all the better. There are finally some decent home slicers available

BBQ SAUCE

1 can tomato paste

1/4 c. Cider vinegar

1 Tbsp. vegetable oil 1/4 c. brown sugar

3 cloves garlic, minced

1/4 c. Onion, minced

1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce

1 tsp. dry mustard

1 tsp cavenne

S&P to taste

1. Combine all of the ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a simmer over a medium heat

2. Turn down and cook to darken the sauce and develop the flavors. Puree with a stick blender

3. Adjust the flavors as you see fit.

Paul G. Suplee is a certified executive chef and ProChef certified Level-3. He is a writer and culinary instructor. His ePortfolio can be found at www.heartofakitchen.com.

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