

The Courier

March 18, 2015 Volume 19 Number 29

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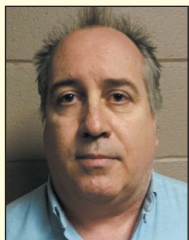
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Suspect nabbed for local bank robbery

The Worcester County Bureau of Investigations (WCBI) has taken into custody a suspect in the robbery of the BB&T Bank on Route 589 last Friday afternoon, March 13.



Jeff Hare

Jeff V. Hare, 52, of Ocean Pines was arrested later in the day when, acting on a citizen tip, members of WCBI, the Worcester Criminal Enforcement Team, Maryland State Police, the FBI and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office questioned Mr. Hare at his home. Evidence of the crime was found in Mr. Hare's home and vehicle. He was identified by an eye witness. Mr. Hare has been charged with armed robbery, robbery, felony theft and malicious destruction of property over \$500.

The robbery occurred at around 1 p.m. when the suspect entered the bank brandishing a gun and demanded money from the tellers. He then took an employee's car keys and fled in the employee's car, abandoning it in the Ocean Pines area.

Following the robbery, the Worcester County alert system conducted a reverse 911 call to all residents within a five mile radius. The Communicator System, which is a free service, is designed to automatically notify residents and visitors to Worcester County of important information in the event of an impending or occurring emergency via telephone communications. The link is: <https://worcestercountymd.onthealert.com/Terms/Index/...>

OP Chamber seeks new director

The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce is without an executive director following the departure of Liz Bolen last week. Ms. Bolen, who had been with the chamber since 2009, has taken a position with a company based in Delaware. In a press release, the chamber said that it has begun the search process to find a new director.

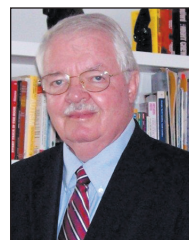


Getting ready — Platform tennis players are getting courts ready for play. Left to right: **Dot Waters, June Freeman, Scott Wheatley, Larry Bohanan, John Walter, Tom Herrick, Clive Walker and Tom Hershey.** Photo by Jim Freeman.

OPA approves new budget

By **Jean Marx**

The Ocean Pines Association (OPA) Board of Directors met Thursday, March 12 to ratify the community's 2015-2016 budget. The approved budget includes a \$12 assessment increase, bringing the annual base assessment to \$921.



Dave Stevens

As the meeting started, OPA board president Dave Stevens prefaced his comments by stating that the board had already reviewed the budget many times and reached general agreement on a number of items. Among these items were approving five new capital improvements totaling \$175,000, authorizing a capital reserve study for \$50,000 and reducing payroll expenses by \$150,000. Prior to the meeting, Mr. Stevens had circulated to board members a summary he prepared of the budget including a brief description of a Plan B version of the

budget that Pat Renaud and Tom Terry put together.

Included in the Plan B version of the budget was the name change of the 5-Year Funding Plan to the Legacy Plan and to use the \$130 collected for this plan to reduce the paper deficits in capital reserve accounts by a total of \$923,000 and zeroing out three of them. Future reserve levels would be based on the Capital Improvement Plan which currently has a net balance of \$3,158,000 and is projected to be approximately \$4,400,000 in the budget.

Mr. Terry expressed concern about a \$200,000 decrease in golf course maintenance in the financial proforma submitted by Landscapes Unlimited vs. what was spent on maintenance last year. The board acknowledged that the company's proforma has not yet been approved, so Jack Collins asked if the board could ask the company to explain the rationale for the reduction. Mr. Stevens responded that Landscapes Unlimited has agreed in writing to being able

please see **budget** on page 15

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DAR Essay Winners - Winners in the 2015 Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Historic Essay Competition were: (clockwise from bottom left) junior **Sarah Koon**, Christopher Columbus High School Essay Winner; **Maximillian Taylor**, Grade 7 Essay Winner; **Will Mears**, Grade 6 Essay Winner; **Puja Jani**, Grade 5 Essay Winner; and **Karli Sunnergren**, Grade 8 Essay Winner.

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County institutes hiring freeze

In the face of another challenging budget year due to a continued decline in projected property tax revenues, the Worcester County Commissioners have enacted an immediate hiring freeze for non public safety personnel.



Jim Bunting

“County revenues are anticipated to dip from \$178 million in the current fiscal year (FY15) to \$167 million in FY16 unless significant budget stabilization funds are utilized,” Commission President Jim Bunting said. “The county has lost over \$40 million in property tax revenues since fiscal year 2009 due to declining assessments, and property tax rev-

enues are projected to decline by another \$4 million in fiscal year 16.”

While the County’s overall financial health remains strong due to sound fiscal management, the commissioners have taken this action to help buffer the effects of reduced tax revenues in order to avoid having to utilize all of the remaining budget stabilization funds to balance their operating budget in FY16.

For more information, contact Kim Moses, public information officer, at (410) 632-1194.

Adult egg hunt is Friday

This Friday, March 20, the Auxiliary of the Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual Adult Easter Egg Hunt at the main station. Doors open at 7 p.m.; games begin at 8 p.m. There will be a cash bar and live music by “Days Gone By.” Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call 443-365-1225 to get your advance tickets.

Indoor yard sale set for Saturday

On Saturday, March 21 the Elks Lodge will hold an indoor yard sale at their lodge located at 13324 Worcester Highway in Bishopville. The event will take place between 7 a.m. and noon. Tables are \$15 each or two for \$25. Breakfast sandwiches will be served. Call 443-235-2926 to reserve a table.

Church celebration continues

On March 22 at 4 p.m., Atlantic United Methodist Church at 105 4th Street in Ocean City will continue its 100th Anniversary celebration with a Community Hymn Sing. The Hymn Sing will feature choirs from Methodist churches in the area including Bethany United, Community Church at Ocean Pines, and Friendship United Methodist Church. Enjoy the Bell Choir, clarinet and flute and some of your favorite hymns sung by the congregation and choirs. Please join Atlantic United Methodist Church as praise and thanksgiving is offered through the gift of music. A love offering will be received, and a reception will follow the program. Everyone is welcome.

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Robert B. Adair 1938-2007

2012 Business of the Year

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The piano was invented by Italy's Bartolomeo Cristofori in the late 17th century and was designed to be a "harpsichord that plays both softly and loudly."



Cristofori was a harpsichord maker and understood the workings of this type of instrument. Cristofori built only about 20 pianofortes before he died at the age of 75. However, his design lived on and was replicated by other builders who put their own unique spins on the original concept. The piano remains a popular instrument among musicians and music aficionados to this day.



Local housing stats show gains

Despite heavy snow on the Lower Shore throughout February, the latest figures from the Coastal Association of Realtors (CAR) reflect across-the-board increases for home sales and values, among others.

CAR's February local housing statistics which represent the activity of CAR's more than 1,000 realtor members in Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties reflect a drastic (44.7 percent) increase in contracts or pending sales. Settlements increased slightly by 1.3 percent and listings by 1.9 percent.



Home values saw a significant increase, with listing prices up 31.7 percent and sales prices up 30.3 percent. A 12.1 percent decrease in average days on the market points to a faster turnover of area inventory.

"Traditionally, January is the slowest time of the year, and we did see decreases in home values and an increase in days on market last month," said Vicki Harmon, president of the CAR Board of Directors. "However it's also customary to see a rebound in February as we head into increased activity throughout spring and summer. So even though we saw several snow days in February, local activity stayed true to tradition, and we look forward to the expected busy season, as the weather becomes warmer and more consumers shop for real estate on the Lower Shore."

According to the National Association of Realtors, the early part of this year is showing increased contract activity across the country, despite low inventory levels.

"Buyers in January were able to overcome tight supply to sign contracts at a pace that highlights the underlying demand that exists in today's market," said Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist. "The difference this year is the positive factors supporting stronger sales, such as slightly improving credit conditions, more jobs, and slower price growth."



Appreciation — Under the leadership of Health Department Prevention Director **Marty Pusey** (front row, second from left), on March 12 at the Restaurant at Light-house Sound, members of the Worcester County Drug and Alcohol Council, area police agencies and elected officials recognize bar and restaurant owners who, during random compliance checks, refused to sell alcohol to minors.

STEM internships and camp applications being accepted

Worcester County Economic Development (WCED) is now accepting applications for the 2015 STEP UP and Reach for the Stars summer programs. These programs provide exceptional opportunities to Worcester County youth to explore unique career paths in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Applications are available online at www.chooseworcester.org/STEM and are due no later than Tuesday, March 31.

"Since 2013, WCED has offered the STEP UP and Reach for the Stars programs to engage local students in the STEM disciplines," WCED Director Bill Badger said. "This county program connects local students, from middle schoolers through the university level, with businesses and agencies in Worcester County. These programs provide students with a platform to learn from professionals and entrepreneurs in their own communities while allowing employers the opportunity to home grow their future workforce."

Reach for the Stars is an eight-day computer science and aerospace engineering summer camp taught by a team of qualified educators and IT and engineering professionals. Offered at The Red Doors Community Center on 3rd Street in Ocean City, it is open to Worcester residents enrolled in grades 6-9 in the 2014/2015 school year. There is no cost to participate in the

camp, and transportation, meals, and snacks are provided. Space is limited to 20 students. Camp will take place during a two-week period: July 20-23 and July 27-30.

The STEP UP Summer Internship Program is designed to provide high school and college students with the opportunity to gain hands-on work experience in a STEP career field, thus providing an opportunity for classroom studies to be applied to real life tasks. It also connects Worcester County STEM businesses with their future workforce.

Interns will be placed in medical settings, IT companies, engineering firms, environmental science agencies, and digital media production companies in Worcester County. They will also participate in professional development sessions while on the job that teach communication, time management and career skills. They will earn \$11/hour in 20-hour a week internships over a six-week period from June 22 to August 1. To be eligible, students must be Worcester County residents entering grades 11 or 12 or attending a university and majoring in a STEM field (students away at college are still considered county residents), be at least 16 years old, and be eligible to work in the United States. Returning participants are welcomed, but are limited to three total years of program

please see **program** on page 15

Old toys don't fade away; they reappear for the next generation

Everything old is new again. Through the years I've heard that refrain more than once. And no truer was that statement than when my daughter and wife recently made their way up into the attic and came down with a trove of toys that hadn't seen



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

the light of day or felt the touch of child's embrace for two decades or more.

When our children were small they had many toys. Some were very-loved toys that my wife saved, remarking at the time that one day our grandchildren would visit our home and play with them. And so it came to be that my wife's foresight became our granddaughter's delight. Down from the attic came several baby dolls that our daughter held tight and dear many years ago. One in particular, Meghan, was brought down. She was a gift found under the Christmas tree when our daughter was about four or five years old. Meghan was so named by our daughter after her cousin of the same name. Conversely, Meghan (the cousin, not the doll), named her similar doll (found under her Christmas tree) for our daughter. Like her mother, our granddaughter has held Meghan (the doll, not the cousin) close. For a time the doll was naked while my wife washed a load of baby doll clothes. After more than twenty years in storage they needed a little freshening up.

Also to come down from the attic was a large clear zipper bag containing my daughter's many little dolls and their outfits. Included in this group was Ariel from "The Little Mermaid," Belle from "Beauty and the Beast" and Sleeping Beauty. When presented with this bag of goodies, I could hear

from the other room my granddaughter squeal with delight. In short order her bedroom floor was blanketed with dolls, dresses, gowns, a multitude of various footwear and other accessories that are the marvel and preoccupation of every little girl her age. Walking in on this scene was akin to stepping over a threshold to a time that now seems so long ago when a brown-eyed, pony-tailed little girl looked up at her father while brushing the hair of Snow White and

smiled. No matter how much time passes little girls will always be little girls at least in the eyes of their fathers and in this case a grandfather, attracted to the things that have captured the imaginations of little princess-wannabes since a time long ago.

Later that evening when it was time for bed, our granddaughter found my wife and me in the family room to kiss us goodnight. A champion stall tactician, especially at bedtime, she began showing us her "new" doll and demonstrated wrapping and rewrapping it in a blanket. This comedic scene was interrupted by a mother's com-

mand from the hallway to move things along. And so it was that our granddaughter made her way to bed that evening holding tight a much-loved doll ensconced in a flower print flannel blanket and trailed by her dog Teddy. You'll have to trust my word when I write that it was quite a scene.

Remaining in our attic are boxes of little boy toys just waiting to once again be enjoyed by the next generation. Our grandson who recently turned seven months old is not yet old enough to appreciate the wonders of a "Star Wars" Millennium Falcon or a large dump truck and bulldozer. Hmmm. You know, thinking about it, I wouldn't be surprised if my granddaughter would like to play with these. I guess it's back up into the attic.



The 3rd Annual Finnegan's Wake

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5 p.m. to 9 p.m.



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Dinner to benefit Diakonia

The Art League of Ocean City and Diakonia have partnered to help fight hunger as the two local nonprofits host the Empty Bowl Soup Dinner at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on Saturday, March 21, from 5 to 8 p.m.

The cost of the dinner is \$20 and includes soup, bread, dessert and a ceramic soup bowl, handcrafted by volunteers at the arts center. Seating is continuous from 5-8 p.m., and reservations are not required.

Five local restaurants will provide the soup and desserts: Fager's Island/Atlantic Hotel, Pickles Pub, Liquid Assets, BJ's on the Water, and Bull on the Beach. The project is sponsored by First Shore Federal Bank.

Throughout January and February, hundreds of volunteers hand made one-of-a-kind ceramic bowls in the pottery studio at the Ocean City Center for Arts. Guests who come to dine at the soup dinner will receive

Club to meet

The Pine'er Club will meet on Thursday, March 19 at 9:45 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. RSVP to Janet at 410-641-6187.

one of these original bowls to take home as reminder of all of the empty bowls in the world.

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit Diakonia, a local nonprofit that has been helping individuals and families in Worcester County and the Lower Shore for more than 40 years by providing shelter, food, clothing and the resources to rebuild their lives. Proceeds also benefit the programs at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.

The event will include silent and Chinese auctions of prizes that include gift certificates to local businesses and pieces of art donated by the community.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the visual arts in the Ocean City area through education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events. The arts center is supported by memberships, corporate and civic funding, donations and sales of art.

More information is available at www.artleagueofoceancity.org or by calling 410-524-9433.



Kiwanis recognizes Peletier

At the March 11 meeting of the Kiwanis Club, **Barbara Peletier** (L) was presented with an Appreciation Award by President **Carolyn Dryzga** for her outstanding work in 2014. The award was founded by immediate Past President Dick Clagett. Barbara, a past president of the organization, is working on the next big fundraiser to be held on March 20. The Kiwanis Wine Tasting and Chinese Auction which will be held at the Ocean Pines Community Center from 4 until 7 p.m.

Bam Bam set for April

Woman to Woman Global (WWG) is a faith based non-profit organization that raises funds for scholarships and laptops for women. Founded in Worcester County, WWG helps women in the United States and abroad to achieve their life goals. Scholarships and laptops have been awarded in Worcester and Sussex counties as well as India and Jamaica. WWG also sponsors teachers to go overseas and train principals and teachers how to identify and help those with learning disabilities and autism.

In order to support the Sasha Edwards Scholarship fund and Laptops for Ladies, WWG sponsors a Bam Bam (Jamaican term for "festival") in Ocean City. This year, their 5th Annual Bam Bam will be at OC Seacrets on April 25 from 4 to 8 p.m.. There will be silent, Chinese, and live auctions. The cost is \$25 for adults

and \$20 for children 5-12 in advance (\$30 at the door) and includes a buffet dinner and dessert. There is a cash bar available.

Tickets are available on line at www.wwglobal.org or you can call 410-251-8343. Raffle tickets for an iPad Mini or golf for four at Glen Riddle Golf Course in Berlin, are also available on the web site (\$5 each or 5 for \$20). The WWG team meets bi-monthly in the Worcester or Sussex County area and its members are from the DC, Northern VA, and all over the Delmarva Peninsula. If you are interested, please email us at wwglobal2010@yahoo.com or call 410-251-8343.

A WWG Chapter, Team Jamaica, was founded in January, 2013. Visit their Facebook page at Woman to Woman Global: Team Jamaica.



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In the Rear View Mirror...

Dodge Dart: unsung hero of the compact set

By **Bruce Palmer**

One of the most-frequently seen, yet seldom talked-about cars of the classic era is one which quietly marked its place in automotive history among the most-reliable and economical vehicles of the 1960s and 70s - the mighty little Dodge Dart. It seemed as

**1966 Dodge Dart**

though all of us had a school teacher, neighbor or grandparent who drove one, if there wasn't one in our own driveway.

In order to best-identify the car we refer to, it helps to first specify what it is not. The "Dart" name first appeared in the Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge family as a "dream car" concept which made the auto show circuit of 1957. Three years later, the nameplate showed up as a production vehicle. At this point, it wasn't a separate model but rather just a name given to the cheapest available (full-size) Dodge at the time. This would remain the case through 1962.

And clearly, we're not talking about the modern-era Dart, based on Chrysler Corporate partner Fiat's compact body, which returned the name to Dodge Dealers' showrooms in 2013.

The classic Dart rolled onto Main Street, USA in 1963, replacing Dodge's first mass-produced compact, the "Lancer." In its brief two year run, Dodge Lancer never sold well but the all-new Dart would quickly reverse Dodge's compact fortunes. With the most basic model starting around \$1,980, it was one of the cheapest cars in Detroit...\$10 cheaper than even a new '63 Chevy Corvair.

Dart hailed in 4 styles: 2-door, 4-door, station wagon and convertible. Lower and higher trim models were available along with a sporty "GT," but the only available engine was a thrifty 6-cylinder. In its sophomore year of 1964, the first V8 became optional but 90% of the Darts built still rolled off the assembly line with that economical "six-banger."

As far as production was concerned, it was all smiles at Dodge headquarters. An impressive first-year sales total of more than 150,000 ballooned past 200,000 by '65 and grew further still to what would become Dart's biggest sales year ever in 1966. Over the period, despite quietly increasing power availability under

the hood Dart remained a solid and reliable economy car capable of delivering nearly 25 mpg. Quite the feat at a time when industry averages were hovering in the teens.

By 1967, Chrysler Corporation decided that Dodge's little Dart was due for an update and so an entirely-new look was introduced—one which would largely remain through the end of the car's run. Even though the chassis had stayed the same, this all-new Dart appeared larger, more modern and ready for action. The station wagon version went away, leaving just sedans, hardtops and convertibles. Sales began to dip but most automotive historians would argue this was due largely to heavy competition from the equally-restyled sister car by Plymouth called "Barracuda."

As the end of the 1960s neared, all the major automotive manufacturers were getting into a game of engine power "one upsmanship" and the

**1973 Dodge Dart**

Dodge Dart wasn't immune. What had once been exclusively a thrifty economy car could be packed with 330+ horsepower, turning the under-3000 lb car into something of a rocketship but this was clearly the exception as 6-cylinder versions continued to outsell the V8s by 3-to-1.

In 1970, a mild re-style of the 1967-69 body resulted in a remarkably new look and sales were on the rebound; back up near 200,000 for the first time in several years. "Economy" con-

*please see **dart** on page15*

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Children activities offered at Red Doors

The Red Doors Community Center will provide a variety of new weekend workshops this Spring for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. All programs are open for online registration at <http://www.reddoors.org>.

On Saturday, March 21, longtime local educator, actor, and director Matt Bogdan will teach an afternoon Drama Workshop where participants will have an opportunity to bring out their inner actors and actresses as they work on character development and stage presence through the use of drama exercises and techniques..

The Red Doors' next Paint Night Pizza Party is Saturday, March 28 from 5:30-7:30 pm. This is one of the center's most popular and exciting events where students will have the opportunity to work with an art professor from Salisbury University, Evan Fitzgerald, to create a complete landscape painting using acrylics and enjoy pizza and snacks with friends.

John Colley will return on Sunday March 29 between 6 and 6:30

p.m. to offer Animal Drumming, a fun percussion opportunity for children ages three through eight. Participants will learn about local animals and the environment incorporating stories, creative movement, and rhythm exploration.

In April, Good Friday at the Good Farm will be hosted by local farmer Christie McDowell on April 3 from 10 a.m. to noon. Children will have the opportunity to get up close and personal learning all about the "animals of Easter" including lambs, chickens, and rabbits at The Good Farm on Sinepuxent Road in Berlin.

New this spring is a Survival Skills workshop offered on April 11 and 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. Participants will spend the afternoon learning the basics of outdoor survival skills including how to properly assess their surroundings and safely navi-

gate through several simulated scenarios. The workshop includes an outdoor scavenger hunt with the use of compasses and newly taught skills of magnetic declination and map use.

In addition to the weekend workshops, The Red Doors Community Center will provide its usual classes throughout the week which include boys hip-hop, jazz dance, ballet and pointe, contemporary dance, pre-ballet, and hip hop. Free yoga for adults is provided every Sunday evening year round at 7 p.m. Adult paint nights and new spring classes for adults are also available. The Red Doors Community Center is an outreach of St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church located on 3rd Street in Ocean City. For further information please call director Fawn Mete at 410.289.5576 or visit <http://reddoors.org>.

Calling all singers

The Worcester County Choral Concert and Workshop conducted by Jean Anne Shafferman is looking for singers to take part in the second annual presentation of this event. Workshop date is Saturday, April 18, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (coffee and donuts in the morning; bring your own lunch). Concert date is Sunday, April 19 at 3 p.m. Additional rehearsals are Saturday, April 11 (10 a.m. – noon) and Thursday, April 16 (7 – 9 p.m.). Concert and all rehearsals will be held at Community Church at Ocean Pines located at 11227 Racetrack Road. The cost of your personal music (eight anthems) is \$20. Any questions or to sign-up please call 410-641-7335.

Coastal drilling to be discussed

The Maryland Saltwater Sportfishing Association will have its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday March 24. The meeting will be held at the Lions Club on Airport Rd. in West Ocean City. Meeting officially starts at 7:30 p.m. and doors will open to the public at 7 p.m. The guest speakers will talk about the proposed oil and natural gas drilling off the mid-Atlantic Coast. The meeting is open to the public.



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Donation — *Rina Thaler, executive director of the Ocean City Center for the Arts, presents Danielle Cordrey of Perdue with \$415 to benefit the American Cancer Society and Village of Hope. The donation comes from money raised during painting and pottery fundraisers held by the Art League of Ocean City at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.*

Garden Club to hold Arbor Day event

The Ocean Pines Garden Club will host their annual Arbor Day memorial tree planting ceremony on Thursday, April 9, at 10:30 a.m. in Pintail Park in Ocean Pines. If there is inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Ocean Pines Community Center in the Assateague Room at the same time. A tree will be planted in memory of loved ones. The ceremony is open to all. A luncheon at the Yacht Club will follow the ceremony. For information or reservations, please call Suzanne Brooke at 410-641-5242.

Holy Week events announced

Bethany United Methodist Church has announced its observances during Holy Week. On Holy Thursday, April 2, Holy Communion, hand washing and readings for reflection will be offered between noon and 7 p.m. A

Good Friday Observance will be held between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. on April 3. Worshipers will be able to visit the seven "Centers of the Cross" to pray and meditate. There will be an Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. on April 5 at Assateague State Park located at the end of Route 611. The service will be followed by breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Easter Worship services will be held at 10 a.m.

The church is located at Route 611 and Snug Harbor Rd. in Berlin. For more information call 410.641.2186.

Dems selling geraniums

The Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County is having a geranium sale. The cost is \$6. Colors offered are red, white, pink, fuchsia and salmon. Orders must be placed by April 20 for early May delivery. For information contact Harriet Batis at 302-988-1268.

Finnegan wake to be celebrated

St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Ocean City are not over until Tim Finnegan is laid to rest. On Saturday, March 21, at 5 p.m., in Seacrets' Morley Hall, the third annual Finnegan's Wake will be held with "The Irish Lads" as the headliners, the Ocean City Pipes and Drums Band leading the funeral procession and The Bethany Jubilee Trio rounding out the entertainment slate.



The Irish Lads

Finnegan's Wake, a mock Irish funeral that notes the supposed passing of Tim Finnegan, is being sponsored by the Friends of WCDC as a benefit for the Worcester County Developmental Center (WCDC).

Irish wakes mourned the passing of a loved one and celebrated that person's life. Wakes usually lasted several days and crying, drinking, card playing and jokes were a big part of every affair. This Finnegan's Wake is loosely based on a traditional Irish song of the same name.

This year's headliners, the "Irish Lads," have been playing traditional Irish music since 1978. They started at the Knights of Columbus in Hazleton,

PA, and sang songs of their idols the "Clancy Brothers" and "The Wolfe-tones." This music was not the Irish songs people were used to hearing. These were authentic, Irish folk songs, not Americanized Irish songs. Although the "Lads" intended only to perform that one night, word of their impromptu performance spread, and soon they were playing at venues all over the coal regions of Pennsylvania.

During their more than three decades performing, "The Irish Lads" have produced five albums of songs and a video recording.

Tommy Boyle (guitar, keyboard and vocals) and Mike Dolan (button

please see wake on page 12



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ing fighters
15. Durham
school
16. Ancient
Scand. poet
18. Charitable
performances
20. Siddhartha
author Her-
mann
21. Letter des-
tination
22. P.S. Buck's
Pulitzer
25. Feel regret
26. Initials of e
= MC2 author
27. From a dis-
tance
29. Cronies
31. Forty
32. Printing
speed meas-
urement
33. Nutty
spread

40. White
seedless grape
41. Hillsides
43. Inflamma-
tion of a bursa
44. Artery
45. Nail polish
brand
46. A routine
that is hard to
escape
47. Indigo
plant
48. Owners
50. Animal flu-
ids
51. Mustelid in
its white winter
coat
52. Communist

DOWN

1. Come into
conflict
2. A collection
of things
wrapped to-
gether
3. Bath spatter
4. Gunsmoke
actress Blake
5. Direct to a
source
6. Cartoonist
Capp
7. Somewhat
blue
8. 40 weekday

periods
(abbr.)
9. El Dorado
High School
(abbr.)
11. Heartbeat
12. Brit.
rutabaga
17. Angle
(abbr.)
18. Said as a
greeting or wish
19. Festivals
23. Rita ____,
singer
24. Belonging
to us
27. Skating
jumps
28. Building at
175 5th Ave.
29. Parts per
billion (abbr.)
30. Atomic
mass unit
32. Old Span-
ish currency

(abbr.)
33. Insistence
on traditional
correctness
34. PBS
wildlife show
35. Measuring
blocks
36. Don't know
when yet
37. Ancient city
from which St.
Paul first sailed
38. Breadwin-
ner
39. Go to bed
40. Highest in
degree or qual-
ity
42. Tossed, po-
tato or waldorf
43. The trunk
of a tree
49. Yes in
Spanish

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A G H A N A R U I O L E A
M E A L A L O F T S A G S
N E W M E X I C O S I R E E
S A L E S T A M L D
P B S T E N S O R E S
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C A F E S T I U S E B U M
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C A G E D T E N N E S S E E
C H A R B R A E S A A R E
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Answers for Mar 11

Captain Ron's
Fish Tales

By Ron Fisher

Sponsored by Peninsula Rehab and Sport Medicine



Buying your first boat. Part II

If you remember last month I indicated that first you will need to consider a few very important questions. Buying a boat without considering these could result in many unpleasant surprises. They are as follows:

Will you be using the boat for pleasure boating, fishing or both?

Will you be taking children on the boat?

Are you interested in speed or simply a boat that will get you around at a comfortable pace?

How big a boat are you interested in?

Are you interested in a new or used boat?

Will you have a slip in a marina to keep your boat during the boating season?

Will you trailer the boat or will you have it stored and launched by someone else?

Where will you winter store the boat?

Do you have a vehicle equipped and is it capable of towing the boat?

Now you are ready to consider a purchase. Remember we are discussing a boat to be used on the coastal bays. I would not consider anything smaller than 17' or larger than 24' for ease of handling. Don't be afraid to negotiate for price and include accessories. Although there are many types of boats with the center console, walk-around cuddy and pontoon boats are most commonly used on the bay. If you decide to purchase a new or used boat from a dealer they will help you select a boat for your particular needs and will give you a demonstration ride and instructions on operation. They will also suggest an engine to meet your needs. Today most new boats will have four stroke engines that do not require mixing oil with your gas which is an added convenience. If you are purchasing a used boat I will address what you should be considering later in this column. The dealer can also advise you on purchasing a trailer although most new boats today come with a trailer as a package.

Possibly you have decided to purchase a used boat. There are many great deals on used boats today. However, you do need to evaluate your prospective purchase thoroughly before the actual sale. Here are some of my recommendations:

Take a friend along who knows boats and who can help you evaluate your potential purchase.

Determine the age of the boat and look over the general condition including the hull for blistering which is a sign of real trouble. Check the steering to determine if it is working prop-

Don't forget to first take a safe boaters course either offered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Power Squadron or U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Here you will learn boating talk, safety, rules of the road, navigation, knot tying and proper identification of various locations on your boat. It may also help you decide what type boat you are interested in purchasing. Also, become familiar with Maryland boating regulations available through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

please see **capt. ron** on page 11



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OP crime stats improved

The Ocean Pines Police Department has released preliminary crime statistics for 2014. Serious crime declined nearly 40 percent in 2014 compared to 2013. A review of serious crime, known as Part 1 Offenses, revealed:

-2014: 106 Part 1 Offenses

-2013: 178 Part 1 Offenses

Police answered 12,402 service calls for 2014, which is a new record. Police also made 193 arrests and conducted 2,654 traffic stops, resulting in the issuance of 460 traffic citations. Traffic accidents saw a 23 percent re-

duction, as a result of increased enforcement.

Chief David C. Massey stated; "The statistics are very encouraging for crime reduction, and the efforts of our police department contribute to keeping Ocean Pines one of the safest, per capita, communities in the State of Maryland."

Indoor yard Sale, craft fair is April 11

Clean out your attic, closets, and garage and sell unneeded or unwanted items in your home or sell your crafts and wares at a giant, indoor yard sale. Worcester County Recreation & Parks

(WCRP) will host their Indoor Yard Sale & Craft Fair on Saturday, April 11, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill.

All tables will be provided by WCRP (sellers cannot bring their own tables) at a cost of \$15 for one or \$25 for two. The deadline for reserving a table is Friday, March 27. Space is limited, so reserve your spots today.

Set up for sellers will begin at 6 a.m. the morning of the sale. There will also be an option to set up the night prior to the event.

Shoppers will pay a \$1 entrance fee. Children under age 12 will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact Lisa Gebhardt at 410-632-2144, ext. 100 or lgebhardt@co.worcester.md.us.

TEA Party to meet

Mike Bradley, morning host of the "Talk of Delmarva" on WGMD will be the guest speaker at the Worcester County Tea Party meeting on Friday, March 20. The meeting will take place at the Ocean Pines library. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. The topic of Mr. Bradley's presentation will be stories from behind the microphone. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information email

WCTPPatriots@gmail.com, go to the web site www.worcestercountyteaparty.com, <https://www.facebook.com/WorcesterCountyTeaParty> or call 443-614-7214.

Women's Club to host card, game party

Enjoy a day of fun and friendships while overlooking the Ocean City skyline by joining the Women's Club Card and Game Party on Thursday, April 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Restau-

rant at Lighthouse Sound located in Bishopville.

Organize a table to play a game or cards with your friends or let the club know what you would like to play so they can find a group that needs a player. There will be snacks, coffee, tea and water during play plus your choice of lunch.

This is a fundraiser to benefit the club's high school scholarship fund and community donations. Cost of this event is \$25 per person. Freshly baked chocolate chip cookies and basket raffles will complete the day.

Checks should be payable to WCOP and sent to WCOP Card Party, 20 Chatham Court, Berlin MD 21811. Deadline for reservations is March 26th. For information, call Pat Addy at 410-208-0171.

capt. ron

from page 10

erly.

Ask how long the boat has been sitting. This can be a problem with the new 10% added ethanol if it has not been treated properly. The tank could have water or phase separation which are two big problems.

How old is the motor and how many hours does it have on it? Is it two stroke or four stroke? In what condition is the propeller? Who performed regular maintenance on the boat and motor?

What accessories are included such as VHF radio, depth finder, fish finder, GPS, life jackets, fire extinguisher, etc. and what is the working condition of each?

In what condition is the trailer and tires? Will it pass inspection?

Finally, be certain to insist on an on the water demonstration while at the same time checking out all the accessories. Also, ask if you can have your mechanic check out the boat before purchase.

Failure to properly review all of these can result in considerable expense later on. I hope these guidelines help as you consider your purchase. Boating is fun but consider all your expense before you jump into purchasing your first boat.

Fishing report - Not much going on. The Shad landing pond has been frozen over so no trout stocking has occurred as of this writing. Here are a few dates to remember: Twenty-fifth Annual Capt. Zed's Spring Flounder Tournament April 24 - May 3. Wachapreague, VA. 757-789-3222; and Eighth Annual Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Flounder Tournament August 1. Pines Point Marina. 410-641-5306.

Captain Ron

Tide and Sun Chart

* tide is for Ocean City Fishing Pier. Add two hours for Isle of Wight tide

DATE	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Thur., March 19	7:16 a.m. 7:37 p.m.	1:03 a.m. 1:34 p.m.	7:06 a.m.	7:11 p.m.
Fri., March 20	8:07 a.m. 8:29 p.m.	1:57 a.m. 2:22 p.m.	7:04 a.m.	7:12 p.m.
Sat., March 21	8:58 a.m. 9:20 p.m.	2:49 a.m. 3:10 p.m.	7:03 a.m.	7:13 p.m.
Sun., March 22	9:47 a.m. 10:11 p.m.	3:41 a.m. 3:57 p.m.	7:01 a.m.	7:14 p.m.
Mon., March 23	10:36 a.m. 11:02 p.m.	4:34 a.m. 4:46 p.m.	6:59 a.m.	7:15 p.m.
Tues., March 24	11:26 a.m. 11:53 p.m.	5:28 a.m. 5:38 p.m.	6:58 a.m.	7:16 p.m.
Wed., March 25	12:17 p.m.	6:24 a.m. 6:32 p.m.	6:56 a.m.	7:17 p.m.

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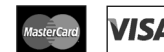
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wake
from page 9

box accordion, Bodh ran, tin whistle and vocals) are founding members. Rich Fedoriska (bass guitar, acoustic guitar and vocals) has been a "Lad" since 1982.

The trio has earned a reputation for being energetic performers dedicated to the preservation of Irish culture and history through Ireland's folk and nationalistic music. Their unique style and welcoming stage presence combine the best characteristics of Irish folk performers.

"The Irish Lads" have shared the stage with legendary performers including The Clancy Brothers, Tommy Makem, Danny Doyle, Seamus Kennedy and the "Dubliners," to name a few. They have been featured performers on many Irish cruises on the Carnival Line. Midwestirishradio.com, broadcasting out of Ireland, now plays their songs on a regular basis, sending the Irish Lads music around the world.

In addition to the "Irish Lads", the renowned "Ocean City Pipes and Drums" will lead the funeral procession into Morley Hall and return to play a set of songs. "The Bethany Jubilee Trio," who are regular performers at the Irish Penny in Salisbury, are making their first appearance at the wake.

The entertainment sponsors are Apple Discount Drugs and 4 Steps Therapeutic Riding Program.

Mourners will be able to view Finnegan in his casket and tell him a joke or enter the Keening contest where a prize will be given to the person who can wail the best.

Admission is \$20. Happy hour prices will be available at the bar, and the Seacrets kitchen will offer an Irish menu. All money raised will go to the friends of WCDC, the auxiliary that supports the mission of the Worcester County Developmental Center (WCDC). WCDC provides employment opportunities, day habilitation training, residential services and community-based supports for adults who live with an intellectual disability in Worcester, Somerset and Wicomico counties. For more information about the wake or about the services offered by WCDC please call (410) 632-2382.

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MCBP to host wine pairing

Celebrate the beginning of spring with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) Saturday, March 21 at the West O Bottle Shop by attending an oyster and wine pairing from 6 to 10 p.m.

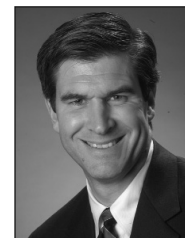
The event will feature fresh local oysters paired with ten varieties of wine including French sparkling, Spanish rose' sparkling, French Muscadet, Spanish Verdejo, Aussie Dry Resiling, French Chenin Blanc, dry rose' and three separate Sauvignon Blancs. Local craft beer on draft is available to those not interested in wine.

There will be other foods to complement the oysters and wine including local cheeses from Chesapeake Farms, fresh local ham and shrimp salads and an assortment of other nibbles. The event is \$40 per person, proceeds to benefit MCBP. Tickets are limited and are available at the West O Bottle Shop or online at <http://west-o.md/events.html> as well as <http://md-coastalbays.org>.

Please contact Sandi Smith at sandis@mdcoastalbays.org or by calling 410-213-2297 ext. 106 for more details.

Franklin to speak at RWWC lunch

The Republican Women of Worcester County will hold their March luncheon meeting on Thursday, March 26 on the 22nd floor of the Golden Sands Hotel located at 109th St in Ocean City. The guest speaker will be Michael Franklin, CEO of Atlantic General Hospital. The cost of the luncheon is \$16 per person. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. and the meeting begins at 11 a.m. To make your reservation or for more information, please contact Ann Lutz at 410-208-9767 or annlutz@verizon.net.



Michael Franklin

Community Calendar

When submitting items for the calendar please include the event name, date, where held, time and a little about the event. Items being considered for the calendar need to be in by noon on Friday. E-mail to thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Mondays

Ocean Pines Poker Club

Poker players wanted in Ocean Pines area for Monday evenings. Call 410-208-1928

Open every Monday through October: **Historic St. Martin's Church Museum.** 1-4 pm. 11413 Worcester Highway, Showell, MD. For more information, call 410-251-2849

Sweet Adelines

The Delmarva Sweet Adeline Chorus meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Call 410-641-6876.

Mon. & Tues.

Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge

Open bridge games Monday at 12 p.m., Tuesday at 10 a.m. at OP Community Center. Call Mary Stover 410-726-1795

Mon., Wed. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

OC Baptist Church's Thrift Shop by Seaside Christian Academy behind White Marlin Mall open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat. Call 410-251-6971.

Tuesdays

Families Anonymous

From 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at room 37 in the the Community Church at Ocean Pines on Rte. 589. For more information call Carol at 410-208-4515.

Take off Pounds Sensibly Meeting. Berlin group No. 331, Worcester County Health Center 9730 Healthway Dr., Berlin, 5:30-7:00 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly on Tuesdays. Info: jean-duck47@gmail.com

Tuesdaysand Thursdays

Poker players wanted for Gentlemen's Poker in North Gate area Ocean Pines. Game played

every Tuesday & Thursday evening 5:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. on Pinehurst Rd. Ocean Pines. Call 410-208-0063 for more information.

Wednesdays

Kiwanis Club Meeting

Weekly meetings at 8 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Doors open 7 a.m. October through April.

Elks Bingo

Ocean City Elks in Ocean City (behind Fenwick Inn) open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 and bingo at 7 p.m. Call 410-250-2645.

Delmarva Hand Dancing

Dancing at The Fenwick Inn in Ocean City from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Contact 302-934-7951 or info@delmarvahanddancing.com

Rotary Club

Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. at the Captains Table in Ocean City. Contact Stan.Kahn@carouselhotel.com.

Square Dancing

The Pinesteppers have introduction to square dancing at the OP Community Center at 7 p.m. Call Bruce Barrett at 410-208-6777.

AL-Anon/OP-West OC-Berlin

Wednesday Night Bayside Beginnings Al-Anon family meetings are held at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Thurs. & Fri.

Church Thrift Shop

Stevenson United Methodist Church in Berlin is open Wed. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sale Fridays. Call 410-641-1137.

Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

The Shepherd's Nook at Community Church at Ocean Pines is

open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 410-641-5433.

Diakonia Thrift Shop

'Used to be Mine' offers clothing, furniture, household items and more. Proceeds benefit Diakonia shelter and pantry. Located at Rte. 611 and Sunset Ave. Open 10 - 4. Call 410-213-0243.

Thursdays

Story Time

Stories, music and crafts at 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3-5 at Ocean Pines library. Call 410-208-4014.

Beach Singles

Beach Singles 45 for Happy Hour at Harpoon Hanna's at 4 p.m. Call Arlene at 302-436-9577, Kate at 410-524-0649 or Dianne at 302-541-4642.

Legion Bingo

American Legion in Ocean City opens doors at 5:30 p.m., games begin at 7. For information call 410-289-3166.

Gamblers Anonymous

Group meets at 8 p.m. at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City. Call 888-424-3577 for help.

Fridays

Knights of Columbus Bingo

Bingo will be held behind St. Luke's Church, 100th St. in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments available. Call 410-524-7994.

Sundays

Sunday Night Serenity **Al-Anon Family Group** at The Woodlands/Independent Living Apt. Bldg. 1135 Ocean Parkway-Ocean Pines, Md. 21811

Third Sunday

Sharing Sunday

Bring non-perishable groceries and paper goods to the Ocean Pines southside fire hall 1 -3 p.m. to benefit local food banks.

Third Monday

Democratic Women

The Democratic Women meet 9:30 a.m. for coffee followed by a meeting at 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Guests and new members are welcome.

Third Tuesday

Widows & Widowers Social Club.

Group meets in Ocean Pines at 1 p.m. for luncheon meeting. Call 410-208-1398.

Third Wednesday

Survivors of Suicide Meeting

Starts at 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health Department. 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Quiet listening, caring people, no judgment. For more information, call 410-629-0164 or visit www.choosetoliveinmaryland.org.

Fourth Wednesday

Marine Corps League

First State Detachment Marine Corps League raises funds for a variety of charities and meets at 7 p.m. in VFW Post 8296, 66th St. Ocean City. Open to all fellow Marines and FMF Corpsmen. Visit www.firststatemarines.org.

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dart
from page 7

tinued to be the way the car was positioned and marketed—everyone knew that, when you wanted to spend the least on gas—you bought a Dart from Dodge. Prices remained affordable with a basic 2-door sedan starting about \$2,400 in '71, increasing to nearly \$2,500 by 1973 and up past \$2,800 in '74 when the addition of Government-mandated equipment began to take its financial toll.

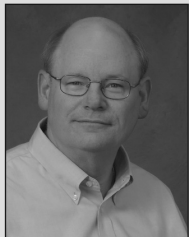
Throughout the first half of the 1970s, Dart's appearance changed little but sales stayed between 150 and 175 thousand annually. While some really liked the consistency and reliability others began to want something new. And something new was on the way. It was called "Aspen," destined to replace Dart for good with the unveiling of the new 1977 models, leaving the '76 Dart a "last of its kind." Across 14 model years, the compact Dodge Dart populated the American road to the tune of about 2.8 million. Perhaps that's why, when you look back at photos of the 1960s and 70s, Darts were a veritable part of the landscape, quietly racking-up economic miles from city streets to suburban roads, supermarket parking lots and closer to home in Grandmom's driveway.



1967 Dodge Dart

budget
from page 1

to meet next year's projected overall loss of \$50,000, but proposed increasing the allowance for the net loss to be \$100,000 as a cushion. The vote was 6-1 with Sharyn O'Hare as the dissenting vote.



Tom Terry

There was considerable discussion over what to do with the capital reserve accounts. Mr. Stevens indicated that Resolution F03 only addresses maintaining a capital asset replacement reserve rather than the current process of separate accounting for each project that has been paid for from reserve funds. Mr. Stevens expressed that the separate accounting keeps artificial negatives in reserve accounts and proposed merging all capital reserve balances into a single account. General Manager Bob Thompson defended the separate accounting methodology indicating that it provides transparency in the budget. Mr. Stevens further recommended eliminating the \$130 assessment this coming year, expressing that the capital funding is already at a high level. Marty Clarke agreed with Mr. Stevens and pointed out that the overall budgeted capital reserve balance next year would be the second highest level ever. Mr. Terry vigorously objected by saying wiping out all capital reserve balances would contradict a commitment the board made, particularly with regard to repaying the reserve funding for the Yacht Club. Mr. Terry also argued that it would be better to wait for the results of the capital reserve study before eliminating the \$130 assessment. With \$50,000 included in the budget for the reserve study, Mr. Terry questioned the logic of having a budget for a reserve study if decisions on capital reserves were being made now. Ms. O'Hare agreed. Mr. Terry and Ms. O'Hare indicated they may be willing to support merging the capital reserve balances as long as the \$130 continues to be collected until at least the results of the capital reserve study are made available.

Mr. Terry made the motion to accept the Plan B budget with the addition of increasing the projected golf loss to \$100,000 and continuing the collection of the \$130 capital reserve assessment. The vote carried four to three; the opposing board members were Messrs. Stevens, Collins, and Clarke.

Chesapeake Utilities announces grant level assistance levels

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation announces the availability of grants through its SHARING program, a non-profit organization that distributes grants to its natural gas and propane customers living on the Delmarva Peninsula who are in need due to financial or health challenges. Grants of up to \$400 are available to those in need to assist with their energy bills. Grants are also available for appliance repair or replacement. Please visit www.chesapeakesharing.com for more information.

Over the last six years, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, its subsidiary Sharp Energy, Inc., their employees and customers have contributed more than \$296,000 to support the SHARING program and provide grants to more than 1,300 recipients on the Delmarva Peninsula.

In 2014, grants awarded by the SHARING Program to help those in need pay their energy bills during the cold winter months totaled \$41,649, almost 30% more than the \$30,346 paid out to recipients in 2013.

"We are thrilled to continue to grow our SHARING program grants, which have had a meaningful impact for our customers experiencing financial or medical challenges," commented Shane Breakie, Director of Natural Gas Energy Services and President of the Chesapeake Emergency Energy Recipient Program (CHEERP). "Our employees live in the communities we serve and it is important to all of us to show our customers there that we personally care about helping them in difficult financial or medical circumstances."

program
from page 4

eligibility and no more than two years of placement at the same internship site.

In addition to filling out a completed application, interested students must provide supporting documents, including transcripts and recommendations from a teacher and a community member. Transcripts and the application signature form should be mailed to:

STEP UP STEM
Internship Program
Worcester County
Economic Development
100 Pearl Street Ste B
Snow Hill, MD 21863

Prospective interns will be contacted by Friday, April 3, to schedule an interview. Interviews will take place on April 6, 8, and 11. Program selections will be announced via email on Friday, April 24. The matching period where selected interns are placed with employers takes place during May and June. Some employers require a second interview before confirming a placement. Internships begin June 22.

The application process for the camp and internship program is competitive. For more information about the Step Up and Reach for the Stars Program, call Fawn Mete at 410-289-5576 or fawn@reddoors.org or visit www.chooseworchester.org/STEM.



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