

The Beacon



Fall 2008

A Publication of the Epilepsy Association of the Eastern Shore, Inc.

EAES successful in securing 320 K in state bond bill funds



Pictured above are Maryland Eastern Shore legislators Eckardt, Colburn, and Stoltzfus at the EAES office in Salisbury.

EAES received an award of \$170,000 during the 2008 Maryland legislative session, a second disbursement in a \$320,000 bond bill grant process. In 2007, \$150,000 was awarded to EAES through the bond bill legislative process. These funds bring the EAES Capital Campaign to a successful conclusion. "The bond bill legislative process offered our small grass-roots organization the ability to secure significant financial support during turbulent economic times," said Dr. Jose Balea, EAES director of public affairs. The funds will be used to pay off the mortgage obtained for capital expenditures incurred in renovating the EAES facility. (see Capital Campaign story page 2)

EAES consumers visit North Carolina's Outer Banks

This past April, EAES consumers and residential staff took a vacation trip to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. The week long trip included trips to the aquarium, the beach, and deep-sea fishing. Consumers stayed in a rented house close to the beach, enjoyed home-cooked meals and many amenities provided at the ocean-front residence. They also visited the Wright Brothers' Museum, the site of man's first flight.



EAES consumers and staff at the Wright Brothers' National Memorial Park Service Museum, in North Carolina. More pictures on page 7.

EAES Capital Campaign



EAES main office

In 2006, EAES initiated its first capital campaign with a projected goal of \$100,000. Although a modest and conservative goal, the campaign will actually exceed expectations by securing a total of \$349,000 by the close of 2008. The capital campaign project was conceived by Mike Carbone, EAES director, in the spring of 2006 who said, "After assessing the viability of embarking on a capital campaign project with other non-profits in the area, we developed our internal model and strategy using what would be practical and cost effective for our agency." EAES board members, volunteers, interested businesses, and the successful procurement of state bond bills, with Eastern Shore delegation support, were important components of the campaign and were essential for the positive outcome of the project.

In 2005, the federal government, through the General Services Administration, awarded surplus land and the former Social Security building, in Salisbury, to EAES. The donated real estate was appraised at \$480,000. Nevertheless, EAES needed to invest \$560,000 to update and refurbish the building to accommodate its needs. A mortgage loan of \$325,000 was obtained for the building's renovation. Funds generated through the successful capital campaign project allow EAES to pay off its mortgage early resulting in a savings of \$220,000 in principal and interest over the next seven years.

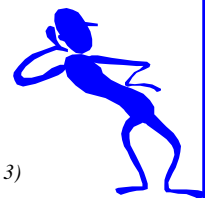
In August EAES staff and consumers enjoyed a "Night at the Races" at the Ocean Downs racetrack in Berlin, Maryland. Consumers had a terrific time this year watching the standardbred trotters compete and picking the best horse "TO WIN". Ice cream, sodas, and pretzels were provided. Pictured below are consumers and staff with the winners blanket prior to the EAES- sponsored race, in 2008.



Through the grapevine.....

Sharmaine Hills, the Appointment /Training Coordinator for EAES, recently completed a CPR training and certification course enabling her to provide ongoing instruction to EAES staff needing basic CPR training as required by DDA. In addition, she teaches Behavior Principal and Strategies, Bloodborne Pathogens, and Communicable Disease to our staff. **R.J. Parker** was recently promoted to the position of Residential Coordinator, expanding his responsibilities to coordinate services to our five IFC homes. He feels "fortunate to work at EAES with the opportunities offered him and the professional goals he has achieved". **Gloria Magarelli, R.N.**, has completed the required R.N. nursing courses at WOR-WIC Community College. Recently she sat for her nursing boards and was successful in obtaining a coveted R.N. degree. With her many years of clinical work and added technical

(Continued on page 3)



(Capital Campaign continued from page 2)



EAES past-president Debbie Palmer at the start of the 2006 Capital Campaign.



EAES Secretary Louis Gentile places the final sticker for the Capital Campaign on August 7, 2008 with Delegate Norman Conway, EAES Director Mike Carbone and Mike Dyer EAES Board member

(staff news continued from page 2)

skills she is a valuable EAES employee. **Chanell Thomas** recently joined the accounting department. Heralding from New York, she has lived in the area for many years. She is involved with her church and enjoys spending time with family. EAES applauds staff who seek to increase their level of professional development. Congratulations to

Epilepsy Sandpiper Open golf tournament

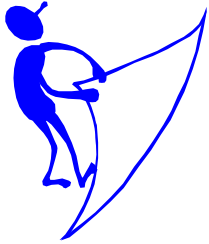
The fifth annual Sandpiper Golf Tournament was held in June at the Greenhill Yacht and Country Club, in Quantico, Maryland. Thanks to Jack Skilling and Mike Callender, PGA professionals at the golf course, this tournament continues to be a successful EAES signature event. The staff, board, and clients of EAES are very grateful to the businesses and sponsors that supported this fundraiser. We were very fortunate to have great weather(although hot) for the 2008 tournament. Team turnout was good this year, with 49 players. The strong participation by the Fruitland Redmen teams continues to insure a good outcome for this event. Thank you! The tournament was based on a 4-person team, best ball scramble format. Two special-event holes were designated on the course that included a "longest drive" and "closest to the pin". The hole-in-one 2008 Ford Focus was made possible through the courtesy of Sherwood on the Shore. With 33 local business and sponsors, this year's event was one of our most successful, raising over \$7,650!

Shaun Lloyd won the "Longest Drive" shot at the tournament and *Ron Frew* won the "Closest to the Pin" competition. The generosity of area businesses provided extraordinary gift items to winning teams that included prime green fees from area golf courses and lunch or dinner gift certificates from area restaurants. Following the tournament, participants enjoyed a barbecue dinner at the Greenhill Yacht and Country Club's club house.



Joe Kostelac (far right), EAES board member and his team: Bruce Tortoreti, Ron Wesche, and Justin Kostelac, at the 2008 Sandpiper Open Golf Tournament.

EAES enjoys an evening of Wrestling

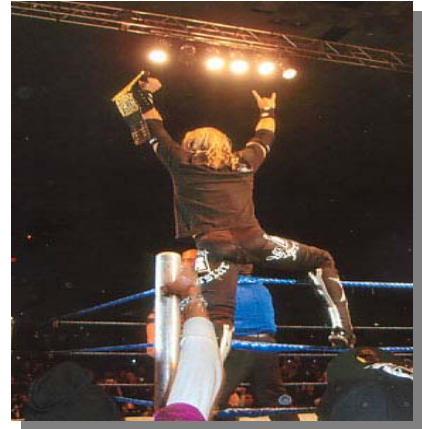


Last fall, EAES staff along with consumers Jack Cannon, Jimmy Cathell, Lionel Chisum, Elaine Craig, Louis Freshwater, Patsy Rieben, Andy Shaw, Mike Tatem, Anthony Taylor, and Eric Weatherholt, enjoyed a night of wrestling at the Salisbury Civic Center. The *Live Tour* World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) wrestlers visited Salisbury for a thrilling night of spectacular wrestling entertainment. It was a great consumer activity that captured the imagination of young and old alike.

Wrestling is one of the few activities that entertain and satisfy diverse age groups of consumers with varying levels of abilities, without having to travel outside this area.

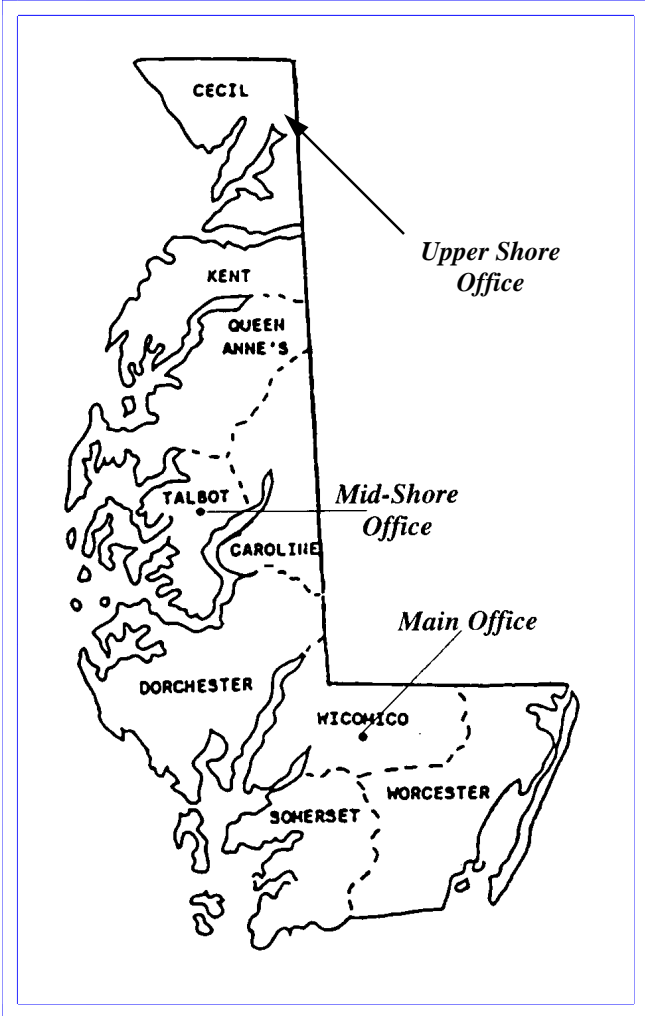


Wrestlers warm up for the opening match



EAES consumers and staff enjoy American Federation wrestling matches at the Salisbury Civic Center last winter.

EAES Consumer News



EAES Upper Shore and Mid-Shore operations merge

In order to address budgetary cut-backs, the EAES board, with staff input, recently decided to close the Easton satellite office. Daily operations at that office have been transferred to the upper-shore EAES satellite office, in Elkton. This decision will save EAES approximately \$7,500 per year in rental fees and utility costs. In a recessionary economic cycle, EAES board and staff are challenged to make prudent financial decisions that will cut expenses, while not compromising delivery of services to consumers. A call-forwarding telephone service for incoming requests and inquiries from the mid-shore office has been activated. Calls to the Easton number 410-822-5101, are being re-directed to the Elkton office. Services and community outreach programs in the mid-shore will remain intact and unchanged. EAES staff in Easton who meet with mid-shore consumers in their own homes or at job sites for periodic routinely scheduled meetings will continue to do so. Talbot County residents, who want to meet with DDA and EAES staff, will be provided a neutral meeting area in their respective community for the interdisciplinary team meetings and annual review.

As part of an effort to streamline operations, increase organizational efficiency, and community outreach, the agency web page www.eaes.org has been redesigned. With the updated website our organization is able to maintain an effective user-friendly site with integrated webmail service, video, and up-to-date agency information. Consumers wishing to inquire about our programs and services will find the website helpful.

EAES provides services to residents in all nine counties on Maryland's Eastern Shore. The Upper Shore (Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's) and the Mid-Shore (Talbot, Caroline, and Dorchester) counties are supervised by Janet Reeder. The Lower Shore counties (Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset) are under the direction of Mike Carbone.

Upper Shore/Mid-Shore Office:	Lower Shore Office:
Phone - (410) 620-2684	Phone - (410) 543-0665
Fax - (410) 620-2580	Fax - (410) 543-0432
205 E. Main Street	688 E. Main street
Carriage House	Salisbury, MD 21804
Elkton, MD 21921	

EAES Consumers attend American Idol Performance



During an outing to the Virginia Beach **American Idol** concert, live music and upbeat choreographed dance routines were enjoyed by EAES consumers and staff. The format of the well-known entertainment program, with music and dance performed by unknown aspiring young stars, is a staple of prime-time American TV, appealing to a broad range of audiences.

Our population of consumers typically has a positive response to music and its therapeutic effects. EAES consumers will attend another **American Idol** concert in Baltimore this August.



VFW Lobster Dinner Raises Funds for EAES

In keeping with their generous tradition of supporting no-profit community organizations, VFW Post 194 in Salisbury, organized a Lobster and Steak Dinner fundraiser for EAES in February.

Big-band music from the 40's and 50's was played, and desserts were baked by the VFW ladies auxiliary. The event raised \$2,133 for EAES programs and services.



VFW guests during dinner (left). Dr. Richard Bird (right), EAES board member and guests at the dessert table.

Summertime

by **Andy Shaw** (EAES consumer)

I can feel the sun....I can hear motorcycles cruising down the road....I can smell the fresh cut grass when they cut it with a lawn mower....I like tomatoes and corn on the cob and peaches, they are all pretty good....put on sun screen...lots of bugs....I love peaches and berries and ice cream I love to have something to drinkAfter sitting outside I go in where it's cool

More Kitty Hawk trip



*Epilepsy
Association
School Services*

- **In-service training for professional staff**
- **Kids On The Block puppet presentations**
- **Videos and literature for students, staff, and parents.**



The Kids on the Block Program

CALL (410) 543-0665 for more information or to schedule a training session or presentation.

E-mail: info@eas.org

All Services Are At No Cost To Your Sschool

2008 EAES Calendar

- American Idol Trip Baltimore August 12
- Board Meeting /Progressive Dinner Salisbury August 27
- School Alert & Kids on the Block Presentations Sept-May
- November is Epilepsy Month Annual Dinner Salisbury University Nov. 11

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for ALL OF US.



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The Beacon is published by the Epilepsy Association of the Eastern Shore, Inc., a non-profit agency serving people with epilepsy and developmental disabilities who live within the nine-county region of Maryland's Eastern Shore.

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