



VOL. 121 NO. 41 • WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2017 • DORCHESTERBANNER.COM

DORCHESTER BANNER

OUR COMMUNITY. YOUR NEWSPAPER. SINCE 1897 • 50 CENTS



Crew and volunteers with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation aboard *Patricia Campbell* help plant oyster spat on shell on oyster bars Thursday at the Little Choptank River Sanctuary.

Dorchester Banner/Bob Zimmeroff

Dorchester Board of Ed announces new superintendent

By Bob Zimmeroff
Dorchester Banner

CAMBRIDGE — In a special Monday meeting, the Dorchester County Board of Education voted unanimously to nominate Dr. Diana Mitchell as the next superintendent of public schools.

The announcement was made before a standing-room-only crowd, many of whom supported Vaughn Evans Sr., a Dorchester native who has served as principal at Warwick Elementary, Mace's Lane Middle, North Dorchester High, and North Dorchester Middle. Overall, the crowd expressed disappointment in the choice of Dr. Mitchell.

Before the unanimous vote, Dorchester BOE President Glenn Bramble explained the steps in the vetting process, and said Dr. Henry Wagner, the current superintendent who is set to retire July 1, had no involvement in the selection.

Following the nomination, Dr. Wagner said, "Now that Dr. Mitchell has been appointed, she has my full support, and I look forward to assisting her with this transition in any way that I can. I urge everyone to do the same as a matter of principal and for the benefit of the children of Dorchester County Public Schools."

After the nomination and Dr. Wagner's statement, the meeting was quickly adjourned.

Editor's note: A full story on the selection of the new superintendent will appear in a later edition of the Banner.

All eyes on the Little Choptank

Mid-Shore river complex valuable to both watermen and conservationists

Editor's note: This is the first story in a three-part series about oyster sanctuaries and their effects on Dorchester County. The next two stories will appear in upcoming Wednesday editions of the Banner.

By Bob Zimmeroff
Dorchester Banner

MADISON — For a real-time view of the struggle between a historic hard-working culture and natural preservation, look no fur-

ther than Dorchester County and Mid-Shore waters. Watermen, whose work spans centuries on the Chesapeake Bay, are fighting for their livelihoods. Others are fighting for the lives of oysters, and the ecosystem they support.

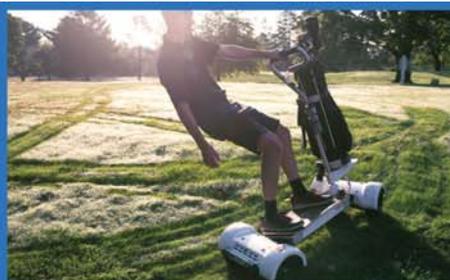
According to information provided on the Chesapeake Bay Program website, www.chesapeakebay.net, "In 2009, it became clear that we needed a new agreement that would accelerate the pace of restoration and align federal directives with state and local goals to create a healthy Bay. Bay Program partners gathered input from citizens, stakeholders, academic institutions, local governments and

more to draft an inclusive, goal-oriented document that would address current and emerging environmental concerns."

In June 2014, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed by representatives from all the states in the Bay Watershed. The agreement guides the work of the Chesapeake Bay Program, and calls for state and federal partners to, "restore native oyster habitat and populations in 10 Bay tributaries by 2025, and ensure their protection."

By the time the agreement was signed, work had already begun in

See **Choptank** — Page 2



Be the first on the Eastern Shore to try GolfBoards!

River Marsh Golf Club is the only course on the Eastern Shore with the PGA's product of the year.

Book your tee time today: 410 901 6397

Reservations required and are based on availability. © 2017 Hyatt Corporation. All rights reserved.



chesapeakebay.regency.hyatt.com