

DELMARVA ALMANAC

June 2010

Between The Shore Lines

We Are All Gulf Coasters

You can't really talk about life outdoors on Delmarva without mentioning our beaches. Like our neighbors on the Gulf of Mexico our coast is precious to us for many reasons, from our livelihoods, to the pleasure it gives us when we go there to swim or fish, to the protection it offer us from the power of the sea.

In a way Delmarva is one big barrier island which protects all of mainland Maryland and Virginia. One of the reasons our nation's capital was settled in its present location was that it had access to ocean trade routes via the Chesapeake Bay, yet had our peninsula as a buffer zone from attack. However, no one then or now would dream of saying that our coastline was expendable. Its natural habitats are critical ecosystems connected by the ocean to all the other ecosystems of the world.

My prayers go out to those who are living with the recent oil catastrophe in the Gulf of Mexico. It will be with them and all of us for a long time. Their coastline is no more expendable than ours is for all the same reasons. The scope of this disaster is the direct result of decades of tidal pushing and pulling between a variety of different political and corporate influences trying to control our economy and our way of life. Government departments have been gutted or grown depending on who was in charge. What is left is a system of incompetent or impotent agencies which are unable to respond to crisis no matter how good their intentions.

We are now at flood tide when it comes to protecting our environment. If the moratorium on drilling off our Atlantic coast is ever lifted, we will be taking the same risk the Gulf Coast has now suffered for. Recent mining and drilling tragedies should teach us that it is time for us to wean ourselves off of mineral based energy resources and on to sustainable renewable energy resources. We need to stop obsessing about politics, and gambling on growth economies that bounce us in and out of prosperity. This catastrophic tide will eventually ebb on the Gulf, but the destruction will take generations to heal. There will be ramifications for our entire country along with Mexico and other Caribbean countries as well. We are all Gulf Coasters.

Delmarva History This Month

June 20, 1632 - The Maryland Charter was granted to Cecilius Calvert, 2nd Lord Baltimore, by Charles I, King of Great Britain.

June 30, 1744 - Native-American chiefs of the Six Nations relinquished by treaty all claims to land in the colony when the Assembly purchased last Indian land claims in Maryland.

June 15, 1776 - Delaware Assembly declares independence from England. This is the origin of the Delaware holiday called Separation Day.

June 22, 1807 - The British ship HMS Leopard attacked the USF Chesapeake off Virginia's Cape, looking for British deserters.

June 1870 - The first ocean resort opened in Rehoboth Beach, followed five years later by the "Ladies Resort To The Ocean" in Ocean City.

June 18, 1878 - U. S. Life-Saving Service was created by congress and President Rutherford B. Hayes.

June 3, 1918 - An oil tanker hit a mine which had been laid down a by German submarine off of Cape Henlopen. Damage did not prevent the ship from being salvaged.

June 11, 1963 - In Cambridge, Maryland, race riots erupted after anti-discrimination legislation was made optional there. The city was then forced by the Federal government to enact desegregation policies.

June 30, 1964 - A year after the funding had been secured the Cape May-Lewes Ferry was dedicated and ferry service began across the Delaware Bay.

June 28, 1973 - The westbound span of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge opened.

June 6, 1977 - During a severe thunderstorm a forty-two foot fishing boat capsized near the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel drowning 13 of the 27 persons on board.

June 28, 2000 - The Chesapeake Bay Agreement, signed by Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, District of Columbia, Chesapeake Bay Commission, and US Environmental Protection Agency to establish regional standards for Bay restoration.

The Garden Of Good Living

Red Is The Rose... & The Strawberry & The Rhubarb

Delmarva Gardens are full of red this month. Red maybe the most common and popular color of roses, but there are many colors to choose from. Most varieties of roses grow very well on Delmarva. They start to bloom in May and are out in full bloom through June. But if you dead head them they will last until well into December. There are all kinds of fertilizers for roses that promise bigger blooms. But the tried and true method is simply to use manure which is, of course, organic.

You can see a lot of the invasive non native multiflora roses growing wildly all over the Peninsula. There is (I believe) a native species of rose called the "rugosa" which grows in coastal regions. I haven't seen many of them au natural here, though I think there may be a few shrubs in the Delaware State Beach Park. Most I have seen were planted in condominium parking lots. Colonial gardeners harvested the rugosa fruits, also known as a "rose hip," to make a tea which is high in vitamin C.

Strawberries are also rich in vitamin C and they are about to enter their big season here. Their charming little white flowers are sprouting into luscious red berries this month. It is important to pick your berries daily once they are ripe or the bunnies will beat you to them. If you don't grow your own now is the time to get out to a "pick your own" farm stand. Strawberry farms were once very common here. In fact during the depression a lot of farmers went bust when they switched to strawberries and there was a glut on the market. But strawberries remain a favorite summer treat.

And like much of America, fresh strawberry pie on Delmarva is commonly made with rhubarb which is another great source of vitamin C. The stalks should be harvested after the plant is two years old. They are ready in early June when they are red but not too mature otherwise they may be tough and stringy. Sometimes a second batch can be cut in August. Rhubarb is also a great plant to have in your landscape. The leaves are quite poisonous but they are a natural insecticide. They sometimes grow to be as big as car tires. Even if you are not a fan of rhubarb as a food they can be impressive perennials.

Rhythms' & Tides

Boating season begins in earnest now. Sailboat and fishing charters are plentiful through the rest of the summer. But book them fast as some vacationers who cancelled their trips to Florida will be coming here.

Mid Shore Atlantic Ocean & Coastal Bays

Croaker, Bunker, Blue Fish, Rock Fish, Black Drum & Flounder

Upper Shore Chesapeake & Delaware Bays

Rock Fish, Bluefish, Spot, Croakers

Mid Shore Chesapeake Bay

Rock Fish, Bluefish, Spot, Redfish, Black Drum

Lakes And Ponds Open To Public Fishing

Dorchester County: Galestown Lake
Kent County: Millington Wildlife Management Ponds (telephone 410-928-3650 for permission)
Queen Anne's County: Tuckahoe Lake, Unicorn Lake, Wye Mills Community Lake
Wicomico County: T Johnsons Lake, Leonards Mill Lake, Powellville Pond, Shumaker Lake
Worcester County: Big Mills Lake, Moore's Pond

Lower Shore Chesapeake Bay & Atlantic Ocean

Flounder, Black Drum, Red Drum, & Croaker

Upper Shore Freshwater & Tidal Streams

Bass, Crappie, Catfish and white perch

Lower Shore Freshwater & Tidal Streams

Perch, carp, herring, bass, pickerel and crappy

Stocked Put & Take Trout Areas

Cecil County: Big Elk Creek, Howards Pond, & Principio Creek
Caroline and Queen Anne's Counties: Tuckahoe Creek upstream of Route 404
Wicomico County: Beaverdam Creek
Worcester County: Shad Landing Pond

For weekly trends and bait suggestions check these online fishing report resources before you head out:

Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife - Fishing Report:

<http://www.fw.delaware.gov/Fisheries/Pages/FishingReport.aspx>

Maryland DNR Chesapeake Bay & Tributaries Fishing Report:

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishingreport/chesapeake.as>

Maryland DNR Freshwater Report:

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishingreport/freshwater.asp>

Maryland DNR Ocean Report:

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishingreport/ocean.asp>

Virginia DNR - Saltwater Review:

<http://www.mrc.virginia.gov/swr/saltwaterreview.shtm>

Atlantic Anglers

<http://www.atlanticanglers.com>

Coastal Fisherman:

<http://www.coastal-fisherman.com>

Tidal Fish:

<http://www.tidalfish.com>

Chesapeake Angler:

<http://www.chesapeake-angler.com>

Song birds are starting to really enjoy wildflowers which are going to seed. This is the time of year when the fruit ripens and starts to ferment on the mulberry tree in my front yard, which means its party season for the neighborhood resident geese. They imbibe at my house then waddle down to the creek usually stopping on the road to sun themselves and stop traffic. These mallards were having quite a happy meal the other day. Bottoms up boys!

The brown pelicans are out in formation now. Once almost extinct they are a common sight along Atlantic beaches and bays. Ospreys are also a common site along the water's edge. I've seen Little Blue Herons in couple of different places recently. Many birds are minding fledglings who have left their nests right now like this marsh hen.

The furry critters seem to be out and about now too. I don't know where mama was, but I caught of a glimpse of this little fox kit a couple weeks ago near St. Martin's Neck.

Sunrise & Sunset

Sunrise at the beginning of the month: 5:41am

Sunset at the beginning of the month: 8:20pm

Sunrise at the end of the month: 5:42am

Sunset at the end of the month: 8:30pm

Moon Phases

June 12 - New Moon

June 26 - Full Moon

Names for the June Full Moon - Mead Moon,

Lovers' Moon, Strawberry Moon, & Rose Moon

June Sky Lights

June 7 - Arietid Metors - A month long shower peaks on this day originating in the constellation Aries with up to 30 meteors visible an hour starting at about 3am.

June 13 - Theta Ophiuchid Meteors - Beginning about 9PM, meteors should be visible all night since the moon will not be visible. Fireballs are also possible.

Jun 21 - Summer Solstice - Longest day of the year. Summer begins.

Jun 24 - Pluto will be on its closest approach To Earth

June 29 - Beta Taurid Meteors - This is a daylight meteor storm during which ham operators can record up to 30 meteors per hour

Also in the news, it seems that Jupiter, which had been hiding behind the sun until its orbit brought it back into view recently, looks a bit different. Those with a good telescope can see that what is known as the Southern Equatorial Belt is no longer visible. This is a significant change in the weather on Jupiter which scientists are watching with interest.

Celestial Navigation

by Valerie Morrissey

The featured sign for this month is Gemini, often referred to as the butterfly of the zodiac. This is a masculine air sign ruled by Mercury. These people flit from one flower to the next, just like butterflies. They are extremely intelligent but have a short attention span. They frequently change the subject and at a party will interrupt a conversation abruptly to speak to someone on the other side of the room. Gemini's are interested in many things. Variety is the spice of life, they say. A Gemini person may have two or

more occupations, and several hobbies. They can be found in lecturing, writing professions, teaching, communications, transportation, live entertainment such as stand-up comedy, recreation, crafts, carpentry and any job that requires a light and cheery personality. They are artistically talented, handy and good at fixing things.

Gemini folks sometimes appear to have two personalities, like twins. As if two are one in the same body. I have known several who come right out and say so, even joking and calling themselves schizophrenic. These people don't take life too seriously. They suffer from occasional nervous tension but not depression or complicated mental illness. They cheer up and get back on track quickly.

Gemini rules the arms, hands and lungs. They are known for being extremely talkative, regular magpies. Have patience with them because they are always forgetting something, and change their plans at the last minute. A typical pattern is, you make a lunch date. Your June friend calls when you are walking out the door and says she forgot she was supposed to be some place else that day. Then it takes several more false starts before you finally hook up with her. But these people are fun to have around and make life interesting.

JUPITER AND URANUS - PART 2... YES, THERE'S MORE!

When Jupiter and Uranus enter Aries they will form aspects with Saturn and Pluto. Read on with caution and take off the rose colored glasses. For some time already Saturn and Pluto have been in a square, causing various problems. Starting in June and throughout this summer, Jupiter and Uranus in Aries will oppose Saturn in Libra and square Pluto in Capricorn. This combination of squares and oppositions is called a T-square. The three zodiac signs involved will feel the effects more than others.

Generally things will be in a state of confusion. Projects run into brick walls. People rail against their employers. Politicians and police will have to deal with protest riots. There is revolution in the air. As I have mentioned, the health care bill is a good example. There is a backlash of frustration, negative reaction and lack of approval. People will disagree about what is the best way to proceed.

This aspect is not so much about violence as it is about pressure for change. New laws and regulations will be put into place and strictly enforced. The changes will not be well received. Old ways of life will go down kicking and screaming. When Mars flies through Libra (the first two weeks in August) and for a brief time contacting Saturn, things could reach a violent climax.

A lot depends on where you live. Your neighborhood may be unaffected. But your personal life and circumstances may go through big changes this summer. Be prepared for the unexpected. Save your money, get rid of things you don't need. Make a special effort to get along with your loved ones. Be patient and show mercy. In September Jupiter and Uranus will retrograde back into Pisces and the heat will be off for a while. In January they will move into Aries again, squaring Pluto. Saturn will have moved on, luckily, making progress a little easier. But there's never a dull moment!

Aries (Born between March 21 - April 19)

This month Jupiter joins Uranus here on the 6th and will bring some kind of excitement as I just explained above. Those with birthdays in mid March are bound to be jumpy. You may be more hasty, impulsive and reckless than usual. Watch your temper. Be careful driving, and think carefully before you open your mouth or make a decision. This is an exciting and dangerous time, but this is exactly how Aries likes it.

Taurus (Born between April 20 - May 19)

When Mars comes into your house of romance, your social life will pick up. Usually Taurus is content to sit back and wait for love to just show up. Now you'll get out more. Volunteer at a school or social event and you'll meet new friends and romantic partners. This favors all creative projects, health, education, service and children's activities. Because of Venus, some of you might reconnect with an old flame.

Gemini (Born between May 20 - June 20)

Mercury is here for a short stay from the 10th to the 25th. This is kind of typical, for Gemini's are here one minute and gone the next. There will be lots of social activity, for example end-of year school events, picnics, etc. The New Moon on the 12th will be good for making new contacts, starting writing or research

projects. You will get more attention now. This is the time to ask for favors and support from others for your plans.

Cancer (Born between June 21 - July 22)

During the first half of June, Venus will be here and this is good for lots of things. Take care of yourself. Go out with friends. Smooth out relationship problems. At the Full Moon on the 26th, you might get the news you've been waiting to hear. Because of Jupiter and Uranus something big could happen with your career during the next few months. Fame, fortune or ruin, depending on how you have lived your life until now.

Leo (Born between July 23 - August 21)

When Venus moves in on the 14th, you'll want to go out to dinner, go shopping, go to a spa. You want to buy something flashy to wear and get your hair done. The only bad thing about this lovely transit is, you may be too extravagant, so watch what you spend. Some of you might have an unexpected invitation to travel or study abroad. There is adventure and new horizons ahead so pay attention.

Virgo (Born between August 22 - September 22)

Saturn is winding up his stay here. Tie up loose ends and come to terms with old issues. Break a bad habit once and for all for example. Realize that things don't always turn out like you planned. Accept other people as they are. Mars comes in on the 7th, which has an energizing effect. You'll perk up and get more exercise, or find a project that requires time, energy and physical labor.

Libra (Born between September 23 - October 22)

Read about Aries. Many of you will see some excitement on the marriage front. If your marriage has been shaky for any reason, be prepared for changes. One of you might think the grass is greener somewhere else. Be proactive. Schedule a vacation or second honeymoon. It will do you a world of good. Single Libras are headed for an exciting ride, and may meet very different and adventurous new partners.

Scorpio (Born between October 23 - November 21)

Generally this will be a quiet month for you, although this is a good time for travel, with Venus transiting your travel house, then the Sun and Mercury at the end of the month. Schedule business strips and conferences now, and book your house at the shore. Any foreign deals or transactions are favored now, as well as university or continuing education courses. Studying a new subject will appeal to you now.

Sagittarius (Born between November 22 - December 21)

Some single Sags could have a whirlwind romance, with Mercury in your marriage house. An exciting partner might blow in and right out again. Have fun but don't make plans for the future. Archers are used to this sort of thing. Mars entering your career house may bring changes at work, or at least an urge to move up in your field. You feel more ambitious and aggressive. Go for it.

Capricorn (Born between December 22 - January 20)

The Jupiter/Uranus activity in your 4th house will bring changes at home in the next few months. You might renovate, buy a new house or move out of town unexpectedly. The Full Moon in Cancer on the 26th might be a good day to marry or move in together. Some might elope. The urge to do something wild and crazy will definitely be there. Plan carefully for you never know what rocks lie ahead.

Aquarius (Born between January 21 - February 19)

Neptune retrograde is making things positively drag. If you felt lazy last month you might feel like a real slug now. Not to worry, you need this time to relax and reconsider many things from a different angle. This is not the time to work but to contemplate. Venus moves into your relationship house on the 14th, which will be nice for couples to enjoy some time alone. You could meet someone new and fall in love now.

Pisces (Born between February 20 - March 20)

Because Mars, Saturn, Jupiter and Uranus are changing signs, and Neptune is holding steady at the end of Aquarius, you will see many things coming to a conclusion. For many Fishies, a major chapter of life is closing and there will be new fields to conquer. There is nothing to be afraid of. Relationships, lifestyles or jobs end, projects are completed, obligations are fulfilled, and then it's on to a new adventure.

Holidays & Observances This Month

June 1 - Atlantic Hurricane Season Begins
June 14 - Flag Day
June 20 - Father's Day (3rd Sunday of June)
June 21 - Solstice

This is: National Rose Month & National Dairy Month
June's Flower: Rose
June's Birthstone: Pearl, Moonstone

Out & About On Delmarva

Saturday - June 5
14th Annual Benefit By The Bay
Cape Charles, Virginia

Sunday - June 6
Historic Salisbury Tour
Poplar Hill Mansion, Salisbury, Maryland

Wednesday - June 9
35th Annual Cypress Festival
Cypress Park - Pocomoke City, Maryland

Saturday - June 19
10th Annual Arts Alive
Northside Park - Ocean City, Maryland

6th Annual Inland Bays Clean Up Day
Sussex County, Delaware

Saturday - June 26
Somerset Strawberry Festival
Marion Station, Maryland

Sunday - June 13
28th Annual Bay Music Festival
Centreville, Maryland

Be sure to visit Delmarva Almanac online for an extensive community calendar which covers the entire peninsula, tide tables, original photography and much more: [Delmarva-almanac.com](http://delmarva-almanac.com)

Resources for some of the information contained in this publication include:

http://archives.delaware.gov	http://www.loc.gov
http://www.arksky.org	http://www.noaa.gov
http://www.earthcalendar.net	http://www.ocmuseum.org
http://edsitement.neh.gov	http://www.skyandtelescope.com
http://en.wikipedia.org	http://www.seasky.org
http://www.e-referencedesk.com	http://www.space.com
http://www.historiclewes.org	http://www.vahistorical.org
http://www.holidaysmart.com	http://www.when-is.com
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