

Fishing & Hunting

Journal



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OF THE
YEAR**

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FREE



Colin Noecker aboard the *Northstar* out of Tilghman Island gets it done again this year with Captain Lawrence Tyler.



Carolyn 'Tuna' Draper with a nice Striper.



Samantha Gardner had her hands full with this nice Rockfish out of Tilghman Island, Md.

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“Hooked on Fishing”

Oceanic Surprise

By Lenny Rudow

As the summer kicks into gear and our fishing opportunities rapidly expand, there are always a few species to catch that somehow seem under-utilized. Even though people may travel far and wide to catch them at other times of the year, many folks just don't seem to realize how readily available they are in our own home waters. Okay: maybe these critters seem a bit off-beat. But trust me, each of these are sure to put a smile on your face and meat on the table, should you so desire. So this year, why not get a little exotic?

SPADEFISH aren't targeted around here too often and that's a shame, because most seasons we have a healthy supply milling around over our inshore



When they turn their wide body sideways, spadefish can provide a surprisingly tough fight.

wreck and reef sites. Many anglers may not realize this, because they don't catch spadefish mixed in with their sea bass and flounder. Why not? Because spadefish require very specific bait and rigging.

These fish have tiny mouths, and in order to hook them, you need to use #4 or #6 hooks that are more commonly used for fish like perch and spot. A split-shot or rubber-core sinker is usually added to the line for some weight. Bait-wise the one consistent producer is sea clam. Small thin strips work best, and the bulk of the clam is usually dedicated to chumming the spadefish up near your boat.

The drill is to hold a clam in either hand over the side of the boat, smack the two together so the shells crack up, and bits of clam and clam juice run into the water. Remaining clam is sliced into bait and minced into chum. Then hooked baits get drifted back in the cloud of clam chum, as naturally as possible. When you get a bite be prepared for a startlingly tough fight. These broad-bodied fish turn sideways (sort of like a big bluegill) and can put a lot of tension on the line.

SQUID might not jump to mind as a common quarry, but believe me, they're one heck of a lot of fun to catch. They wrap their tentacles around your hand, shoot ink all over the boat, and peck at you with their beak. If you want to see a grown man scream like a little girl, just dangle a squid over his wrist and let it affix a few suction cups—this kind of angling entertainment simply can't be beat.

So, how do you best go after squid? The bad news is that this isn't easy nor inexpensive, because over-nighting offshore is the ticket. The good news is that you can do it at the same time as you chunk for tuna or set out lines for swordfish. The squid often swim right into your lights, and sometimes hover just below the light at 30 or 40 feet. To catch them, you'll need a light rod rigged with a squid jig or two. These



Calamari, anyone? This squid was one of dozens that filled the cooler, during an overnighter in the Poorman's canyon.

don't have hooks but rather small wire baskets at the bottom, which the squid's tentacles get stuck on. The pink, green, and blue ones that are about two inches in length seem best, in our neck of the woods. Lower the jigs to the depth the squid are at, and gently move them up and down. When you feel the weight of a cephalopod, start reeling. After swinging a squid over the gunwales, you grab the jig and invert it, the tentacles slide off the basket, and the squid fall right off. That's usually when the real fun begins.

Note: If you're tuna fishing, it's worth sacrificing a few live squid to become bait. A tuna fish will NOT swim past a live, struggling squid without chomping down on it. Once a few live-lines are out the rest of the squid can go into the cooler, and on a good night, will provide you with a season's calamari supply.

KING MACKEREL is another species that few people in our area target, yet many summers they can commonly be caught along inshore lumps like the Jack Spot or the 26 Mile Hill. They also make appearances near the mouth of the bay off Cape Charles at times (this can be an on-again, off-again fishery; some

years it's hot and others, it's not). The trick to getting them is simply to put out a line or three that's appropriate, while you troll. Ditch one of your ballyhoo, and instead, rig up with an in-line planer (a #2 is about right) followed by a 25' to 30' leader of 40 to 60 pound test with a ball-bearing swivel rigged in-line in the middle. Terminate the leader with a spoon like a Clarke, a Huntington Drone, or a Tony Acetta. Silver and gold are the usual color picks, but on some days those dressed with red, pink, or green reflective tape are the hot lures. Some anglers also like to pull Stretch 25's and similar lipped plugs for kings. While fishing for this species you need to be prepared for jarring strikes from other fish, too. Big chopper blues commonly swim in the same waters, and if bluefin tuna or wahoo happen to be around, they'll slash at those spoons as well.

Anglers who really want to focus on kings can also try live-baiting or slow-trolling baits like bunker or mullet, but in this case, you'll need to rig up with a trace of wire and use a specific kingfish rig which usually includes trebles and/or stinger hooks. Though few anglers in



Break out the planers and spoons, and get king mackerel into your fishing mix.

our area are adept at it, kite fishing for them can also be spectacular.

Are these targets off-beat? Sure. Might it seem a little bit strange to target species like spadefish, squid, and king mackerel off the DelMarVa coast? Heck yes. But a successful day of fishing spent chasing any one of these critters could turn out to be your most interesting trip of the year—right here in our home waters.

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FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

A word from our Pastor-

No one could measure the harm that is done in our world by revenge and anger. Many relationships and homes suffer because of a member with a vengeful or hateful spirit. When temper gets the best of you, it often reveals the worst. The most flammable type of wood is a chip on the shoulder. To the church at Rome, Paul wrote, "Recompense to no man evil for evil."

In the Chapel of Padua in northwestern Italy hangs a painting by Giotto, a painter during the Renaissance period. He painted envy as a serpent with long ears and a long tongue. The tongue coils back and shoots its venom in the serpent's own eyes. Revenge brings harm to the person in whom it resides.

For all his life, Cain paid for his revenge against his brother Abel, and Haman hung on the same gallows that he had built for Mordecai. People often say to me, "I just blow up and then it's all over." A shotgun blows up, too, but when it's all over, look at the damage it has done. One poet put it in these words, "From seeds of envy in the heart, grow noxious weeds of hate, and if allowed to get a start, much harm the generate."

The Word of God is clear on this matter. Getting even is not the answer. We must let God handle vengeance in His time and way. Overcome evil with good, not revenge. Mark it down - when you harbor revenge and long to get even, it only hurts you, not the other person. I Corinthians 13:4, "...Love envieth not."

MEL BRINDLEY Pastor
Chestertown, Md., Baptist Church



Congrats to Tyler Ball he got the first turkey of the youth season brought in to Shore Sportsman in Easton, MD. 18.88 lbs, 1" spurs and 10 1/8" beard.



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How to Catch Black Drum

By Tim Campbell

Here's a quick primer on how to catch black drum in Maryland. First, head to the mouth of the Choptank River by boat. I usually launch my Parker 21SE from Chesapeake Beach and run it across the bay. It's about seven miles so pick a day that's not too windy. There's an area known as Stone Rock where many years ago ships dumped their ballast of big stones and rocks, hence the name. It is located off of the southern tip of Tilghman Island.

Mussels, clams and other aquatic life grow on the rocks which are an attractive source of food for bottom-feeding black drum. There are other places to find drum in the bay like Eastern Bay, or the mouths of the Magothy and Chester River, but Stone Rock is a good place to start.

One popular method is to motor around in 15 to 25 feet of water until big marks appear on the depth-finder, then drop a line with a soft crab on a sharp hook. Some anglers use a half of a crab, but I get by with a quarter. I use the same tackle when trolling for trophy stripers; a Penn 309 reel spooled with 65 to 80 lb braid mounted on a Penn boat rod. Any rod and reel combo is fine as long as it's stout. Tie a 36-inch monofilament leader of 50 or 60 lb test line and attach a #5/0 or #6/0 hook. Use a swivel to connect the leader, slide on a fish-finder rig or an egg sinker above the swivel and you're in business. Three to five ounces of weight is good depending on the current. Black drum are not leader shy so no need for a long leader.

It's not unusual for a big drum here to exceed 80 lbs. Black drum are the

biggest fish that come this far up the bay. On May 27, 2012 I caught my personal best black drum at Stone Rock. It weighed 80 lbs and measured 48 inches long. According to the DNR website the state record is over 100 lbs caught in 1973.

Mid-May to mid-June is the best time of year to hunt for black drum in the bay although the state record drum was caught in September. During this prime time, many boats gather in search of the big fish. It's common to see the fleet idling around looking for marks anywhere between Stone Rock and Sharps Island Light. When someone hooks a fish "bent-rod sonar" comes into play and many boats try to zero in on the spot. It's not the way I like to fish because the scene can become a free-for-all.

I've often caught drum when no other boats were there by drifting over likely areas near Stone Rock. Most times I'd rather not wait to see marks before I drop bait down. To me it makes more sense to keep my bait in the water to cover ground in a long drift. Then when I see marks or get a bite I punch waypoints in my depth-finder to make a trail. Besides black drum, I've caught flounder, croaker, and striped bass this way. Catching one or two black drum is a good day in my book.

I prefer to release the drum after a quick photo or two. Some people like to eat them. If you're planning on keeping a drum to eat then I recommend the smaller ones. The minimum keeper size for black drum is only 16 inches. The season is open year round with a limit of one per person per day or six per boat.

Catching black drum is not that difficult. If I can do it, anyone can. The main thing is to go out and fish. That said, fishing is fishing and there are no guarantees. If the drum bite is off, do what I sometimes do - take what the bay gives you and go striper fishing. Good luck.



Tom Huhges with his nice Stone Rock Black Drum.



Jerry Whittington was hunting on Yellow Bank Farms bagged this Turkey last month. 10 inch beard 1 and 1/16 spurs



Tim Campbell with his nice Stone Rock Black Drum.

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“Tackle Box Tim”

Why Not

We’ve all come into situations where things aren’t what they should be. Why is there surface

evidence of aggressively feeding fish in late March? Why don’t bass following the text book that says they should be eating a certain lure at a particular point of time? For that matter, why did they strike a lure that made absolutely no sense for the given scenario? In other cases, things are so obvious that we miss what’s right in front of us. Then there is, “Let me try ‘X’ because nothing else is working.” In these instances, and many others, the question isn’t why, but why not.

Rewind to late March this year when I was fishing a small pond behind my mother-in-law’s house. I was flinging a stick worm for bass and had to slide it over some scum in the last few feet. I noticed a small pair of eyes peak up through the slop and give a short follow. That late afternoon -- within 5 minutes -- I heard frogs croaking along the bank and saw a flush of movement under the pond scum. So, the question became ... Why not?

I quickly tied on a small floating frog to the swirl in the scum. In a few twitches ... WHAM! A bass took down the frog but didn’t get the hook. The bass was more determined on the second cast. It connected with the hook and it was a chore to get it out of the slop and back to the bank. Even though it was completely the wrong time of year, according to the playbook, the situation exposed itself as right lure/right place/right time.

Back when I started wading for small water smallmouth bass, I used ultralight lures: Chick-hoppers, Rebel minnows, Rooster Tail spinners. I didn’t know what I was missing. On one trip, I saw a crawfish flipping its way across the bottom. Well, DUH! Sometimes the obvious has to hit you in the head like a frying pan to realize what you have been missing. Minnows aren’t the only forage for smallies in a river environment. I added finesse jigs to my tackle box and have since increased the numbers of smallies I’ve caught. When the brown bass get really particular, I cast them small Texas-rigged crawfish imitators.

Pennsylvania bass pro Randy Yarnall has come upon two “why not” situations when fishing for spooky or pressured bass. Both involve long casts. In my eyes, Yarnall is the master of getting bass to

bite on a stick worm. He uses his Senko when many other anglers are catching bass on different baits. Randy has found that bass in late spring love to stage around scattered grass clumps. His 5-inch Senko is a great subtle presentation. The problem is, great numbers of other fishermen know where the bass are supposed to be, putting a lot of pressure on the fish.

Randy still fished the stick worm but makes long casts to the clumped vegetation, yet with long casts. Why not? The Senko is still a viable pattern, but the bass are very attuned to their situation with the added human element. With long casts, a bass set up next to the clump doesn’t see your shadow or movement, nor does it hear and feel the trolling motor noise and vibration within a couple of yards. I call this bombing Senkos. The technique works so well that even I have caught bass using it.

Yarnall’s other scenario also features spooky fish. He fishes in several lakes in New York where big smallmouth bass are the target. At certain times of year smallies in these lakes will be in shallow, rocky areas. They are foraging for the crawfish in the hard cover. Smallies respond to jigs and crawfish imitators; but the problem is, they are very spooky in clear water. Anything foreign to them puts them on alert. They are still going to eat crawfish, so how do we get the lure to them without putting them on guard.

Here and again, Randy figures why not back off of the area and make long casts. He achieves this by using large football head jigs and swinging hook rigs – ½ to ¾-ounce. This weight range will allow him to cast well behind the smallies so the splash of the heavy bait doesn’t contribute to the spook factor.

We’ve all run into the situation where we’ve exhausted the all the logical lures in our tackle box. That’s when we grab a lure that in no way fits the situation, asking, “Why not?” Avid bass angler Gregg Hostetler, has for two such

baits that are now go-to “why not” lures. He keeps rods rigged with these lures in his rod locker for when things go awry.

Gregg has found that he can get reaction strikes by jiggging a flutter spoon next to clumps of grass on high tide when the regular offerings fail to produce a strike. He says it is tiring and can be risk/reward because of the treble hook on the spoon snagging the vegetation.

His other plan is for when the spinnerbait bite should be on but fails to materialize. He’ll cast an outlandish spinnerbait that he refers to as Lady Gaga. It has a white head, pink skirt and a chartreuse willow blade at the rear. He will cast it as a last resort when a spinnerbait should work, but all the basic colors fail. He admits he spied it on a bass pro’s boat and figured, why not. It either works for him or he’s trying to throw off the competitors. It quickly became something he relies on.

There are a lot of situations that put us in a funk when we are combatting bass. We’ve all faced realizing the obvious, trying a different presentation for the prevalent pattern, and throwing your hand up when bass are not following the playbook. When solutions pop into your head, there’s only one question to ask ... Why not?

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Tackle Box Tim shows a 5.5lb bass caught by using Randy Yarnall’s stick worm technique.



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“Tuna The Tide”

Spawning Success Young of the Year Index

By Captain Mark Galasso

In 1954 the State of Maryland initiated a Young of the Year (YOY) index to determine the success, or lack of success for Maryland’s State Fish the Striped Bass. It was recognized that the Chesapeake Bay was a nursery that produced over 75 percent of the total east coast population of this vital commercial and recreational species. The reproduction of this anadromous fish was well understood. In the early spring large numbers of Oceanic Striped Bass would migrate to their ancestral spawning grounds at the fresh water lines in Chesapeake Bay’s larger rivers.

There, when water temperatures would warm up into the upper 50s low 60s, the females would release a pheromone and the spawn would commence. Smaller males would bang into the females and jar the eggs loose and then release milt to fertilize them. The fertilized eggs would drift with the current as they matured. As they hatched they could live off the yoke sacs for about 5 days before switching to zooplankton for food. As they grew they fed on bigger and bigger Zooplankton and small fish. Most eggs that settled to the bottom died.

Knowing all this the Maryland DNR Set up 22 sampling stations in the four major spawning areas, the Nanticoke, Choptank, Potomac and the largest the Upper Bay. In 1962 and again in 1966 they tweaked the survey for sample size and consistency. A sample is taken using a beach seine 100 feet long by 4 feet high. One pole is kept on the water’s edge while the other is swept around it like the hands of a clock. The deep side of the net goes out to no more

than in 4 feet and the sampling area measures around 729m squared. This sampling is done in three rounds, July, August and again in September. Scale samples are taken and aged to make sure only this years hatch is counted. Other environmental parameters like DO, Salinity and Water Temperature are also taken.

Since the survey started the long term YOY average is 11.9 baby Striped Bass per haul. Over 50 different species are also sampled and YOY data is produced for a number of them like White and Yellow Perch as well as Blue Catfish and numerous species of Herring and Shad.

Like most finfish and shellfish Striped Bass reproduction and abundance fluctuates. It was noted however that for Striped Bass a highly successful spawn that produced a strong year class would carry abundance for the next 5 to 7 years. Ironically after each strong year class a few years of poor spawning would follow. As an example there was a strong YOY in 1970. But the next strong year class wasn’t until 1989, 19 years later.

This void of a strong YOY in the 70s didn’t go unnoticed. In 1979 Congress enacted the Emergency Striped Bass Act to study why. Researchers discovered a number of factors. It was obvious that over fishing had taken a toll. But the main problem was recruitment. Very few new fish were replacing the fish that had been harvested. Spawning success was at an all-time low. After further study it was found that a number of environmental factors was also taking a toll.

Researchers found that acid rain was reacting with aluminum in the soils. This as well as copper, cadmium and arsenic was leaching into the waters and killing the eggs and fry. Pesticides like Malathion was also leaching off the land and killing the

Zooplankton Rockfish fry needed to feed on. Chlorination of power plant effluents was also suppressing the growth of algae hence starving the zooplankton which in turn starved the baby Striped Bass.

By 1985, with still no strong YOY Maryland put a moratorium on catching Striped Bass. Four years later Virginia followed suit. Finally in 1989 a strong YOY emerged and Maryland and Virginia eased harvest restrictions. And after another strong year class in 1993 the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC)

on spawning success the next major concern will be survivability.

Fisheries managers have numerous tools at their disposal to determine harvest quotas to control overfishing but the one last moving target seems to be how many of those baby Striped Bass that get caught in the sampling seine actually survive to return as spawning adults.

We have a pretty good idea how many are caught by recreational and commercial fisherman. But how many succumb to predation, disease and poor environmental conditions? Tagging



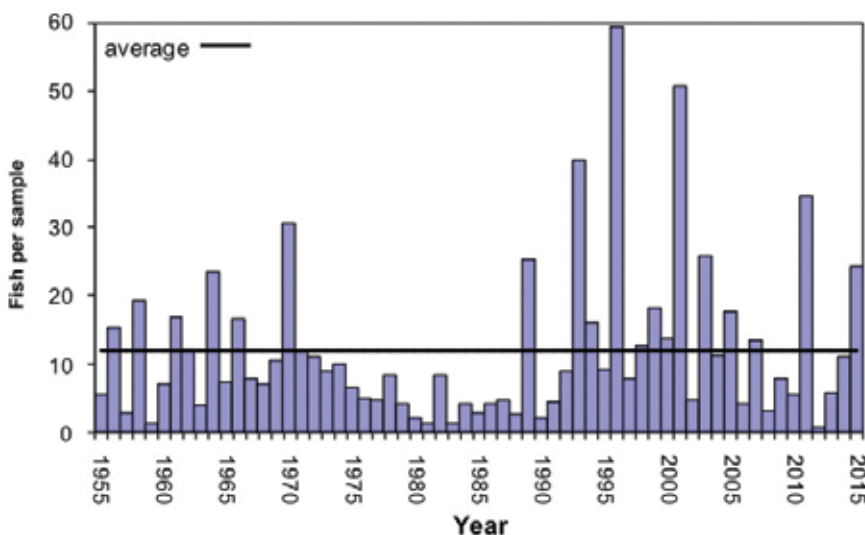
declared Striped Bass recovered. So in 1996 Maryland capped commercial and Charter boat licenses and opened up the current Striped Bass Fishery.

Since that 1996 opening of the Striped Bass fishery we still have been seeing peaks and valleys in the YOY indices. However, strong year classes in 2001, 2003 and 2011 have given Striped Bass fisherman hope for the future. In 2015 the second largest YOY since the survey started has really given hope to the future. And though we always need to keep a sharp eye

studies help some but we still don’t understand the correlation between the spawning biomass and spawning success. It also seems to be a mystery as to how nutrition effects spawning success and general survivability. Like most research. The better your research the more questions it raises.

For more information on YOY Research check out Durell, E.Q. and Weedon, C. 2015 Striped Bass Seine Survey Juvenile Index at the Maryland DNR website

Maryland’s Juvenile Striped Bass Index
Arithmetic Mean (AM) Catch per Haul



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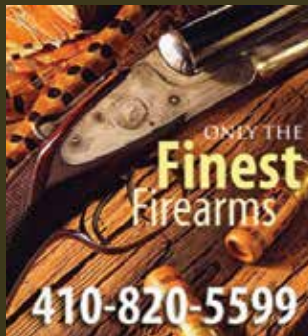


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Norman Schwarzkopf



Al Gazzola and the crew from Domino Sugar, caught these stripers with Troy Lee and Wade Murphy out of Kent Point Marina.



Jim Eldringhoff with a sailfish he caught in Costa Rica with Capital Tristate.

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Thanks for having us aboard today on the *Casey Michelle* out of Kentmoor, MD. Our son was so proud that he landed this rockfish last month. — with George Schriefer Jr.

BALCONY FISHING 101

Bryan Rosensteel got a real surprise when he caught this big bluefish off the balcony of the waterfront condo he was renting in Ocean City MD. Photo courtesy of Bryan Rosensteel





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10 year old Hunter Gottlieb with his youth day bird in the bottom photo. - Hunter and his father Jessie were all smiles the following week with a 21 pounder.



Another very happy customer aboard the Northstar with a 48 inch Striper out of Tilghman Island, MD. with Captain Lawrence Tyler at the helm.

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400 S. Fifth Ave. - Denton, MD.
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Winners that cannot pass their firearms background check or those who refuse to take possession of prizes will receive a consolation prize of \$100. All other winners must accept listed prizes WITHOUT SUBSTITUTION. All unpaid taxes and associated government charges of the Denton Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. Winners are responsible for all applicable fees associated with prizes.

Winners who are not present must pickup firearms/bows at: Tuckahoe Sportsman 22145 Shore Hwy, Denton, Md 21629 410-364-9605 (call before pickup)

Neither the Denton VFC or any person, organization or business sponsoring or participating in the give-away assume liability for any claims for the injury or other damages arising out of the possession of any firearms/ bows obtained through the bash and by accepting this ticket, the holder acknowledges the limitations on liability.



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1:20PM	BERETTA A300 OUTLANDER 12GA CAMO	4:00PM	BERETTA A400 ACTION 28GA WD/BLU
1:30PM	T/C IMPACT 50CAL CAMO	4:10PM	FRANCHI AFFINITY 12GA WAL/BLU
1:40PM	SAVAGE 17HMR LAM/SS	4:20PM	SAVAGE AXIS II XP 270WIN SYN/BLU
1:50PM	STOEGER UPLANDER SXS WD/BLU	4:30PM	REM 700SF ULTIMAT MUZZLDR 50CAL LAM/SS
2:00PM	BROWNING GOLD NWTF 12GA TURKEY	4:40PM	LEGACY ESCORT YTH 20GA SYN/BLU
2:10PM	SAVAGE 220 SLUG GUN CAMO/BLU 20GA	4:50PM	WEATHERBY VANGUARD 2 223REM
2:20PM	BENELLI NOVA PUMP 12GA 3-1/2" CAMO	5:00PM	BENELLI SBE THREE 12GA CAMO
2:30PM	LEGACY POINTER OVR/UNDR 410GA WD/BLU	5:10PM	STOEGER M3500 12GA 3-1/2" SYN/BLU
2:40PM	REM MOD 597 22LR	5:20PM	RUGER 10/22 TAKEDOWN 22LR CAMO
2:50PM	WEATHERBY THREAT RESPNS PUMP	5:30PM	MATHEWS NO CAM HTR 70#
3:00PM	TENPOINT TACTICAL XLT PKG W/ACCUUDRW	5:40PM	UBERTI WALKER MUZZLDR PISTOL
3:10PM	TIKKA T3 LITE 22-250 SYN/BLU	5:50PM	SAVAGE MOD 320 YTH PUMP 20GA
3:20PM	STOEGER COACH GUN SXS WD/BLU	6:00PM	4X4 ATV
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On day 5 of the Trophy Rockfish season, Paul Barrigar and friend Marvin Hoffman, trolling on the Bay near the mouth of the Choptank River on Paul's boat "Lightning", hooked into something big. Three times they got the fish close to the boat, but couldn't see just what it was. Finally they

were able to get it up to the boat and saw it was the biggest fish they'd ever hooked into.

They tried several times to net it, but each time the fish swam back out before they were able to pull it in the boat. Paul finally decided that he'd use the 150 lb. leader to ease the fish into the net, then, while Marv lifted the net, he would at the same time grab the front of the net to lift it and prevent the fish from swimming out again. When they did that, the fish completely broke through the net...entangling the net with the line, and it took off again.

As they reeled it up to the boat one last time, the fish was tiring. Now with no net, Paul leaned over the side of the boat, reached down and stuck his hand through the gills of the fish and up to the mouth, but because it was so heavy, he couldn't get back into the boat with it! Marv had to grab Paul's belt and pull and all three, Paul, Marv and the fish fell backwards into the boat. The fish had spawned out and still measured in at 49 inches, 48 lbs with a 27 inch girth.

It was caught in 66 ft of water on a chartreuse tandem rig, eight ounce banjo eye on a line 225 ft behind the boat. The tandem rig has been retired.



This lady angler is all smiles aboard the *Sea Dux* captained by Brian Councill.

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Police Handle Striped Bass Case and Turkey Cases

Continued enforcement at Fishing Creek Bridge in Dorchester County and the Bill Burton Fishing Pier State Park in Talbot County last month resulted in 24 people receiving citations and 213 striped bass being seized.

On April 16th. just after midnight, officers seized 83 striped bass from a vehicle leaving Fishing Creek Bridge and charged four men.

Julio Mauricio Baquedano Moran, 22, of Greensboro, North Carolina; Luis Galeano Baquedano, 18, of Silver Spring; Samuel Nolasco Pacheco, 33, of Lanham; and Javier Reyes, 33, of Mount Ranier, were each charged with possessing undersized striped bass, possessing striped bass in a prohibited area, a possessing fish over the limit and possessing striped bass outside the legal time. Each charge carries a maximum fine of \$1,500.

At about the same time, another vehicle was stopped leaving the bridge with 12 striped bass inside and the three occupants were charged with three fishing violations each: Ivan Alexis Interiano Gladamez, 21, of Germantown and Natividad Interiano Gladamez, 44 and Hermilo Sanchez Bentra, 24, both of Gaithersburg.

On Monday the 17th. at about 3:30 a.m., officers stopped a vehicle leaving the bridge and found numerous fish in a cooler. The driver was instructed to pull off at a safer area so that citations could be written. As the vehicle drove to the area, someone began throwing fish from the passenger-side window.

Manuel Barahona Cruz, 33, of Temple Hill and Angie Campos Avila, 31, of Alexandria, Virginia, were each charged with possessing undersized striped bass, possessing striped bass in a prohibited area, a possessing fish over the limit. Cruz also was charged with possessing striped bass outside the legal hours.

Twenty-three striped bass were seized from a second vehicle containing

Moises DeJesus Majano Canales, 36 and Maria Yohana Barahona Cruz, 34, both of Oxon Hill. Canales received four citations for illegal fishing and Cruz received three.

About the same time, officers charged five men and seized 62 striped bass as they left the bridge. Daniel Escobar Alvarado, 33, Ana Cuellar Jimenez, 42, Genesis Ivania Cuellar, 22 and Jose Roberto Medrano, 20 and John Bradak Medrano Canales, 27, of Temple Hill, each received four citations.

On Saturday night just before midnight, officers stopped a vehicle with five Silver Spring passengers and found 26 striped bass inside. Hector Samuel Martinez Carpio, 37, Esvin Leonel Najera Bueco, 22, Edinson Leonel Bueco Luch, 22, Ferdy Misael Bueco Luch, 24 and Raul Antonio Bueco Berganza, 28, each received three citations for illegal fishing.

All 21 defendants are scheduled to appear in Dorchester County District Court July 19. The maximum fine for each charge is \$1,500.

Also late Sunday night, officers charged two men for fishing on suspended recreational licenses. Lenin Gonzalez Fuentes, 35 and Edgar Fuentes DeMata, both of Washington, D.C., must appear in Dorchester County District Court June 28. The maximum fine is \$1,000.

At the Bill Burton Fishing Pier State Park at 2 a.m. Saturday, officers issued citations to Fernando Geov Vasquez Bautista, 38, of Hyattsville, for having six undersized striped bass, catching striped bass in a designated spawning river and possessing striped bass outside legal hours.

Bautista must appear in Talbot County District Court June 19. The maximum fine for each violation is \$1,500.

Last month, officers on patrol at 6:30 a.m. in Washington County issued citations to a Hagerstown man after finding cracked corn spread in front of his hunting blind.

Willis Wayne Kesselring, 68, was charged with hunting turkeys with the aid of bait and hunting turkeys with an unplugged shotgun. The pre-paid fines total \$750. If he chooses to contest the charges in Washington County District Court June 21 and is found guilty, he could face a fine up to \$4,000.



Left to right. Justin Cordell 19.6lb 1 1/2 spur 15" beard. Brianna Pierce 23.4lb 1 1/2 spur 9 1/4 beard. Ronald Clancy 3rd. 20lb 1 1/4 spur 10" beard. All the birds were taken in Kent County, MD.

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Katlynn Larrimore last month caught a nice Stripper out of Tilghman Island, MD.

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Life Span: Crabs generally live three to four years in the Chesapeake Bay and reach maturity in approximately 12-18 months. Determining age is extremely difficult due to the loss of hard parts during the molting process.

Maximum Size: The largest blue crab caught in the Chesapeake Bay was 10.72 inches and weighed 1.1 pounds.

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SPANNING THE GLOBE

Trophy Buffalo in Arnhem Land

By Kinsey M. Robinson

I recently had the opportunity to hunt buffalo, wild Ox and hogs on 2.2 million acres of aboriginal conservancy located in Arnhem Land in the Northwest Terri-

tory of Australia. My PH Simon Kyle-Little has had exclusivity of the area for 26-years. This hunt is not for the weak at heart. Each day we tracked eight to twelve miles through paper-bark and ironwood forests, jungle strewn with pandanus palms and massive salt flats and flood plains. On the fourth day I took the buffalo trophy I had been searching for, an old, smart and cagey fellow with heavy horns. During the hunt I saw hundreds

of buffalo, including four big 100 class Bulls - astounding!

For the next three days I focused on wild Ox. This hunt ended almost storybook like. After hunting hard and covering many miles of remote county looking for these elusive animals I crossed the track of a fantastic bull on the way back to the hunting vehicle, in the last few minutes of the last day. After a short stalk I dropped the Ox not a quarter mile from the vehicle. True wild Ox have incredible eyesight, acute hearing and well-developed olfactory glands. Collecting the Ox was the icing on the cake of this superior hunt. I also was fortunate to kill two boars with good teeth.

Besides for buffalo, Ox and hogs the back country is home to kangaroos, wallabies, fresh water crocodiles and salties that can grow to twenty feet long, a large variety of birds and in the evenings a chorus of howling dingoes.

The Northern Territory

water buffalo are native to India. In 1824 sixteen buffalo were established on Melville Island just north of Darwin. That settlement was abandoned in 1828 and the buffalo were removed to Raffles Bay on the mainland, which in turn was abandoned in 1830. With millions of acres of swampy ground and tropical climate providing natural habitat that exists nowhere else in Australia, and freedom of disease and immunity from attack by predators the buffalo became quickly established and thrived by the thousands.



"In a civilized and cultivated country, wild animals only continue to exist at all when preserved by sportsmen."
-Theodore Roosevelt



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By Grant Soukup

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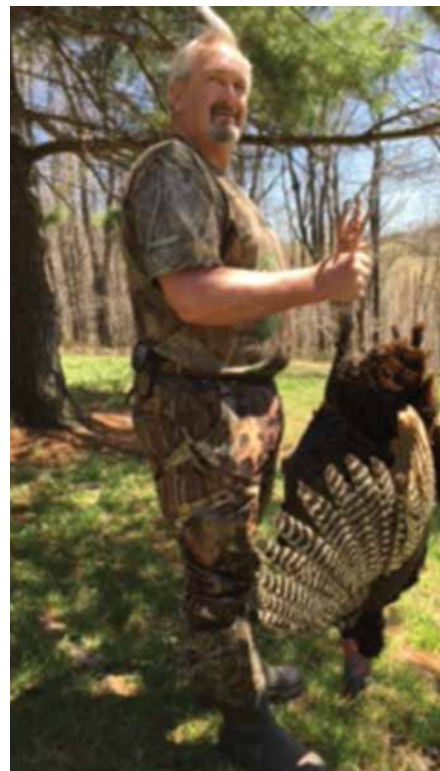
A wrong movement is easily spotted, and the turkey will putt a way

instantly.

OLD TURKEY HUNTERS...

never die, they just “cluck” away! Turkey hunting is not easy. It takes a lifetime of experiences and making a bunch of mistakes, to tag a turkey.

Opening day of turkey season is always special. Hunting with a turkey brotherhood makes the hunt better. This season I was invited to a camp of real turkey masters. Their lifetimes of turkey hunting had taught them well. The camp was filled with turkey



mounts, tails, beards and memories. Every turkey was a different story, and lesson.

Spring turkey hunting targets Gobblers, or male turkeys only. The hens have already been bred and male turkeys can be harvested. Every morning, at sunrise, the turkeys begin to gobble while in their roosts. Normally, they sleep atop a high pine, or large limbed tree. At sunrise, they begin to call all hens. They soon fly down and begin to strut, and gobble, to attract that mornings date. After hooking up, they begin to roam the forest, looking for a leftover hen, or other turkey to address.

The hunter needs to get close enough to call the gobbler within range. Using a series of clucks, purrs, whines, gobbles, and “kee kee runs”, the turkeys may come close. A turkey’s eyesight is amazing. Hunters must be in full camo, and in the right position for a chance. Calling birds uphill or at the same level is best. Rarely will they cross a creek, or call downhill. Decoys work, but can be dangerous if seen by an unsafe, and inexperienced hunter.

Hunting is allowed until noon, in the spring. Hunters leave the woods, so they do not disturb nesting hens.

Turkey hunting may sound easy but it is anything but. Any, and everything can go wrong. You can call in other hunters, bears, deer, or never hear a sound.

Calling takes practice and experience. One new turkey brother presented me with a homemade turkey wing bone call. This type of call was used by the first turkey hunters many seasons ago. With practice, I hope to master it and use to one day harvest a turkey. Archie decorated and signed this most cherished gift.

Great turkey hunters learn from every mistake. It is these lessons that make us better hunters. Taking responsibility, and figuring out what we did wrong, teaches how to be a better hunter. Not doing this teaches you nothing except how to wander aimlessly through the turkey forest.

“We are closer to the end than the beginning”, is the motto of Dave, the camps “Head Gobbler”. He is also known as “Dr. Thunder”, but that is another story. His quote, was a nice way to say we are getting older. The stories of our aches, pains, and challenges were proof, yet here we were atop a mountain for another go at the elusive wild turkey. “At some point, you need to stop hunting turkeys and start shooting them”, was Dave’s first lesson.

Archie was first to tag a huge 24 lb. gobbler, with a 9” beard. At 8:30, my tag was filled with a big Jake, or young gobbler, of 18 pounds. It was a lifetime since I had heard so many gobbling turkeys. The mild winter helped the population to be healthy and abundant. Dave passed on a few young Jakes and enjoyed the whip-poorwill’s, while just enjoying the forest, at sunrise.

Benjamin Franklin proposed that the Wild Turkey become our national bird. Their abundance, vision, and beauty made turkeys a wise choice. The Wild turkey is incredibly beautiful, until you get to the head. God must have been taking a nap when the head was created.

The great outdoors is the church of choice for turkey hunters. The sounds, smells, and sights of the turkey woods, calls us. The magic of turkey hunting inspires us. The brotherhood of turkey hunting bonds us.

Gobble gobble, cluck cluck!

TROUT SUSHI!!!

Sushi is a popular way to eat fish and seafood. Many saltwater species, such as tuna, are preferred for sushi. Fresh water fish also make a great, raw fish, choice!

Saltwater fish are celebrated as the perfect source for healthy seafood sushi. Salt is a perfect preservative and adds flavor to the fish. Fresh water species tend to be “gamefish”, and are regulated by law. Since these freshwater species can’t be sold, they do not show up, as often, on a sushi menu.

Any fish or seafood must be handled correctly for “raw” consumption. No one needs to get sick over raw fish. Trout, and other fish species, make for great sushi! Hatchery trout are tested often to ensure quality and health. May other wild fish are not. It takes 2-3 months for a hatchery trout to absorb contaminants from their environment. Trout that feed on small plankton and microorganisms tend to absorb less pollutants. Trout that eat crayfish, snails, and shelled foods tend to have higher levels of

Handle your catch properly. Place your fish into an ice chest immediately after killing them. Allowing the fish to die a slow death on a stringer is cruel and ruins the flavor. The stringed, or flopping fish in a cooler, build up lactic acid in their meat, as they suffer. This changes their flavor to a stronger, fishy taste. Frying, baking, broiling, or adding spices, and butter, can help to mask this flavor, but if you plan to eat them raw, treat them right.

Sweeten the fish filets before you consume them raw. Mix 3 tbsp. of salt, 2 tsp. of baking soda, into 1 gallon of water. Submerge the fish filets into the solution. Try using a plate to hold them down. Refrigerate and rest for 6 hours. Rinse with cold water and drip dry on paper towels. This process helps to improve the flavor and texture of all fish filets, whether you bake, fry, broil, or sushi the filets.

Once you see what comes out of the raw filets, and floats to the surface, you will always use this process. Sadly, not all fish come from bottled spring water environments. Sweetening the fish filets helps to keep your catch tasty and healthy.

Cutting the filets into thin, filet long, strips is a good idea. Use a sheet of Nouri seaweed as your platform. Cover and press short grained rice, seasoned with salt, across the sheet. Leave an inch at the top to seal the roll. Lay the



contaminants. Older fish contain more pollutants than younger fish. Bottom feeders have more contaminants than free swimmers.

Every state publishes “Consumption Warnings” and guidelines. Some watersheds have levels of contaminants that may be harmful. Generally, these contaminants include mercury, arsenic, PCB’s, and lead. Some of these are manmade while others can be natural. The Yellowstone and Missouri watersheds in Montana are affected by both. The geothermal features from Yellowstone Park, add very high levels of natural pollutants. Gold and mineral mining have also dumped a toxic mix of other poisons into the water. In Maryland, Sulphur and other pollutants from coal mining have taken their toll. Agriculture, livestock, lumbering, erosion, fertilizers, sewage, and other pollution from development certainly causes hazards to our fisheries. Know what you are about to eat.

filet in the middle and add thinly sliced carrot, celery, and spring onion strips on top of the thin filet. You can also grate the vegetables for a finer texture. Roll evenly, using water to wet your fingers, as needed. Add water to the 1 inch edge to seal the sushi roll.

Presentation is key with any meal. Cut the roll in 1 inch wheels and spread atop a plate. Use a dipping sauce alongside. Try soy sauce with wasabi paste, and a touch of malt vinegar to start. You can also add your own personal Sushi flavors and experience to this wonderful meal.

Eat It Raw!

Montana Grant

For more Montana Grant, visit his website at www.montanagrantsfishing.com.



Coastal Report

By Capt. Mark Sampson

There's nothing like having a boat on a trailer that allows you on a whim and a short notice take off to some distant ramp, drop your rig in the water, and enjoy navigating waters near or far. But as anyone who spends much time around boat ramps will tell you, a lot of boaters have a lot of problems on a lot of ramps!

You can have the best trailer for the job and still end up with problems on the ramp. With a mismatched boat, trailer, and tow vehicle combination it's almost assured that things are almost never going to go as you would like. Consider first the boat: most small to modest sized boats are just fine for trailering, unless they have some unique characteristic that makes them a problem child. Boats with an exceptionally deep draft such as a deep-keeled sailboat can be a headache because such a vessel will likely require a steep ramp that allows the boat to be floated on or off the trailer without having to back the tow vehicle's tires into the water. Some boats, even though they are "technically" trailerable, are just so darn big that hauling them around is too much of a pain in the rear to consider doing on a regular basis.

In order to enjoy safe and trouble free trailering it's critical that the boat and trailer be matched and of course the tow vehicle be up to the task. A bunch of years ago I bought a used 19-foot center console and ordered a new trailer for it. Unfortunately the trailer was designed for a longer boat, which meant that my boat sat too far back on it which through the balance off. There was almost no tongue weight, which made for awkward towing and if I hopped up into the back of the boat while the trailer was not hitched up the whole rig would tilt back like a giant seesaw! The extra length of the trailer also made it that much more difficult to maneuver in tight spaces as well as more of a hassle to store when not in use. The company that built the boat was long out of business otherwise I would have consulted them for suggestions on the best trailer to fit their boat, unfortunately I bought mine from a trailer dealer who just flipped through a catalog until he found one that looked right for the job – it wasn't!

A friend of mine is dealing with similar issues with his new boat and trailer right now. He has a brand new 16-footer he purchased from a dealer who also provided him with the trailer. The boat appears to fit on the trailer just right but when he

attempts to slide it into the water it's all but stuck on the skids. He added nylon pads to the skids thinking that would allow it to slide more easily, but the effort was to no avail. For a while none of us could figure out why it took so much shoving to get the boat off the trailer even when it was partially submerged. After a little investigating work we realized the problem was that the two 10-foot carpeted skids had no middle support, they were only attached to the trailer at either end, therefore, when the boat was loaded the skids would bow in the middle, effectively cradling the boat. Another support or two in the middle of the skid and there wouldn't have been a problem.

Some trailer have rollers other skids. Rollers have the advantage that they provide little resistance when the boat is going on or off and they are usually self-adjusting to the hull. However, since rollers provide such small contact points, they can actually cause damage to the hull of some vessels. Think about it, would you rather sit on a flat plank or a bunch of golf balls? The problem with skids is that they need to be adjusted to the hull of the boat precisely otherwise the boat will not want to load straight on the trailer. Skids are usually covered with carpet but some folks will add nylon strips or pads to the top to help the boat slide easier, which I'm told can work rather well. Instead I prefer to spray the carpeting on my skids with silicon spray, which works very well and last for about a month if I'm launching the boat every day.

Boaters should consider how much they will actually be using a trailer before they make a decision which one to buy. If they will only be launching and pulling a couple times a year then they might be able to get by without spending extra bucks on a top-line rig, but that decision could come back to haunt them in the future if their boating habits change and they suddenly wish to haul their boat to Florida or just find themselves needing to use it a lot. One must also consider that even though a trailer might not be used for much "transport" duty, since the boat probably sits on it for many months during the off season, it needs to provide proper support for the hull to prevent damage.

Buying a trailer for a boat is foolish if someone doesn't have a vehicle to large enough to handle the towing. You don't necessarily "need" to have a truck to haul a boat if the boat is small

and light, obviously, the bigger the boat – the more vehicle you need to haul it. Something else to consider is that just because a vehicle can pull a boat along just fine on flat ground doesn't mean that it can pull a boat up a steep and sometimes slippery ramp from a dead stop. Even with a light boat, more than once I've had to put my truck into four-wheel-drive to get up a ramp.

It's going to be a lot more costly to own that big new boat you've always wanted if you also have to buy a bigger tow vehicle to handle it. Fortunately, many boat dealer, repair shops, and marinas either provide boat transport services or can put you in touch with someone who does. Those who leave their boat in the water most of the year and only haul it out once in the fall to park it in the yard for the winter will come out way ahead if they avoid all the hassles and expenses of owning, registering, maintaining, and storing a trailer year round by letting a professional move it for them.

Having your own trailer that fits your boat, and works as you need it to can open a lot of waters up to boaters who like to travel. On the flip-side, a boat trailer can also be nothing but an expensive eye-sore that's taking up space and rusting away in the yard that's nothing but in the way every time you cut the grass! My advice would be to avoid getting a trailer if you can, but if you really need one - do your homework and get a good one. And don't assume that just because a dealer offers it with the new boat they're trying to sell you means that it's any good, they might just be trying to keep the price down.

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Floats and bobbers have been around a long time. Most of us, however, have only used those bulky, round, red and white bobbers that are among the poorest of strike indicators with their inability to submerge easily. Today’s array of floats come in many sizes and shapes to accommodate many gamefish and panfish species. Yes, those big, round bobbers do well when casting large live baits to bass, stripers and even channel catfish or pike in the North Country. But for other game, smaller, oval or pear-shaped floats of plastic or wood get the call. So effective are smaller foam bobbers that the fly fishing crowd now embraces them as “strike indicators” rather than calling them by the “red neck” jargon of “bobbers”. They are one in the same, my dear fellow anglers, so call them what you will.

I tried to recall the variety of fish species I have caught using this method over the years. Let’s see...large and smallmouth bass, yellow and white perch, all sunfish species and crappies, channel catfish, bullheads, walleyes, northern pike, pickerel, all the trout clan (including some recent “personal bests”) striped bass, hybrid stripers, and even a few white and hickory shad along with carp, suckers and



Float and fly giant...this 33 inch channel catfish couldn't resist a tiny jig below a float and was finally subdued after a 40-minute battle on 4-pound test line. Crazy!

big fallfish. That pretty much covers out local gamefish options in the Mid Atlantic region.

I recently enjoyed an exceptional trout outing with young angler and friend Hunter Moffit of nearby Hanover, Pennsylvania. We were trying to take advantage of the spring trout stocking in some local waters and were meeting only marginal success with standard issue Kast Masters and Super Duper spoons. A fish here and there, but nothing to scream about. On a lark, I tied on a 1/64th ounce hairjig and snapped a one-inch diameter oval plastic bobber about 3 feet above the lure. It just so happened to be the exact ticket those rainbow and palomino trout wanted and we enjoyed some fast-paced action for over an hour before the dust settled and the rain got heavy. Along the way, I picked up several foot-long crappies and a bruiser red-eared sunfish as a bonus. Hunter meanwhile banked several high-end rainbows and a gorgeous 20-inch palomino on the bobber/hairjig combo.

The time-honored float and fly technique is not exclusively a small fish/panfish option. We have found

that utilizing small, 1/64th or even 1/80th ounce jigs can entice much larger game. I recently enjoyed some impressive rainbow trout catches with fish to almost 28 inches and a new “personal best” channel catfish that taped at 33.5 inches, weighing close to 20 pounds! Certainly not an everyday expectation, but a huge fish for such a small lure.

Most of my hair jig patterns are what are classed as “suggestive” patterns, that is, they don’t replicate anything to exactness, but generically imitate a variety of food items such as scuds, grass shrimp, crayfish or various minnow species. Hence, the variety of fish that can be fooled by them.

Keep in mind that often the wind will be all the movement you will need to coax a strike from most species. And this is an especially dynamite tactic for those spring crappies and bluegills that are on the move as we speak. I have been enjoying a good season on big 12 to 15 inch crappies on tiny 1/80th ounce jigs tipped with Gulp! Waxies and suspended four feet below with a tiny bobber. Big fish, big fun...with the float and fly!



Megan Higgins “The First Mate on The KDJ” with another impressive spring Stripper.



This 25 inch rainbow trout fell victim to a properly presented grass shrimp hair jig suspended below a tiny bobber...classic "float and fly" tactics.



“The Last Word”

2017 Legislative Session

By Steve Huettner

April means many things to sportsmen and sportswomen. April signals the beginning of trout season, trolling lures across the Chesapeake Bay for rockfish, and chasing love sick strutting turkeys. April also is the end of the Maryland General Assembly (Sine Die) when hunters and fisherman look to see what has or hasn't been enacted that will effect what they love to do.

For those that love hunting, and especially love hunting on Sundays; Kent County is adding more Sunday hunting. Moving forward hunting for turkeys on private land and deer hunting on all Sundays during all of deer season will be the norm. That is a huge win for farmers, hunters, and outfitters in Kent County. Wicomico County added a Sunday during archery season and all Sundays in the firearms season.

Montgomery County is modifying their Sunday hunting and is following the playbook from the Maryland Horse Council. Now in Montgomery county and modified their Sunday hunting that know hunting is from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. The time restrictions do not apply (1) to a participant in the junior deer hunt;(2) on private land only on one Sunday designated by DNR during deer bow hunting season; and (3) on private land only on one Sunday designated by DNR during the firearms season. So if we own private land in Montgomery County you have to be out of the woods by 10:30. So much for private property rights in my opinion.

While Sunday hunting might be cut short in Montgomery County it became a bit easier to bow hunt for deer. The archery hunting safety zone size in Montgomery County drops from 100 yards to 50 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings. An archery hunter in Montgomery County must use a tree stand when hunting within 50 to 100 yards of a dwelling house, residence, church, school, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings. Some of those deer living in the greenbelt between mansions should be concerned.

For those that have served our county the state is offering several discounts and free licenses (deservedly so). The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may issue a lifetime complimentary angler's or sport fishing license to an out of state former prisoner of war or 100% service connected disabled American veteran if the person's state of residence extends similar, reciprocal privileges.

If they are issued a lifetime complimentary angler's license under that authorization, they are also exempt from a requirement to purchase a trout stamp in order to fish or possess trout in certain areas. DNR will now be able to provide discounted angler's licenses and trout stamps, Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing licenses, and hunting license sand any associated State-issued stamp or permits, to Maryland residents who are recipients of the Purple Heart award.

For clarification a new bill states that the State Wildlife Management and Protection Fund may be used

only for the scientific investigation, protection, propagation, and management of wildlife as well as for administrative costs. The bill also repeals provisions that require a certain portion of hunting license fee revenue to be used to (1) promote activities related to bow and muzzle loader hunting and (2) provide funding for the processing of deer for donation to the needy. In regards to number 2, the Feds that audit how license monies are spent determined using a dollar from evert license was not allowed, after initially allowing it for several years.

For potential new hunters a bill establishes a one time, nonrenewable, apprentice hunting license that allows the purchaser to hunt all legal game birds and mammals in a single season without the purchase of additional stamps (unless the purchaser is hunting migratory game birds or deer during bow and arrow or black powder season). The bill establishes various requirements relating to the license. The apprentice hunting license fee is \$10 for residents and \$20 for nonresidents. A person who has previously been issued any hunting license in Maryland is not eligible for an apprentice hunting license. It will be interesting to see how many of these licenses are sold and how many of the individuals that use they then graduate to a regular license. Hope-

fully it brings some new hunters into the ranks.

For those on the lower shore who enjoy ray bow fishing tournaments, there won't be any this year. DNR is charged with preparing a fishery management plan for the cow nose ray by December 31, 2017. The bill also prohibits a person from organizing, sponsoring, promoting, conducting, or participating in a cow nose ray fishing tournament in State waters until July 1, 2018.

These are some the potential new changes that may affect hunters in Maryland. Please remember to check your hunting guide when getting your new license.



We think if you want a good luck charm on your boat you may want to contact Angelina Watts here she is pictured with a Snakehead again at blackwater refuge. - 8 pounder at that.

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Marinated Mako Shark Recipe

Ingredients

1 pound mako shark , fresh
 1/2 cup orange juice
 2 tablespoons light soy sauce
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1 clove garlic , minced
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 paprika

Container: Baking pan

Combine all the marinated ingredients together in a medium size glass bowl and stir to mix evenly.

Place the Mako shark steaks in the marinade so that they are completely covered.

Place the bowl of fish and marinade in the refrigerator and allow to marinate for 15 minutes. Remove and turn the steaks. Place back in the refrigerator to marinate for another 15 minutes.

Remove the shark steaks from the marinade and place in an oiled baking pan. Sprinkle with paprika as desired.

Place in an oven preheated to 400 degrees F. Cook for 10 minutes per inch of thickness or until the fish flakes easily.

To grill: Remove steaks from the marinade, spray with cooking oil, and place on a hot grill. Grill for 5 or 6 minutes and then turn. Grill for an additional 5 or 6 minutes or until shark steaks are flaky.



Book of the Month

FIFTY YEARS A HOOKER

by Jeanette Mundus, And, Frank Mundus

The stories in Fifty Years a Hooker range from dramatic, nerve-pounding accounts of shark hunts to tales of comic misadventures, involving a host of eccentric characters who could not resist the pull of Frank Mundus legendary "idiot magnet." Mundus extensive compilation accurately reflects the books title. He was, indeed, a hooker. For fifty years he sold his services, took good care of his customers and saw to it that they had a good time, hoping that they went away satisfied and would come back again. Among the stories you'll find in "Fifty Years a Hooker are: White Shark, White Pineapple. The agony of waiting for the right writer. How I Got Started Shark Fishing. How a broken arm and two train wrecks kept me on the right track for a fishing career. The Pelican Disaster. My involvement in one of the worst maritime disasters off Long Island. Harry Hoffman and the Case of the Lost White Shark. The zany fishing misadventures of my friend, Harry Hoffman, and me. The 4,500 lb. White Shark. My mate, my customers and I fight one of the largest whites ever taken commercially by harpoon. Peter Gimbel. The first man who swam with sharks, while I rode shotgun. The time an ice-cream cone saved my life, plus other close calls. The time I hollered at Jackie Onassis for jay-walking on the island of St. Maarten. The St. Maarten Sting: Or, How I Sold the Cricket III Borrowing a storyline from the movie The Sting, I sell my other boat and outsmart a couple of Caribbean pirates. Portrait of the Artist as an Idiot. A mysterious artist (who lost the Mayor of Shelter Islands bust!) claims me as his muse for a watercolor of a white shark. Mundus of Arabia. A Saudi Prince hires me to pioneer shark fishing in the Red Sea. I just miss a public beheading and narrowly escape one year in jail. The 3,427-lb White Shark. In 1986 I achieve my lifetime ambition of catching the largest fish of any kind on rod and reel, with the help of some seasoned mates and an experienced angler. Pistol-Whipped by the Law. A mates dog and his ex-wife set off a chain reaction which culminates in my arrest for possession of a firearm. Three-time Loser, Fourth-time Winner. The two happiest times in a mans life are when he buys a boat and sells it . . . and sells it, and hopefully sells it again, like I did! Getting to the Heart of Things. I remarry, burn my snow shoes and retire to Hawaii, where I plant pineapples and fruit trees, adopt a orphaned 350 lb. wild boar, and survive open-heart surgery, aneurysm repair and prostate cancer. My South African Shark Safari. In which I travel to South Africa with the Discovery Channel and hook up with white sharks once more-this time through the lens of a camera.



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