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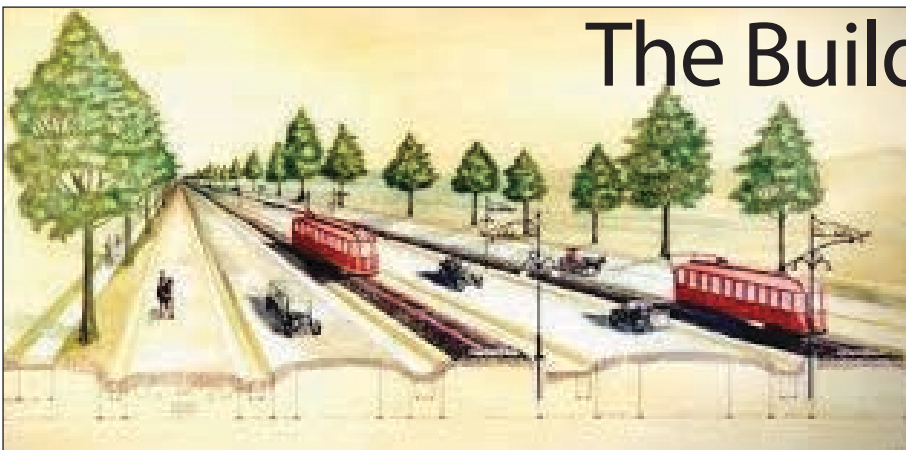
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Local news for the people, by the people

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Grand Boulevard Vision

Permission of Delaware Archives

The Building of the DuPont Highway T. Coleman DuPont's "Grand Boulevard"

By Sandie Gerken

At the turn of the 20th century, roads in Sussex County and most of Delaware were deeply rutted, narrow dirt paths that became nearly impassable, muddy quagmires during inclement

weather. The eighteenth century route that linked the counties and towns was a "post road" used by mail carriers. This mail road connected the eastern shore of Virginia and Maryland

to Delaware through Snow Hill, Berlin, Selbyville, Dagsboro, up to Georgetown, Milford and Dover, then on ultimately to Wilmington. This route did not follow

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A waterman since his early teens, Captain Chet Townsend knows about local fishery & how to cook it!

The Amazing **FISHKILLER'S LOBSTER SHACK**



High Tide News is honored to present Captain Chet Townsend (aka "Fishkiller") of **FISHKILLER'S LOBSTER SHACK!** He tells his story here (in his own words) of his dream of starting a business where he could work together with his family doing the things they all love to do.

FISHKILLER'S LOBSTER SHACK
Captain Chet Townsend, owner
fishkillerslobsters@gmail.com
302.448.5078 (Thursday-Saturday)
32805 Vines Creek Road
Dagsboro, DE 19939

"A lifelong resident of Dagsboro, DE, I have been a waterman since my early teens... almost 40 years. Starting as a charter boat mate, then gaining Captain status, I fished in the sport fishing industry for more than 10 years before crossing over into the commercial fisheries. Since then (early 1980's) I participated in almost every local fishery, including conch, eel, crab and our current sea bass and lobster venture.

"Catching all of the great seafood inspired many of my own recipes and my love for cooking grew. In June 2009 we opened our red trailer on a small borrowed square of grass and expanded to the current location in 2012."

Have dreams been realized, or ...is Fishkiller Beer on the horizon?

"Our experience thus far has been humbling as so many of our wonderful customers return on a regular basis. Other than, as a child, cooking alongside my mother (a great cook), I am a self-taught chef. In the future, I am researching the small brewery industry and would love to experiment with a Fishkiller's beer. "My dream of starting a business where I

could work together with my family has been realized. My son, daughter and wife have been with Fishkiller's since its inception, gradually adding the help of close family friends over the years. God has blessed us with a great crew who take pride in their work, and amazing customers who love our food!

"We have had several news articles featuring the fishing/lobstering end, as well as the restaurant highlights. We were featured in 2014 as the Delaware Retailer in National Retail Federation's '50 States, 50 Stories: Retail Across America.'"

What makes FISHKILLER'S LOBSTER SHACK so successful?

"Serving food that I would want to eat myself! Serving fresh, quality products in a clean, tropical, casual environment where families are welcome is key. People love to hear about my fishing background as it is not your typical profession and folks are always surprised to learn that lobsters are caught here locally."

Seafood lovers of all ages looking for a fun, casual, beachy environment will love Fishkiller's Lobster Shack!



(Left to right) Captain Chet Townsend and his wife Shirley with daughter, Veronica, and son Ches.



The Building of the DuPont Highway

the current path of the DuPont Highway, but was a series of roads connecting most towns. In 1908, Thomas Coleman du Pont,



great-grandson of the founder of the DuPont Company, offered to build a "straight as an arrow", dual highway the entire length of Delaware, financed entirely with his own money. T. Coleman du Pont (1863-1930) as born in Kentucky, received a civil engineering degree from M.I.T. and eventually moved to Delaware to run the family explosive company with his cousins A.I. and Pierre S. du Pont. Coleman loved automobiles and often traveled the length of the state on primitive roads to visit his estate on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. On such trips he noted the economically depressed Kent and Sussex Counties. He conceived an idea of a grand highway of the future to transform the state and revitalize the industrial and agricultural economy of Delaware. He was certain that motor vehicles would become extremely important in the years to come and a modern highway system would be necessary.

Coleman had been abroad, studied road design, and was inspired by a grand boulevard in Paris. He envisioned the construction of his highway in Delaware to be a public service project; one where everybody, no matter their wealth, could utilize the road. His original vision was grandiose and futuristic with lanes dedicated for all modes of transportation, except for the railroad. His plan called for creating separate, paved lanes for opposing auto

traffic separated by a grass median, which could be wider at certain intervals to accommodate airplane runways. Along either side of these automobile lanes would be north-south bound trolley tracks for public mass transportation. Outside of these would be hard surfaced north-south lanes for heavier vehicles, like trucks. Soft-surfaced lanes would be outside the truck lanes for horse-drawn vehicles with pedestrian sidewalks running alongside these. He envisioned the dual automobile highway as the first step with the trolley lines, etc. coming later as the economy increased.

Of course, the plan would include purchasing rights of way from property owners to build this road as straight as possible for

the length of the state. Bypassing smaller towns would avoid having to purchase town properties and would alleviate traffic congestion in towns. He planned to form a nonprofit corporation to purchase or claim the right of way for a 200 ft. wide corridor for his "grand boulevard". He felt that the highway could be self-supporting. After the initial phase was completed, the as-yet unused right of way could be leased to public utilities to run electric or water lines and/or to commercial franchises or farmers as revenue to maintain the road. In 1911, he convinced the Delaware legislature to approve the project, advising that he would finance it entirely. He stated that he would build "a monument a hundred miles high and lay it on the ground". He promised to donate the completed road to the state.

Despite the great economical advantages that the new road would create, there was opposition. The railroad companies were not happy, arguing that the project infringed on their business. Most land owners readily accepted the revitalization idea but, farmers, especially in Sussex County, were suspicious of the road. Slow to embrace progress in general, they did not want to give up their land, feeling that the "rich guy" would certainly profit by the scheme. Others objected to the 200 ft. right of way concept when the first phase of only building a dual highway needed only about 40 ft. Consequently, it took much longer than expected to obtain necessary property for the project. Some objected to bypassing towns, claiming that businesses would suffer. Eventually, du Pont had to

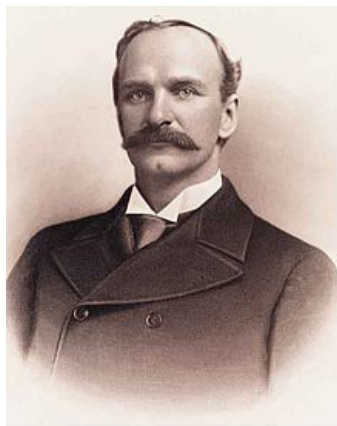


scale down his plan and limit the actual construction to a two-lane, non-dualized, concrete road, agreeing to reduce the required right of way to 100 ft. The Coleman DuPont Road Corporation was formally established in March 1911. The first phase of construction from Selbyville to Georgetown began on April 18, 1911 and Coleman du Pont personally supervised the entire stretch. In this stretch of the project, the completed roadway was only 18 ft wide. (In the 1930s this section of the road from Selbyville to Dover was widened by 4 ft. for each lane.)

Prudently, du Pont took advice from Senator John G. Townsend of Selbyville, a staunch advocate of road improvement, and decided to start road construction in

Sussex County. Both men wished to show as quickly as possible the economic value of the highway to the county. While farmers and related industries had believed that the railroad was sufficient transportation, it became evident that the road linked the entire state in a way the railroad could not do. John G. Townsend had been able to secure a 200 ft. right of way for the first construction phase in Baltimore Hundred through his partnership in Peninsula Real Estate Company. This strip ran through the land of Captain John Long of Frankford.

As some court battles ensued to settle right of way issues, construction continued on separate strips where the right of way had been secured. It took until 1924 to finally complete the "monument on the ground" to the South Market Street Drawbridge in Wilmington where it joined an existing city street. The Coleman DuPont Road later merged with the existing Philadelphia Pike, thus completing the DuPont Highway the full length of the state.



T. Coleman du Pont

In 1916, the U.S. Congress had passed the Federal Highway Act to provide assistance to states with a highway department. The Delaware State Highway Department was formed in 1917 and assumed control of du Pont's road for its maintenance, negotiating with du Pont to continue funding the construction. He dissolved his corporation and stipulated that he would continue the road at a cost not exceeding \$44,000 per mile. When completed, T. Coleman du Pont had spent \$3,917,000 of his own money on this philanthropic project.

An official dedication of the highway was held on July 2, 1924 in which Coleman du Pont gave his grand boulevard to the citizens of Delaware.

T. Coleman du Pont's vision of a dual highway with a median strip was not long in coming. After his death in 1933, the state finally widened the highway to two lanes each way with a median strip from Wilmington to Dover. The road has continued over the decades to be widened, dualized, and improved through all three counties. It is considered the nation's first divided highway over 97 miles long. This "Grand Boulevard" revolutionized the building of highways in the U.S. The DuPont Highway remained the main North-South route in Delaware until 1995 when the new Rte 1 was completed between Wilmington and Dover. As objectionable as it might have seemed at the time, we have finally realized that du Pont's concept of bypassing towns to alleviate congestion has great value.

continued from page 1



Author, **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**.

SOURCES:

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It is my pleasure as editor of High Tide News to introduce the local community to **The Jetty Deli, Sussex County's newest Delaware-style Deli!** I have had the pleasure of indulging in these tempting foods and I must say it is very nice to see a deli like this open up... and I am happy to say that they are going to be open all year! High Tide News wishes the Jetty Deli a most delightful future and I am sure this Deli is going to become famous for it's delicious food throughout Sussex County & beyond!

The owners of the Jetty Deli are all locals, born and bred in Sussex County. Matt Merrick and his wife Jenny and 4 girls, Anna, Emma-lee, Carmen and Ellie; Robbie Bedell and his son Cole; newly-weds Matt and Jackie Burns, their son Cohan, daughter Ashley and a new one on the way all live in Ocean View, DE. Matt Merrick and Robbie Bedell have been in the restaurant industry for over 20 years but didn't work together until teaming up at Bayside golf resort to open the Cove bar and grill and

facilitate all of the food and beverages there for 5 years. Matt Burns and Robbie are childhood friends who always wanted to do a venture together. Matt went into home building and construction.

Jackie is from the Washington DC area and vacationed in Bethany since childhood. She moved here after college and is owner of the Bethany Book Store.

About a year ago the group found the spot which is located in downtown Bethany Beach, under "Mango's". The Jetty Deli opened Saturday June 19 after 4 months of renovations.

Matt Merrick and Robbie left Bayside a little over a year ago and opened BaRoos Ice Cream & Coffee in Sea Colony market place, which is open 7:30 am to 10 pm daily serving fresh bagels, pastries, coffee, iced coffee, blended coffee, cappuccino, smoothies, hopkins farm fresh ice cream, shakes and other ice cream treats. They also have Tropical Treats on the boardwalk in Bethany that specializes in funnel cakes, shaved ice, fresh squeezed lemonade and other ice cream novelties. We all talked about doing another venture together and the timing and location seemed right for a deli in the beach area.

When asked "What makes the Jetty

Deli successful?" , Matt Merrick answered: "Quality and service hands down" is what drives our success."

"ALWAYS FRESH, ALWAYS LOCAL" is our motto. We only use the best ingredients in everything we do: from the bread delivered daily from Luscio's bakery, the hand rolled NY style bagels from K & H Bagels being dropped off every morning at 6 am to the local meats and produce from the Dagsboro Butcher and Always in Bloom respectfully. The Delaware crab soup, buttermilk ranch, fresh pico de gallo, grilled chicken salad, baked potato salad, flavored cream cheeses, just to name

a few are all made in house. We have great breakfast sandwiches, omlettes, french toast, served all day. Coffee, iced and hot, big train blended coffee drinks, chai, and smoothies.

"Anybody and everybody looking for fresh, high quality made to order food will be attracted to The Jetty Deli! We have rubeens, hot pastrami, cheese steaks, Italian subs, about 8 fresh salads, excellent fish tacos, great chicken, tuna and shrimp salads. I mean, who doesn't like a great sandwich, you know, the one you can't wait to bite into, but don't want to finish the last bite because you know the experience is almost over!!! That's us!"

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Like a Good Neighbor, Hunter Emory State Farm is there!



The staff at Hunter Emory State Farm Insurance and Financial Services. From left to right: Nicole Marinell, Caitlin Hopkins, Jacki Bingaman, Elder Earvajal, and Hunter Emory, Agent and owner.

Hunter Emory State Farm Insurance and Financial Services
Hunter Emory, Owner
hunter@savewithhunter.com
302-855-2100
20650 Dupont Blvd
Georgetown, DE 19947

Born and raised in Milford, DE, Hunter Emory is a sixth generation Delawarean. He is the agent/owner of the **Hunter Emory State Farm Agency** in Georgetown, DE. The office has been open since 2012. Hunter's business can be described as two separate businesses. The first, focuses on assisting customer with their home, auto and banking needs and the second is geared toward managing finances and preparing clients for the unexpected (i.e. retirement planning, life insurance and health insurance).

Hunter started in a local agent's office as a team member learning the trade. After 2 years, Hunter was recruited by State Farm Corporate to become an agency liaison in Charlottesville, VA. Hunter had the opportunity to see things from the a different angle as a member of the corporate division, which was and amazing experience. In 2012, Hunter decided to open his own agency after missing his home and girlfriend (now wife) for too long.

Life Lessons

Hunter experienced a number of life lessons at an early age that helped garner an understanding of the value of finan-

cial preparedness. He desired a career that would provide an opportunity to help clients prepare for and create a financial game plan so that they may be able to enjoy life. Being a State Farm Agent, gives Hunter the opportunity to do this on a localized level.

Before working for a local agent, Hunter was in education. The education field taught him that communication is the key to attaining goals. Each person can interpret things differently, so it is vital to find a way to communicate your message in way that is on an individual level. As a State Farm Agent, Hunter has been able to use his educational background to support and teach his clients.

As an agency Hunter Emory has had an opportunity to experience a number of great moments at multiple levels. Many of these moments have come in the form of client support after a situation has occurred. It is very rewarding to look a client in the eyes and tell them "Everything is going to be O.K."

The office has received a number of rewards over time, the most significant one being Chairmans Circle. This is a reward

handed down from corporate to agents who have excelled in the areas of customer service and financial service. Only 3% of agencies in the country can receive this award. Everyone in Hunter Emory's office is licensed in property, casulaty, life and health insurance. Also, everyone is bank certified. They are all licensed to sell in Delaware and Maryland. In addition to the above, Hunter has a 6 & 63 securities license and a mortgage license.

Success & a Bright Future

When asked what makes his office successful, Hunter answered: "If I were to point to one thing that has made our business successful it would be our customer service. Our small agency would not be able to grow if it were not for our hands on approach to assisting our clients. Examples of this are our annual client reviews. This is an opportunity to review the current insurance

and financial plan that our clients have. This gives the client an opportunity to meet with their agent and garner a thorough understanding of what they have with our office.

"We are willing to work with anyone and everyone. It is amazing to see the eclectic spectrum of clients that we have within our book of business. Our office also speaks Spanish which allows us to support that market as well.

"We see continue growth of our agency, continued support of our clients and continued growth personally and professional for the staff and myself"

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Throughout the Civil War, two World Wars, and other major crises, WSFS has kept its tradition of helping citizens safeguard and increase their savings, along with providing families and businesses with a wide range of banking services. In addition, WSFS pioneered the checking access (debit) card, building the WSFS Plan Card into one of the premier personal banking products of its kind in the country.

According to Greenwich Associates' 2013 Greenwich Commercial Banking Study* WSFS has been ranked #1 in Delaware for Overall Customer Satisfaction, Customer Likelihood to Recommend the Bank, and Overall Capabilities of its Relationship Managers. WSFS has also been Voted #1 "Top Bank" in Delaware four years in a row by

the readers of The News Journal and Top Workplace in Delaware for nine years in a row. Gallup, Inc. has also awarded the bank the Great Workplaces, Excellence in Leadership Award for the second year in a row. WSFS is proud of their Community Volunteerism with over 400 Associates giving more than 10,000 hours a year, supporting over 200 community organizations. *Based on interviews conducted in Delaware with companies with sales \$1-500 Million in FY2013.

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The Future of WSFS

Most recently WSFS Bank announced the plan of merger with Alliance Bancorp, Inc. of Pennsylvania as well as the formation of a strategic alliance with ZenBanx, providing a multi-currency account that will allow consumers to hold balances denominated in up to five currencies in a single account while providing account holders with the ability to conveniently and securely transfer funds domestically or internationally and among currencies.

WSFS Mobile Cash, a service that allows customers to securely withdraw cash from an ATM by using their WSFS Mobile Banking app, debuted on June 25, 2015. WSFS is the fourth bank in the United States to offer the service.

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Teenage Summertime Fun and Funk...

One of the benefits of living in a coastal area is that it brings family and friends to the area. Having recently hosted lots of family, I had the opportunity to spend time with my about-to-be twin teenage niece and nephew. Naturally, we all were committed to a great experience. An experience that left us appreciating family; feeling rested, relaxed and comfortable; present to nature; boldly exploring new territories and well-nourished on all levels. We wanted to try

new things, venture to new places and courageously break out of our routines to discover ourselves newly and powerfully.

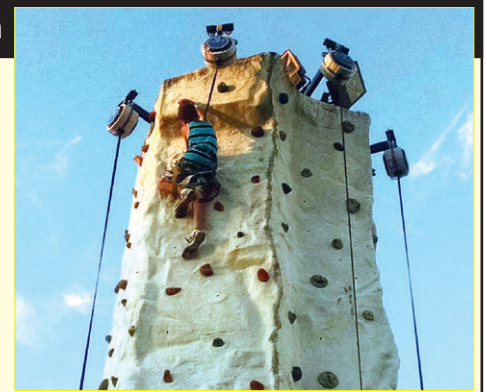
We spent an evening at Baja Amusements in West Ocean City, MD which included bumper boats, go-kart racing and rock climbing. I was in awe by the strength, agility and persistence that my nephew demonstrated as he attempted the rock-climbing exercise. After several attempts at finding the right handholds and footholds, he reached the top, rang the bell and proudly glided back down to earth with another accomplishment under his belt. Not only do I believe we may have a future rock climber in the family, I believe my nephew is well equipped with an amazing set of strengths for the future.

That same week, this doggedly determined, resilient and strong teenager let on that he was struggling in his relationship with his Mom. Imagine that—a teenager rebelling against a parent. We offered him some coaching and different perspectives to consider which seemed to help short term, but the struggle isn't over. For the

parents reading this article who are faced with challenging teenagers, please know that your teenager is fighting a good fight and needs you to hang in there with him or her more than ever.

It's not a matter of what you are fighting about, whether it's a curfew, homework, messy room, boyfriend, girlfriend, no friends, or bad friends. She needs to fight right now as she attempts to make sense of this new world she finds herself in. She needs you to hang in there no matter what. She needs you to fight back, she needs to know you are at the other end of the rope, no matter how hard it gets, how mean she is, what names she labels you with or how much she pushes you away. Your teenager needs to know that no matter how big or bad the fight is, you will still be there and that you will love her even at her worst. Even when it looks like she doesn't love you. She needs you to love both yourself and her right now. She needs you to not give up on her. She needs you to muster all the compassion and courage you possibly can.

This too will come to pass, it will be over,



and you will both forget, for now. No one will thank you or recognize you for hanging in there. Please know you are doing the most important work in the world and this will happen over and over again for years to come. No matter how much she rebels, sulks or goes silent hold the other end of the rope. This is what growth looks like right now and if she had the ability to express herself another way she would. This is her way of saying "hang in there with me, I don't understand, I'm confused, nothing makes sense, my world is changing."

I promise your teenager's doggedly determined resilience and strength will make you proud one day as she climbs to new heights.

This article was inspired by my family and therapist, Gretchen Schmelzer, Emotional Geographic, June 2015.

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Delaware Facts and Trivia

Did you know?

By Sandie Gerken

After the DuPont Highway proved a success in the 1920s, the state began to pave secondary roads connecting towns, about 600 miles of paved roads initially.

By the end of 1925, over 40,000 vehicles were registered in Delaware, approximately 44% of those in Kent and Sussex Counties.

In 1951, the Delaware Memorial Bridge opened its first span linking Delaware and New Jersey. The bridge project was spearheaded by Francis V. du Pont, son of T. Coleman du Pont and the first chairman of the State Highway Commission.

The Delaware Memorial Bridge was dedicated to those who died in World War II. The second span of the bridge was built in 1968. When the Delaware Memorial Bridge was first built, it was the 6th largest suspension bridge in the world. With the second span, it now is the largest TWIN suspension bridge in the world.

WELCOME TO THE SAME OLD MILLENNIUM



(Download the free **ar** app at www.get.layar.com to watch video)

By Ron Ferrell

It's true the new millennium has brought us Face Book, Twitter, LinkedIn, Goggle, Instagram. We have hybrid cars, hydrogen cars, iPhones, iPads, etc. So why is our government and infrastructure still in the old millennium?

Things like pork belly projects and voter fraud should be something taught in a high school history class not in current affairs class. Global Warming came from the old millennium but is still sucking money from the new millennium like never before. Our old millennium government still shuffles millions of our dollars to universities to study global warming and ocean rise and funny enough the studies all came back with the same results. Then they shuffle billions of our dollars to private solar and wind companies; then even more of our taxes go to homeowners that let them use their roofs for solar panels. I find it strange that there are more than 19 million square miles of new ice in the Antarctic than there was in 1978. Another thing they can't tell you is how much fresh water we are dumping into the ocean every day from sewage plants. Information like this could be helpful to determine if there is a problem with the weather or ocean.

Our government, our universities, even the Pope is putting global warming in front of starvation, poverty, disease, war, economics, balanced budgets. Now they're saying that global warming is becoming a health issue. The only health issue will be when the low income and fixed income families can't afford electricity. Before we try to solve tomorrow's problems we should try to solve today's problems. If someone in 1715 realized that by 2015 there would be so much horse manure in the streets that people would not be able live or work in cities and if we had the same leadership

then as we have now they would have made owning a horse so expensive that only the rich could own one. During the 1970's and 1980's environmental groups forced our government to close a lot of hydro-electric plants on rivers because some fish were unable to make It pass the dams. Sounds like a good idea right ? The only problem was that the electricity hydro-electric plants made was the cleanest and safest type of energy there is—the fuel was running water.

Environmental groups are in favor of wind turbine farms. The problem is, they kill thousands if not millions birds each year, even Bald Eagles, to the point that our old millennium government has just issued permits to kill as many Bald Eagles as needed.

The EPA'S number one global warming expert for twenty years, John C. Beale is serving a 36 month prison sentence for committing fraud against us the taxpayers for over twenty years. It doesn't seem that Mr. Beale was too concerned about the environment. We will always make energy cleaner with newer technology *not old millennium style leadership*. Giving the masses *access to affordable energy* is just as important, if not more important. Forcing 70 year old technology down our throats hasn't done anything except increase the price of energy and decrease the reliability.

There are so many things we can do to use less energy without breaking the bank or hurting the masses of people that can't afford higher prices. Take, for example, the air conditioning water mister: It reduces the electricity used by 50% and doesn't require help from tax dollars *and doesn't kill birds*.

If you down load the free app (layar) and scan this story you can see how the air conditioner mister works and how simple it is to use.



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Submitted by Rebecca Noel rebeccaenol@gmail.com on behalf of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation www.beachshabbat.com

True Freedom

Words of Inspiration from Nancy Hendrickson

Summer is here! The bright, sunny days are filled with the anticipation of fireworks, BBQs, gatherings with family and friends, parades and fairs. Celebration is in the air and we are feeling our nation's patriotic spirit as we remember the sacrifices of the men and women who served to make this country free.

As we raise our flags in glory of the freedom we possess, may

we be reminded of the significant price paid by Jesus, who endured the cross and liberated us from the devastating power and effects of sin and death. Red: the sacrifice of Jesus' life and blood poured out for us. White: the innocence and purity of our sinless Savior who traded His life and took upon his shoulders all our sins that we would have everlasting life. And Blue: His invitation

to enter into the Royal Priesthood of Believers when we accepted Christ as our Savior. Jesus was pierced for our transgressions and by His stripes we are healed and made whole. May His shining star burn so brightly in our lives that we might boldly share in His blessings of joy, peace and freedom. May your heart song be, "His Star Spangled Banner Over Me Is Love."

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Weddings on the Beach

By Vincent Paez

It is a very happy time for me. I was just married to the most wonderful woman. We had a lot of choices of places to be married: Florida, where I lived for many years, Iowa, where she is from, and several other places. We chose Ocean City. While it is not the easiest place to get to for out-of-staters, Ocean City offers wonderful June weather, a beautiful beach, easy application for a marriage license, and wonderful wedding venues. My bride and I also have many wonderful friends in OC, who helped us plan the wedding. The event was wonderful with many personal touches to suit our history and style. Many of the local musicians attended and performed at our reception. Over a year ago, our dear editor friend, Judy Layman Ferrell, was also married to her wonderful husband, Ron, on the beach. There is just something about the ocean that offers a serene, romantic back-

ground for such a happy ceremony.

I remember the first time I witnessed a beach wedding. It was in Vigo, Spain. Vigo is on the Atlantic coast in the Galicia region of Spain, just above Portugal. Its population is about 300,000 people, and it is known for its fantastic seafood and local soccer team.

The locals speak Galician, which sounds like a cross between Spanish and Portuguese. I was attending a sales meeting for the Hewlett-Packard Company's Spanish Sales Team about fifteen years ago. As a child, I lived in South America and learned Spanish, and I was invited to the meeting, because I could participate in Spanish. The meeting took place in a beautiful hotel by the beach. There were about forty of us, and after the meeting concluded, we all went sightseeing. We visited cathedrals, museums, and, of course, the beach.

One of the highlights was watching a wedding on the beach. Both the bride and groom were beautiful. All of the guests were very well dressed, just as you see in some weddings on the beach in Ocean City. At one point in the ceremony, the groom handed to the bride several gold coins, as a gesture that he will financially take care of her. During the



A most beautiful Wedding on the Beach! Pictured above: from left to right: Tara Wolf, Mrs. Sherri Paez, Lindsey Wolf, Alan Mengler, and our own very happy groom, Vincent Paez.

ceremony, we learned that the reception was in the same hotel where we were all staying. We congratulated the bride and groom with a big cheer. The couple wanted to know who we were, and, when we introduced ourselves and told them that we were staying in the same hotel, they invited us all to the reception. Most of the group decided to go out to dinner elsewhere, but about eight of us needed to "crash" the wedding reception.

It was a night to remember. The entertainment included traditional Spanish music and dances as well as more modern salsa dancing. Cigars were passed out, and at one point some guests cut the grooms tie into pieces, which apparently is a local tradition. We stayed and partied with the wedding guests until two o'clock in the morning. Before retiring to our hotel rooms, we made sure that we left a generous gift in an envelope for the newlyweds.

There is something about weddings on the beach, and I was fortunate to have experienced it. While one runs the risk of bad weather, the benefit of a ceremony in good weather is tremendous. While a church wedding is also very nice (my first wedding was full of church pomp and circumstance), the atmosphere and open air of the beach is hard to beat.

Editor's Note: *This wedding of our dear friends Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Paez was one of the most beautiful I have ever been too. Yes, that is the truth! The weather was perfect, the hand-written vows touched everyone's heart. The guests were wonderful, and friendships true. People came from all over this earth to share in the union of their dear friends. The music was good the food was good, there was salt in the air and sun in the sky. Two hearts joining together on the beach! It doesn't get any better than that! Thank you, my beautiful friends!*

Author, **Vincent Paez** is a chemist and international businessman. He has a B.S. in Chemistry from Stony Brook University and an M.B.A. from UCLA. He speaks five languages and has lived/worked on four continents for three Fortune 500 companies. He is also a passionate musician and loves the music scene, especially in the Ocean City area. He lives in Massachusetts and spends much time in Ocean City. He has two sons attending Florida State University. ... "Go 'Noles!"



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