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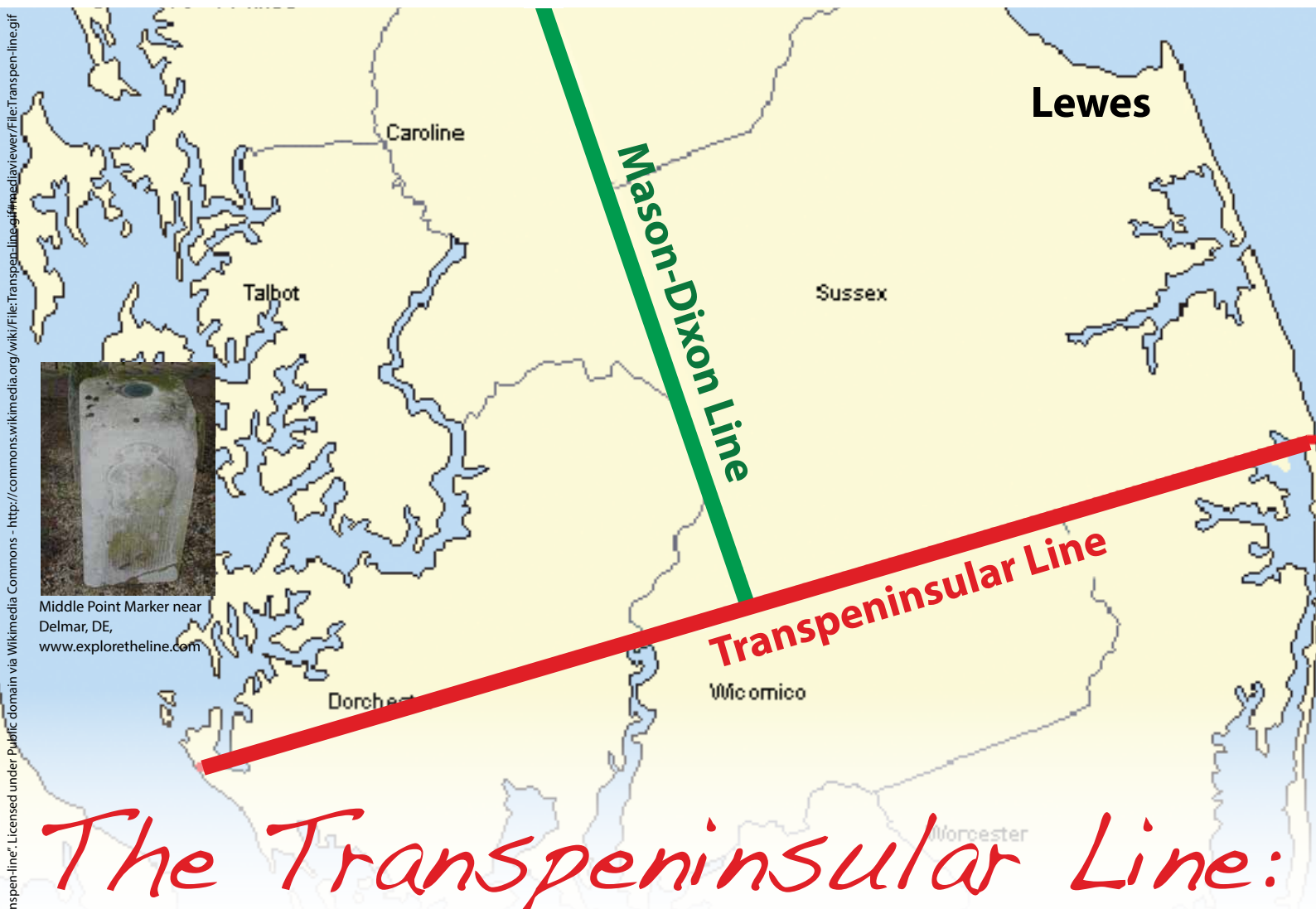
August 2014

Local news for the people, by the people



Vol. 02 Num. 08

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TP Line marker at Fenwick, DE side, www.exploretheline.com

Fenwick Island



TP Line marker at Fenwick, MD side, www.octhebeach.com

The Transpeninsular Line:

The First Stone Marker of Delaware's Southern Boundary at Fenwick Island

By Sandie Gerken

Have you heard that the monument at the Fenwick Island lighthouse marks the Mason-Dixon Line between Maryland and Delaware and thus, marks the boundary between the North and the South?

This is NOT true.

This east-west line is the Transpeninsular Line surveyed and drawn by Pennsylvania surveyors John Watson and William Parsons with Maryland surveyors Thomas Jones and John Emory in 1751. The stone marker was erected April 26, 1751 to mark the easternmost end of the southern boundary from Fenwick Island to a mid-point

between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay. After nearly a century of disputes between the Lords Baltimore, proprietors of Maryland and the Penn family of Pennsylvania, boundary lines were drawn to separate the Maryland colony from the "Three Lower Counties" of Pennsylvania. This first line marker bears the Penn coat of arms on one side and the coat of arms of the Calvert family (Lord Baltimore) on the other. Centuries of salt winds and rain have beat on the marker, yet it endures.

I found an old newspaper article in papers saved by my grandmother. This article was written by a local girl about 1935 when

she was a student at Hood College. She notes that through the course of time and the elements, the emblems on the stone were worn down to such a extent that a tale began to be told by the older residents that had very little to do with the marker's historic significance. The legendary story of the symbols stated that a johnny-cake represented Delaware on the north side of the marker and that the south side was marked by a Maryland beaten biscuit. Apparently, this tale was a source of humiliation for Delawareans who felt that it signified that Maryland could afford a beaten biscuit and Delaware could only afford the

johnny-cake. This embarrassing feeling arose from the difficulty of obtaining flour in the 1870s and 1880s. White flour was so scarce that the only available flour that locals could get shipped by river or railroad was of an inferior dark grade, while, perhaps Maryland could obtain better flour. However, upon close examination of the marker, the three "beaten biscuits" is the Penn emblem on the Delaware side. So much for that tale! Now for the history of the Line, short version!

Delaware is known as the first state to ratify the US Constitution, but it is possibly the last state to have its boundaries settled after a

century long legal battle.

It is easy to understand the confusion over boundaries when we note the various land grants and lack of proper surveying and mapping. Charles I granted Maryland to Cecilius Calvert in 1632. About fifty years later in 1681, Charles II granted Pennsylvania to William Penn and the Duke of York sold Penn his Three Lower Counties on the Delaware soon afterward. The problem was that some of this land overlapped. Charles II left it to the Calverts and the Penns to work out the mapping and true division of the bounds between

continued on page 2

Transpeninsular Line Trivia:

- Cape Henlopen really lies about 15 miles north of the Fenwick Island marker. If this true cape had been used as the start point, Delaware would be approximately 1000 square miles smaller.
- The Fenwick Island marker is said to be the oldest standing man-made object on the coast between Indian River and Ocean City, MD. The stone was white washed and the images re-cut in 1952 to be readable.
- Marker #5, located near Williamsville and the Bayside Americana complex is in good condition.
- Marker #10 is located on the property of Pomeroy's Liquor Store at the state line in Selbyville.
- There is no marker at mile #15 as the Pocomoke River and Swamp made it impossible to place a marker in the ground at this location.
- The TP Line runs through Delmar, bisecting the town into two states.
- A "perch" is a colonial line measurement equal to 5 1/2 yards. In colonial deeds, a 'rod' or a 'perch' is the same length.

The Transpeninsular Line: The First Stone Marker of Delaware's Southern Boundary at Fenwick Island continued from page 1

the two colonies. The crux of the long dispute in the English courts lay in two words and an incorrect map. Charles Calvert, the third Lord Baltimore, had submitted to the English courts an erroneous map locating Cape Henlopen at Fenwick Island. The two words found in the Maryland charter were "hitherto uncultivated". Their charter gave the Calverts the rights to all lands from the Atlantic Ocean to the Chesapeake Bay that were not previously inhabited by Europeans (hitherto uncultivated). The English courts determined that the Maryland grant did NOT include any of the contested territory between the Atlantic and the Chesapeake inhabited by Europeans BEFORE the 1632 Maryland charter. Thus, the brief Dutch settlement at Zwaanendael in 1631 favored the Penns. To finalize the litigation in 1732, the English courts decided to divide the peninsula of land between the ocean and the bay into two equal parts by a line from Cape Henlopen (Fenwick) to the middle point on the peninsula, then a tangent line run from that point up to meet the previously accepted 12 mile arc northern boundary of Delaware. Lord Baltimore's faulty map was accepted and an agreement was reached. A disgruntled Lord Baltimore did not move forward with the required survey. So, for almost 20 years, more court battles ensued until May 1750 when the higher courts ordered both sides to begin the surveys within 90 days. Pennsylvania sent the first surveyors to begin the east-west line in December 1750. They drove the first stake 139 perches from the Ocean in a grove of mulberry trees where the Fenwick Lighthouse now stands and where the first

limestone marker, imported from England, was set. This line runs westward "as the crow flies" for 69 miles 298 perches (69.9313 miles) with similar stones set at 5 mile intervals for 35 miles to the mid-point of the peninsula. These markers were rectangular with rounded tops. At one mile intervals there are brass disks set in concrete.

The Middle Point marker, representing the southwestern point of Delaware along this line, can be found about 6.6 miles west of Delmar in a pavilion that protects this stone, as well as the stone placed by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon in 1763 marking the southern point of the western (south-north) boundary of Delaware.

So, for this southern border of Delaware all that Mason and Dixon did was to accept the middle point of the Transpeninsular Line as their starting point for the western boundary line of Delaware drawn between 1763-67. This line is known officially as the "Tangent Line" and is part of the Mason-Dixon Line that separates Maryland and Pennsylvania as well. So, in truth, Delaware does not lie north of the Mason-Dixon Line, but east of it!

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Sandie Gerken lives in Dagsboro, DE. As a native Sussex Countian, local history is one of her passions.

Retired now, she devotes her time to genealogy research (her greatest passion since 1978), watercolor painting, grandchildren, soccer for kids with disabilities, books, and things creative and historical. She recently authored the book *Memories of the Clayton Theatre* as a fundraiser to help the Clayton go digital. She is now exploring her writing skills with local history articles for *High Tide News*.

High Tide News

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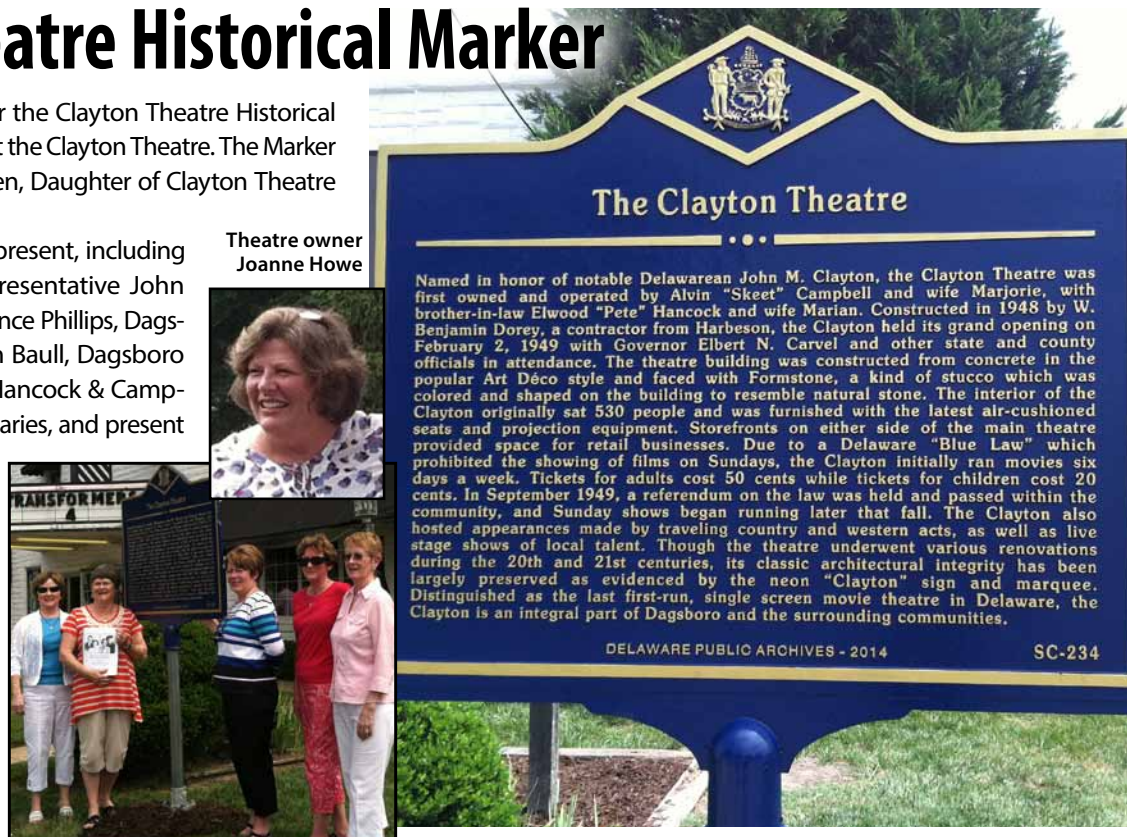
Clayton Theatre Historical Marker

A Dedication Ceremony for the Clayton Theatre Historical Marker was held on July 14th at the Clayton Theatre. The Marker was unveiled by Sandie Gerken, Daughter of Clayton Theatre Founder, Pete Hancock.

There were several guests present, including Senator Gerald Hocker, Representative John Atkins, County Councilman Vance Phillips, Dagsboro Town Councilman Brian Baull, Dagsboro Mayor Bradley Connor, The Hancock & Campbell Families, other local dignitaries, and present owner of the Clayton Theatre, Joanne Howe.

The Clayton Theatre historical marker is the third marker for Dagsboro, the others are at Katie Helm Park and Prince George's Chapel.

The Clayton Cousins: (left-right) Lucinda (Campbell) Hearn, Sandie (Hancock) Gerken, Beth (Hancock) Bunting, Joanne (Campbell) Bireley & Jane (Hancock) McComrick.



Theatre owner Joanne Howe





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Atlantic Physical Therapy is a family owned business that has been serving our local communities since 1998. We put the "Care" back in Healthcare. 16 years ago we opened our first location in Ocean Pines, MD. We loved putting our love back into the community so much that we opened clinics in Millsboro & Laurel, DE, Salisbury, MD, and our newest location in West Fenwick, DE.



Atlantic Physical Therapy's new location in West Fenwick, DE.

I was born and raised in the area and knew that I always wanted to serve our community. I have a passion for helping people and knew that I would want to give back to the community by helping people. My dad opened the business 16 years ago while I was still in school. I started working for the company shortly after it opened and then as a Physical Therapist after graduating with my Doctorate. I grew up having a love for the business and decided

that obtaining my Doctorate in Physical Therapy is where my heart would be. We took our love for helping others and put it back into the community.

I was raised here on the Eastern Shore. I grew up within the Worcester County Public School System and graduated with a bachelors degree in exercise science from the Salisbury University in 2010. I then went on to obtain my Doctorate of Physical Therapy in 2013 from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

I fulfilled my last clinical rotation at University of Maryland, recently known as Kernan Hospital in the out-patient orthopedic and spinal cord unit. As someone who has received much from the Eastern Shore, I am eager to give back to the place that helped raise me.

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Robert "Bobby" Hammond III, PT, DPT, of Atlantic Physical Therapy, Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine in the new West Fenwick, DE office.

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Tips to reduce stress for improved health and happiness

Stressed out? You're not alone.

The American Psychological Association writes that three quarters of Americans experience symptoms related to stress in any given month, and that one-third of Americans feel they are living with extreme stress. Some people consider it a badge of honor. Others wish it would just go away. While a bit of stress now and then is to be expected, anyone experiencing chronic day-to-day stress may be inviting serious health problems.

Here are four things you can do to reduce and manage stress.

Get 7-8 hours of sleep.

Develop a wind-down routine that relaxes you before bed. It can include a simple 10-minute meditation, a soak in a warm tub, or a warm non-caffeinated beverage. Consider journaling to empty your mind of the day's concerns and to jot down the things you want to remember for the next day. And turn off screens, including the TV and your eReader, 30 minutes before bedtime. The light from screens interferes with your production of melatonin.

Watch what you eat

Three meals a day, ideally healthy ones, keep your blood sugar level steady. Avoid stress eating, especially sugary treats and refined carbohydrates. You may feel good in the moment but won't achieve the steadiness and focus associated with productivity.

Move your body

Not only is physical activity good for your heart and your brain, it's a great stress reliever. When you feel yourself under stress, take a "time-out" for a short walkabout or stretch. You'll burn off the stress-induced chemicals and get back in balance. Thirty minutes of aerobic exercise daily is a great stress management tool, especially if you're doing something you really enjoy.

Control what you can and learn to let go of the rest

Consider what's causing your stress. We often have more control over circumstances than we admit. Choose to be in control. Say "no" to a request. Delegate or get help with a task. Set priorities, including "me" time, and reserve adequate time for what's important. If it's outside your control, stop fighting it. Let go of anger and frustration and see if you can find a positive aspect to focus on instead.



Deborah Elias-Smith

Life will always have moments of stress. Learning to identify what's stressing you and discovering techniques that effectively switch it off is your key to greater productivity, improved health and happiness.

Deborah Elias-Smith is a certified professional coach. She offers a stress management coaching program, *The DeStress Formula*. Take her online *DeStress Appraisal* to learn how likely you are to reduce stress so that you are happier and healthier. www.excella-llc.com or call 302-539-3054.

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Soccer Manía

Soccer mania has been upon us with the World Cup in Brazil this year. This tournament takes place in a different country every four years and is long awaited by every soccer fan. I have found that many Americans do not understand this attraction to a game that is seemingly boring to them.

In fact, I was watching the USA-Portugal game a few weeks ago and jumped up screaming when we scored a goal, when a guy in the bar looked at me and said, "What are you getting so excited about? This isn't even a sport." For those of you who are wondering the same as the "bar guy," I'd like to share with you why soccer is the number one sport in the world by far and why the World Cup is so important to so many people, including many Americans.

Years ago, I was one of the very few youngsters who played soccer in the USA. I spent my elementary school years in Colombia, South America, where I learned advanced skills. This was in the late sixties and early-mid seventies, the time when famous players like Pele and Beckenbauer were in their prime, as I read about them in the newspapers. Upon returning to the USA, I continued to play in junior high school and high school. Unfortunately, the American newspapers did not cover international soccer. During that time, my father, concerned that I was too focused on only one sport, encouraged me be well-rounded and try other sports. I tried one season of wrestling. After spending most of the time staring at the ceiling, while some brute with huge biceps pinned me, I decided to quit. I tried basketball, but I was destroyed on the court by fellows who were so much taller than me, so I quit. I tried out for the football team, but I saw that the huge linemen were out to end my life, so I quit. The sports that I tried and liked were lacrosse and hockey. They required speed and agility, not

huge biceps, height and size. But the equipment was expensive, and my family had four kids to send to college, so I didn't last long in those two sports.

When I returned to the soccer field, it was like coming home after a long trip. I was comfortable, relaxed and happy. I could focus on winning the game with speed, agility, and skill. If someone was bigger than me, it typically meant he was slow and clumsy, and I would blow right by him on my way to the goal. It is true, that a taller person can reach higher for head-balls, but more often I would get to the place where the ball was heading sooner, because I was faster.

Think about the rest of the world. In World War I and II, Europe went through severe economic hardship. Emerging regions, like Latin America and Asia, have also gone through economic hardship until the last twenty years. What was a boy in those places to do in order to keep entertained with his friends? A boy back then typically was not very tall or muscular and obviously did not have a lot of money. Soccer was always the answer. It was a wonderful way to let out energy, build friendships, and it cost next to nothing. It was not unusual to see children back then or now playing with a grapefruit, tennis ball, or even a rolled up rag. That is the attraction of soccer. One does not need expensive equipment like shoulder-pads, skates, a stick or ice time. One simply needs a cheap round object and a street or small area of grass to play on. One does not have to be seven feet tall. The best players in the world, Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, are among the shortest players of their teams, Argentina and Portugal respectively. One does not have to be large or super strong. That would just slow a player down.

Soccer is the regular guy's sport in the world. It is the poor man's sport and loved

by all around the world. While a Superbowl game or NBA finals game is viewed by hundreds of millions of people, the World Cup is viewed by billions of people. Just think about the reach that sports endorsers like Nike and Adidas can have through soccer with billions of fans versus the NFL with only millions of fans. This is why most professional soccer players, especially those in Europe, make more money compared to professional football or baseball players. The highest paid soccer players, Messi and Ronaldo, earn well over twenty million dollars per year after taxes and not including endorsements. This puts them higher than top basketball, football and baseball players, who earn twenty to thirty million dollars per year before taxes.

Soccer also has deep political roots, making the fervor over it more intense. During the World Cup, political rivals sometimes go against each other, such as England and Argentina (who had a war against each other) and Germany and France. Even at the local club level, soccer is used as an expression of politics. Clear examples of this are the two Scottish teams called the Rangers (Protestant) and Celtic (Catholic), who have been at each other since before my grandfather was born. It is for this reason that soccer games get so heated and end up with large fights in the stands.

The fact that soccer has not taken off as much as other sports in the USA is most likely because (1) other sports invented in the USA, namely football, basketball and baseball, have given us a sense of identity, which we cherish, (2) we simply like big and strong, and (3) large media networks and the NFL, NBA, MLB and NHL would prefer not to dilute ratings with yet another sport. The leagues and their buildup of excitement of championship games is impressive. Who could match the showmanship of a Superbowl game, especially when it filled with hilarious commercials and wardrobe malfunctions? Who could compete with the excitement of a World Series, even though it is played with teams from only two countries, Canada and the USA? That's a lot for soccer to go up against.

Despite that challenge, I am pleasantly



surprised by how well Major League Soccer (MLS) has done in the USA. Stars like David Beckham and Thierry Henry, although past their prime, have had a tremendous impact on soccer fanaticism in the USA. Landon Donovan, arguably the best player that the USA has ever produced, has also helped generate interest among the soccer youth. The USA goal-keeper, Tim Howard, played so well in the tournament that he has found new fame in the USA. Tim has been for many years one of the best goalies in Europe and the world, and he couldn't walk through the streets of Europe without being followed by fans and the paparazzi. He used to love coming home to New Jersey where nobody recognized him. This now will change with his superior performance in the World Cup.

The new stars

The USA team won the Women's World Cup years ago, and that too has fueled excitement in soccer and created stars like Mia Hamm and Abby Wambach. This newly generated interest has resulted in the highest viewership ever of this year's World Cup.

I expect there to be many more to follow Donovan, Howard, Hamm and Wambach. These new stars will play in Europe or the in USA, become world famous and eventually take the USA further in the World Cup tournaments. After all, with our population of 380 million people (far greater than other World Cup countries) we should be able to develop eleven great players, who are not seven-feet tall or three hundred pounds with huge biceps, to take us to the final match and possibly the World Cup championship. I would love to see that in my lifetime. Hurray for the regular guy....the American regular guy.



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Wicomico Bass Club Tournament Helps USMC Toys for Tots

Photo and article submitted by Mike Lackey, LTC US Army, Retired

The Wicomico Bass Club successfully completed its June 22, Annual Benefit Tournament to help gather toys for the US Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program and to Get More Kids Fishing. The Tournament took place on the Pocomoke River, Byrd Park State Park, in Snow Hill, MD.

More than 30 anglers from MD and DE, including fishers from five local Bass Clubs, participated in this worthy cause. Each angler donated a new toy or piece of fishing equipment to the USMC Toys for Tots Program, for kids from 3 to 15 years of age. Anglers caught and released over 150 pounds of healthy largemouth bass; the largest weighed almost 5 pounds! As a thank you for their support, the Club awarded each angler a door prize, including meals from fine area restaurants, complimentary check-ups from local medical groups, and quality products from leading retail establishments.

Club President Wayne Gorrow, obviously pleased with the day's results, beamed, "Not only did we gather over 60 toys, gifts, and fishing essentials for tots and kids, but the number and size of the bass catch shows promise for the overall health of the river." To emphasize Wayne's point, anglers were treated to breathtaking views of majestic ospreys as they circled overhead. Anglers did



30 Tournament Anglers happily contributed over 60 toys to the USMC Toys for Tots Program - AND they caught and released over 150 pounds of largemouth bass!

their part to keep the river healthy, as they collected and disposed of debris. Bob Chango, President of The Delaware BASS Federation and a member of the Wicomico Club, prepared and treated anglers to a well-deserved barbecue lunch for their generosity, sportsmanship and fellowship.

The Wicomico Bass Club is a member of the Delaware Bass Federation. Both promote bass fishing, conservation, and sportsmanship. Wicomico Club Members meet monthly in Salisbury, and organize 10 competitive bass tournaments a year. Tournaments take place in Maryland and Delaware. Area anglers looking for a Club where they can fish for bass, help worthy causes, and help sustain bass fishing for future generations are ideal candidates for the Club.

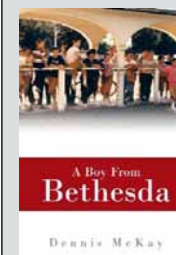
For more information on how to join the Club, please contact Wayne Gorrow, President, at 410-548-3266 or at wgorrow@salisbury.edu.

Featured Author • August 2014

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A True Leader and Visionary

Henrietta Belcher-Stack is a leader and visionary who works to positively impact women facing obstacles from domestic violence awareness and prevention to cancer issues.

Belcher-Stack is a vice president for WSFS and the Millsboro banking office relationship manager. She has held a variety of positions in the banking industry and in business.

She is also a Certified Reverse Mortgage Professional and a Certified Senior Advisor.

She has been active many organizations, including volunteering at her children's schools and serving on the University of Delaware Parents Board of Directors. She is currently President of Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs (DSFWC), a nonprofit statewide federation of 23 community women's clubs, and has held leadership roles in GFWC Clubs in Sussex County.

General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

DSFWC members actively support GFWC programs and initiatives, as well as their own special projects.

In summer 2011, Belcher-Stack was diagnosed with peritoneal cancer, a very rare form of ovarian cancer. She says that after prayers, tears, and questioning "Why me?" she decided that she was bigger and meaner than cancer. She continued working and volunteering during 19 weekly chemotherapy treatments and credits her family, WSFS colleagues and volunteer organization members as the source of her strength and drive. Her get-over-it attitude also got her through surgery in



Henrietta Belcher-Stack

March and six more treatments of chemotherapy ending in June. She is adamant about wanting to pay it forward to help women understand just how strong they are in the face of adversity.

During her treatment she began taking Zumba and now is a certified Zumba instructor teaching at Club Fitness in Rehoboth and Curves, Mariners United Bethel Methodist Church in Bethany Beach on Wednesday, 7/9 at 5:30 also Marines United Bethel Methodist Church in Bethany Beach.

Her motto is *Live, Love, Laugh and Always Dance!*

Calling all Adventurous Families!

For most American families, the fun of summer has come to an end and thoughts of school books and lunches have reluctantly replaced swimming pools and picnics. But for some adventurous families right here in the Sussex County who are hosting an international exchange student through ETC, a non-profit, high school exchange program, the fun is just beginning!

Students represent countries from all over the world including Germany, Sweden, Austria, Armenia, Poland, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Brazil and China. Families interested in hosting are able to choose from the more than 800 ETC students who are invited each year from countries all over the world. Apart from integrating into their new host family, students attend the local high school and are encouraged to participate in local community service activities. These activities range from feeding the homeless to giving presentations on their home country in local elementary schools. Regardless of whether or not the family chooses to host for one semester or an entire academic year, both student and family are sure to have an unforgettable cultural experience. Those who would like to learn more about ETC and hosting an exchange student are invited to contact Barbara Keyser at bkeyser.etc@gmail.com.

ETC is a non-profit, high school exchange organization promoting global peace through student exchange. ETC anticipates approximately 1,000 international teenagers will seek the opportunity to live and learn from American host families this year. Visit ETC online at www.edutrav.org

Submitted to *High Tide News* by: **Barbara Keyser, Local Coordinator, Education, Travel & Culture, 302-344-5179 bkeyser.etc@gmail.com.**