

The Courier

February 4, 2015 Volume 17 Number 23

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410-641-6695

Public meeting set for Pines golf mgt.

The Ocean Pines Board of Directors has recently voted to stipulate the Ocean Pines golf course will stay open and will continue to serve the members of the OPA and the community. The board is committed to ensuring that the OPA has a top quality golf course.

There will be a public meeting held to provide the members the opportunity to hear from three companies (Billy Casper Golf, Landscapes Unlimited, and Haley/Marshall) on Saturday, February 14 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Country Club.

The course is open and ready to provide a positive golf experience. The Ocean Pines course is in excellent condition and the ongoing management of the course will be focused on maintaining that high level of product and customer service.

In accordance with a 2014 fourth quarter check, the board is reviewing the success of the course in terms of course condition, player experience, and financial status. Evaluations and discussions regarding the future management of the course are ongoing.

It is the intent of the OPA to honor any and all commitments made during this evaluation time. Golf tee times and golf package reservations can be made with the assurance the course will be under quality management and ready for play.

For more information, contact Tom Terry, Ocean Pines Board of Directors at (410) 208-1068. Or email info@oceanpines.org.

Diabetes support group to meet

The Peninsula Regional Medical Center Diabetes Education Department's Diabetes Support Group will meet from 7 to 8:00 p.m. Monday, February 9 in the Avery W. Hall Educational Center Auditorium on the Peninsula Regional campus.

The topic this month will be "Keeping Your Heart Healthy" with speaker Joyce Feetham, BSN, RN-Cardiatic Rehab.

For more information about the support group meetings or if you have questions about diabetes, please call the Diabetes Education Program at Peninsula Regional Medical Center at 410-543-7061.



Removing debris — Thanks to the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) received funding last winter for a project that included paying watermen to find and recycle abandoned "ghost" crab pots throughout the coastal bays. Assateague State Park staff along with Maryland Conservation Corp. members assisted the watermen and have continued to pull out more pots and marine debris this winter. Picture here are Maryland Conservation Corp members **Stephanie Venarchick** (left) and **Lauren Truffer** (right) with their bounty of pots. MCBP has applied for a marine debris grant from NOAA to develop a larger project involving area watermen and volunteers.

OPA board discusses various topics

■ Manklin Meadows project outlined

By **Jean Marx**

At the Ocean Pines Association (OPA) meeting held on January 29, several key items were discussed. Among others, these included itemized pricing estimates for the Manklin Meadows Complex, clarification needed regarding the M02 Resolution on Facility Use, and the introduction of a draft version of the Capital Improvement Plan. Bob Thompson led off the General Manager (GM) report on the Manklin Meadows Complex.

Mr. Thompson presented a detailed breakdown of the cost estimates for each step of the Manklin Meadows project. The price tag for the full list that would include eight pickleball courts vs. the four courts originally approved in the budget is estimated at \$339,000. All board members agreed that the

\$32,000 cost to relocate the playground and upgrade the equipment is needed, and since it is already separately accounted for in the budget, the cost can be subtracted to bring the new grand total to \$307,000. Tom Terry mentioned that adding together the funding approved in this year's budget plus next year's proposed budget totals \$229,000. If the entire \$307,000 is funded, it would leave a \$78,000 shortfall; if only the four pickleball courts are built then it would be a \$12,000 shortfall. The board agreed they are close to a decision but decided to wait until the budget meeting.

The Marina Fuel Pump replacement project was discussed next. Upon removing the dispensers, the vendor (Soule) found the piping for the fuel lines and the electrical wiring to be out of compliance with current regulations. Soule presented two op-

please see **opa** on page 15

Super Bowl Sunday has a long tradition

By **Dolores E. Pike**

In a riveting Super Bowl XLIX played on February 1, 2015 the New England Patriots beat the Seattle Seahawks 28 to 24. The game absolutely exploded in the fourth quarter when the Pats were down by 10 points. Then

Tom Brady's series of passes to Julian Edelman put them in the lead. As the Seahawks bounced back moving the ball onto the one yard line with 20 seconds to go they lost the ball to the Pats. A fight broke out resulting in the ejection of a Seahawk and the subsequent

penalty cementing the Pats win as the clock ran out. What a game!

A record breaking 90 million-plus viewers sat down to watch THE game of the year ending the football season. Viewers took the opportunity to make it into party-time by having the gang over for the game with super-menus fit for a Super Bowl celebration. It is spectacular entertainment for all; some watch football, some wait for the half-time show and the rest give up bathroom breaks in order to see those innovative commercials.

The first Super Bowl was January 15, 1967 played in the Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles, CA between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Green Bay Packers. This first game was officially called the AFL-NFL World Championship and would not be known as the Super Bowl until the fourth playing. The final score was 10 to 35 in favor of the Packers who were led by their quarterback Bart Starr. In turn he was voted most valuable player (MVP) and no wonder; Starr completed 16 of 23 passes for 250 yards and three touchdowns. Each Packer received \$15,000 while each Chief took home \$7,500...the largest single-game shares in the history of team sports. Whereas this year, according to the NFL, the Seahawks each received a check for \$49,000 and the winning Patriots each walked away with a payout of \$97,000.

Vince Lombardi coached Green Bay

in that first Super Bowl and the trophy was named in his honor. In a 1966 luncheon between NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle and Oscar Riedner of Tiffany & Co. the latter sketched a design on a cocktail napkin and it later became the Super Bowl trophy. To this day Tiffany has crafted the distinctive trophy and therefore it is sometimes referred to as the Tiffany Trophy. Unlike

other sport trophies, the Lombardi Trophy is crafted every year and the winning team maintains permanent possession with only one exception. It was part of a legal settlement and was retained by the City of Baltimore when the Super Bowl champion Colts relocated.

Today's half-time entertainment producers

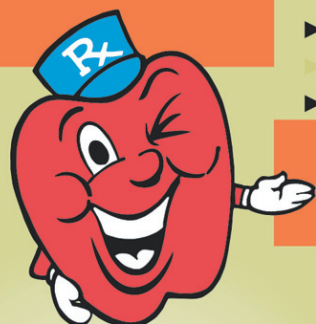
look for well-known entertainers. Over time such varied names as Tony Bennett, Michael Jackson and Bruno Mars have been featured...more recently with a background of light shows and fireworks. The very first Super Bowl featured the marching bands of the Universities of Michigan and Arizona.

As to the commercials, NBC TV network, which aired the game, demanded upwards of \$4.5 million for 30 seconds of ad time. The latest price was staggering enough for many advertisers to choke a bit before they anted up. But according to NBC, all ad slots sold out this year and were funny or edgy or simply just tugged at the heartstrings. There were of course the big players... beer, car and soda companies who clambered on board early but there were still plenty of newcomers. Commercial spots for the first game cost a mere \$40,000. There are many fond memories of ads past including "Budweiser Clydesdales" and the puppy, Coke's "mean Joe Greene" and Apple's "1984" where scenes played to a "Big Brother" theme.

Well here's to Super Bowl XLIX winners, Bill Belichick's New England Patriots, as well as Pete Carroll's Seattle Seahawks and all those who have gone before. And to Tom Brady of the Pats being named MVP. See you at Super Bowl 50, when the game will return to its beginnings and has been already named the Golden Super Bowl.



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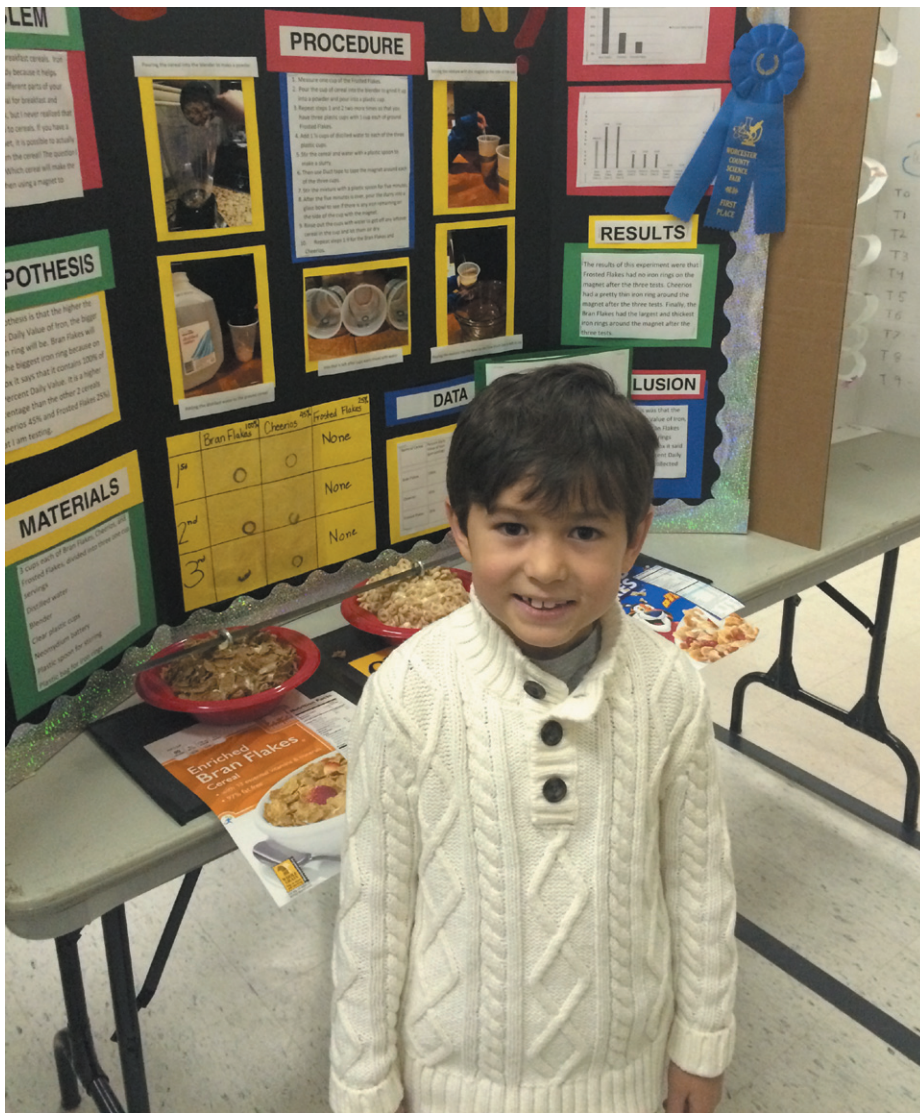
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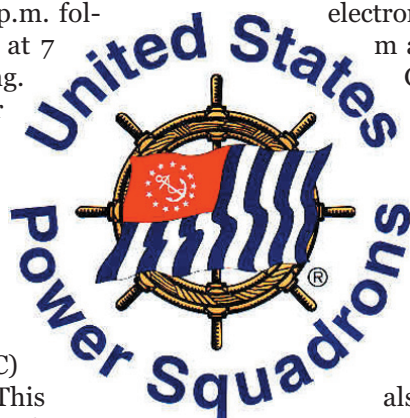
Winner — **Colin Dang**, second grader at Showell Elementary School, wins first place at the Worcester County Science Fair with the project titled "Got Iron?"

New boating course offered

The Ocean City Power Squadron (OCPs) will present the all new America's Boating Course at the Worcester County Library, Ocean Pines branch on Tuesday evening, February 24. Registration is at 6:30 p.m. followed by the first class at 7 p.m. the same evening. This is an eight hour course, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each evening. Anyone born after July 1, 1972 must satisfactorily complete a safe boating class to operate a recreational vessel or personal watercraft (PWC) in the State of MD. This course covers basic boat handling, navigation, Federal and State regulations, rules of the road, aids to navigation, required equipment and much more.

Students successfully completing this course may be eligible for six

months free membership in the Ocean City Power Squadron. Many courses pertaining to safe boating and navigation are available to Squadron members such as: piloting, weather, electronics, marine engine maintenance, GPS/VHF radio seminars as well as interesting boating, social and civic activities. This course is free. There is a nominal charge for course materials. Call 410-726-1509 or 410-641-6535 or 410-641-8040 for advance registration information. Visit our website at www.ocpowersquadron.org for more information on upcoming courses, dates and more.



United States Coast Guard BM1 **Larry Johnson** (right) stands ready to pin the Boat Force Operation insignia on Auxiliary Member **Steve Schmitt** during the Auxiliary Change of Watch ceremony. Master Chief **Timarre Sparks** (left) Officer in Charge of Coast Guard Station Ocean City read the citation that describes Mr. Schmitt's ten years of continuous service as Radio Watch Stander. USCGAUX Photo by Steve Battistone

Change of Watch ceremony held

On January 24, Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 12-05 held its annual Change of Watch luncheon at the Lighthouse Sound restaurant. The Change of Watch honored outgoing elected and appointed staff officers and introduced the 2015 elected and appointed staff officers to the members in attendance.

Master Chief Timaree Sparks, U.S. Coast Guard, Officer in Charge of Coast Guard Station Ocean City, was the keynote speaker and presented several awards as well as presiding over the swearing in of the new elected leadership for 2015. Master Chief Sparks commended all members present for the outstanding support the Auxiliary provides to the Station Ocean City. Auxiliary member Steve Schmitt received special recognition for his role as a Watch Stander.

"Auxiliary involvement like that of Mr. Schmitt helps the United States Coast Guard enhance operational readiness," said Master Chief Sparks. Master Chief Sparks also thanked outgoing Flotilla Commander Robert Sheehan for

a job well done and encouraged Al Parra, incoming Flotilla Commander, to continue pursuing operation readiness.

As part of the ceremonies, William Gleim, Division Commander, USCG Auxiliary presented awards in various categories, including Flotilla member with the greatest number of vessel examinations, on water operational awards, cumulative hour awards to individual members, and other mission awards.

For more information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary and its role in promoting recreational boating safety through Public Education classes, free vessel safety checks and an on water presence throughout the summer months, and how to join 30,000 other volunteers, visit their National Website at <http://www.cgaux.org/>. Flotilla 12-5 will have a booth in the Boat Show at the Ocean City Convention Center February 12-15. Persons interested in taking a Maryland Safe Boating Course or joining the Coast Guard Auxiliary are encouraged to stop by the booth.

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Robert B. Adair 1938-2007

2012 Business of the Year

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One of Worcester County's most famous native sons is the Rev. Dr. Charles Albert Tindley, who was born in Berlin around 1855. He overcame slavery and poverty in his determination to educate himself for the ministry. Tindley

founded one of the largest African-American Methodist congregations in Philadelphia. The Tindley Temple United Methodist Church was named in his honor. Tindley was also a noted songwriter and composer of gospel hymns, and is recognized as one of several founding fathers of American gospel music. His hymnal, "Songs of Paradise," is still in use in Worcester County, and five of his hymns appear in the revised Methodist hymnal used worldwide. One of his most beloved songs includes the popular anthem for the Civil Rights Movement, "We Shall Overcome." Tindley Chapel Day is celebrated in Pocomoke City at the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church.

Source: http://www.visitworcester.org/printables/Worcester_African-American_Heritage.pdf



New displays shown at library

Each month the Ocean Pines library has different combinations of artists display their works. Patrons and visitors to the library have the opportunity of seeing art works by several local artists throughout the year. Starting on February 3, there will be two new exhibits.

The months of February and March will feature a grandmother/granddaughter team from Ocean Pines who often paint together. This exhibit by Dorothy Douglas and Christine Johnson will be located in the main common areas of the library. Dorothy Douglas, Christine's grandmother, has painted in oil since she was a small child. She studied with Matilda Phifer and Gus Stein in Mt. Lebanon, PA. Recently, she has refreshed her technique by taking classes at the Ocean City Art League and also studying with Kate Cashman. She has exhibited as part of student groups in the Ocean Pines library and at local art exhibits and is active in local art circles. Her work is inspired by whatever is colorful, especially the blue-greens of the ocean. She is a member of the

Worcester County Art Council and the Art League of Ocean City.

Christine Johnson, Dorothy's granddaughter, has studied fine art as part of her college curriculum as well as taking classes with Kate Cashman and at the Art League of Ocean City. Christine is a multimedia artist, influenced by the works of Gustave Klint. She is active in local art circles and interacts with her grandmother while they both produce their work. Christine is a member of the Worcester County Art Council and the Art League of Ocean City.

The exhibit by Dorothy Douglas and Christine Johnson will run through March 31.

The Artist's Spotlight exhibit is located in the computer rooms of the library, which are located to the right near the back of the library. This exhibit focuses on one local artist and for the next two months, it will feature art by Bob Capece. Mr. Capece was born and raised in northern New Jersey. He completed a two-year program in Fine Arts at The DuCret School of Art and an additional two

years at The Kubert School of Art, followed by one year of tutoring by professional illustrator, Joel Naprstek. Since moving to the Eastern Shore, he has continued to advance his artistic skills by taking classes with local watercolor artist, Barbara Doyle Schmid at the Art League of Ocean City. A number of his works have been entered in the ALOC competitive exhibitions. The majority of his art is in watercolor, acrylic, and pencil drawings.

Mr. Capece says that his inspiration comes from within, from those things that he enjoys. Whenever possible, he likes to add action and movement into his work. The main challenge that he faces is bringing realism and life to his illustrations, as so perfectly done by his favorite artist, Norman Rockwell.

The Artist's Spotlight exhibit by Bob Capece will continue until March 31.

Support group to meet

The Worcester County Parkinson's Support Group meets on the second Tuesday of every month at the Ocean Pines library at 2:15 p.m. The sessions include speakers, exercises and group discussions. For information call 410-208-3132.

Yard sale to be held Saturday

The Bishopville Volunteer Fire Auxiliary will be holding an indoor yard sale at the main fire station on Saturday, February 7 from 7 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$15/table or \$25 for 2 tables. Breakfast food will be available for sale. Call 443-235-2926 for more information or to reserve a table.

Bertino to hold town meeting

Chip Bertino, Worcester County Commissioner for the Ocean Pines district, will hold his first Town Meeting on Saturday, February 21 at the Ocean Pines library. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Commissioner Bertino will provide information on issues and developments occurring within the district and the county.

6th Annual
SDHS TACO NIGHT

dollar tacos
 Wednesday, February 11th
 Stephen Decatur High School
 2:30 - 7:00 p.m.
COME HUNGRY! EAT CHEAP!
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Every item is ONLY \$1
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TACO NIGHT is an event sponsored by SONRISE CHURCH benefiting Stephen Decatur High School

Look that up in your Funk and Wagnalls*

You will hear no complaints from me that modern technology is wondrous. Well, you won't hear many

complaints. So much information is now available at our fingertips; literally no farther away than the touch-tone screen of a Smart Phone. There was a time when if you wanted to learn something about say some distant island in the South Pacific ocean, you would refer to Funk and Wagnalls. Remember Funk and Wagnalls?



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

Each year the company published volumes arranged alphabetically which contained information on just about everything and anything. They were usually leather bound (or at least looked like leather bound) and lined the book case. Information, photos and diagrams were all printed on the black and white pages, all there for the reading. Of course compared to today, pulling a book from a shelf to thumb through pages to locate exactly what it is you are looking for seems as old fashioned as a rotary phone.

Growing up we had a set of encyclopedias. I don't remember if they were Funk and Wagnalls but I do remember we acquired the books over a period of time. The local supermarket was selling them so during her regular shopping trips my mother purchased one or two volumes. For the longest time we had volumes B through E; no A and only one of the two index volumes. Eventually the entire set of burgundy and white covered volumes rested on our bookshelf. And there they sat for a long time. With each passing year they become more dated and less used. The information contained within their pages was frozen in time. Gerald Ford was president. Bei-

jing was Peking. And Pluto was a planet. Whatever happened to these books I am unsure.

From time to time when I amble through an antique store I find old encyclopedia volumes. Opening an old volume is a journey through time. It's a bit jarring to read: "Roosevelt, Franklin D.:

president of the United States, 1933-present." There's no mention of World War II because it wouldn't take place for another six years.

Or how about this? "Television. A concept of transmitting radio and images to a home receiver." That's something isn't it?

Of course today information is updated immediately, in nanoseconds. And you don't have to go to the bookshelf or library for that matter. Just tap the screen of your phone and presto! Everything you wanted to know about "twerking" is right there which is either amazing or a just a little unsettling.

Not long ago my wife and I were watching a commercial in which Marie Osmond was promoting a diet plan. We started remembering when Marie and her brother Donny had their television show in the 1970s when stereo and HD were not features on the old Magnavox. We then debated how old Marie was. The word "debate" really doesn't convey accurately the scene. My wife speaks in infallible tones and I say "Uh-huh." Modern technology has provided me with a bit of an edge. I Googled Marie Osmond's name and learned she was a few years younger than my wife thought which I quickly related. The room went quiet. You know sometimes it's best to just say "Uh-huh."

Funk and Wagnall is no more; gone the way of the dinosaur, phone booth and video stores. Wikipedia is the research tool of choice these days. It's never outdated and is much easier to carry around than 26 bound volumes. Still, years from now a person walking through an antique shop won't have the opportunity to learn what the world knew as of 2015.

*A catchphrase popularized in the 1960s television program *Rowan and Martin's Laugh-In*.



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Chamber Community Connection

Getting down to business with upcoming events

By Liz Kain-Bolen



We hope everyone is staying warm out there. If you are a business owner or professional and are looking for a way to boost your business this year, come out and join one of our networking events and see what we're all about. There is so much going on this spring. We love to see new faces and help promote local business.

On Thursday February 12 we will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at DeNovo's Trattoria at 5 p.m. to commemorate their 10th Anniversary in business. A popular gathering place for Ocean Pines residents and visitors, DeNovo's has become an important part of the Ocean Pines community. The owners, Bob and Kelli Beck, continue to support many non-profit organizations in the community and it's time that we all celebrate their success with them. The Ocean Pines Chamber will also have their monthly Business

After Hours networking immediately following.

We also are planning our 5th annual Business Expo on March 11. All local businessmen and women, employees, professionals and members of all area chambers are invited to attend this fun networking event held on Route 50 in West Ocean City. Located across from Stephen Decatur High School in the former Harley-Davidson building, 40-50 of our local businesses will be displaying their goods and services from 4-7 p.m. There is no fee to attend, just bring your business cards.

We are also selling tickets for our Annual Ocean Pines dues raffle. Each year we hold a raffle for Ocean Pines residents where the winner will have their Ocean Pines Association (OPA) dues paid for one full year and some other great prizes. There will be nine

winners this year so your chances are greater. There is also a cash option of \$1,000 for those who do not live in the Pines or who have already paid their assessment fee for 2015. The drawing will be April 26 during the Ocean Pines Home Show in the OPA Community Center. Raffle tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by stopping by the Chamber office, 11031 Cathell Road, Berlin or on line at OceanPinesChamber.org or call 410-641-5306.

Springo Bingo is once again coming soon, Friday May 9 in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Twenty bingo games will be played for cash and/or prizes. (Each game is worth \$50-\$100.) We'll have food and refreshments available for purchase and tickets are available now on our website or by calling the Chamber office. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. They sell out quickly, so get yours today.

Are you a retired professional who still wants to be connected to the business world? You can be a part of our Ocean Pines Chamber with a Patron Membership for individuals who may be retired from their businesses but still want to be involved in the business world. A Patron Member may attend our networking events, help with community events and serve on some of our committees. Please call our Chamber office for more information on a Patron Membership.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/oceanpineschamber](https://www.facebook.com/oceanpineschamber) or follow us on Twitter: [@OceanPinesCC](https://twitter.com/OceanPinesCC).

Warmest Wishes,
Liz Kain-Bolen
Executive Director
Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce
410-641-5306
info@oceanpineschamber.org
www.oceanpineschamber.org

House of Delegates Session Highlights

Delegate Mary Beth Carozza, 38C



Delegate Mary Beth Carozza (District 38C), a new delegate and member of the House Appropriations Committee, has been focused on reviewing the Governor's FY 2016 budget and working with constituents and other colleagues on legislative and other priorities affecting the Shore. The 435th Maryland General Assembly convened on January 14 and the Inauguration of Larry Hogan as Maryland's 62nd Governor was held on January 21.

Early session highlights include:

Budget: The Governor's proposed FY 2016 budget aligned general funding spending of \$16.4 billion with general fund revenue of \$16.4 billion to create a structurally balanced budget while still fully funding K-12 education at a record level of \$6.1 billion. This total represents \$45.3 million in new support. School construction is fully funded at \$290 million. There are no tax, fee or toll increases and no agencies were eliminated. State agency spending was reduced by 2 percent across the board and no layoffs or furloughs were proposed.

"Governor Hogan's budget begins to put Maryland's fiscal house in order by not spending more than the state takes in, and his budget stops using retirement funds for current expenses," said Carozza. "Maryland's budget challenge is real. The state's unfunded pension liabilities alone are \$18.7 billion, which is nearly \$3 billion more than the proposed operating budget. This budget slows overall spending growth but still funds important projects and programs, including education."

please see **carozza** on page 11

Murder Mystery Dinner

Friday February 20th 2015
at The Woodlands of Ocean Pines
6:00PM - 9:00PM

"For the Love of Money"



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Brinkley speaks to Kiwanians

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City guest speaker at the weekly meeting on January 28 was Kelly Brinkley, Volunteer Services Manager of the Worcester County Department of Human Resources. She's been visiting volunteer organizations like Kiwanis to make them aware of her department and services. Pictured are (L-R) J. Graham Caldwell who arranges for the speakers, Kelly Brinkley and Immediate Past President Dick Clagett who presided over the meeting. Kelly recognized the local Kiwanis Club for being so very active and involved many services in support of the community.

Kelly's job is to let the people of Worcester County know about volunteering opportunities. There is a website being developed which will allow those seeking to volunteer obtain information to assist them in their search. It sounds like an invaluable tool for getting volunteers matched up with opportunities. Kelly can be reached at 410-632-5656 or by E-mail atkbinkley@co.worcester.md.us for more information. You can also see the website at <http://www.co.worcester.md.us/>

The 32nd Annual Seaside
BOAT SHOW
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The Boat Show That Works For Kids

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Beginner gardening workshop offered

Forget cold winter weather. Think spring and begin planning a beautiful garden at the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department's beginner gardening workshop on Thursday, February 12 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Tuesday, February 17 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Expert gardener Nancie Corbett will lead the workshop, which is designed to teach newbies gardening basics such as the importance of good soil, composting, seedling care and how to add transplants.

Two sessions of the workshop, which is open to the public, will be offered and pre-registration is required. The cost is \$15 for Ocean Pines residents and \$20 for non-residents. The community center is located at 235 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines.

For more information or to register, call the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052 or email rec@ocean-pines.org.

Sandpiper Energy
 A Chesapeake Utilities Company

Sandpiper Energy is the new energy company serving the Worcester County region.

Sandpiper Energy provides natural gas and propane to meet your energy needs. To learn more about us, visit our website at www.sandpiper-energy.com, or call us at **1-800-427-0015**.



Getting along — Friendship was the theme in Mrs. Deb Schrawder's 3rd grade Showell Elementary School class during a celebration before the winter break. Shown in the "photo booth" are: **Chase Ponton, Marlie Scott and Parker Rayne.**

Optimist Seaside Boat Show returns

By **Kelsey Reichenberg**

Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club encourages everyone to support the premier boat show on the Eastern Shore, known as the "boat show that works for kids," the weekend of February 13-15. The 32nd annual event is to be held at the Ronald E Powell Convention Center on Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$1 for kids, and a weekend pass is available for \$15. Those who are in attendance can expect to find almost anything related to water and water-sports, including nearly 50 boat dealers, more than 350 boats, 140 exhibitors, fishing supplies, canoes, kayaks, motors, trailers, canvas tops, jewelry, art, sports cruisers, sport fish-

ing, boating insurance, and more. The large number of boats sold at the boat show annually is what makes it one of the most popular shows on the East Coast.

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club consists of more than 120 members and is recognized as one of the best clubs in Optimist International. All of the boat show proceeds support many youth and community service programs, and it provides the Optimist Club with the opportunity to raise funds to support the club programs to support local youth. One of the main reasons for the success of the show are the door prizes provided by North Bay Marine owners, Scott and Mary McCurdy. Each person who purchases a show admission has a chance to win a boat.

MCBP plans volunteer fair, happy hour

Maryland Coastal Bays (MCBP) is hosting a volunteer fair and happy hour Tuesday, February 10 at the West Ocean City Bottle Shop located on Route 50 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

MCBP as well as several other non-profit groups including Assateague Coastal Trust, Berlin Library Garden Project, Lower Shore Land Trust, Ocean City Surf Club, and Worcester County Humane Society will be on hand to talk about their organizations and volunteer opportunities.

This is your chance to come out and learn about some of our non-profit organizations and the opportunities available to you to help make a difference in our community.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program

is dedicated to preserving watershed including the five bays behind Ocean City and Assateague through restoration projects, outreach and education.

Assateague Coastal Trust works to protect and enhance the natural resources of the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed through advocacy, conservation, and education.

The Berlin Library Garden is a community project to demonstrate sustainable, chemical-free gardening to the public. Produce is donated to Diakonia (shelter in West Ocean City) and Stevenson United Methodist Church, and used in library programming.

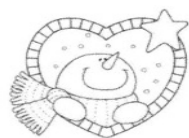
The Lower Shore Land Trust assists landowners and communities to conserve land for the enjoyment and well-being of present and future generations.

The Ocean City Surf Club celebrates our ocean community, its heritage and future and supports area youth through scholarships and mentoring.

The Worcester County Humane Society is a no kill shelter that provides food, vet care, and unconditional love until a suitable, loving and forever homes for abandoned and surrendered animals.

For more information contact Sandi Smith at sandis@mdcoastalbays.org or call 410-213-2297 ext 106.

Children's Valentine's Day Party and Movie



Saturday, February 7th
5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

DINNER—MOVIE—GAMES

Stevenson United Methodist Church
Berlin, Maryland
Call 443-235-6761

This event is free and open to public.
We ask that children under five be accompanied by an adult.

Letters sent to The Courier for publication consideration must be signed and include



a telephone number where the author can be reached to verify authenticity, if necessary. Let-

ters are not corrected for spelling or grammar and priority will be given to letters of 300 words or less. Letters must be received by Friday at 5 p.m. They can be e-mailed to:

thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Shelter dogs need good homes, certain breeds prevalent

Thousands of dogs end up in shelters every year. Some get reunited with family members, but the vast majority are strays or surrendered by their owners.

The Humane Society of the United States estimates that animal shelters care for between six and eight million dogs

and cats every year, and approximately half of those animals are ultimately euthanized. Substantial progress has been made to reduce the number of shelter animals that are euthanized, but more work is necessary to save animals from this unfortunate fate. To help reduce the number of homeless animals, many different shelters work to place animals in homes and educate men, women and children about pet overpopulation. Certain breeds tend to be more populous than others in shelters.

It is possible to find purebred dogs in shelters, and some shelters even specialize at placing particular breeds. However, many shelter dogs are mixed-breeds, often referred to as mutts. According to polling from various shelters across the country, pit bulls, labradors, German shepherds, beagles, and their mixes tend to be the most common types of dogs found in shelters. Dogs perceived to be too hyper or aggressive frequently arrive at shelters when people find they cannot manage the animals. But with some training and discipline, many dogs can become beloved companions.

The following is a look at the general temperament of common shelter dogs and the type of care and handling such dogs may require.



all about
pets

Pit bull terrier

A well-bred pit bull can be a dependable, loyal and good-natured companion. These dogs are athletic and must have moderate daily exercise to stay healthy and prevent boredom.

Pit bulls can be stubborn and dominant, meaning they will need confident owners who can establish and enforce expected behaviors. While they can be friendly with people, pit bulls may be assertive around other dogs, particularly when they feel their dominance is being challenged. In addition, these dogs have a high prey instinct and may chase cats or other small animals.

Pit bulls can usually live comfortably if they have adequate mental stimulation and are socialized at an early age.

Beagles

Beagles are the perfect size for many families, and they also make

friendly and peaceful dogs. Then why do they end up in shelters so readily? Beagles were developed as hunting dogs and may have these traits programmed into their heads to chase and seek out prey. What's more, beagles need a lot of exercise, and some people simply do not have the time or inclination to exercise their dogs.

Beagles can bay or howl when they become bored, and they may dig holes or try to escape close quarters. For these reasons, beagles may end up turned over to shelters. But firm training and positive outlets for energy can help make beagles welcome companions.

German shepherd

Well-bred German shepherds are often self-confident and aloof but not hostile. But



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stringed instruments Isaiah 38.20

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many German shepherds, thanks in part to overbreeding, exhibit unpredictable behavior.

German shepherds are a working breed and were developed to be smart and forward-thinking. Shepherds need mental stimulation to remain happy and could become destructive if not given a good intellectual outlet, such as agility classes or herding opportunities.

German shepherds shed a lot of hair, making them undesirable to some people. When not properly socialized, shepherds may be aggressive toward other dogs, which can be problematic. However, a shepherd that has been bred well, trained and socialized can make a loyal and friendly pet.

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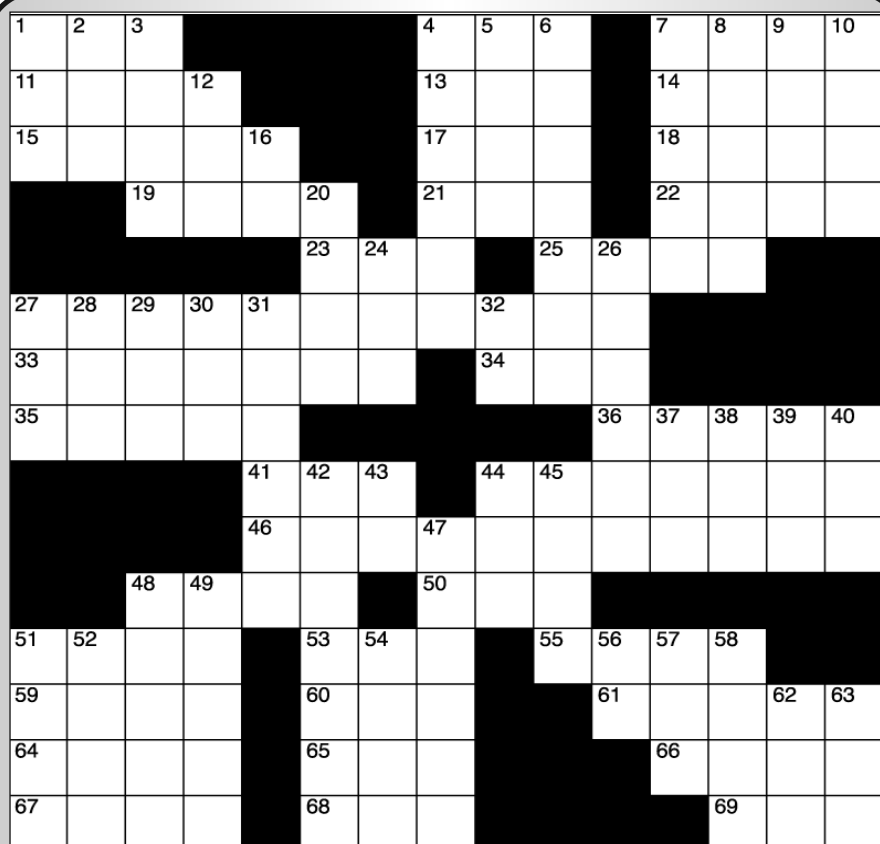
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ACROSS

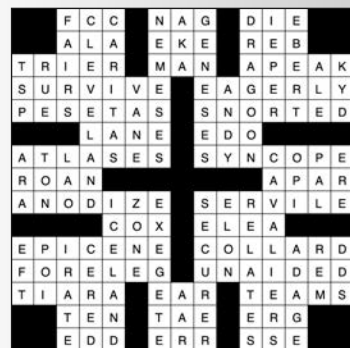
- 1. Fashion dandy
- 4. Cycles per second
- 7. Strikebreaker
- 11. Aquatic reptile (informal)
- 13. Express pleasure
- 14. Swiss river
- 15. Contains cerium
- 17. Ribonucleic acid
- 18. On top
- 19. Taxis
- 21. Banking machine
- 22. Small salamander
- 23. Voltage
- 25. Pointed summit
- 27. DWTS host
- 33. In a way, smoked
- 34. Peat moss source
- 35. W. African nation Sierra ____
- 36. Cocoa plum tree
- 41. Holiday (informal)
- 44. Venezuelan capital
- 46. DWTS host-ess

DOWN

- 48. Hideouts
- 50. Actress Lupino
- 51. The content of cognition
- 53. Point one point N of due E
- 55. Plunder a town
- 59. No. Albanian dialect
- 60. No (Scottish)
- 61. Blatted
- 64. X2 = a Pacific tourist commune
- 65. AKA option key
- 66. Angelina's spouse
- 67. "Wedding Crashers" Wilson
- 68. Grassland, meadow
- 69. Laughing to self (texting)
- 1. Licenses TV stations
- 2. Metal-bearing mineral
- 3. Meat from a pig (alt. sp.)
- 4. A bottle with a stopper
- 5. Short labored breath
- 6. Hair washing soap

- 7. Steam bath
- 8. "R.U.R." playwright Karel
- 9. Beside one another in lines
- 10. Not straight
- 12. Former OSS
- 16. Truck driver's radio
- 20. Dried-up
- 24. Million gallons per day (abbr.)
- 26. Encircle (archaic)
- 27. '___ death do us part
- 28. A single unit
- 29. A siemens
- 30. Prohibition
- 31. V. William's clothing line
- 32. Scotland's poet's initials
- 37. Auto
- 38. Single spot card in a deck

- 39. Crow sound
- 40. Former CIA
- 42. Factory where arms are made
- 43. Radioactive unit
- 44. Scoundrel
- 45. Freshwater duck genus
- 47. 9 decades
- 48. Makes tractors
- 49. 55120
- 51. Southeast Nigeria people
- 52. Arab sailing vessel
- 54. Hay bundle
- 56. Blood type
- 57. Driver compartment
- 58. "Das Kapital" author Marx
- 62. Consume food
- 63. Dental degree



Answers for Jan 28

Eyes on the Skies

Luminous Black Holes

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



February brings the winter show to a more convenient hour, as stargazers may see familiar seasonal sights such as Orion the Hunter, Taurus the Bull and the dazzling star Sirius as early as 7 p.m. Stargazers who brave the chilly air will be well rewarded as the February skies are among the best of the year.

For this month's astronomy concept, black holes again take center stage but with a new twist. Not all black holes are as quiet and dark as expected. In fact, some of these strange objects announce themselves with a fanfare, spilling out energy into space with great gusto and appearing as luminous beacons at the center of large galaxies.

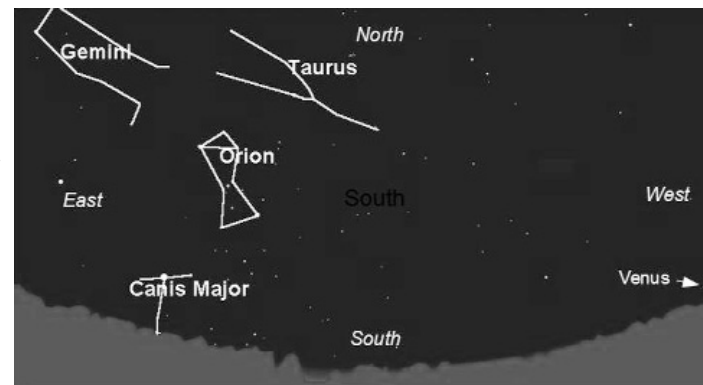
Ordinarily, one might imagine black holes as something like "one way streets," as they relentlessly draw in gaseous material from nearby stars. When Cygnus X-1 was discovered, the dream of black holes became a reality. Next, astronomers found far larger super-massive black holes, which were detected by the staggering amounts of energy they produce.

In 1963, astronomer Maarten Schmidt located an unexpectedly powerful radio source in the constellation Virgo which was designated 3C-273. Astronomers referred to the new celestial body as a quasi-stellar radio source, or "quasar," since the point-like nature of the visible image gave it the appearance of a star. This name is unfortunate, since astronomers now accept that the object is the brightly glowing disk of gas in the center of a galaxy. At this galactic core lurks an extremely large super-massive black hole, weighing in at about one billion times the mass of the sun.

In a typical quasar, the giant black hole's gravity draws in material from the surrounding galaxy. The in-falling gases move so fast and with so much energy that they cannot all be absorbed. Like water gushing from an overflowing storm drain, there will be jets of material

streaming away from the black hole and far into the depths of space. Such jets are bright and energetic enough to be seen at vast distances, and even at several billions of light years away.

In 1969, astronomer Donald Lynden-Bell was the first to conjecture that a large galaxy might be anchored by a massive black hole at its center - a black hole radiating enormous jets of matter. In this way, the mystery of quasars was essentially solved. Astronomers have discovered many other quasars, as well as other



galaxies harboring gigantic black holes in their cores. In some cases, astronomers have clocked the motions of stars located near the galactic core, noting their extremely rapid orbital speed. Such break-neck velocities are understandable as a response to the powerful gravity of an enormous black hole.

In November 2013, astronomers discovered a black hole called ULX-1 (short for ultra-luminous x-ray source) in the Pinwheel Galaxy. The energetic emissions of most black holes can be explained in terms of rapidly in-falling gases. However, UXL-1 appears to be emitting significantly greater energy than astronomers would expect for a black hole of its modest size. Evidently, research into black holes and their properties will continue to lead to new and unexpected results, far into the future.

Those venturing outdoors this February may enjoy the bright planet Venus early in the evening. Even as the sun sets at about 5:30 p.m., this brilliant planet is already visible over the southeastern horizon. One must take care not to miss the bright planet, since it sinks quickly to

Financial Planning

What do low oil prices mean for investors?

By Ben Ogle



As you've no doubt noticed, your trips to the gas station have been a lot more pleasant these past several months. There's not much doubt that low oil prices have been welcome to you as a driver. But when oil is cheap, is that good for you as an investor?

There's no clear-cut answer. But consider the following effects of low oil prices:

Positive impact on economy — When you spend less at the gas pump, relative to recent years, what will you do with your savings? Like most people, you'll probably spend most of it on goods and services. If you multiply the amount of your increased spending by the millions of other Americans who are also saving money on gas, you can see that you and your fellow consumers are likely adding billions of dollars to the economy. Typically, a strong economy is also good for the financial markets — and for the people who invest in them.

Different results for different sectors — Different sectors within the financial markets may respond in different ways to low oil prices, even if the overall effect is generally positive. For example, businesses such as consumer goods companies and auto manufacturers may respond favorably to cheaper oil and gas. But the picture might be quite a bit different for energy companies.

You could spend a lot of time and effort trying to adjust your investment

portfolio in response to low oil prices. In fact, you may well want to consult with your financial professional to determine which moves might make sense for your individual situation. Yet there's actually a bigger lesson to be learned here: Don't overreact to temporary developments. The recent decline in oil prices has certainly had an economic impact, but no one can predict how long these prices will stay low or what other factors may arise that would affect the financial markets. That's why you can't reconfigure your portfolio based on particular events, whatever they may be — oil price drops, interest-rate fluctuations, political squabbles at home, natural disasters in faraway lands, and so on.

If you can keep from being overly influenced by specific events, you may be able to gain at least two key benefits: First, by not making trades constantly in reaction to the headlines of the day, you can avoid piling up heavy fees and commissions — costs that can reduce the return rate on your investments. Second, you'll find that if you aren't always thinking about what's going on in the world today, you can focus your investment efforts more intensely on where you want to be tomorrow. The most successful investors set long-term goals and don't focus on factors they cannot control, such as oil prices, interest-rate changes or other economic events. Instead, these in-

please see oil on page 12



Winter is here and it is time for some real comfort food. On a cold rainy or snowy day, nothing is like the fragrance of a great dinner in the oven.

Smoky Chicken

This chicken dish has a smoky flavor from the combination of dried beef and bacon.

It is also a good recipe for a crowd as the recipe is easy to double. Serve with mashed potatoes or baked sweet potatoes and biscuits. A nice salad will complement this meal.

Line casserole with 1 package of dried chip beef. Add 6 boneless chicken breasts which have each been wrapped in 2 slices of bacon. Mix 1 can of golden mushroom soup with one small container of sour cream. Spread on top of breasts. Bake at 275 degrees 2-1/2 to 3 hours uncovered.

Stuffed Pork Chops

Six large loin pork chops with pockets (with sharp knife slice a pocket in each). Make salt and pepper dressing or use prepared dressing. Add one cup of chopped apples to dressing mixture. Stuff each pocket and use toothpicks to hold in place. Add water to bottom of pan to prevent sticking. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 to 1-1/2 hours until pork is tender. Make gravy from drippings. Baked apples make a nice addition to the serving platter.

Salt and Pepper Dressing

Toast about 8 slices of bread on a cookie sheet in the oven. Break up in a bowl and add 1 chopped onion, 2 stalks chopped celery, parsley, salt and pepper to taste. Moisten with chicken broth or warm water and 2 T. melted butter. (Don't forget the apples.)

*Keep warm and happy cooking
bevwisch@aol.com*

carozza
from page 6

Start School After Labor Day Initiative: On her second day as a new delegate, Carozza participated in a Start School After Labor Day event with Gov. Larry Hogan, Comptroller Peter Franchot, state Sen. Jim Mathias, Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan, and organizations from around the state. Carozza will be a lead cosponsor of legislation in the House of Delegates to require counties to start school after Labor Day.

"Starting school after Labor Day is good for families and good for local businesses across the state," said Carozza, noting that the Board of Revenue Estimates projects a post-Labor Day start would boost economic activity by \$74.3 million and contribute \$7.7 million in revenue to state and local coffers. "By starting school after Labor Day, Marylanders will have that last summer family time together, whether they choose to go on vacation or relax at home. I have heard from rank and file teachers who support a

post-Labor Day start date, and I have asked our school superintendents to work with us."

Veterans Small Business Initiative: As a former civilian employee at the Department of Defense and as a tour guide at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines, Carozza has begun to work on a legislative initiative that would allow more veteran-owned businesses to compete for state contracts.

"We have an obligation to ensure that our veterans, particularly those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, have the business opportunities to succeed at home," said Carozza. "Our men and women in the military are leaders overseas and statewide and by opening up more business opportunities for our veterans, these same men and women will be leaders in their own home communities."

Construction Workforce Initiative: Carozza has begun to meet with local members of the Association of Builders and Contractors/Chesapeake Area, local educators, and com-

please see carozza on page 15

Tide and Sun Chart				
* tide is for Ocean City Fishing Pier. Add two hours for Isle of Wight tide				
DATE	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Thur., February 5	8:17 a.m. 8:30 p.m.	1:58 a.m. 2:33 p.m.	7:02 a.m.	5:27 p.m.
Fri., February 6	8:54 a.m. 9:10 p.m.	2:37 a.m. 3:08 p.m.	7:01 a.m.	5:28 p.m.
Sat., February 7	9:32 a.m. 9:50 p.m.	3:16 a.m. 3:44 p.m.	7:00 a.m.	5:29 p.m.
Sun., February 8	10:10 a.m. 10:30 p.m.	3:58 a.m. 4:23 p.m.	6:59 a.m.	5:30 p.m.
Mon., February 9	10:48 a.m. 11:13 p.m.	4:42 a.m. 5:03 p.m.	6:58 a.m.	5:32 p.m.
Tues., February 10	11:30 a.m.	5:30 a.m. 5:47 p.m.	6:57 a.m.	5:33 p.m.
Wed., February 11	12:01 a.m. 12:18 p.m.	6:22 a.m. 6:36 p.m.	6:56 a.m.	5:34 p.m.

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Players to host open house

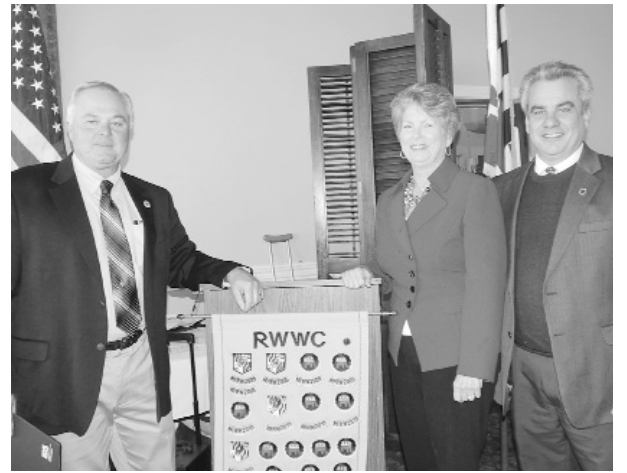
The Ocean Pines Players are hosting an open house, social and audition opportunity at the Ocean Pines library on Saturday, February 14, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Players will be the featured entertainment at the Berlin Heritage Festival on April 25 and they have more than 30 speaking roles available in four short plays to be performed at various times during the festival. They are also seeking scores of individuals of all ages who would be willing to dress in period clothing to add authenticity and flavor to the festival atmosphere. No experience is necessary.

Guests at the open house can enjoy light refreshments while listening to music from several swinging eras, viewing sample costumes, and chatting with event coordinators, Players' directors, and Berlin historian, Pat Diniar, about the festival and ways to participate in the entertainment. Those who wish to audition can either do it during the open house or sign up for an appointment at a later date. The Players plan to finish casting before the end of February. There will also be information and sign-up sheets for those who are not seeking speaking parts.

Each play is only about 15 minutes long and parts are not challenging, even for beginners. Most of the characters are colorful, quirky, and fun to play. Although many of the characters are fictional, several real life town heroes will also be portrayed, including Isaiah Fassett, the Reverend Charles Tindley, Rozelle Handy, Jesse Hollins, and Anna Burbage. Rosie the Riveter will also guest star.

The plays are set in 1920, 1942, 1959, and 1975 and it is costume dressing at its finest. Actors will have to learn lines independently and be available for at least four rehearsals and for the performances on April 25, 2015, between 11 am and 3 pm.

For more information call 410-600-0462 or email oceanpinesplayers@gmail.com.



Bunting speaks to club — *The Republican Women of Worcester County held their January luncheon meeting at the Lighthouse Sound Restaurant on January 22. More than 60 people heard Commissioner Jim Bunting talk about the challenges and opportunities that face Worcester County. After his talk, Mr. Bunting was joined by Commissioner Chip Bertino in a question and answer session. Pictured are left to right: Commissioner Jim Bunting, RWWC 1st VP Charlotte Cathell and Commissioner Chip Bertino.*

oil
 from page 11

investors make adjustments, as necessary, to accommodate changes in their goals as well as other changes, such as revisions in tax laws — but they basically stick to their same approach for the long term.

So be aware of low oil prices, but don't get so "pumped" about them that you sludge up your consistent investment strategy — because that strategy has the energy to keep you moving toward your important objectives.

This article was written by Edward Jones and is provided by Ben Ogle, financial advisor with Edward Jones, 11200 Racetrack Road, Suite A102 The Pavilions, Ocean Pines, MD 21811. Phone: 410-208-9083; Website: www.edwardjones.com.

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IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Community Calendar

When submitting items for the calendar please include the event name, date, where held, time and a little about the event. Items being considered for the calendar need to be in by noon on Friday. E-mail to thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Mondays

Ocean Pines Poker Club

Poker players wanted in Ocean Pines area for Monday evenings. Call 410-208-1928

Open every Monday through October: **Historic St. Martin's Church Museum.** 1-4 pm. 11413 Worcester Highway, Showell, MD. For more information, call 410-251-2849

Sweet Adelines

The Delmarva Sweet Adeline Chorus meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Call 410-641-6876.

Mon. & Tues.

Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge

Open bridge games Monday at 12 p.m., Tuesday at 10 a.m. at OP Community Center. Call Mary Stover 410-726-1795

Mon., Wed. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

OC Baptist Church's Thrift Shop by Seaside Christian Academy behind White Marlin Mall open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat. Call 410-251-6971.

Tuesdays

Families Anonymous

From 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at room 37 in the the Community Church at Ocean Pines on Rte. 589. For more information call Carol at 410-208-4515.

Take off Pounds Sensibly Meeting.

Berlin group No. 331, Worcester County Health Center 9730 Healthway Dr., Berlin, 5:30-7:00 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly on Tuesdays. Info: jean-duck47@gmail.com

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Poker players wanted for Gentlemen's Poker in North Gate area Ocean Pines. Game played

every Tuesday & Thursday evening 5:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. on Pinehurst Rd. Ocean Pines. Call 410-208-0063 for more information.

Wednesdays

Kiwanis Club Meeting

Weekly meetings at 8 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Doors open 7 a.m. October through April.

Elks Bingo

Ocean City Elks in Ocean City (behind Fenwick Inn) open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 and bingo at 7 p.m. Call 410-250-2645.

Delmarva Hand Dancing

Dancing at The Fenwick Inn in Ocean City from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Contact 302-934-7951 or info@delmarvahanddancing.com

Rotary Club

Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. at the Captains Table in Ocean City. Contact Stan.Kahn@carouselhotel.com.

Square Dancing

The Pinesteppers have introduction to square dancing at the OP Community Center at 7 p.m. Call Bruce Barrett at 410-208-6777.

AL-Anon/OP-West OC-Berlin

Wednesday Night Bayside Beginnings Al-Anon family meetings are held at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Thurs. & Fri.

Church Thrift Shop

Stevenson United Methodist Church in Berlin is open Wed. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sale Fridays. Call 410-641-1137.

Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

The Shepherd's Nook at Community Church at Ocean Pines is

open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 410-641-5433.

Diakonia Thrift Shop

'Used to be Mine' offers clothing, furniture, household items and more. Proceeds benefit Diakonia shelter and pantry. Located at Rte. 611 and Sunset Ave. Open 10 - 4. Call 410-213-0243.

Thursdays

Story Time

Stories, music and crafts at 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3-5 at Ocean Pines library. Call 410-208-4014.

Beach Singles

Beach Singles 45 for Happy Hour at Harpoon Hanna's at 4 p.m. Call Arlene at 302-436-9577, Kate at 410-524-0649 or Dianne at 302-541-4642.

Legion Bingo

American Legion in Ocean City opens doors at 5:30 p.m., games begin at 7. For information call 410-289-3166.

Gamblers Anonymous

Group meets at 8 p.m. at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City. Call 888-424-3577 for help.

Fridays

Knights of Columbus Bingo

Bingo will be held behind St. Luke's Church, 100th St. in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments available. Call 410-524-7994.

Sundays

Sunday Night Serenity **Al-Anon Family Group** at The Woodlands/Independent Living Apt. Bldg. 1135 Ocean Parkway-Ocean Pines, Md. 21811

Third Sunday

Sharing Sunday

Bring non-perishable groceries and paper goods to the Ocean Pines southside fire hall 1 -3 p.m. to benefit local food banks.

Third Monday

Democratic Women

The Democratic Women meet 9:30 a.m. for coffee followed by a meeting at 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Guests and new members are welcome.

Third Tuesday

Widows & Widowers Social Club.

Group meets in Ocean Pines at 1 p.m. for luncheon meeting. Call 410-208-1398.

Third Wednesday

Survivors of Suicide Meeting

Starts at 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health Department. 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Quiet listening, caring people, no judgment. For more information, call 410-629-0164 or visit www.choosetoliveMaryland.org.

Fourth Wednesday

Marine Corps League

First State Detachment Marine Corps League raises funds for a variety of charities and meets at 7 p.m. in VFW Post 8296, 66th St. Ocean City. Open to all fellow Marines and FMF Corpsmen. Visit www.firststatemarines.org.





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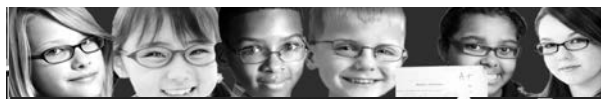
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eyes
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wards the horizon and may be out of sight an hour later. At about 7 p.m. the entire host of the familiar winter constellations will appear. Stargazers may see Orion the Hunter, Taurus the Bull, and Gemini the Twins. Taurus will appear almost directly overhead. Sirius is located to the east of Orion and slightly south.

The planets Venus and Mars come into conjunction late in the month, and will also briefly share the spotlight with

the moon. From February 20 through 23 the two planets appear within just one degree of one another, over the west-southwestern horizon. Stargazers are cautioned that Mars lies much farther away and appears quite dim in the sky. Look for the pair hovering over the west southwest horizon at about 6:30 p.m. and then watch the two drift down to the horizon over the next 30 minutes. The crescent moon lies just to the right of the two planets on the evening of the 20th.

carozza
from page 11

munity leaders on the opportunities for more young people to develop skills needed to join the construction craft field. The construction industry is rapidly growing at an annual rate of 2.6 percent and Maryland is facing a huge shortage of skilled construction professionals.

“Many students and their parents are unaware that there is a shortage of high-skilled construction professionals using high-tech equipment to meet the demands of this industry,” said Carozza. “There are opportunities for our young people to be trained and land high-paying construction jobs in our local area.”

Constituent Meetings: During the first couple weeks of session, Carozza has met with numerous constituents and representatives from the Shore, including local watermen, restaurant owners, realtors, members of the Maryland Municipal League and the Maryland Association of Counties, school superintendents, community development leaders and local elected officials.

opa
from page 1

tions and recommended the first. Option 1 would add an elevated platform to run the fuel lines underneath it; Option 2 would run the lines around the existing platform. The board agreed Option 1 appears to be the safer alternative and voted in support of the total project cost of \$87,000 vs. the original approved budget of \$75,000.

Regarding roadside trimming along Ocean Parkway, Mr. Thompson said four bids were sent out and two replies were received. Both bids were within the \$35,000 budget. The first company's bid of \$24,000 was approved unanimously. Finally, a CPI Violation at 42 Bramblewood regarding its wood debris and trailer was discussed. Marty Clarke said the owner recently told him he would have the trailer emptied by the end of the weekend. Mr. Terry mentioned that the owner is four years behind in his assessments, but Mr. Clarke replied that the owner is on a payment plan and is making his payments. The board agreed with Mr. Clarke's suggestion to give the owner another month to fix the actions on his own.

During Public Comments, Anna Foulz and Mary Evans spoke on behalf

of Star Charities requesting no charge to use the Community Center for its charitable events and requesting reimbursement for fees paid last year of \$450. Mr. Thompson replied that the group was charged at least \$300 less than the current rate and said Star Charities was using the Community Center room along with the kitchen and the gym during a time that another group had reserved the gym. Mr. Stevens said better communication is required with all groups to clarify exactly what people are getting, when, and where.

Carol Ludwig also weighed in on Resolution M02's Facility Use stipulations saying that she has been working on a subcommittee formed by Mr. Thompson to address all of these issues into a more tightened version of the resolution. Mr. Thompson defended appointing this task force to develop written guidelines for the use of the facility and whether or not to charge organizations for fundraisers, etc. Mr. Stevens and Joe Reynolds each voiced strong opposition to Mr. Thompson forming any task force that does not have open meetings available to the public.

Following this discussion was Jerry Aveta's presentation of the Capital Improvement Plan that he and Ted Moroney prepared in draft form. The

presentation contained a list of current high priority projects such as OPA Bridges and the Country Club Campus, among others. Each project would have an assigned working group that would take from six to 12 months to provide recommendations of the project scope, budget, and schedule. Any work/research already done on these projects would be utilized to not reinvent the wheel. Board members asked several questions about the process including Mr. Collins asking if the working groups could channel their recommendations into a reserve study to tell OPA what it could afford and when. Mr. Stevens asked board members to e-mail him with

their questions.

Finally, in the Golf Proposals Update, Mr. Terry read a motion intended to inform residents about the process the board would like to follow. The motion, approved unanimously by the board, specified that the Ocean Pines Golf Course would continue to be operated as a golf course, OPA fully intends to live up to its commitments for packages, tournaments and tee times, and the golf course land will not be re-purposed. He said on February 14 at 9 a.m. three companies will be presenting their proposals and one of the three companies is the current management company, Casper Golf.



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