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John Facelo from Baltimore, MD, Jack Melocik from Lutherville, MD, Lawrence Julio from Reisterstown, MD and Chris Melocik from Scottsdale, AZ teamed up to catch these 4 tuna while fishing on the charter boat, "Rhonda's Osprey" with Capt. Joe Drosey and mates Matt Bierley and Steven Stallings. The fish were hooked while trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Washington Canyon and weighed 61, 92, 110 and 111 lbs. on the scale at Sunset Marina in West Ocean City.

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Jennifer Taylor from Essex, MD caught this 21 lb. golden tilefish in the Baltimore Canyon while fishing on the "Got R Done" with Rick Schafer of Havre de Grace, MD. Jennifer used squid to fool the big tilefish and weighed her catch at Sunset Marina.



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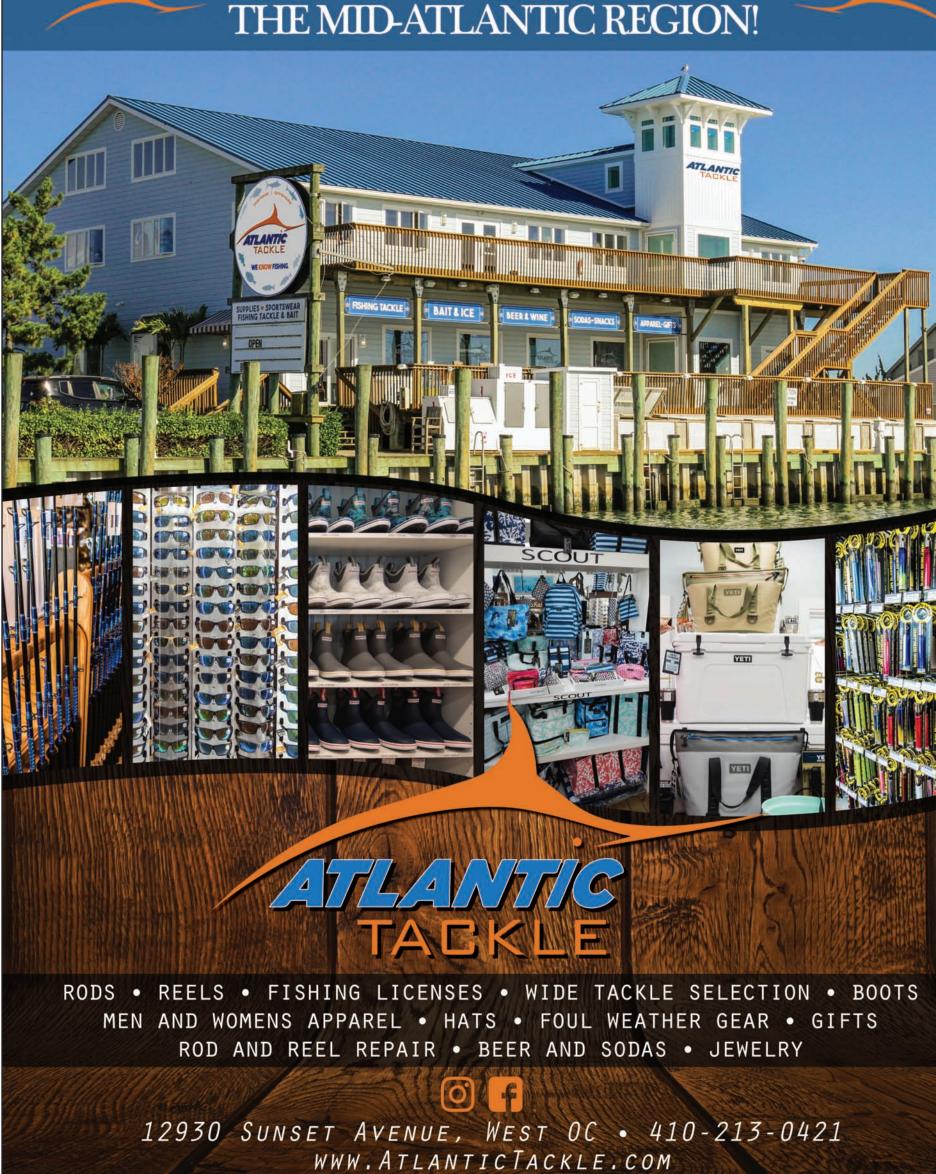
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# THE LARGEST TACKLE SHOP IN



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Sea bass fishing this season has really been hit-or-miss, but on this day anglers on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins put some in the cooler and even added some tautog to the mix. William, Emma, Megan and Bill Adams from Frederick, MD, Landon and Curt Firestone and Maggie Noll and Kelly Williams, all from York, PA had a great trip with Curt's 17 1/2-inch knothead leading the pack and Megan adding a 20-inch tog to the cooler. All of the fish were caught on squid and clams on ocean structure.













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It was almost a complete blowout last weekend. Heavy storms rolled through on Friday afternoon and Saturday and Sunday saw cooler weather that brought along some windy conditions. This kept 99.9% of the offshore boats at the dock on Saturday and Sunday, but some headboats were able to get out and needed to stay closer to shore. Bay anglers got some time in over the weekend, but the wind made it tough and many cut their trips short. It was nice to get some relief from the seriously hot weather we have been having but I wish it would have come without the wind.

#### Flounder

Anglers searching for flounder are finding conditions right, both in the bay and on ocean structure.

In the bay, flounder snapped pretty good at several locations around the bay. The key was finding clean, cooler water and a good drift. With water temps in the upper 80's, now is the time to find those deeper, colder holes.

The bay behind Assateague Island continues to produce some of the top catches of keepers and last week the best bite was right behind Castaways Campground. We also saw good catches come in from around the South Jetty (an underutilized flounder fishing location), the East Channel near the old concrete plant and further north along the docks surrounding Harbour Island where anglers on the charter boat, "Get Sum" put 5 in the box as this report was being written on Monday.

Flounder fishing on ocean structure has also been steadily improving. Little Gull Shoal, the Bass Grounds and the Old Grounds all provided anglers with good catches of larger fish.

The best baits this season have been white Gulp Swimming Mullets, followed by live minnows and now, live bunker. Castnetting peanut bunker in the local marinas will provide you with plenty of bait for a day of good flounder fishing. Anglers fishing on ocean structure have had the best results using extra-long strips of squid and flounder belly.

#### **Inshore Shoals**

Rough seas on several days last week kept boats closer to shore, but it looked like it worked out well with a good variety of fish ending up in the fish box. From the looks of it, there were plenty of triggerfish snapping on cut bait in addition to Spanish mackerel, snapper bluefish and flounder. Anglers on the charter boat, "Over-Board" hit the 1st Lump and caught Spanish mackerel, bluefish, 2 good size king mackerel and a couple of bonita. We also saw a good catch of 6 flounder, up to 22-inches, and 30 triggerfish come in on July 4th by anglers fishing at Little Gull Shoal aboard the "Benadiction".

#### Marlin

Fortunately, some of the slack from slow tuna fishing was taken up by a good white and blue marlin bite in the Washington Canyon last week. The icing on the cake were the number of anglers who caught and released their first white marlin, including many junior anglers such as Cutter Stanton, Logan Hudson and Jaycey Miller on the "Buckshot".

#### Tuna & Mahi

Last week tuna fishing was disappointing, but with warm 81-degree water throughout the canyons with no temperature breaks, it was understandable.

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The good news is that the yellowfins that we are seeing have been impressive in size with some reaching the high double-digits in weight.

Most of the action has been in the Washington Canyon and around the 800/800. We also saw a few come in from around the Bigeye Hole as well. The "Hammer Down" had a couple of good days, going 9 for 10 on yellowfins very early in the week in the Washington Canyon and following it up with 5 in the Wilmington Canyon on Thursday.

On Wednesday, we saw an impressive 64-inch bluefin tuna caught in 30 fathoms outside the Hambone by Mike Mewshaw and his crew.

Throughout the week, we really saw a good number of mahi caught anywhere from deep in the canyons in shore to the 30 fathom line. We also saw a few really good size mahi, including the 43 pounder caught on Friday by Darryl Johnson on the "Talkin Trash" while fishing outside the Rockpile.

#### Sea Bass & Tautog

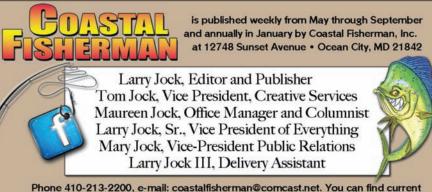
It would be safe to say that sea bass fishing is disappointing right now. Anglers are still able to boat a few on ocean structure, but it's a struggle. As a result, most headboats are flipping over to fishing for flounder with good success.

No doubt that water temperature is playing a role in the slow sea bass bite. Interestingly, a diver told us that they recorded water temperature at 41-degrees at a depth of 100 feet. Everyone is hoping that last weekends windy weather will stir things up.

#### Tilefish

We continue to see more and more anglers learn the intricacies of tilefishing, resulting in more bluelines and goldens ending up on the dock. Jennifer Taylor





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Cousin Vito has nothing on Bill Regine who was going after "Top Angler" honors at the University of MD Medical Center when he ventured out on the "Myra HT" with Hugh Cropper and Chris Smack. The anglers went down to Winter Quarter Shoal and caught Spanish mackerel, snapper bluefish, flounder and had triggerfish following their baits to the surface but couldn't get them to bite.

caught a 20 lb. golden tilefish in the Baltimore Canyon early in the week and anglers on the "Clear Shot" returned with an impressive catch of 34 bluelines caught on squid in 54 fathoms in the Baltimore.

#### In the Surf

Surfcasters continue to do battle with sharks, skates and rays but they have also found some snapper bluefish and flounder interested in offerings of clams, squid and cut bait.

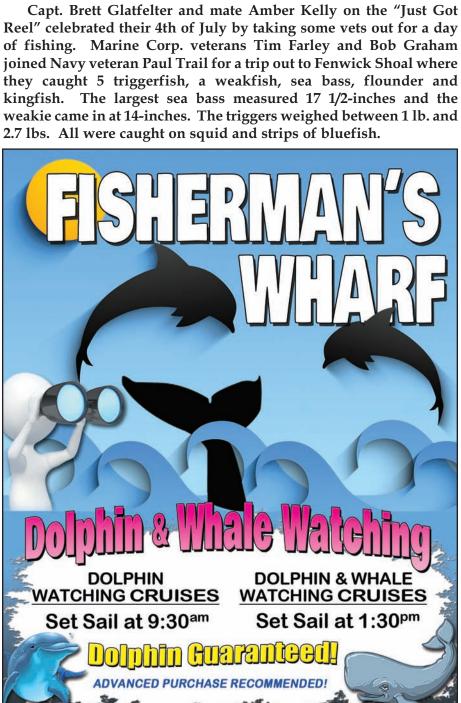
#### **Upcoming Tournament**

This weekend is the famous Ocean City Tuna Tournament at the Ocean City Fishing Center. The tournament is Friday, Saturday and Sunday with weigh-ins from 4:00 to 8:30 PM on Friday and Saturday and 4:00 to 7:00 PM on Sunday. Last year, over \$785,000 was paid out and the scales are always exciting.

Until next week, I'll see you at the scales!







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It was a productive maiden voyage on the "Fortuna" when these 3 anglers returned with 2 yellowfins and a blue marlin release from east of the Hot Dog. The fish were caught on the troll, with the surprise of the day coming in 30 fathoms when the estimated 350 lb. blue marlin came in on their trolled ballyhoo. Pictured are Dillard Howell, Curt Johnson and Hunter Johnson. Pictured at Sunset Provisions in West Ocean City.















Weston Koehler, age 8, from Mountville, PA caught his first tuna while trolling ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canvon.



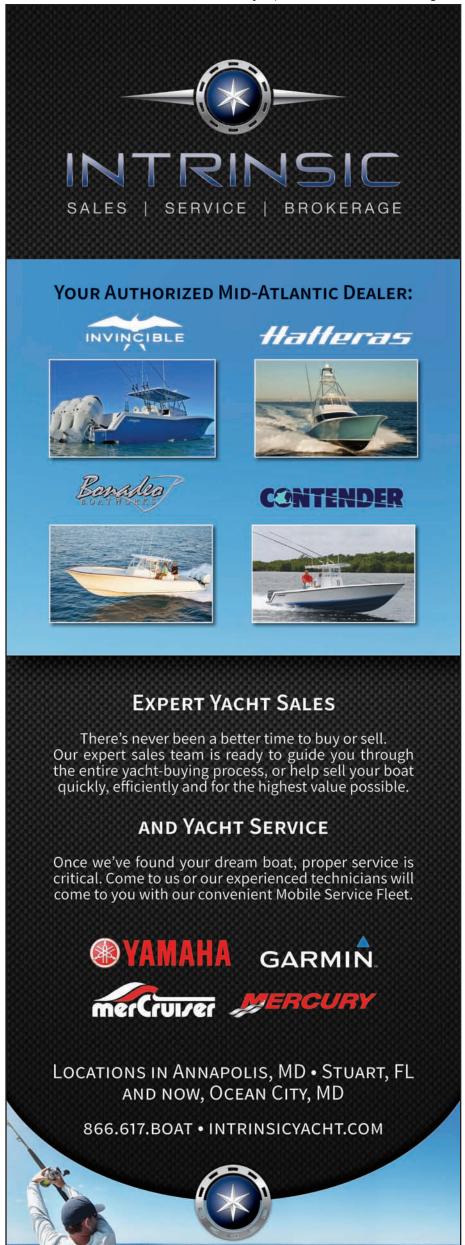
During a trip aboard the headboat, "Morning Star", Dylan Ventura Lorius of Medina, OH caught this 14 lb. mahi on a light spinning rod while using clams for bait.





Michelle and Phil Falgowski, pictured with son, Easton, show off the big flounders they caught while fishing on an ocean reef. Phil's 25 1/2-inch flattie weighed 5 lbs. 3 oz. and Michelle's measured 21-inches. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.











I don't have to tell anyone that "knowing where you are" is one of the most important things about boating. Whether you want to go out to the fishing grounds or back to the inlet, if you don't know your present position you won't know which way to point your bow to get to where you want to go.

In the "old days" knowing where you were was more problematic. With no LORAN or GPS to spit out location coordinates boaters would have to estimate their position by considering the depth of the water, how long and how fast they traveled and in which general direction. Those details would be taken to a chart, and after a little bit of pondering and perhaps a few calculations on scratch paper, a rough location would be determined and a course to wherever would be plotted. The more accurate the skipper's starting location, the better chance he had of knowing which way to steer to get to the final destination. And trust me it was not uncommon to miss the fishing grounds or even the inlet by many miles!

Oh how nice we have it now! Drag your finger across the screen of your chart plotter to the place you want to go, taptap and you've got distance, speed, time and course-to-steer staring you in the face. Yeah, it's become that simple! And that's a good thing....right?

Unless you're a fish that doesn't want to be caught, I don't think there's much debate about whether or not the new navigation technology is good for boaters or not - it's good. Simple touch and go electronics can save boaters a lot of time, effort and fuel and allow them to steer clear of hazards as they navigate from one end of the planet to another. We've all got them and we all use them, but there is indeed a downside to it that has come in the form of the dumbing-down of a lot of upcoming skippers. Just like so many other skills we no longer have because we let our socalled "smart" devices do them for us, the ability to truly navigate a boat from point "A" to point "B" using nothing but a paper chart, a compass, and a little brainpower is fading fast from the realm of the average boater.

Point and click navigation is great, but it's making idiots of upcoming boaters. You don't have to be very old to remember a time when you carried a map in your car to find your way though unfamiliar territory. If you're old like me you even

remember when maps were given out FREE at service stations. Now it's just as hard to buy a map as it is to find a "service" station. Of course, they're not selling maps these days because no one can read them anyway. Thanks to the idiot-makers we carry in our pockets, all we have to do these days is to type or speak where we want to go and suddenly some strange woman is telling us where to go. "Turn left, merge right, recalculating, make a uturn at the next intersection you stupid idiot, your destination is on the right".

So we blindly follow the robot woman's instructions and get to where we want to go, but have no idea where we are or how to get back home. But no worries - she'll guide us home as well. Left, right, right, left. "Thank you mam, I'll open you up tomorrow to help me find my way out to the mailbox at the end of my driveway"! Many boaters have fallen into the same lazy mans trap of not knowing how to read a chart because the idiot box on our consoles do it for us. Heck, many boat operators these days don't even own charts, let alone know how to read or navigate by one.

While I'm kinda-sorta making fun of this situation, a real problem is brewing here and boaters are already paying the price for it. If the idiot-maker in your pocket misdirects you to the closest Walmart, at worst you might run out of gas and have to call for help. If the idiot

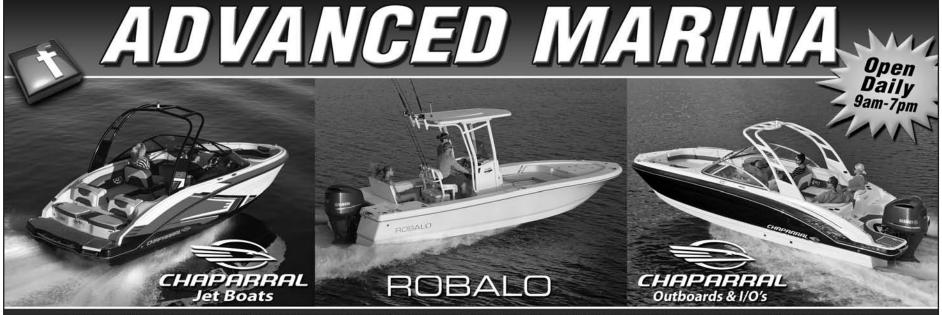
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box on your boat leads you astray you could die! Every boater needs to have enough basic navigation skills so that if their electronics fail them in any way they can always find their way home, and I know of no better example of this than what I overheard on the radio last week

A guy in a small boat was broken down and called for assistance on the VHF radio. A local tow company responded to his call and asked for his location. He responded by saying "I'm at the Chicken Bone", which is a local nickname for a fishing destination about 30-miles off Ocean City. When the tow company asked the fellow for his coordinates, he came back with "38-degrees decimal 24 and 74-degrees decimal 42".

As soon as I heard his response, I knew that he didn't know what he was talking about because whenever you recite coordinates you always give the degrees first, then the minutes, THEN the decimal point, followed by the tenths of a minute or the seconds. By him putting the decimal point after the degrees, it was obvious that he didn't know how to read latitude and longitude, which might not be a problem for a boater "until" they need to call for a towboat to come find them 30-miles offshore. Then it becomes pretty important.

I was somewhat surprised that the tow guy didn't question the fellow's location



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information. Instead he verified the financial terms and told him that he was getting underway and would contact him when he got close. Upon hearing the fellows "messed up" coordinates, I went to my own idiot box chart plotter and punched in the coordinates and came up with a location 18-miles NE of Ocean City and nowhere near where I knew the Chicken Bone to be, which told me that either the guy was not at the Chicken Bone, or he was sending the tow boat captain on a wild goose chase by giving him the wrong coordinates for where he thought he was.

An hour or so later, the towboat captain called the stricken boat and said that he had arrived at the coordinates, but didn't see him anywhere. When he asked the fellow to repeat his location he was again given the same bogus numbers. Time and space won't allow me to relay the frustrating and almost comical discussions between the two boats as they tried to figure out where the broken down boat really was. Suffice to say that the fellow really was near the Chicken Bone, but his GPS was giving him bad coordinates, and while someone might contend "well then it wasn't his fault", I would beg to differ because if he knew the bare minimum about navigation, he would have known that what he saw on his GPS display was not his location AND he could have verified that by plotting those numbers on a

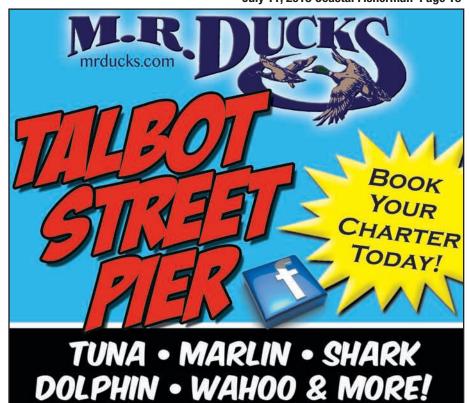
chart, if he even had a chart and knew how to read it.

During the "where are you" dilemma, the tow guy asked the fellow if he had another device that could provide location information. He said "no", but I'm assuming that someone onboard had an idiot-maker (cell phone) with them and even though they would not have had cell service, they could have used their phone's location features to give them their simple location coordinates. That's a capability that I'm pretty sure all phones have and every boater should know how to access as an emergency backup for their onboard GPS.

It was a clam day and all the folks on that boat needed was a tow back to port, but what if they were sinking or if there was a medical emergency? Not being able to accurately tell someone where you are can waste the valuable time of whoever might be looking for you, it can also end in needless tragedy. I'm not going to go so far as to say that every skipper who runs a boat out on the ocean needs to be an expert navigator, but I will say that if someone is incapable of determining accurate latitude and longitude coordinates for their present location they had better stay inside the inlet until they learn how - it's really not that hard!

Capt. Mark Sampson is an outdoor writer and captain of the charter boat, "Fish Finder", docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

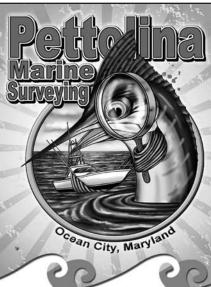








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This 50-inch, 35.5 lb. bull dolphin was caught by Tim Buckner in the Washington Canyon while fishing on the "DEEP 6" with Justin Strouse, Ed Mench, Steve Brooks, James Bender and Jon Aura.

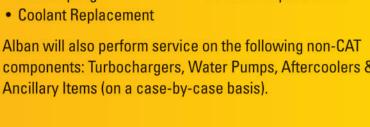
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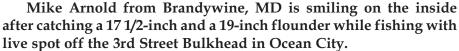
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While fishing on the "Buckshot" with Capt. Gary Stamm and mates Steve Eakle, Dion Stanton, Billy Miller and C.J. Miller, anglers Cutter Stanton, Logan Hudson and Jaycey Miller each released their very first white marlin during a trip to 50 fathoms in the Washington Canyon where Capt. Gary found 81-degree water. The anglers were joined by dolphin slayers Atley Miller and Cash Stanton. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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Shailyn Strahl, Wes Pollitt and Ben Strahl fished in some sporty seas last Wednesday, so they decided to stay closer to shore and fished along Little Gull Shoal where they caught 6 flounder, measuring up to 22-inches, and 30 triggerfish. All of the fish were caught on Gulp and squid. Pictured back at the Ocean City Fishing Center in West Ocean City, MD.



While fishing on the charter boat, "Last Call" with Capt. Frank Pettolina, Capt. Franky Pettolina and mate Chris Evans, anglers Jack, Jim and Morgan Sandlas and Andrew Yager released 75 bluefish and kept some bonita, Spanish mackeral, greenies, Cero mackerel, mahi and king mackerel. All of the action was at the 2nd Lump.

# tlantic Coast

|                             | MD       | <u>DE</u>      |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Atlantic Spadefish          | 24"      | -              |
| Black Drum                  | 48"      | 50 lbs. or 45" |
| Bluefish                    | 34"      | 12 lbs. or 29" |
| Blue Marlin **              | Any Size | Any Size       |
| Cobia                       | 44"      | 45 lbs. or 48" |
| Croaker                     | 18"      | 3 lbs. or 19"  |
| Dolphin                     | 45"      | 15 lbs. or 41" |
| Flounder                    | 24"      | 7 lbs. or 25"  |
| Kingfish (Northern Whiting) | 14"      | 1 lb. or 13"   |
| King Mackerel               | 40"      | 10 lbs. or 26" |
| Red Drum *                  | 36"      | 45"            |
| Sailfish *                  | Any Size | -              |
| Sea Bass                    | 20"      | 3 lbs. or 17"  |
| Sheepshead                  | 20"      | 8 lbs. or 22"  |
| Spanish Mackerel            | 22"      | 5 lbs. or 22"  |
| Speckled Trout              | 24"      | -              |
| Striped Bass                | 40"      | 34 lbs. or 44" |
| Tautog                      | 24"      | 7 lbs. or 25"  |

<sup>\*</sup> Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

| Shark:              |          |                 |
|---------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Blue Shark *        | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Hammerhead *        | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Mako *              | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Thresher *          | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Tiger *             | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Swordfish           | Any Size | Any Size        |
| Tilefish - Blueline |          | 10 lbs. or 28"  |
| Tilefish - Golden   |          | 35 lbs. or 40"  |
| Tuna:               |          |                 |
| Longfin Albacore    | 36"      | 30 lbs. or 32"  |
| False Albacore      | 24"      | 12 lbs. or 26"  |
| Bigeye ***          | 60"      | 70 lbs. or 48"  |
| Bluefin ***         | 55"      | 100 lbs. or 60" |
| Yellowfin ***       | 50"      | 70 lbs. or 48"  |
| Wahoo               | 60"      | 20 lbs. or 50"  |
| Weakfish            | 24"      | 3 lbs. or 20"   |
| White Marlin **     | Any Size | Any Size        |
|                     |          |                 |

<sup>\*\*</sup> Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Use curved-fork-length measurements



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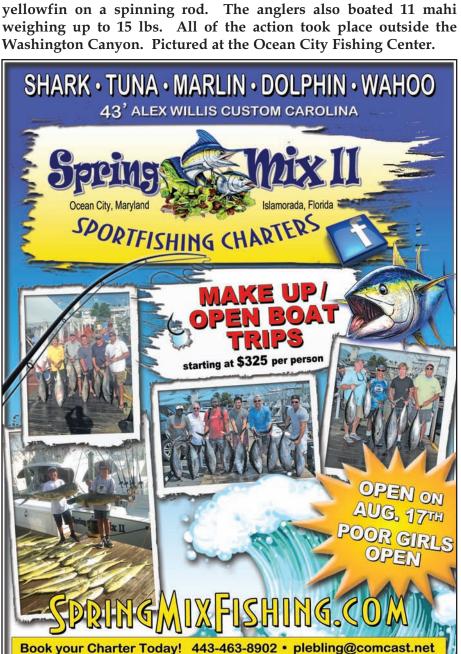
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# FISHING CHARTERS



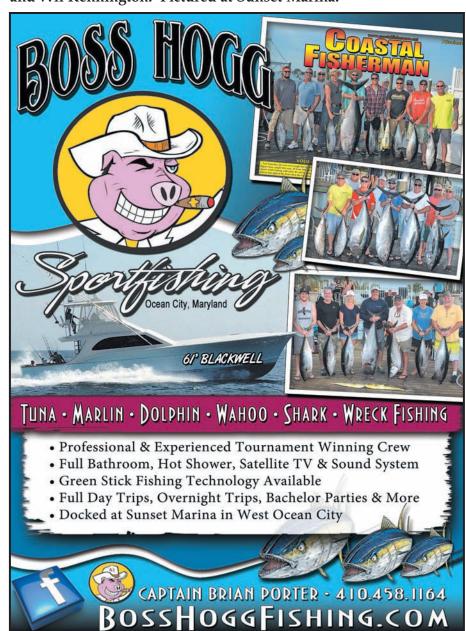
During a trip aboard the charter boat, "Spring Mix II" with Capt. Chris Watkowski and mates Ayrton Pryor and Jacob Lewis, anglers Cody Buehler, Morgan Talbot and Hunter Talbot all caught and released their first white marlin and Scott Talbot muscled in a 50 lb. yellowfin on a spinning rod. The anglers also boated 11 mahi weighing up to 15 lbs. All of the action took place outside the Washington Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Craig Dranbauer, Andrew Warner, Brandon Ruiz and Mike Miceli caught 9 yellowfin tuna while trolling in 70-100 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. The anglers were fishing on the charter boat, "Boss Hogg" with Capt. Brian Porter and mates Marshall Freng and Wil Kennington. Pictured at Sunset Marina.





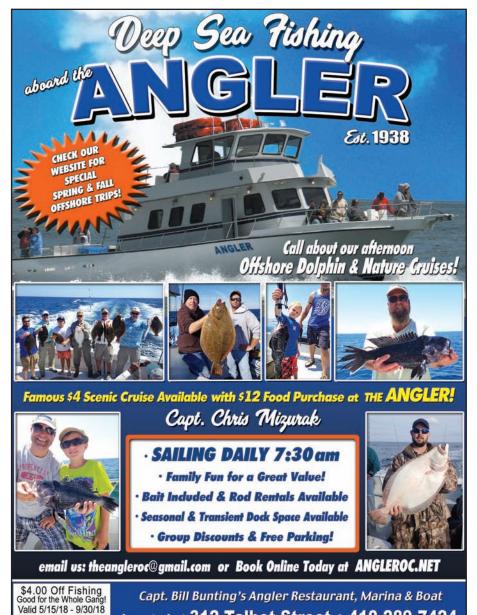


Trevor Richards and Kevin Ramsey had a great trip on the bay headboat, "Bay Bee", returning to the Ocean City Fishing Center with 6 keeper flatties (5 pictured) measuring between 17 and 21 1/2inches.



McKenna Forman is all smiles after boating this mahi during a trip on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. The fish was caught on a strip of squid.





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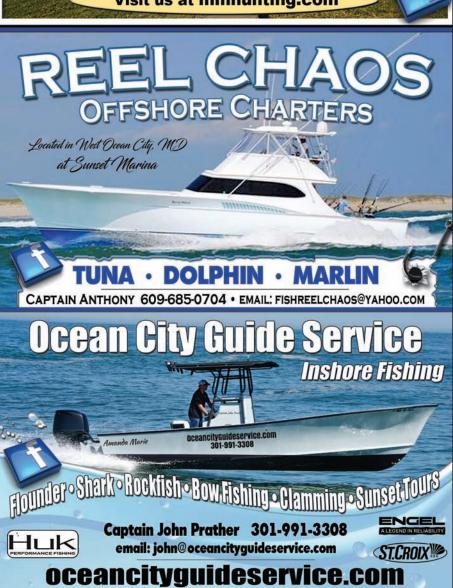
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# FISHING CHARTERS



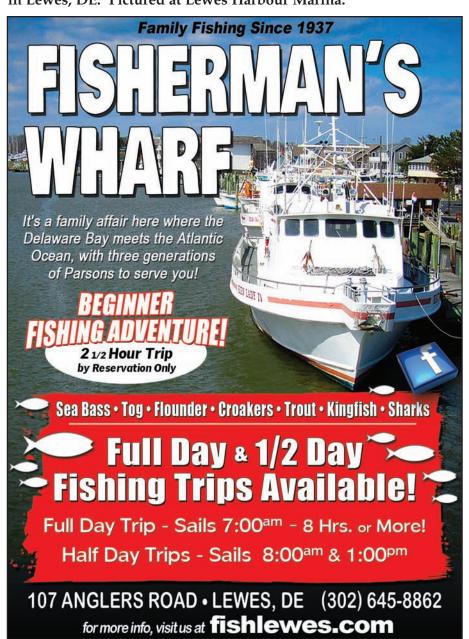
Karl Meyer released this blue marlin, estimated at 230 lbs., while fishing on the charter boat, "Foolish Pleasures" with Chris Haynes, Scott Meyer, Frank Bonanno, Jim Frazetti, Capt. Dale Lisi and mate Eddie Braxton. The fish was hooked in the Washington Canyon.







During a trip aboard the "Thelma Dale" with Capt. Rick Yakimowicz, anglers Mike and Oakie Thompson from Wilmington, DE captured 5 keeper flounder, measuring between 17 1/2 and 20-inches. All of the fish were caught on squid and Gulp artificial bait at Site 11. The "Thelma Dale" is docked at Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes, DE. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.





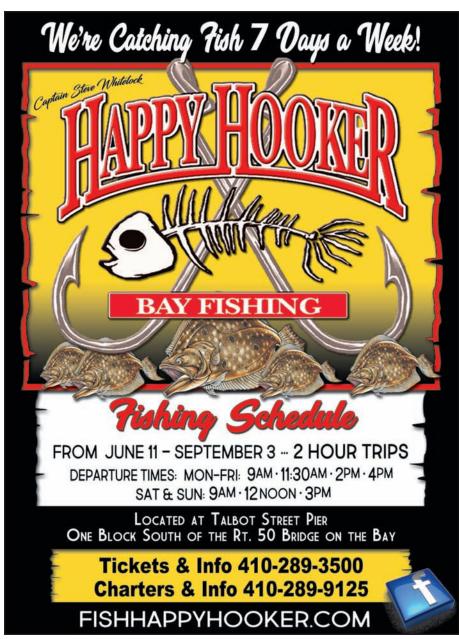
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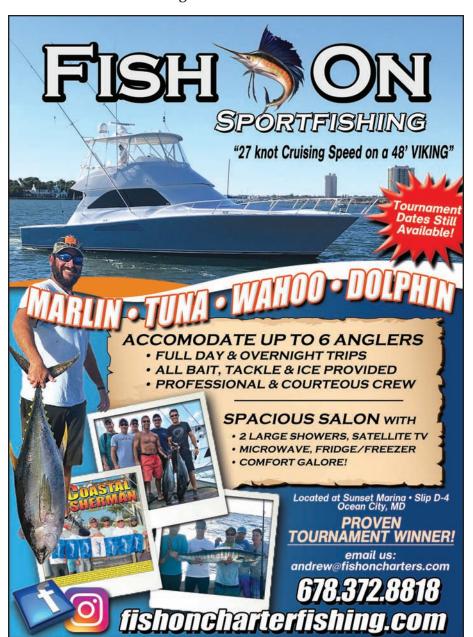


Little Gus Morris, age 5, from Silver Spring, MD muscled in this 17 1/2-inch flounder at the Roosevelt Inlet while fishing a tandem rig tipped with glow-in-the-dark Gulp artificial bait. Picture courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



You can usually find 9-year-old Brandon Riley fishing the waters around Ocean City, MD, but on this day he headed south to the CBBT with his dad, Mike Riley, Steven Haversack and Ed Richardson where he caught and released a 55-inch red drum.







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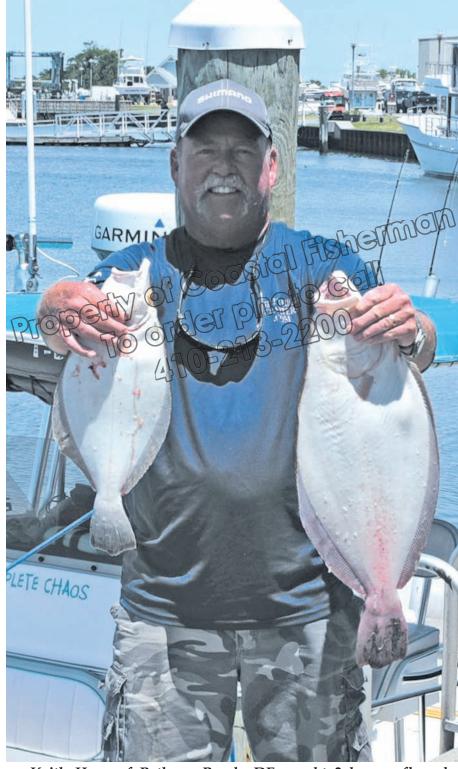
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## FISHING CHARTERS



Bob Weaver, Trevor Dawson, Dan Mattio and John Blische captured 8 flounder in the East Channel on minnows while fishing on the "Bojo II" during both the incoming and outgoing tides.





Keith Hoye of Bethany Beach, DE caught 3 keeper flounder (2 pictured) while fishing on the headboat, "Judy V" with Capt. Chris Adams. All of the action took place at Site 10 while jigging with a bucktail tipped with a Gulp artificial bait. Keith's largest fish of the day measured 24-inches and weighed 5 lbs. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

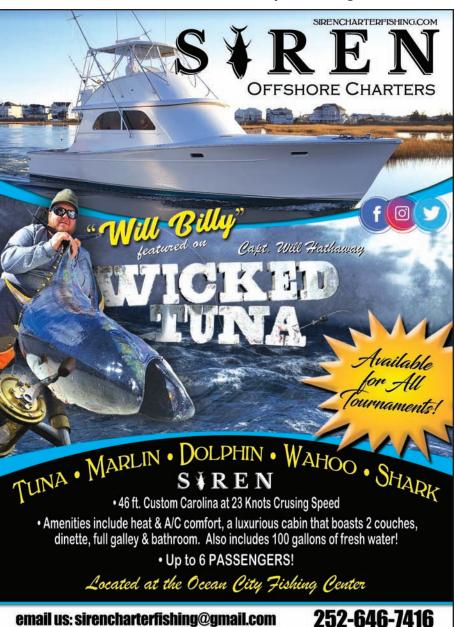




# FISHING CHARTERS

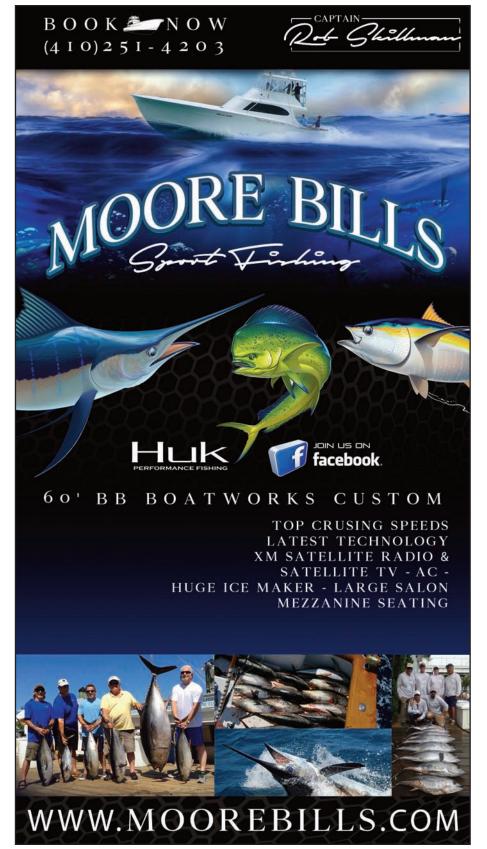


Chris Miller, Jr., Nick Miller, Brian Mathias, Tom Collins, Mike Mosmiller and Capt. Chris Miller returned from an overnight trip to the Washington Canyon with 6 yellowfin and 7 mahi in the box of the "Fishizzle". All were hooked on ballyhoo and spreader bars.





The Shover and Minner families fished behind Assateague Island and hooked 35 flatties between Markers 6 and 7. They ended their day with 9 keepers in the box ranging from 16 1/2 to 18 1/2-inches. Pictured are Cory, Nick, Madi and Danielle Shover and Billy, Mike and Andrew Minner.





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Trace Schreble from Reading, PA, Aaron Andrews from Westminster, MD, Christy Morgan from Elko, NV and Samuel Sugzdinis from Limrick, PA all went home with keeper flounder after spending a few hours fishing on the bay headboat, "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mates Matt Harris and Nathan McGinnis. Christy took top fish honors with an 18-incher that weighed 2 lbs. 5 oz. All were caught in the Thorofare near Harbour Island on squid combined with either minnows or shiners. Pictured at Bahia Marina on 22nd Street in Ocean City, MD.



Connor Toomey, Howard Todd, Brandon Arbagas, John Lord and Kyle Powely on the "Bottoms Up" had action right out of the gate, battling fish at 5:30 in the morning while trolling in the Washington Canyon. The anglers ended up going 3 for 4 on yellowfins and caught 8 mahi during their trip.





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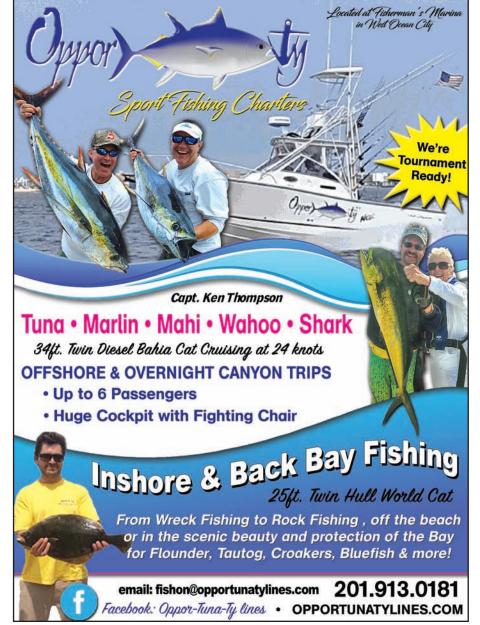


Garrett Harner, Walt Harner, Seth Reichley and Zach Galbraith took the trip down from Pennsylvania to fish on the charter boat, "On the Run" with Capt. Dave Caffrey and ended up catching 12 keeper flounder while fishing with Gulp Swimming Mullets on ocean structure. Garrett led the way with a 26-incher that weighed 6 lbs. and Walt was right behind with a 22-incher that tipped the scale at 4 lbs. Pictured with Floyd at Bahia Marina.



Anglers on the "Oppor-Tuna-ty Too" captured an 18.8 lb. dolphin while trolling at the Lumpy Bottom during the 2018 Canyon Kick Off. Pictured are Adam Thompson, Mike Gettier, Jimmy Busick, and Captains Ken Thompson and Phil Leary.











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## FISHINGCHARTERS



While fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins, anglers Adam Zeigler from Dover, PA, Jim Dunagan from Manheim, PA and Mike Zeigler from Ocean City, MD boated their limit of 45 black sea bass, measuring up to 20-inches, while using squid for bait. All of the knotheads were caught on ocean structure.





Eli Easton of Hampstead, MD used a white Gulp Swimming Mullet to fool this 21-inch flounder while drifting in the Ocean City Inlet on the charter boat, "Ivy Sea" with Capt. Jeff Powell. The "Ivy Sea" is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





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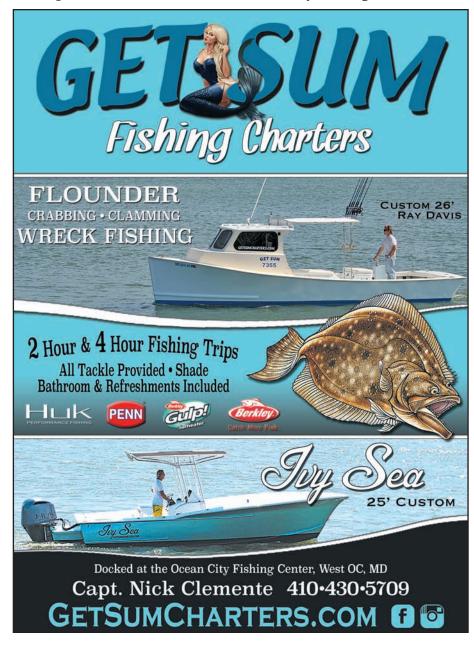


Kinsley Hazel from Millsboro, DE caught this 24 3/4-inch, 10 lb. tog while soaking clams over natural ocean bottom with Capt. Monty Hawkins on the headboat, "Morning Star" out of the Ocean City Fishing Center.





There were 7 flounder in the box of the charter boat, "Get Sum" after this group of anglers drifted in the bay behind Assateague Island and further north behind Harbour Island. The fish, measuring up to 18 1/2-inches, were fooled with white Gulp Swimming Mullets during a trip with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Willie Poole. Pictured are anglers Jim and Sylvia Angstadt of Ocean Pines, MD and Julie Chrisman and Bill Angstadt from Chesapeake, VA. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





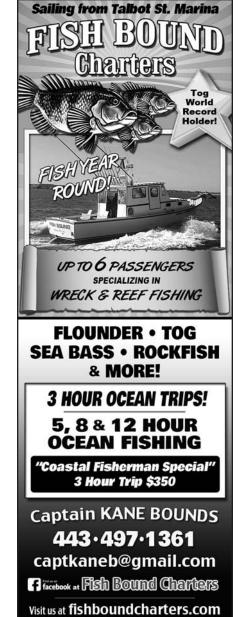


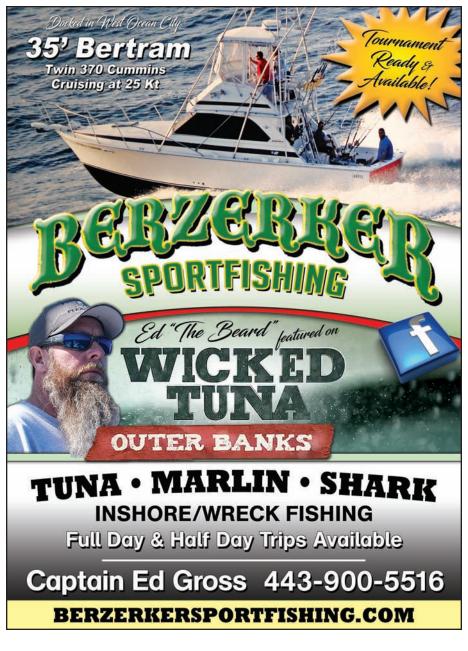
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## FISHING CHARTERS



Parker Martin caught and released this blue marlin, estimated at 350 lbs., while fishing on the "Prospector" with Will Martin and Ray Kinstler. The blue marlin, along with a pair of small white marlin, were released in the Washington Canyon where the anglers also boated over 50 mahi after hooking them along a weedline. They also broke off a swordfish while night time deep dropping squid and released a hammerhead shark.









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During a trip aboard the headboat, "Judith M", it was stogie time for angler Robert Wright of Norristown, PA after catching this 2 lb. 8 oz. triggerfish on a salted clam over ocean structure.



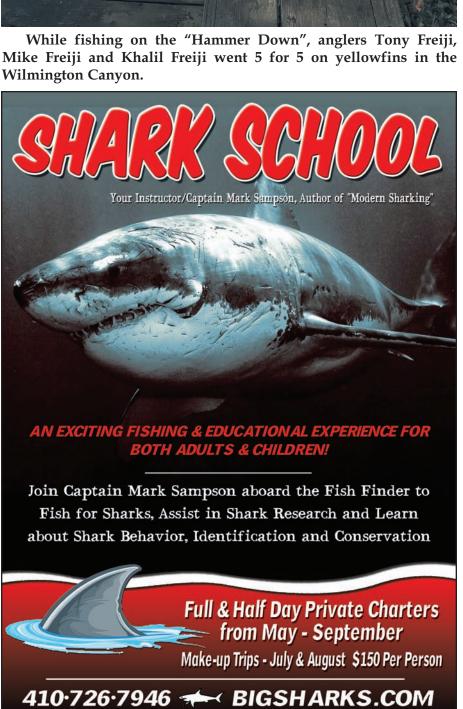
Alex Kozma took the trip down from Bucks County, PA and spent some time fishing on the headboat, "Judith M" with Capt. John Bunting. Alex caught this 16 1/2-inch black sea bass in 60-feet of water on natural ocean bottom.





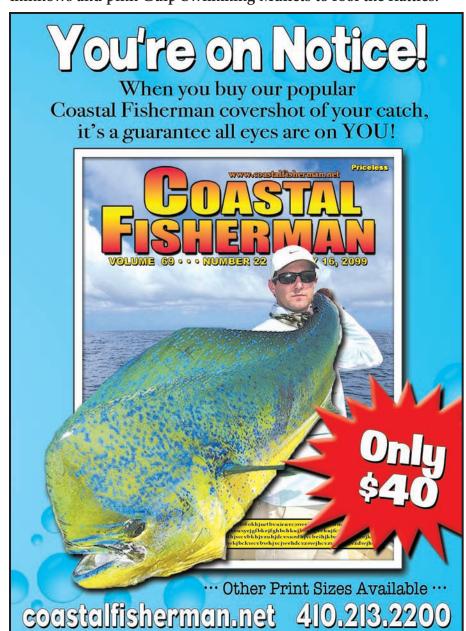






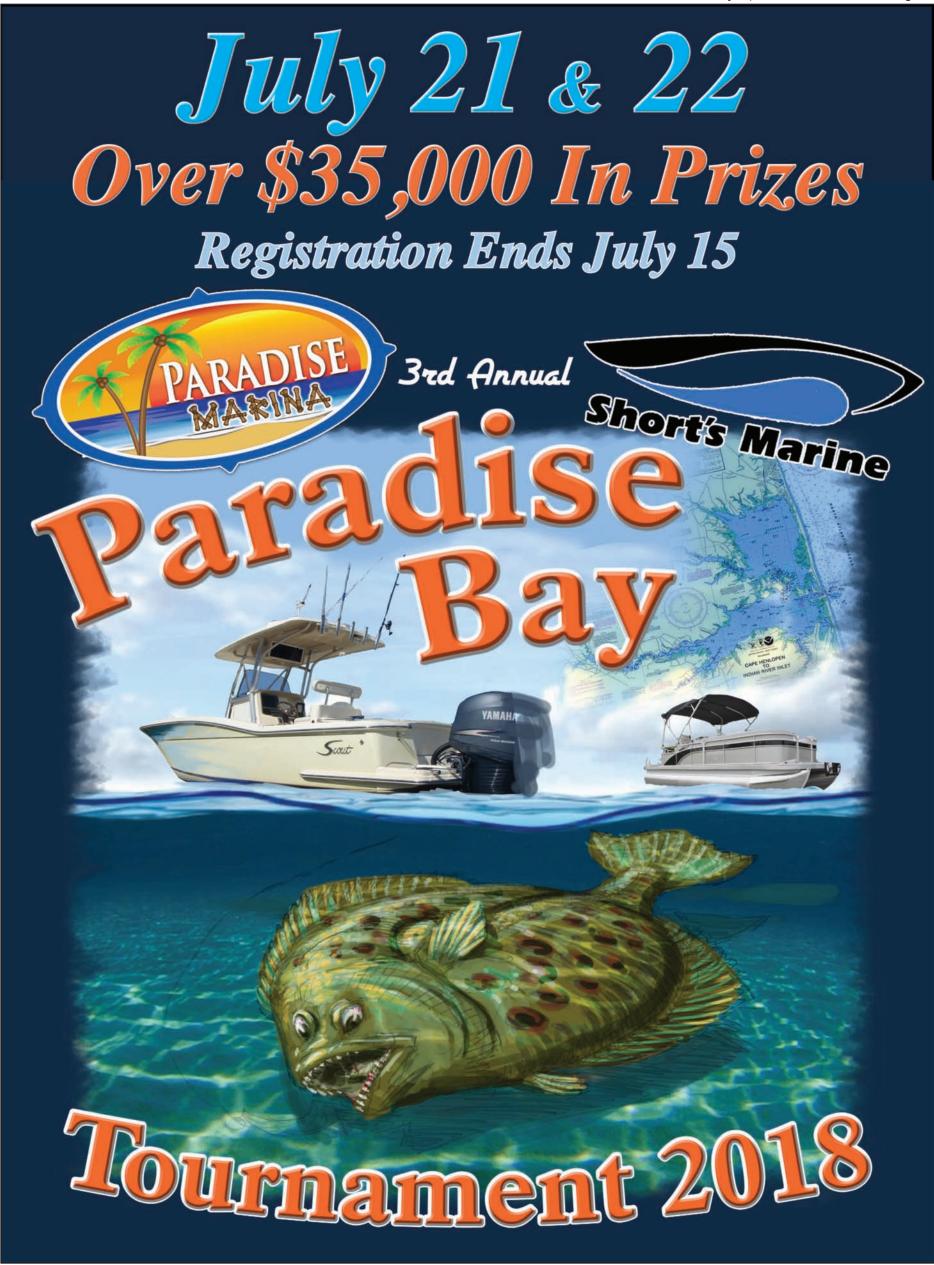


Ava Melvin from Ridgely, MD was a happy angler when she stopped by the Coastal Fisherman office on Sunset Avenue to have her picture taken with the pair of flounder, measuring 17 and 19-inches, that she caught around the South Jetty. Ava used minnows and pink Gulp Swimming Mullets to fool the flatties.















There I was standing in the cockpit of my boat looking up at the bow of the 53-foot Viking "Kingfisher" as it closed the distance between our two vessels. My buddies Fishbone and Bobby were on the bow of the Viking cracking jokes. My sidekick, Mr. Evans was standing next to me with a mahi attached to a coiled rope. A moment or two later Mr. Evans tossed the long end of the rope to Fishbone and the mahi was hauled up on to the bow of the "Kingfisher." Fishbone untied the mahi and heaved the rope back to Mr. Evans. A second mahi was made secure and Capt. Ted eased the "Kingfisher" back into range and a second mahi transferred to the "Kingfisher" for the ride back to Ocean City. More jokes were cracked. Capt. Ted spun the wheel and throttled up, and I watched my fish and my friends heading away. Mr. Evans and I shrugged our shoulders and settled in for an extended trip back to the marina.

Rewind the clock about 8 hours or so and I was deploying the baits for the start of my first fishing day in

the Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kickoff Tournament. On the "Last Call" our current program consists of me splitting captain duties with my Dad, and Mr. Evans runs our cockpit. Dad usually runs the boat out and I help Chris (that is how we refer to Mr. Evans in a less formal manner) set the trolling spread out in the morning. Once the baits are out and everything is settled into place I will take over the wheel, giving Dad some time to unwind and hang out with the fishing party. For the Canyon Kickoff our anglers consisted of my Mom (Maddie), my wife (Jen) and our friends Billy, Boz and Billy served as Mike. President of the Marlin Club before me and was a Board Member up until this year. Boz and Mike are both currently on the Board of Directors, with Mike serving as Treasurer. The seas were calm, fishing had been good the day before and I was looking forward to enjoyable day on the water with good friends and family.

Then the starboard engine alarm started going off and the engine lost power. Sixty some odd miles out in the ocean and we were at half power. The bright side? We have two engines. The down side? Twin engine boats don't perform very well on one engine. Instead of getting to unwind, Dad had to change roles and become chief engineer and mechanic. I took over the helm and Dad went to work in the machinery space.

No sooner was Dad in the engine room and hollering for me to try and start the engine when a white marlin charged the left teaser. Dad was hollering commands from the engine room, unaware that I was hollering totally different commands from the fly bridge. After a few minutes of laughter and miscommunication, we had successfully missed our first marlin of the tournament. Not the start I was hoping for.

My engine alarms are obnoxiously loud. This was done intentionally. I want it to be unmistakable. None of this "Whats that sound?" business. When my alarms go off it is obvious there is something wrong. The drawback to this is that the alarms sound when the key is activated prior to starting the engine, and when we are troubleshooting a problem the key needs to be activated in order for the engine diagnostic systems to be energized.

Once we were finished

www.coastalfisherman.net missing the marlin it was time to drive around with a loud buzzing in my ear for the next hour and a half or so while Dad traced a short in a wire that was causing our engine to shut down. In spite of all the alarm noise we managed to capture a couple mahi and the day was looking a little brighter. And then Dad gave me the go ahead to fire the engine up and we were running under twin propulsion again... for about 10 minutes. The engine ran just long enough to have a raw water cooling pump impellor failure. I mean what are the odds?!?!? Back down to engine room for Dad and back to driving around on one

Déjà vu all over again. We missed another marlin (What the heck Mr. Evans!!!) and caught a few more mahi. Dad fixed the problem and gave me the ok to start the engine and go back to fishing under full propulsion. All was good. I mean what else could go wrong?

engine for me.

We finished the day on two engines and had a couple of contenders for the mahi category in the fish box. Everything was going to work out. Or so we thought.

As we accelerated to cruising speed, I noticed the starboard engine was smoking more than usual. I went up to the bridge and Dad pointed





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out that the engine was running at higher temperature than normal. In order for the engine to run at a safe operating temperature we had to pull the throttles back quite a bit. Dad and I knew what the problem was and unfortunately we knew that it couldn't be fixed until we got back to the marina. When the water pump impellor failed some of the pieces of the impellor ended up clogging our engine's heat exchanger. We had hoped that we were going to get lucky and the pieces would wash through, but things didn't work out that way. So we were limping home at 13 knots. That's about half of our normal cruising speed. This spelled bad news for the contenders that were iced up in our fish box. At that speed we weren't going to make it to the tournament scale before they closed.

I went down to the cabin and checked the rules for the tournament. I was pretty sure that there was an exemption in the rules that allowed for a transfer of fish to another boat in the event of a mechanical issue, but I wanted to be positive. After re-reading the rules I hurried back up to the bridge to start calling in a favor.

I called all of the boats I could think of that I knew had fished near me throughout the day. I tried the "Reel Joy" but they were too far into the ride home already. Capt. Andy is a good friend of mine and I am sure he would have turned around, but I couldn't ask him to do that (or have his boss incur all that extra fuel burn). Next up was the "Par Five." They had just passed us when we had to slow down. For whatever reason, I couldn't raise Capt. Charlie on the radio. Same thing with the "Grande Pez." Our radios just weren't getting along. Finally, I was able to talk to Capt. Al on the "Roncito" and Capt. Ted on the "Kingfisher." Luckily for me, Capt. Ted was only about a mile away. That led to the events at the beginning of this fish story.

We made it back to the marina (obviously since I am writing this). The boat got fixed up and we fished the next day, although we were tired after spending half of the night getting the repairs done. More mahi were caught and Mr. Evans was back to his normal marlin hooking self. One of our mahi from the first day even ended up being big enough to take third place in the Tournament.

I owe my friends on the "Kingfisher" a few cold ones for their help with that one. I will be sure to pay it forward too. They didn't have to come to my rescue, but they did, and I am very thankful. Ted, Fishbone, Bobby (and the rest of the "Kingfisher" crew) I tip my riggers to ya! Top shelf all the way!

Capt Franky Pettolina is Co-Captain of the charter boat, "Last Call", owner of Pettolina Marine Surveying, Inc. and multi-term President of the Ocean City Marlin Club.

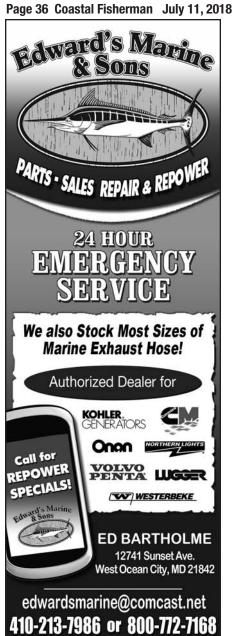
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Jackie Hamilton of Millsboro, DE caught this 17 lb. 8 oz. black drum while fishing at the Star Site Reef in the Delaware Bay with Gulp artificial baits and squid. Jackie was on the "Angler" with Don and Ronni Smith, Kydreece Burks, Kyreek Bradshaw and Ken Newcomber. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.









Black drum were snapping right before the tide started heading out for this group of anglers fishing on the charter boat, "On the Run" with Capt. Dave Caffrey. The fish, weighing up to 10 lbs., were caught on sand fleas near the Rt. 90 Bridge. Pictured are John Collins with his sons, Ford and Ray and Mike Collins with sons Gabe and Henry. The "On the Run" is docked at Bahia Marina.









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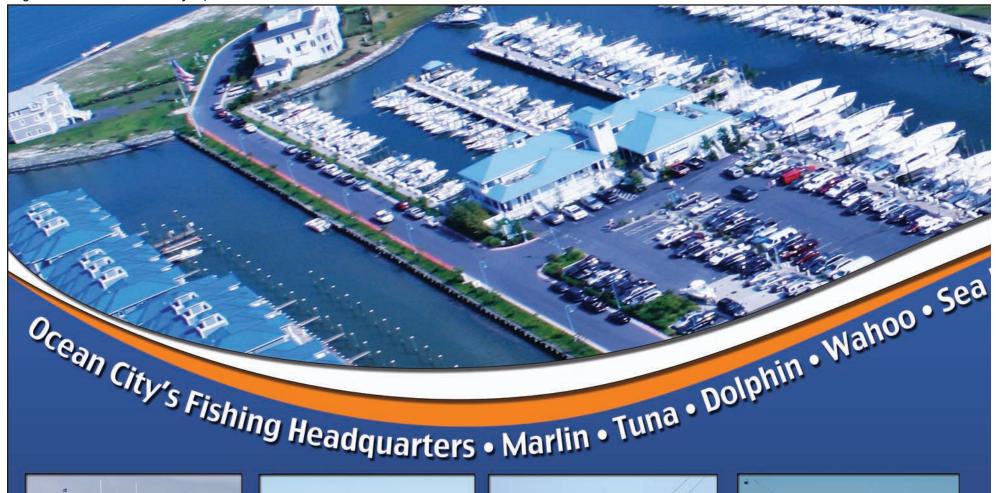
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#### Cilantro-Lime Shrimp Foil Packs

1 lb. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined

- 3 ears corn, quartered
- 1 zucchini, cut into half moons
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 TBSP. freshly chopped cilantro

Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

2 limes, sliced into rounds

2 TBSP. butter

In a large bowl, combine shrimp, corn, zucchini, garlic,

cumin, red pepper flakes and cilantro.

Drizzle with olive oil, season with salt and pepper, and toss until combined.

Lay out four pieces of foil. Divide shrimp mixture between foil and top each with a pat of butter and lime slices.

Seal packs.

Heat grill to high.

Add shrimp packs and grill until shrimp is pink, about 10 minutes.

Serve.

#### **Shrimp Ceviche**

Kosher salt
1 lb. shrimp, peeled and
deveined
Juice of 3 limes
Juice of 1 orange
1/2 cup red onion, diced

2 1/2 jalapenos, minced 1 cup cucumber, seeded

1 cup chopped cherry tomatoes

and diced

2 TBSP. chopped fresh cilantro

1/4 cup mayonnaise

2 TBSP. hot sauce

8 corn tostadas

1 avocado, sliced

Bring a large pot of well-salted water to a boil.

Turn off heat.

Add shrimp and poach until shrimp are pink and cooked through, about 3 minutes.

Drain and let cool.

Chop shrimp into bite-size pieces.

In a large bowl, combine shrimp with lime juice, orange juice, onion and jalapenos.

Season with salt.

**-⊗**-

Marinate in the refrigerator for 1 hour.

Stir in cucumber, tomatoes and cilantro.

Taste and adjust

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seasoning.

Make spicy mayo in a small bowl by mixing together mayo and hot sauce.

Spread onto tostadas and add ceviche.

Top each tostada with sliced avocado and serve immediately.

#### Shrimp 'n Broccoli Lo Mein

2 TBSP. sesame oil 1/2 lb. white shrimp,

peeled and deveined 1 green bell pepper, thinly

sliced 1 red bell pepper, thinly sliced

1 cup broccoli florets

1/3 cup thinly sliced carrots (or matchstick)

6 oz. spaghetti, cooked and drained

3 green onions, chopped

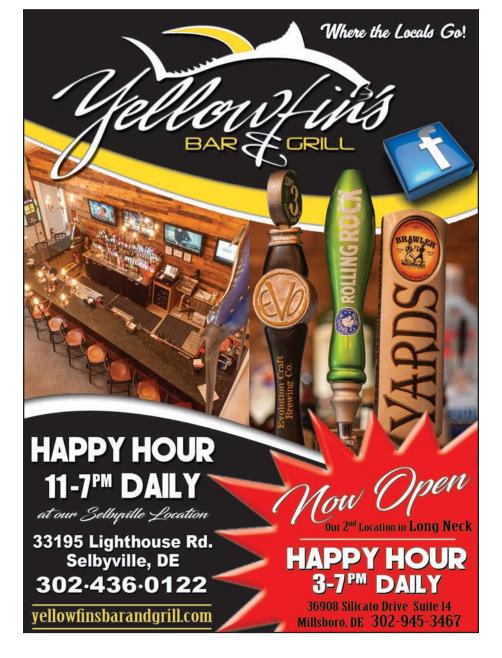
Sauce

1/2 cup soy sauce

2 TBSP. brown sugar

1 TBSP. sesame oil

1 TBSP. cold water







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2 tsp. cornstarch

Drizzle a large skillet with sesame oil.

Over medium-high heat, cook shrimp, peppers, broccoli, and carrots until veggies are tender and shrimp is pink, 5 to 7 minutes.

Whisk together all sauce ingredients and add to pan.

Bring to a boil, then reduce to a simmer.

Stir in noodles and green onions and cook, 3 to 4 minutes longer.

Serve immediately.

#### Easy Pad Thai

Kosher salt

- 8 oz. pad thai noodles
- 2 TBSP. lime juice
- 2 TBSP. brown sugar
- 1 TBSP. fish sauce
- 1 TBSP. soy sauce
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 2 TBSP. vegetable oil
- 1 bell pepper, thinly sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 eggs, lightly whisked
- 1 lb. shrimp

Freshly ground black pepper

2 green onions, thinly sliced on a bias

1/2 cup roasted peanuts, chopped

In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook noodles until tender, 7 to 10 minutes or until tender.

Drain and set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk together lime juice, brown sugar, fish sauce, soy sauce and cayenne pepper.

Set aside.

Heat oil in a large nonstick pan over medium-high heat.

Add bell pepper and cook until tender, about 4 minutes.

Stir in garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute more.

Add the shrimp and season with salt and pepper.

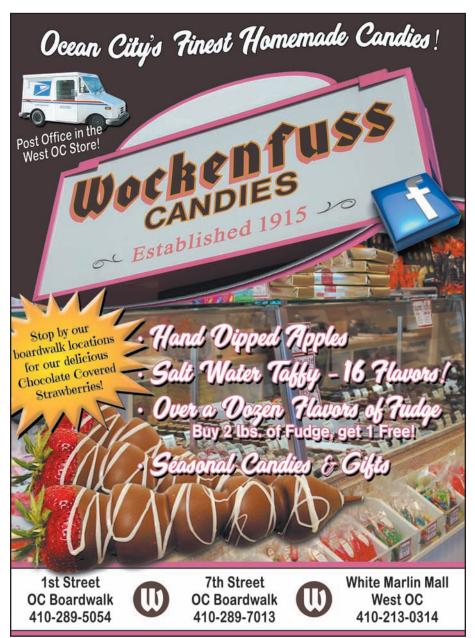
Cook until pink, about 2 minutes per side.

Push the shrimp and vegetables to one side of the pan and pour in the egg.

Scramble until just set then mix with the shrimp mixture.



It was time to fire up the cigar for Dave Walker after he muscled in this 6 lb. 11 oz. flounder while fishing with minnows on ocean structure. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.





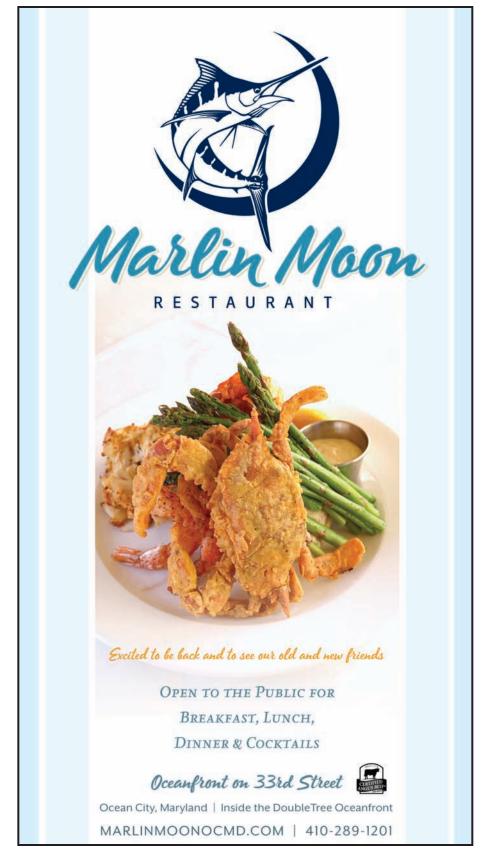


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Andy Ciarpello ventured down from Pennsylvania and spent a day fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. Andy was rewarded with a catch of black sea bass, including this 3 pounder caught on a strip of squid at a natural ocean reef.



Add the cooked noodles and toss until combined.

Pour in the lime juice mixture and toss until the noodles are coated.

Top with green onions and roasted peanuts.

Serve.

#### Garlic Cilantro Shrimp

4 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil, divided
5 cloves garlic, minced
2 tsp. lime juice
1/2 tsp. chili powder
1/4 tsp. kosher salt
1/3 cup chopped cilantro, plus more for serving
1 lb. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
1/3 cup finely diced onion

In a small bowl, whisk together 3 TBSP. olive oil, garlic, lime juice, chili powder, salt and cilantro.

Pour over shrimp. Mix until all the shrimp are

Cover and refrigerate for 10 minutes or up to 8 hours.

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In a skillet over mediumhigh heat, warm remaining TBSP olive oil.

Add onions and cook until fragrant, 2 to 3 minutes.

Add coated shrimp and cook on one side until pink, about 45 seconds, then flip over.

Cook until shrimp is cooked through, about 1 minute more.

Serve immediately with extra cilantro, if desired.

#### Shrimp 'n Bacon Grits

2 1/4 cups low-sodium chicken broth, divided

2 cups water

Kosher salt

1 cup quick-cooking grits

3 TBSP. unsalted butter, divided

1/2 cups freshly grated Parmesan

6 oz. bacon, cut into 1/4-inch slices

1 onion, diced

1 lb. shrimp, peeled and deveined





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3 cloves garlic, grated Freshly ground black pepper

2 green onions, thinly sliced

In a small pot over medium-high heat, bring 2 cups broth and water to a boil.

Add 1/2 tsp. salt and slowly pour in grits while stirring to keep smooth.

Cook according to package instructions, then stir in 1 TBSP butter and Parmesan cheese. Keep warm.

Meanwhile, in a large castiron skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until crispy.

Place bacon on a plate and set aside, reserving 2 TBSP bacon fat.

Cook onions and garlic over medium heat until softened, 4 minutes.

Pour in remaining 1/4 cup of broth, bring to a boil and simmer until slightly thickened, 3 to 4 minutes.

Add shrimp and season with salt and pepper.

Stir until shrimp are pink

and cooked through, then turn off heat and add remaining 2 TBSP butter and green onions.

Serve shrimp over grits with a spoonful of sauce.

Top with crumbled bacon and green onions.

#### **Buffalo Shrimp Tacos**

2 TBSP. salted butter 1/4 cup hot sauce 1 lb. shrimp without tails, peeled and deveined 8 small corn tortillas 1 cup shredded cabbage 2 celery stalks, diced 1/2 cup diced red onion 1 cup sour cream 1/4 cup crumbled blue cheese, plus additional for garnish 1/2 cup chopped cilantro

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter and combine with hot sauce.

Sauté shrimp in buffalo sauce until cooked through, about 4 minutes.

Soften tortillas in a non-



Rich Daiker, eagerly awaiting the arrival of his new boat, the "Delicious D", took some time to drift in the East Channel near the old Concrete Plant where he caught his limit of 4 keeper flounder (2 pictured) while using live bunker for bait. Rich's largest flattie measured 20-inches.





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Matt Brough from Drexel Hill, PA was fishing off the wall on the north side of the Ocean City Inlet when he hooked into this 3 lb. 5 oz. sheepshead while using sand fleas for bait.

stick skillet.

Transfer to a plate and wrap in a clean kitchen towel to keep warm.

Assemble tacos with layers of cabbage, celery, red onion, buffalo shrimp, sour cream and blue cheese.

Drizzle with buffalo sauce and garnish with cilantro.

Serve immediately

#### Old Bay Shrimp Quesadillas

4 large flour tortillas 3 cups shredded Monterey Jack, divided

2 cups chopped spinach

2 TBSP. butter

1 tsp. Old Bay seasoning

1 1/2 lbs. medium shrimp, cleaned, deveined, and tails removed

1 cup guacamole

1 medium tomato,

chopped

1/4 cup chopped cilantro Cayenne pepper

Preheat oven to 400degrees.

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Prepare two rimmed sheet pans with parchment paper.

Place two tortillas on each sheet pan.

In a medium bowl, combine 2 cups of Monterey Jack cheese and spinach.

Set aside.

Melt butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat.

When butter begins to bubble, stir in Old Bay and toss with shrimp.

Sauté until shrimp are cooked through and pink.

Add a handful of cheesespinach mixture to half of each tortilla.

Divide shrimp evenly and place in a single layer over mixture.

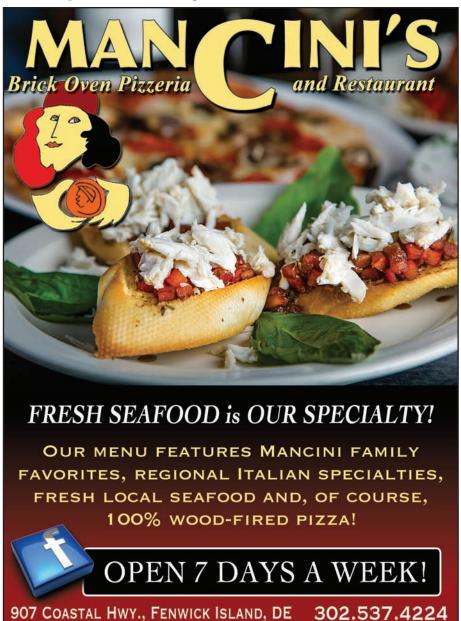
Top with remaining cheese-spinach mixture and fold tortilla over.

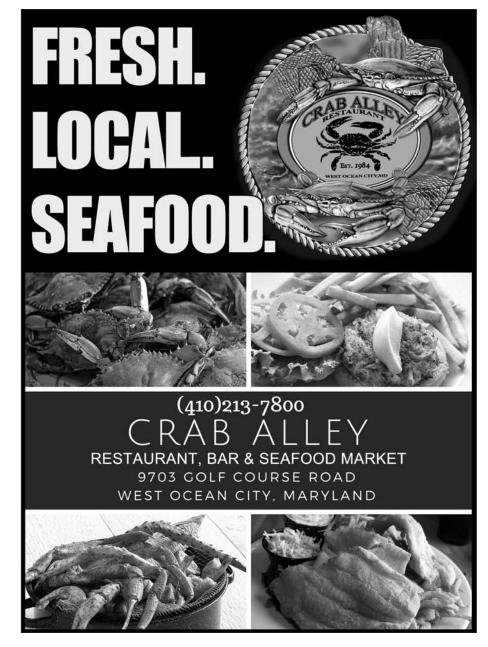
Sprinkle remaining cheese on top of each quesadilla.

Bake until melted.

Top each quesadilla with guacamole, tomato, cilantro and a dash of cayenne pepper.

Serve immediately.





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Lee Taylor and Michelle Taylor (not pictured) took sons Brad and Levi out for a trip on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Chris Vann and spent the afternoon catching weakfish in the Delaware Bay. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina located in Lewes, DE.



Darryl Johnson caught this 43 lb. dolphin while fishing outside the Rockpile on the charter boat, "Talkin Trash" with Capt. Chris Little and mate Keath Puller. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center in West Ocean City.







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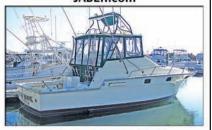
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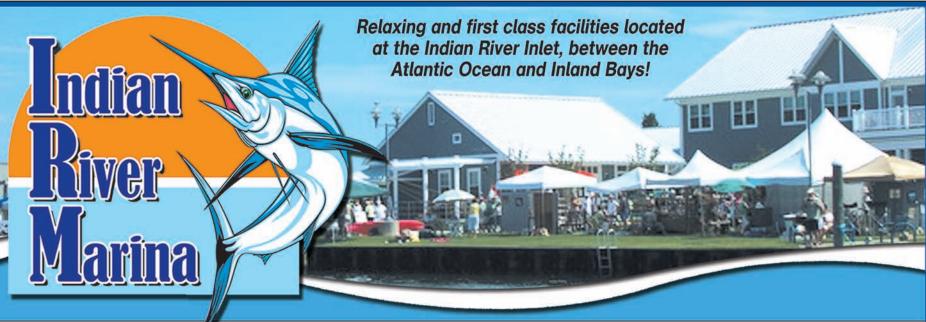
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Kayla Bronakoski, Matthew Creech and Jonathan Creech, all from Glen Burnie, MD were fishing last Friday on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Willie Poole when they caught 4 flounder before going crabbing and returning with a 1/2 bushel of beautiful blue claws. The flounder, measuring up to 18-inches, were caught on white Gulp Swimming Mullets at the north end of the East Channel near Harbour Island. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Flounder fishing on ocean sites has definitely been on the upswing and these three anglers found them snapping at Site 10 where they caught their limit of 12 while drifting minnows. Kenny Evans and Micky Payne got edged out for Top Angler honors by Jordan Swithenbank who boated a 4 lb. 5 oz. flattie during the trip. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.







-



pierpointmarina@verizon.net



Jeanne Grogg from Spring Grove, PA used a live minnow to fool this 23 1/2-inch flounder while drifting in the Indian River.

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This past weekend was a 99% blowout. The storms started rolling through on Friday afternoon and the weekend was cooler and windy. Offshore boats stayed at the dock, a few headboats stayed closer to shore and bay and inlet anglers just had to deal with the wind.

Before the weekend, anglers had to be happy with what they were seeing. Canal, bay and inlet anglers were kept busy with an improved flounder bite, inshore boats saw more flatties on structure and offshore boats found slower tuna fishing but improved marlin and mahi fishing.

At the Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle Shop in the Indian River Marina and Hook'em & Cook'em Outdoors in South Bethany, Capt. Bert Adams reported a good flounder bite in the Indian River Inlet on Sunday morning between the Handicap Pier and the Inlet. Bert said that a couple of his regulars caught their limits of flatties (a rare occurrence) that measured between 17 and 20inches. The most productive bait was 5-inch white Gulp Swimming Mullet. Anglers fishing in the inlet also found small croakers interested in

their offerings of Fishbites artificial baits. While most use the blooodworm flavored Fishbite, Bert said that hardheads absolutely destroy the clam flavored ones.

There was also at least one weakfish caught in the inlet on Sunday and a few stripers as well on Friday night and Saturday morning. The linesiders measured 32 and 35-inches.

Not much has been happening in the back bays except for a lot of small flounder being caught, but Bert said that he wouldn't be surprised if more keeper flounder were captured this week after the batch that came through the Indian River Inlet late last week.

In the suds, surfcasters continue to deal with sharks and skates along with a few kingfish.

The shoals off lower Delaware, especially Fenwick Shoal and Isle of Wight Shoal, produced catches of both king and Spanish mackerel in addition to snapper bluefish. Headboats are finding better flounder fishing 8 to 12 miles off the beach. Capt. Chris Adams said that long strips of squid seemed to produce better

bites than other strip or cut baits. Anglers are still finding a mediocre sea bass bite on ocean structure, but are encountering big sea robins looking for cut bait.

Offshore, the boats out of Indian River saw the tuna bite slow down last week but a good marlin bite, both white and blue, developed in the Washington Canyon where anglers also found increased numbers of mahi. Most of the tuna action was around the 800/800 with a few bigeyes and nice size yellowfins returning to the scales.

Matt Shoup at Fenwick Tackle said that his customers who were fishing off the beach in Fenwick were catching kingfish, sharks, rays and some snapper bluefish. He also heard that a few croaker were caught in the surf off Bethany last week.

Anglers fishing in the Fenwick Ditch are catching stripers while using eels for bait. The linesiders are measuring up to 25-inches. Matt also said that he heard rumors about some croakers in The Ditch as well, but hasn't confirmed it.

At Lewes Harbour Marina, Capt. Tommy said that www.coastalfisherman.net

flounder are finally being caught in good numbers in the Lewes Canal, but anglers have had to be patient and weed through a lot of throwbacks to get their keepers. The flounder are a nice size, measuring in the 20 to 24-inch range, and have been hitting glow-in-the-dark Gulp baits in addition to long strip baits (see Capt. Chris Adams' comment earlier). Anglers in the Lewes Canal are also seeing a good number of slot stripers, in the 20 to 25inch range. Right now, Delaware anglers are fortunate to have a slot season for striped bass with 20 to 25-inchers allowed to be caught and kept between July 1 and August 3 in the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tributaries.

Those fishing around the Cape Henlopen Pier are catching croakers, snapper bluefish and flounder while those hitting the Delaware Bay reef sites are adding kingfish and some weakfish to the mix.

Inshore, primarily on the Old Grounds, we are seeing the normal summertime ramp-up of flounder fishing in addition to a few sea bass and triggerfish ending up in coolers. For flatties on ocean structure, Spro bucktails tipped with long strip baits has always been a top producer, but 6-inch Gulp Swimming Mullets have also worked extremely well.

Until next week, have fun and tight lines.



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Lee Costenbader of Ocean View, DE muscled in this 64-inch bluefin tuna, estimated at 150 lbs., while fishing with Michael Mewshaw and Adan Costenbader on "The Colonel". The bluefin was hooked in 30 fathoms outside the Hambone on a ballyhoo dressed up with a blue and white Ilander. Before hooking the bluefin, the anglers caught 4 mahi (released 1) at the Hambone where they also pulled the hook on a big fish after over a 1 hour fight that had them gettin the fish to the boat 3 times.



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Johnny Coffiey caught a 97.1 lb. yellowfin tuna while trolling ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canyon aboard the "Knock on Wood". Johnny was fishing with Tony Barr, Dave Woods and Bob Woods when they also released a white marlin and caught 10 other yellowfins and 4 mahi. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.





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Anglers on the "Bail Out" took an overnight trip to the Baltimore Canyon and returned with 18 yellowfin tuna and 5 mahi. The largest mahi weighed 20.1 lbs. Pictured are Dale Rudolph of Hay Market, PA, Joey Blevins and Rob Lewis of Bel Air, MD, Tom Volarich of Annapolis, MD and Frank Geck and Curtis Ball of Clayton, DE. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



Ryan Landis was fishing at the Bass Grounds when he boated a 25-inch, 5 lb. flounder. Ryan was joined on the "Off Duty" by his dad, J.R. Landis, Jerry Furr and Gig Mundell. The bite was slow but the anglers ended up with 3 flatties in the box after hooking them on Gulp and Otter Tails.

# **3-200 Miles**



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WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit



**SWORDFISH** 

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**DOLPHIN** No minimum length 10 per person/day



**WAHOO** No minimum length 2 per person/day



**BIGEYE TUNA** 27" Curved Fork Length No creel limit



YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day



#### **BLUEFIN TUNA**

(Recreational) 2 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73"

(Charter Boat) 3 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip

47" to less than 73" **Southern Trophy Fishery closed** 

#### **SHARKS AUTHORIZED SPECIES**

No Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead,

54" Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic **Blacknose** 

78" Minimum Fork Length Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead,

Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose and 1 Bonnethead may be retained per person per trip. No size or creel limits on dogfish sharks.

#### 83" Minimum Fork Length Snorttin mako

#### **Prohibited Sharks**

Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White







While drifting across the Old Grounds, Ben Moody from Milton, DE used a green and white Aqua-Clear rig tipped with squid to hook this 3 lb. flounder and weighed his catch at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.



Capt. Ron Taylor on the "Playtime" was trolling at the Rockpile when he hooked this Almaco jack. This species are in the same family as the yellowtail and amberjack and feed on small baitfish and squid. In the western Atlantic they live mostly from Cape Cod to northern Argentina, although they are rare off North and South Carolina. They exhibit the odd behavior of rubbing against the rough skin of passing sharks to remove skin-based parasites and are known to rub against passing scuba divers, mistaking them for sharks. They spawn as often as weekly throughout the year.





### **Keeping Cool**

The recent above average heat and humidity reminds us how nice it is to have air conditioning when we go indoors. Most mid and large size boats have multiple marine air conditioners to keep us cool while on-board. Many smaller boats equipped with air conditioning that are DC powered compact units allowing them to run from the boats battery system without the need for a generator.

During the hottest days of the season, keeping your marine air conditioner running at its best requires constant maintenance and there are a few common areas that need attention during the summer season.

A marine air conditioning system is similar to your homes system. The marine systems removes heat from the conditioned space using refrigerant moving through the system just like your home. At your home, the refrigerant is circulated to the

outdoor unit and cooled with a fan. On a warm day, you can feel the hot air blowing out of the outdoor condenser. That's the heat that was in your house.

On your boat, the system works in a similar fashion except that the heat removed from the cabin is sent into the seawater through the use of a water cooled condenser. This seawater cooling circuit is a common source of trouble for a marine air conditioner. The most common issue is a clogged sea strainer that restricts the volume of water flowing through the system. A typical system requires 3 GPM per ton of conditioning capacity (1 Ton = 12,000 BTUs) or about 200 gallons an hour/ton, since most pumps are rated in GPH. If debris or marine growth clogs or restricts water flow to your air conditioning system, the unit will not work properly and probably overheat or stop working due to the internal limits on high refrigerant pressure. If this happens, it is best to clean the system as soon as possible. You may

only have a clog in the seawater strainer or you may have a buildup of scale in the seawater plumbing lines that would require an extensive cleaning.

At the opposite end of the system, the evaporator can also be a trouble spot. Similar to the seawater side of the system, but this time we need good air flow across the condenser to allow the refrigerant to remove the heat from the cabin. If there is a restriction in air flow, the refrigerant can freeze the coils, adding to the airflow restriction and often causing the system to turn off due to the internal limits on high refrigerant pressure. A frozen coil will appear to look like a block of ice instead of many rows of shiny metal fins and tubing that make up the evaporator coil.

Just like your home, there is an air filter that needs to be regularly cleaned or replaced at or near the air conditioner evaporator in the cabin. This is not always in a logical location and often there is more than one filter. It is necessary to find and clean this air filter on a regular basis for best performance. On the discharge side of the evaporator there is often flexible duct work used to direct the cool air into the cabin. It seems like these

hoses and discharge vents are located in areas where we like to store gear and supplies airflow and the inadvertently blocked,

causing decreased air conditioning performance or

frozen coils.

If you have completed the preventative maintenance work and are wondering how to tell if your marine aircondition system is working properly, there is an easy test. Set the fan speed on the maximum level and let the system run for a while. Then, use a thermometer (digital is best) to measure the temperature of the warm air (return air) going into the evaporator (near where the blower is located) and measure the temperature of the cool air coming out (supply) of the evaporator. Most marine air conditioners should be able to cool the air about 12 to 20-degrees. If the temperature differential is lower than 12 degrees, you should have your system checked out by professional. There could be a loss of refrigerant or other technical issues causing the system to not function properly.

Regarding refrigerants, as many of you know, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has many laws that deal with the refrigerants





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in air-conditioning used units. There seems to be an endless variety of refrigerants and brand names used in today's modern units, both on boats and on land. Most of the newer refrigerants are a blend, made up of many individual gases, each with it's own physical properties. If you have a loss of refrigerant from a system with one of these modern gases, most likely the system will need to be vacuumed to evacuate all of the refrigerant and after repairs are made, new refrigerant needs to be added to the system. The reason for this is that a leak can cause one of the many components to leak out disproportionately from the other compounds in the mixture, so just adding new gas will result in an improper ratio of refrigerant, often unexpected causing an decrease in performance.

If you are wondering if you can convert your marine

systems refrigerant from one limited supply the expensive gases, like R-22, to a more environmentally friendly and less expensive refrigerant, it is possible but may not be effective in cost or performance. There are some "drop in" replacement refrigerants that can work if needed, so contact your local marine air-conditioning expert to review your options.

Checking your system regularly, ensuring good water and air flow, will save you money in service and also prolong the life of the marine air conditioner system.

Captain Steve Katz is the owner of Steve's Marine Service



Dylan Mooney from Harbeson, DE caught this 39-inch, 19.1 lb. mahi while trolling ballyhoo in the Washington Canyon. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle Shop in the Indian River Marina.









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Fischer Edmondson from Harrisburg, PA caught this 22-inch flounder in the Indian River Inlet while using Gulp artificial baits. Photo courtesy of Rick's Bait & Tackle.



Capt. Rodney Meyers on the charter boat, "Last \$" took the Kesten family out to Site 10 where they caught flounder on squid and cut bluefish. Rob Kesten from Ridgefield, CT caught a 27-incher that weighed 5 lbs. 10 oz. while fishing with Pam, Anna and Amanda Kesten and Owen Hull. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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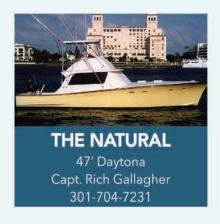
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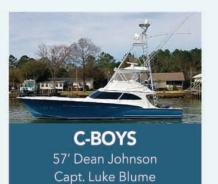




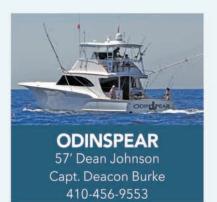
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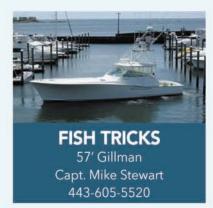


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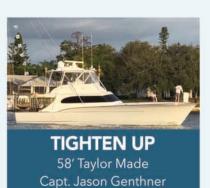




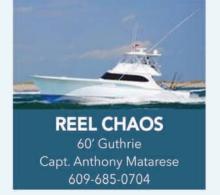


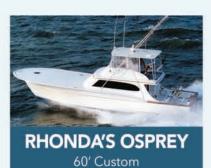






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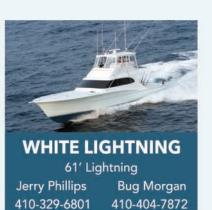




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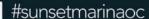




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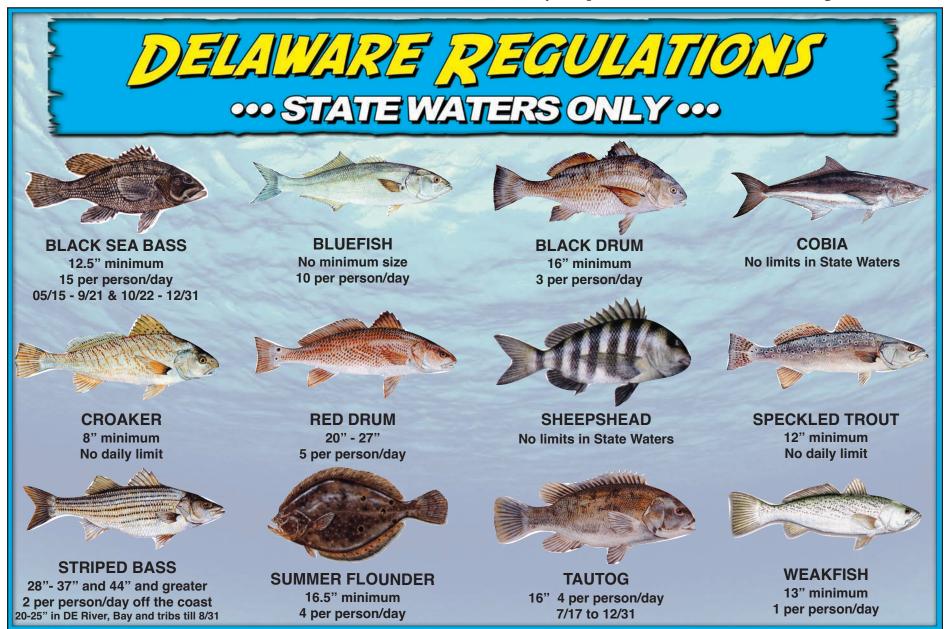
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Anglers fishing on the "Primary Search" took advantage of a good yellowfin bite and returned after an overnight trip with 10 in the box and a release of a hammerhead shark that they estimated at over 400 lbs. Pictured back at the dock at Sunset Marina are anglers Jordan Bosse, Brian Suschke and Andrew Suschke, Capt. Austin Ensor and mate James Doerzbach.



Bruce Liebert of Ocean City, MD stopped by the Coastal Fisherman office on Sunset Avenue to have his picture taken with the 21-inch flounder he caught while drifting minnows in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport. Bruce was with David Mulkay on the "Katywampus" when he hooked the fish at high tide.





Hayley Howard from Baltimore, MD went flounder fishing for the first time with Bo Duke and Jay Phillips and the trio returned with 10 flounder in the box after fishing near Fenwick Shoal.



During the 2018 Marlin Club Canyon Kick Off, Jamie Romero boated a 16.6 lb. mahi and Mike Wheaton and Bill Zimmerman each released a white marlin while fishing on the "Absolut Pleasure" with Glen "Guy Harvey" Heitman, Rusty Shriver, Capt. Willie Zimmerman and mate Rich Hastings. The fish were caught near the 800/800 on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured at the Sunset Marina tournament scale.













Ben and Jacob Butterwei used white bucktails to hook a pair of flounder, measuring 17 and 19-inches, while fishing at the South Jetty with their dad, Ben Butterwei and Capt. John Prather on the charter boat, "Ocean City Guide Service". Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





Dylan Sheffy from Fredericksburg, PA used a white Gulp artificial bait to fool this 20 1/2-inch weakfish while fishing off the Cape Shores Pier. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.







Adam Johnson, John Mattson, Sr., Jim Kauffman, John Mattson, Jr., Cody Ream, Steve Mattson, Kyle McCreary and Corey Lavender teamed up to catch 9 yellowfin tuna and 2 mahi while fishing on the charter boat, "That's Right" with Capt. John Oughton and mate Austin Bickford. The fish were caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars in the South Hayes Canyon.





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Brody and Collin Fosnaught from Woodbridge, VA boated 3 nice size flounder while fishing on the charter boat, "On the Run" with Capt. Dave Caffrey. The flatties were hooked on minnows and Gulp in the Thorofare at the beginning of the outgoing tide and measured between 16 3/4-inches and 23-inches. The largest flounder weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz. on the scale at Bahia Marina.



Jacob Kaplan, Tom Holmes and David Kaplan, all from Lewes, DE, Garrett Becker from Dewey Beach, DE and Anthony Iammatteo from Rehoboth Beach, DE returned to Sunset Marina after spending the day trolling in the Baltimore Canyon on the charter boat, "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos. The anglers caught 6 yellowfin tuna, 6 mahi and released a blue marlin, estimated at 350 lbs.







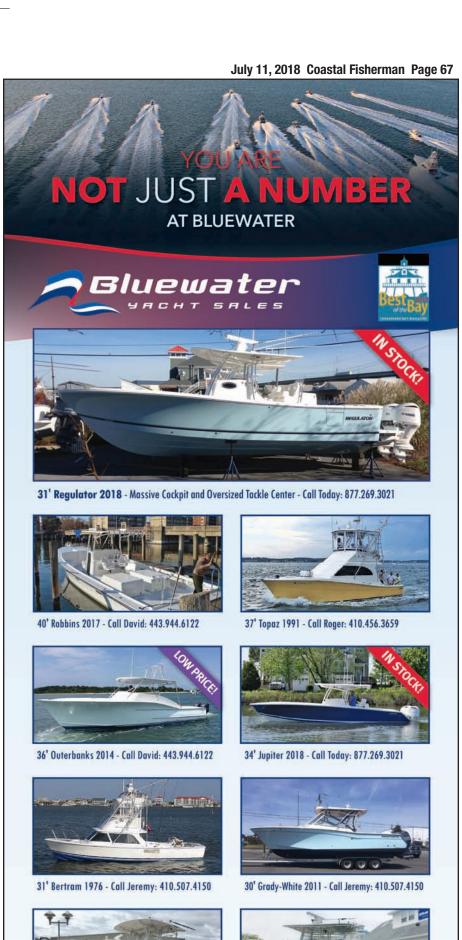




Ray Campbell of Federalsburg, MD headed out to the Chicken Bone and caught 9 dolphin, 3 triggerfish and an Atlantic pomfret. The dolphin were all hooked on trolled ballyhoo and the triggers were fooled with shrimp. Pictured with Ray back at Atlantic Tackle is Emily Vance.



Saad Soliman, Tye Waters, Vince Waters, Joe McNeal and Sonny Kim returned to the Talbot Street Pier with a greater variety of fish than found in many local buffet restaurants. They ended their day with 25 golden tilefish, up to 36 lbs., 3 blueline tilefish, 15 blackbelly rosefish, 30 black sea bass and 3 silver hake. Most were caught while using squid for bait. For this trip on the "Fish Bound", Capt. D.J. Churchill was at the wheel and mate Mason Newsham worked the deck.





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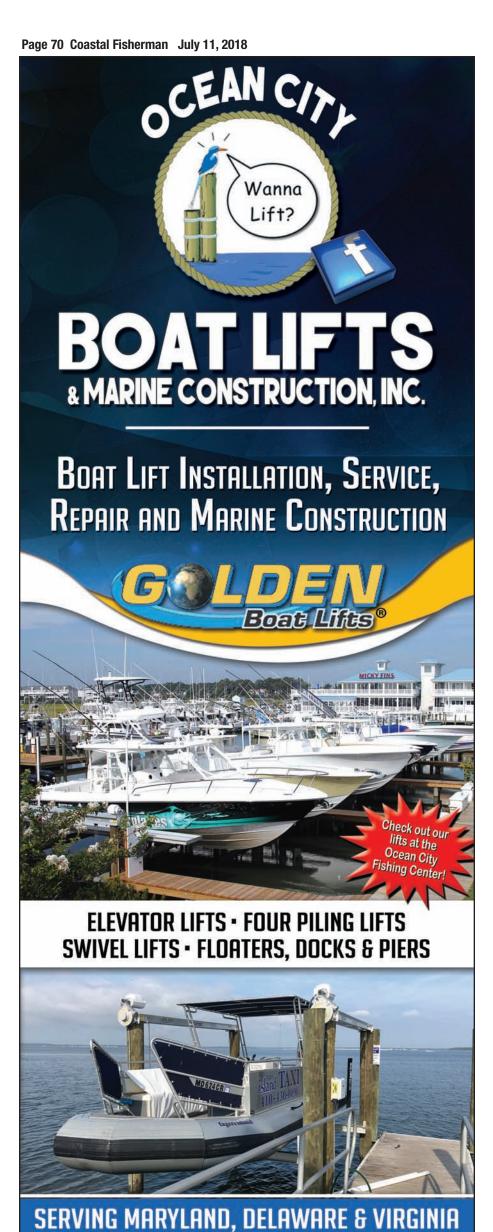












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Jeff Windsor, Jr. was looking for flounder at the Old Grounds when this red drum decided to go for his bucktail tipped with a Gulp artificial bait. Jeff was fishing with Jeff Windsor, Sr. and Dax Windsor, both from Abingdon, MD, when they hooked 3 reds in addition to releasing a pair.





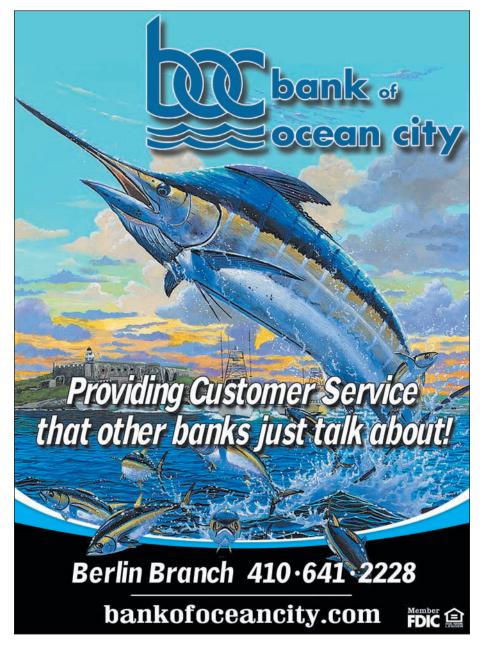


This 7 lb. 13 oz. flounder was caught by Mike Crouse of Newark, DE while fishing on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Chris Vann. The big flattie ate a white Gulp Swimming Mullet at the Haystacks, located in the Delaware Bay off Lewes, DE. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Dave Onorato of West Ocean City, MD used a squid and shiner combination in the Thorofare to fool this 19-inch flounder in addition to another 20 short flatties that he had to throw back.









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Greg Andrews, Ben Andrews, Greg Andrews, Jr., Kenwood Halcisak, Jack Halcisak, Rob Burleson and Ray Stuckey teamed up to catch 9 yellowfins and 3 mahi while trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Washington Canyon with Capt. Kayvan Bahrami and mate Jake Stuckey. Pictured at Sunset Marina.





Gabi Davis, Arie Brumer, Les Fyock, Justin Riemer, Joe Duda and C.R. Davis returned to West Ocean City with 34 blueline tilefish in the box after spending the day deep dropping squid on the "Clear Shot" with Capt. Tony Battista and mate Eric Johnson. All of the bluelines were fooled while using squid for bait.



Nick Posterli caught this 27-inch flounder on a white Gulp Swimming Mullet while drifting over a reef outside the Ocean City Inlet. The fish weighed just shy of 7 lbs.





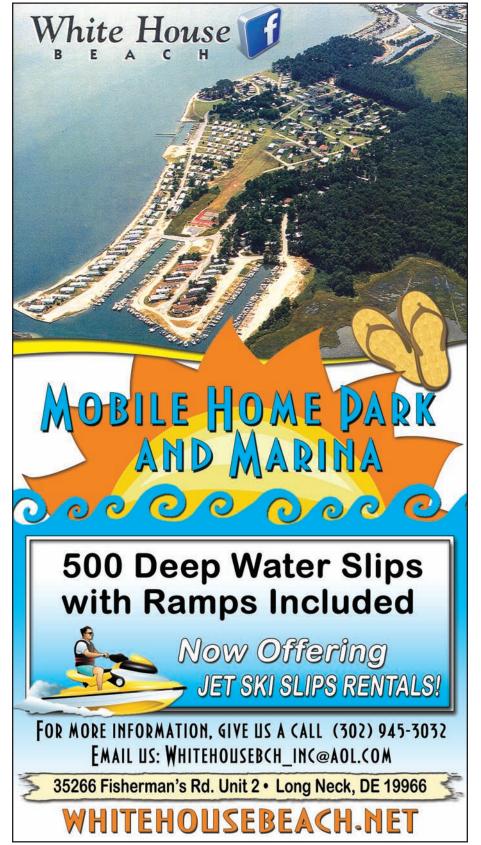


Last week while fishing in 20 fathoms near the Fingers, Mike Johnston and Courtney Ritter went 6 for 7 on dolphin with Courtney boating a 27 pounder, the largest of the day (no surprise!). Three of the fish were hooked on trolled ballyhoo and three were bailed while using squid for bait.





Traveling up to the Lindenkohl Canyon turned out to be a good move for this group of anglers fishing on the "Cabana". They returned with 8 yellowfins caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured are Eddie Wheeler, Tex Gardner, Tyler Nichols, George Dobbs, Bill Britt, Kevin Britt and Tim Danaher.







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MECHANICAL MAN - 2008 68' Weaver Custom Sportfish - Call Jimmy Fields



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GRANDE PEZ - 1997 53' Ocean Call Rick Carney



MATADOR - 1974 41' Viking Call Steve Trattner



REEL RODEO - 2008 70' Jarrett Bay Custom Sportfish - Call Jimmy Fields



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SAVANNAH LEIGH- 2003 40' Guthrie Call Charley Pereira



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TEAZ'EM - 2004 54' Hudson Custom Sportfish - Call Jimmy Fields



DOUBLE EAGLE- 2002 52' Viking Call John Blumenthal



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SLAUGHTERHOUSE-1989/2017 31'Shamrock Call Steve Trattner





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NATURAL-1978 52' Monterey **Call Jimmy Fields** 



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