

## Talbot County Deed Transfers

David J. Kleinke and Christine D. Kleinke to David J. Kleinke, \$0, 7350 Bradley Avenue, Easton, first election district.

Celeste W. Mohlman to Theodore A. Mohlman Jr. and Celeste M. Webb, successor trustees of the Celeste W. Mohlman trust under declaration dated May 25, 1993, \$0, Pea Neck Road, St. Michaels, second election district.

John B. Ritter and Joan C. Ritter to John B. Ritter and Joan C. Ritter, trustees, or their successors in trust, under the Ritter living trust, dated Sept. 28, 2009, and any amendments thereto, to 4134 Dartmouth Lane, Gainesville, Va. 20155, \$0, 9428 Martingham Drive, St. Michaels, second election district.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company to John D. Alvis II, \$259,900, 29654 Old Creek Lane, Easton, first election district.

Brian C. Doyle and Malinda Fluharty, formerly known of record as Malinda L. Doyle to William R. Schutt and Jessica L. Schutt, \$208,000, 9203 Honeysuckle Drive, Easton, first election district.

Joe F. Mayer and Ann Sharp to Beatrice Kovaszny, \$250,000, 207 A Dover Street, Easton, first election district.

Theodore J. Nemeth, personal representative of the estate of Vivian Nemeth to The William Hill Manor Incorporated, \$30,543.79, 26 Brittany Terrace, Easton, first election district.

Robert Tyler Patchett Jr. and Joanne S. Patchett to Raymond E. Bergman Jr., \$275,000, lot 1, White Marsh Road, Trappe, third election district.

Shore Lands LLC to American Craftsman Construction LLC, \$81,500, 8679 Camac Street, Easton, first election district.



Front row, from the left, CEO Wayne Collison and Bryan Elliott, owner of Integrity Builders, pose with Beracah Homes employees for a photo to celebrate the completion on the company's 1,000th home.

## Beracah Homes completes 1,000th home

**GREENWOOD, DEL.** — With much negative news surrounding the housing market these days, one company is not only surviving, but thriving in the tough economy. One particular success story is taking place right here on Delmarva.

Beracah Homes celebrated a milestone as its 1,000th home was completed in their factory in Greenwood, Del., on Tuesday, Feb. 2.

Family owned and operated, Beracah Homes was founded in 2003. After taking over a vacated production facility, Beracah put local Delmarva residents to work building homes of all sizes using a process that Wayne Collison, CEO of Beracah Homes calls "off-site, stick built."

"All of our homes are built from the ground up ... they're just built in a controlled environment," said Collison. "This means no weather delays, and

you don't have to worry about the wood in your home becoming warped by the elements during construction."

Beracah Homes are the only modular homes built locally on the Delmarva Peninsula. "We welcome people to tour our facility," said Collison. "Everyone we take through the plant is impressed with the quality of the construction."

"We pride ourselves on providing high quality homes, while selling at a great value," said Vice President Roger Collison. "We believe we are the best bang for the buck in the new home market. These tough times have only accentuated that fact. We buy the highest quality building materials in bulk, and we've streamlined our building process through continuous improvement initiatives to maximize efficiency, both of which help keep our costs down and lets us pass

savings on to our customers."

Customers can expect an energy efficient home as well. Beracah's production facility was "Energy Star Certified" by the Energy Services Group in Wilmington, Del., in 2008.

Beracah sells its homes through a network of preferred builders that has grown to 13 sales centers across Delmarva.

"We have 65 customizable floor plans, and some customers build straight from the plan," said Roger Collison. "But when we say customizable, we mean it. Some builders give you a few options to choose from, but when you build with a Beracah preferred builder, if you can dream it, we can build it. We've built 1,200-square-foot starter homes, 7,300-square-foot mansions, and everything in between."

The 1,000th home will be delivered,

set, and finished in Georgetown, Del. Bryan Elliott, owner of Integrity Builders in Milford, is taking delivery of this benchmark home.

"We're extremely pleased to have partnered with Beracah the last several years and proud to be able to build the 1,000th home," said Elliott.

Sal and Ruth Aquaviva bought a lot two years ago next to one purchased by Sal's brother, Gus and his wife Lucille. Both intend on building a Beracah Home and moving to Delmarva upon retirement.

"Today, there are 1,000 different families and business owners out there that have discovered a better way to build a new home or business, and that's by building with Beracah," said Collison. "One thousand homes is quite an accomplishment, but we're planning on building thousands more."

Read it online

www.stardem.com

## CANNONBALL



From Page B1

Bell, a Realtor himself, decided to sell the house when he realized he wasn't using it enough. He labels himself as a luxury historic expert in the D.C. area.

Local lore claims that during the War of 1812, a cannonball penetrated the roof of the house, rolled across the attic floor and bounced down the staircase, frightening the occupant, Mrs. Merchant, who was carrying her infant daughter downstairs. The brick house was built by William Merchant, a shipwright.

Most of the original construction remains, including unique herringbone chair rails, pine mantels, and a high curved arch in the lower hall. Mr. Merchant died intestate and the house was sold by John Dorgin, trustee, in 1831, for the sum of \$1,000.

Current land records say the 6,000-square-foot property with 2,818 square feet of enclosed area sold for \$555,000 in 2000 and for \$1,185,000 in 2007.

The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is described as an early-19th century, 2 1/2-story brick structure with a dormered gable roof, three bay north façade, and later wings and porches attached to the east and south sides. The brick is laid with thin mortar joints in Flemish bond on the street elevations, north and west, and common bond on the south and east walls.

A Federal style house, the building is an example of architecture fashionable in the United States between 1780 and 1830, particularly from 1785 to 1815. Among the important design features are a side-hall, double-parlor arrangement of rooms in the principal section, and an

interplay of shapes and patterns in both form and decoration, such as the use of ovals and rectangles in the decoration of the arch, the herringbone chair rail, and the plain and decorated blocks in the mantelpieces.

While historical architecture graces the home, modern dwellers don't have to deal with historic heating, cooling, electrical and plumbing.

"Everything is original as far as architecturally important things," said Bell. "And then the engineering was basically built around that so it wouldn't disturb the architectural integrity of the house."

Hot-water baseboard heat is oil-fired. Central high-velocity air-conditioning keeps things cool in the summer.

The main house includes four bedrooms and 3 1/2 bathrooms. The kitchen has been

modernized, but maintains colors and styles simpatico with the rest of the interior. Adjacent to the kitchen is a brick-floored breakfast room, once a screened porch, but now enclosed and offering plenty of warm sunlight.

Pointing out the thick, hardwood at the base of the kitchen doorway, bowed from walking, Heckenbach said: "That's the nice thing about this house. All the people that had this house didn't destroy the original features."

Bell is quick to point out the property's exterior qualities as well. A nearly six-foot brick wall shields the backyard, garden, and carriage house (now a guest house) from any street traffic.

"There's a designer in London, Anouska Hempel, that I used to inspire me to



Left, original hardwood plank flooring and an antique chandelier and table grace the Cannonball House's dining room. Above is the vanity area in one of the house's 3 1/2 bathrooms.

design the Weir Garden," said Bell. "It's a very sort of stark contemporary garden feel, which is a very different approach to the standard boxwood thing."

Neighbors include the Woman's Club of St. Michaels and St. Mary's Square Museum.

A shorter ivy-covered brick wall graces the front of the property with symmetrical holly trees at the borders.

Heckenbach may be reached at 410-310-1229. For more information and to take a virtual tour of the house, visit stmichaelsmdwaterfront.com.



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