

Financial report shows signs of improvement

Ocean Pines closed out fiscal 2019 on a positive note, according to General Manager John Viola's annual financial report, given during the recent Association annual meeting.

Viola said the bottom line – \$115,795 of excess revenues over expenses – was a “big difference from the last two years, where I stood up here and had to inform you of losses of around \$350,000 and \$1.4 million.”

“We’re definitely moving in the right direction,” he said.

Viola said the Ocean Pines Police and Fire/EMS departments contributed \$108,604 to the positive variance. Public works was over budget by \$41,643, but had to tackle several unbudgeted items at the Yacht Club, while Recreation and Parks beat budget estimates by \$120,050, he added. Overall food and beverage operations beat budget estimates by about \$13,000.

Viola said, “golf was basically flat,” budgeted for a \$106,562 loss, but finishing with a \$108,354 loss, for a negative variance of \$1,792.

“Last year, as you know, the weather ... did not fare well for amenities, specifically golf. And that was across the board – not just for Ocean Pines,” he said.

Viola said one particularly rainy period of three or four days cost the Golf operations about \$60,000 in lost revenue.

“If we had had some favorable weather, golf ... would have been within that target that I had of somewhere between [a] zero and \$50,000 expense,” Viola said.

Bad timing, from an accounting standpoint, also negatively impacted golf, Viola said.

“That had an \$18,000 effect on golf – that will not happen again,” Viola said. “I will call it timing and I believe we’ll get that money back.”

“I’m looking, down the road, at positive signs for golf,” he continued. “The place is packed.”

Viola added he’s talked to golfers on the course and has heard “very pos-

itive” feedback.

“That’s a tribute to the entire team there – maintenance, our golf pro, and everybody else there associated with it.”



Beach Club Parking finished \$51,372 ahead and the Marinas were favorable by \$25,293, with Viola crediting the latter to Ron Fisher and his team. Racquet Sports were unfavorable by \$15,758.

All amenities combined for a \$101,723 positive variance.

Ocean Pines finished fiscal 2018 more than \$1.2 million unfavorable to the budget, meaning fiscal 2019 showed an improvement of \$1,363,486 year over year. A large portion of that, \$752,042, was thanks to a vastly improved performance at amenities.

Viola attributed that to “the Matt Ortt factor,” referencing the Matt Ortt Companies hired last year to manage the Yacht Club and Beach Club. The Yacht Club showed a \$590,282 improvement over fiscal 2018, while the Beach Club improved by \$205,342. Together, those two amenities combined for an \$830,863 improvement.

Viola added the Ortt Companies would next take over operations at the Tern Grille, once the new facility is built.

“I’m very excited about it and I know our golf pro is also,” he said.

Unfavorable variances in the IT, legal, and General Manager and Human Resources departments totaled \$263,339.

Viola said more outside contracting services were needed in IT because the department was “putting out many fires on a daily basis.” That was also, according to Viola, “a function of the legacy [software] system we’re moving from.”

“This should, in time, go away.”

He said the legal overage was a symptom of a changing landscape in Ocean Pines.

“Whenever there’s change, well, there’s going to be cost independent of what the change is,” Viola said. “There also are situations where numerous items come up that obviously, for the best interest of Ocean Pines, we need to receive a legal opinion.”

“Severance and HR expenses” contributed to overages in the General Manager and Human Resources office, Viola said.

Assessments during the last fiscal year included a \$71 per-homeowner charge to pay down the operating fund deficits from fiscal 2017 and 2018. Viola said that would be re-evaluated going forward.

“It definitely won’t be anywhere near that kind of number,” he said. “We had the losses and now we’re paying it back – but that is turning around.”

Viola said assessments over the last five years had increased an average of \$15.40, or roughly 1.7 percent each year.

“We’re bringing down the debt. The amenities [and] the departments are operating on full cylinders, so you can see which way we’re going for the future,” Viola said.

Reserve funds totaled about \$8.8 million as of April 30, 2019. That balance is projected to drop to \$5.2 million by the end of fiscal 2020 because of several major projects.

Renovating the Police station is expected to cost \$1.3 million, the new

please see report on page 15

Boat safe in Ocean Pines waterways

Boaters in Ocean Pines canals are encouraged to obey speed limits and follow all Maryland boating laws.

All canals within Ocean Pines always have a 6-knot speed limit, according to Sgt. Andrew Wilson, a supervisor with the Maryland Natural Resources Police.

“Speeding causes increased wake, which can cause additional erosion or damage to unprotected and under-protected shorelines,” Wilson said. “Our officers are responsible for patrolling all of Maryland’s waterways and enforcing all boating, conservation and criminal laws on those waterways.”

Wilson said Ocean Pines residents may see Natural Resources Police in the area as part of normal patrol operations, or in reference to a complaint.

All boaters are encouraged to follow Maryland boating laws:

please see waterways on page 15



Board elects officers, approves Ortt contract and validates election

Ocean Pines Board members, in separate sessions on Wednesday and with separately staffed boards, officially validated the 2019 election,



to produce a quorum so no official business was conducted.

Also, during the meeting, the outgoing board voted unanimously to extend the food and beverage management contract with the Matt Ortt Companies. Originally tapped by the Association last year, the Ortt Companies will oversee the Yacht Club, Beach Club and Tern Grille through at least 2023, with triggers based on operating profit targets that could extend the deal a further two years.

“The attorneys for Matt Ortt ... [and] attorneys for Ocean Pines have been going back and forth over the past week or so,” Association President Doug Parks said. “The final terms and conditions ... has been agreed to by all parties involved and that information has been shared with everybody on the Board.”

According to Piatti, one late addition to the contract stated that the Ortt Companies would have to coordinate with Golf Director John Malinowski

selected officers, and approved a contract extension for food and beverage management. The outgoing Board, including appointed directors Jeff Knepper and Tom Piatti, voted 6-0 to validate the election results. Votes for the 2019 Board election were counted and announced Friday, August 16 and would have been validated on Saturday, August 17 but the Annual Meeting failed

to produce a quorum so no official business was conducted.

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It's that peachy time of year and the peaches have been so flavorful and juicy. “Be a peach” and make the ones you love one of the following recipes:

Peach Pie

- 6 or 8 peeled and sliced peaches
- Pie crusts
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 T. flour
- 1/2 t. cinnamon
- 1/2 t. nutmeg

Arrange sliced peaches in bottom pie crust. Blend sugar, cinnamon, flour and nutmeg. Squeeze lemon over peaches. Top with sugar mixture and dot with butter. Apply top crust and crimp. Sprinkle top lightly with sugar. Bake at 425 degrees for 30 minutes.

Peach Cobbler

- Bisquick (prepare as for dumplings on the box)
- 3 or 4 sliced peaches
- 1/2 t. cinnamon
- 1/2 t. nutmeg
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water

Put fresh fruit in saucepan. Add seasonings and water. Bring to a boil. Drop Bisquick on top by the tablespoon. Cover and cook over medium heat until dumplings are done. Remove lid and cook a few minutes more. Serve with milk that has been flavored with sugar and nutmeg. This recipe is good with most fruit.

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Legal, auditor's reports presented at annual meeting

Attorney Jeremy Tucker at Ocean Pines Association annual meeting held August 10, said his firm, Lerch, Early & Brewer, since 2016 has collected nearly \$600,000 in unpaid assessments and fines for Ocean Pines.

Tucker, during the annual legal report, also commended the Association Board for improvements made during the last fiscal year.

Lerch, Early & Brewer has represented Ocean Pines as its general counsel since 2016. The firm also assists Ocean Pines on matters of taxes, human resources, covenant enforcement and collections.

Recently, Tucker said, the Board tasked the firm with "ensuring and assisting with enforcement of your governing documents," notably with actions against people who have taken advantage of the system either by not paying fines or assessments, or not following guidelines related to Ocean Pines' covenants.

Tucker said his firm was asked to focus more on collections, "and we have done that pretty aggressively and pretty successfully."

Since August 1, 2018, the firm has collected \$199,392.52 of unpaid assessments and related charges. Since 2016, they have collected \$593,061.22 for Ocean Pines.

"Obviously, that is a huge amount of money to bring into your coffers," Tucker said.

He added it's his hope that stricter enforcement will lead to fewer infractions.

"All those will know that there is consequence to not paying assessments," Tucker said, also thanking Ocean Pines Membership and Assessment Supervisor Ruth Ann Meyer for her assistance with collections.

Tucker said the Ocean Pines Board of late has been more proactive in forwarding documents related to covenant enforcement. He said since Aug. 1, 2018 the firm received 27 cases of homeowners who have failed to maintain their properties or made illegal improvements or other infractions.

"These 27 individuals who were sent over to us had gone through the internal enforcement process. They'd received the notice, they had been offered the opportunity for a hearing and, for whatever reason, they still chose not to ... comply – and some of

them not to respond at all," Tucker said.

Of the 27 cases, he said 15 had now fully complied, six were in the process of doing so, and six remained open "and effectively nonresponsive."

Tucker said the idea was brought up to amend "the older sections' governing documents," where most of the covenant infractions occur. Many of the newer sections, he said, already have fining authority.

"We talked about amending the governing documents ... to allow for the Board to impose fines after a hearing," he said. "The reason why we think this is a good idea is that it allows the Board, internally, to enforce their governing documents."

"For whatever reason, some people need consequence to comply," he continued. "Giving internal fining authority gives this internal consequence without having to send it to my office [and] without incurring those legal fees."

please see meeting on page 8



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The birth of a skipjack: the building of the *Nathan*

Note: This is the third installment of a four part series.

By **Charles Rouse**

For most Marylanders, Saturday, June 4, 1992 was just another Saturday at the beginning of summer. But for the people of Cambridge, Maryland, June 4, 1992 was a day to remember. That was the day the keelson was laid initiating the formal building of the skipjack, *Nathan of Dorchester*. Rev. Richard Hubbard gave the invocation and blessed the keelson that would become the backbone of the skipjack - the first one to be built in Cambridge along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay in 40 years.

Cambridge had always been the center of the skipjack building industry with more skipjacks built in Cambridge than anywhere else along the Bay. Ever since the colony's founding in 1634, Cambridge was a hub of activity centered on boat-building. The skipjack evolved over a period of time to meet the needs of the watermen who fished the waters of the bay. Oysters were first harvested by hand in

shallow waters around the bay. Then pungies, and later bugeyes were built to tong for oysters in deeper waters using labor intensive hand tongs. These 2-mast vessels were smaller versions of the Chesapeake schooners. The introduction of the oyster dredge allowed oysters to be harvested much faster and with less strain. When the oyster bars in the deeper waters of the bay were depleted due to over harvesting, a shallow draft boat was needed to access the rich oyster bars closer to shore. This shallow draft boat with a retractable centerboard, had to have large sails to generate the power necessary to pull the two dredges, one port and one starboard, across the oyster bars. In 1880, the skipjack evolved, born of necessity, and became the first, and only, commercial sailing fleet in the United States.

The keelson was carved from a 143-year old loblolly pine tree donated by Tom Spicer of the Spicer Brothers Lumber Company. The initial carving was done at Bobby Ruark's boatyard near the village of Hutson outside Cambridge. The keelson was then

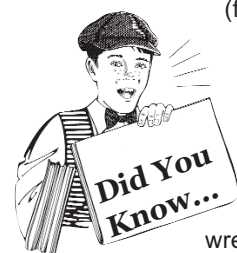


transported to the Generation III marina at the head of Cambridge creek where the skipjack was actually constructed. It arrived with a police escort and a large crowd of people who came to witness this historic event. From the very first day of construc-

tion, it was clear that the building of the *Nathan of Dorchester* would be a community-supported undertaking. All the lumber was donated by the Spicer Lumber Company and cut from

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Scholastic sports are broken up into various seasons for the school. Depending on what the athlete desires, he or she will have to wait until that particular season (fall, winter or spring)



to participate in the activity of his or her choice. Many schools offer these athletics during the winter months: spirit, dance, wrestling, basketball, and swimming/diving; however, depending on geography and climate, there may be some alterations to the schedule. Winter sports may begin in mid-November to December, and the season may run about two months. Prospective athletes would be wise to keep their eyes open several months in advance of the season for sign-up dates, as schools often require try-outs or participation interest, as well as completed physical examination forms well before the season starts.

opa
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with regards to events at the Tern Grille, which will be housed inside the new Golf clubhouse.

Three newly elected board members were then seated during the second meeting: former Environment and Natural Asset Committee Chairman Tom Janasek, former Budget and Finance Committee Chairman Larry Perrone, and retired attorney Camilla Rogers. Knepper and Piatti officially came off the board and were each thanked for their service.

"I'd like to again publicly thank Jeff Knepper and Tom Piatti for stepping in when we needed them. Your contributions to the organization and to the community are well noted," Parks said. "Thank you very much for your assistance."

The new board voted to select

Parks to continue as Association president and Steve Tuttle to remain as vice president. Parks was nominated by Perrone and Tuttle was nominated by Janasek.

Colette Horn was again voted secretary and Perrone was selected as the new treasurer. Michelle Bennett will continue as assistant secretary and Finance Director Steve Phillips will serve as assistant treasurer. Lerch, Early & Brewer will remain the legal counsel. Votes for all officer positions were unanimous.

The Board did not select an auditing firm, but instead General Manager John Viola was directed to conduct a request for proposals for the position. No parliamentarian was selected during the meeting.

Additionally, the new Board set the public meeting schedule for the remainder of the session.

A board orientation meeting was

scheduled for Monday, August 26, starting at noon.

Regular Board meetings were scheduled on the following dates:

- Saturday, August 31
- Wednesday, October 2
- Saturday, November 2
- Wednesday, December 4
- Saturday, January 4
- Wednesday, February 5
- Saturday, March 7
- Wednesday, April 1
- Saturday, May 2
- Wednesday, June 3
- Wednesday, July 1
- Wednesday, Aug. 5

Saturday meetings will start at 9 a.m. and Wednesday meetings will begin at 7 p.m.

Three town hall meetings were scheduled on Saturday, October 26 at 10 a.m., Saturday, February 1 at 10 a.m., and Saturday, May 16 at 10 a.m.

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Little aquarists

On an evening not long ago, my grandchildren accompanied me to the pet store to purchase fish for a new aquarium they helped me set up in my studio. They were very excited to help and even more excited to pick out fish.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

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Both of them were very engaged in arranging the plants and decorations. It's not a large tank so it didn't take long but that in no way diminished their desire to place things just so. It was an enjoyable experience. We added the water and then let the tank filter for several days before adding inhabitants.

It was decided this would be a goldfish aquarium, an effort to change things up from the much larger tropical fish aquarium in the family room.

Off to PetSmart we three went.

They were very excited looking at all the fish tanks. They were mesmerized by the fluorescent fish, which I must admit don't really interest me. As far as I'm concerned, these fish are not natural, but rather a designer fish created by someone to bolster sales. But I digress.

After they had the opportunity to look at each of the tanks, lingering longest at the turtle tanks, I shepherded them to the goldfish tanks, the comet goldfish tanks to be specific; the sixteen-cent comet goldfish to be even more accurate. These are also known as feeder fish but I didn't tell the kids that. The tanks were filled with many, many-colored goldfish: gold, white, brown, silver, gold and white, white and gold, brown and white and so on and so on. You get the idea. The store associate told us they had gotten a shipment that morning.

The kids were pointing to specific fish that caught their attention. Given the size of our aquarium and the small size of the fish, I told them they could each get two which seemed to please them.

Now, before continuing with my story, I want to make a quick diversion. There was a time when you could win a goldfish at a fair simply by throwing a ping pong ball into a little

bowl filled with water and a fish. Oh, the excitement of watching your ball bounce from one bowl rim to another, hoping it would land inside a bowl. I can still hear the squeals of anticipation with each bounce. On more than one occasion either my brother and/or me went home with a fish that more often than not was dead within a few days. Now that I'm older and enjoy keeping an aquarium or two or three, it bothers me that fish were treated in such a way. Although it was fun to toss the ping pong ball.

Back to my story.

Fortunately, the store associate was very patient and understanding. She worked with my grandchildren as they selected the exact fish they wanted from among the hundreds swimming in concert. She put each of their two fish in separate bags. The kids were so excited to carry their bags to the cashier. I was excited that the total came to just sixty-four cents.

On the drive home the children had their bags resting on their laps. From the backseat, I could hear them coming up with and then discarding fish names. There was a lengthy conversation on whether the fish were male or female. I could offer no help in this matter. Then there was a discussion on when they should be fed. It was settled that they would be fed in the afternoons.

My granddaughter informed me that she named her fish Princess and Tiara. Obviously, she decided her fish were of the feminine persuasion. My grandson announced that he was naming his fish after his father – one fish would have the first name and the second fish would have the surname. Suck up!

When we got home, I showed them the proper way to introduce fish into an aquarium by floating the bags for a period of time. When it came time to release the fish, the kids were wide-eyed just watching the process and were delighted when their fish started swimming around the plants and decoration they had set up.

I have no idea whether when my grandkids are my age they'll remember our time together setting up this fish tank. I hope so. I'll have to remember to ask them.



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skipjack
from page 4

trees in and around Cambridge. The boat builders were all volunteers who gave over 14,000 hours in building the skipjack. Only Bobby Ruark, the master shipwright, was paid to oversee the project. The town's taxi service drove volunteers to the building site while trucks and trailers donated their time to get supplies to the building site. Even the boatyard provided space for three years to build the skipjack. And it was reported that on Fridays, townspeople brought boxed lunches, cookies and baked pies to the boatyard to feed the team of builders.

Bobby Ruark proclaimed that, for its size, a skipjack was the easiest boat to build. The construction began on June 4th 1992 with the boat upside down. By October 7 that year, the keelson and transom were in place and when the bottom planking was complete, the boat was turned over and set upright so the sides and top planking could be set in place. Thirteen months later, the boat was launched in Cambridge Creek. This was done to swell the wooden planks which would make the bottom and sides water-tight, and

it was easier to continue work with the boat in the water. Two more loblolly trees were cut – one for the 61' mast and one for the 45' boom. These trees were donated by Marshall Moore.

Other donations came from a variety of sources. The diesel engine used to power the boat was donated by the Cummings of Chesapeake, Inc. Mer-cruiser National Service Department donated the push boat engine and the Telephone Pioneers with Mid-Shore Electric donated the electronic navigation equipment. North Sails in Baltimore donated the labor to make the 1400 square feet sails. Not only did people and businesses donate their time and material to the building of the *Nathan*, but even deteriorating skipjacks found in the marches and creeks around Cambridge offered up their equipment to the *Nathan*. The *Wilma Lee* (1940) gave her steering mechanism and wheel. The *Susan May* (1901) offered her rollers, the *Clarence Crocket* (1908) gave her windlass, and the *Nellie Byrd* (1911) gave her rigging and blocks to the *Nathan*.

Work on the boat was traditionally done using hand tools. While some

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OPA, Ortt Companies make contract extension official

The Ocean Pines Board on Thursday voted 6-0 to approve a contract extension with the Matt Ortt Companies to manage the association's Yacht Club and Beach Club.

The agreement will also include management of the Tern Grille at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, once the facility reopens next year.

Ocean Pines and the Matt Ortt Companies originally signed a two-year contract to manage the Yacht Club and Beach Club last year. The contract would have expired next spring.

"We're thrilled to have finalized the agreement to keep Matt Ortt managing our food and beverage facilities into the foreseeable future," Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said. "They've done a fine job in turning the Yacht Club and Beach Club around in

terms of service, quality and better financial stewardship, and we feel the agreement is a win-win for both parties."

"We couldn't be happier with our relationship with Ocean Pines and we're excited to continue being a part of this community. We especially want to thank John Viola for helping make this happen," Ortt Companies co-founder Ralph DeAngelus said. "The Ocean Pines public has really welcomed us with open arms and that only makes us want to get better. We'll be looking to raise the bar each year."

Viola credited a workgroup with helping to draft the new contract. Workgroup members included Board members Jeff Knepper and Frank Daly, former Board member Esther Diller, Finance Director Steve Phillips, Budget and Finance Committee Chairman Larry Perrone, Executive Secretary Michelle Bennett and Marketing and Public Relations Director Josh Davis. The workgroup has since disbanded, Viola said.

"It was a team effort with Jeff, a former attorney, helping us on the legal side," he said. "We're grateful for

everyone's input."

The contract was also reviewed by attorneys representing both the Ocean Pines Association and Ortt Companies.

Based on the new agreement, the Ortt Companies will manage all food and beverage operations, including banquets, weddings and special functions, at all three locations.

The Yacht Club is to remain open seven days a week, May 1 through September 30, but may operate under a reduced schedule of at least three days per week from October 1 through April 30. The facility will close from Jan. 2 until Super Bowl Sunday, with the exception of banquets.

The Beach Club will be open seven days a week from the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day Monday.



Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola, Matt Ortt Companies Managing Partner and Corporate Chef Stuart Diepold, Matt Ortt, Ocean Pines Association President Doug Parks, and Matt Ortt Companies Cofounder Ralph DeAngelus.

The Tern Grille will be open seven days a week, March 15 through November 30, with a reduced schedule of at least three days per week from December 1 through April 30, plus weekends through the NFL Playoffs.

According to the contract, "Any change to the days of operation shall be made by mutual agreement."

Additionally, the Ortt Companies agreed to "conduct continuous surveys to determine customer satisfaction" and a related food quality stipulation states: "The quality of the food must remain at least at the same level as in the prior year, as determined by [Ocean Pines] in its reasonable discretion based on criteria such as (but not limited to) customer complaints, poor online reviews or customer survey results. In the event the quality of food drops off ... Matt Ortt agrees to rectify the situation immediately."

The Ortt Companies will receive a flat management fee of \$200,000 each year, plus a profit bonus if certain conditions are met. They will also receive a five percent commission on gross banquet revenue for private functions and a two percent commission for functions of Ocean Pines clubs and organizations.

There is also a "clawback of management fee" provision if the combined operating profit is less than \$100,000 in any term year.

The contract is good for three years, through April 30, 2023. If the Ortt Companies meet the first-year profit target, a fourth year will be added to the agreement. If first and second-year targets are met, a fifth year will be added.

SURF TIDE CHART

Bay Tides - 2 hrs. later

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Sunrise /Sunset
Th 22	High	12:23 AM	6:21 AM
	Low	6:39 AM	7:45 PM
	High	12:54 PM	
	Low	7:18 PM	
F 23	High	1:11 AM	6:22 AM
	Low	7:26 AM	7:44 PM
	High	1:48 PM	
	Low	8:15 PM	
Sa 24	High	2:06 AM	6:23 AM
	Low	8:18 AM	7:42 PM
	High	2:47 PM	
	Low	9:15 PM	
Su 25	High	3:07 AM	6:24 AM
	Low	9:15 AM	7:41 PM
	High	3:49 PM	
	Low	10:17 PM	
M 26	High	4:10 AM	6:25 AM
	Low	10:15 AM	7:39 PM
	High	4:49 PM	
	Low	11:17 PM	
Tu 27	High	5:09 AM	6:25 AM
	Low	11:16 AM	7:38 PM
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Ocean Pines revives women's tennis league

Ocean Pines tennis has opened its courts to area players as it works to revive an interclub women's doubles league.

For the first time in several years, Ocean Pines, on Thursday, hosted a match for the informal league, which also includes players from Rehoboth Country Club, Bethany West and Bethany Club Tennis.

Thursday's play was a rematch against Rehoboth Country Club, whom Ocean Pines faced earlier in the summer at the Delaware club's courts. Rehoboth walked away with victories in both matches, winning 3-1 in the first match and 4-0 in the second.

For racquet center manager Vernon Mummert, the revival of the league is one way he's trying to increase tennis' profile in Ocean Pines. He hopes to expand the program by adding a men's or even a co-ed team in the near future.

Although Ocean Pines has participated in interclub play in the past, it's been "several years," according to Ocean Pines Tennis Club member Susan Morris, who had played in the league previously. Morris played in Thursday's match with partner Marie Lunzyski.

Other teams participating from Ocean Pines included Nancy Behning and Leanne Paranik, Geri Fasulo and Char Vanvick, and Meg Herrick and Marcie Wendell.

Currently, it is incumbent upon the teams in the league to set up matches among themselves, but Mummert said he'd like to find someone in Ocean Pines who would be willing to serve as a coordinator.

"We self-schedule now, which gets

a little crazy," he commented. "We want to get more organized next year."

Ocean Pines racquet facilities in Manklin Meadows feature eight Har-Tru soft tennis courts, two lighted hard courts, eight dedicated pickleball courts and six platform tennis courts, as well as a full-service pro shop. Memberships, drop-in play, clinics and lessons are available to the public year-round.

Bowling league forming

The OP Bowling League will hold its annual organizational meeting on August 26 at 1 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room. All current members and any new bowlers are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Don Schaefer at 410-641-8898.

Dance club to host free lessons

The Pine Steppers Square Dance Club host demonstrations and lessons on September 7 and 14 between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. The group will perform demonstrations to encourage new dancers to take free lessons. Singles and couples are welcome. The caller is Dennis O'Neal. Interested persons can take square dance lessons every Wednesday from October through May. For more information, call 302-436-4033 or 970-389-3389. Visit Pine Steppers on Facebook.

skipjack
from page 6

power tools were used on larger tasks, hand tools kept the project moving. Bobby Ruark wielded an axe to shape the keelson; an auger was used to bore holes for pegs for the scarf joints and knees. Carefully crafted chisels and mallet were used to carve the planks so they fit smoothly together. Bench planes and trim planes were used extensively to smooth the curved deck beams and strong backs, and hand saws cut planks evenly for the chine which established the width and rise above the keelson. When the mast was finally set in place, Bobby Ruark asked volunteers to donate a coin to be placed at the bottom of the mast, face up. He collected 75 cents and placed the coins on the keelson as the mast was lowered in place. This maritime tradition is said to have its origins in the ancient Rome. Due to the dangers of early sea travel, the coins were placed under the mast so the crew would be able to cross to the afterlife if the ship were sunk. The coins were supposed to pay Charon, the mythical ferryman, for transporting the dead

across the River Styx.

As work progressed, hundreds of visitors from across the country found their way up Cedar Street to the boatyard. School children in particular were invited to board the 'Nathan-in-progress' as a living classroom experience in boat-building and oystering. A film crew from Norway even came to film the historic undertaking. All visitors were invited to sign the guest register book which shows visitors from as far away as New Zealand.

When the work was complete, over 500 people gathered at Generation III boatyard on July 4, 1994 to witness the christening of the *Nathan of Dorchester*. Gladys Nathan, a relative of Myer Nathan, christened the boat. While originally built to be a dredge boat, she never did dredge commercially. With the dwindling oyster harvests, it quickly became apparent that *Nathan's* true mission was going to be in tourism and education. For the past 25 years, the *Nathan* has been true to her mission, sailing and educating visitors far and wide on the waters of the Choptank River and Chesapeake Bay.

meeting
from page 3

Tucker added that controls to prevent the abusive issuing of fines should be discussed, including establishing minimum and maximum penalties and specific guidelines for hearings.

"It's something that we have found through our communities [the firm represents] that when they have that, it further reduces violations," Tucker said.

He closed by saying "it's been a very good year" for Ocean Pines.

"My impression [is] ... this was a turning year for the Board," he said. "Instead of having to focus on just fixing the problems of the past, this has

been a year of moving forward, of getting things done ... it was a really interesting thing to watch.

"I think it's something that I have certainly said to [Association President] Doug [Parks] and the Board, that it should be commended," he continued. "I'm so proud of watching this happen, because it's really something to see. And I hope we spend some time talking about those changes."

Also, during the meeting, Paul Shifrin of auditing firm SC&H Group, Inc. delivered the annual auditor's presentation.

"I'm happy to report that this year, as in the past two years, it is what we call a 'clean' opinion and an unmodified opinion, so it says that the numbers are accurate," he said.

Shifrin noted his firm merely checks the financials for accuracy while the actual numbers, good or bad, are the responsibility of General Manager John Viola and Finance Director Steve Phillips.

"As you've heard, this year, the numbers were good," he said. "And we can come behind and say that they are good and accurate."

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A bug's life - *Philip Becnel V*, a Junior at Stephen Decatur High School and an amateur entomologist, displayed a collection of local insects at the Delmarva Discovery Center's "Wacky World of Insects." Becnel discussed the range, habitat, and food of several local insects, how they benefit us, as well as several fun facts about each one. The museum's young guests were attending a special "hands-on" activity of the Discovery Center's on-going educational program.

Shamrock promotes Smith

Shamrock Realty Group, Inc. has promoted Lauren N. Smith to the position of Accounting Manager. The announcement was made by Pam Wadler, vice president and associate broker for the company.

Smith will be responsible for all of the day-to-day financial operations of the brokerage. She is also the coordinator of the rental department's operations, handling property management concerns with landlords and tenants.

Smith joined Shamrock in 2017 as an administrative assistant. She has previous experience working at a large

regional bank in the area, and working for a local construction and home improvement company. She has studied business at Harford Community College and Wor-Wic Community College.

Originally from Bel Air in Harford County, Smith has been in Worcester County for ten years. She lives in Ocean Pines with her husband and three young children. "I love working here at Shamrock" she said. "The agents are all wonderful. And I'm really looking forward to being more involved in making Shamrock an even bigger success."

Bay Day scheduled

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) and the Ocean Pines Association will host the second annual Bay Day event Sunday, September 8 from 11:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at White Horse Park.

This free family event captures the interest of all age groups through hands-on environmental activities, free boat tours, kayaking, live music by George and Pat Bikenki Duo, a bay-friendly garden demonstration, and live animal exhibits. There will be food and drink vendors on

hand as well.

Bay Day is a collaborative conservation campaign to educate residents on programs, practices, and campaigns to improve the health of our waterways. Exhibitors consists of environmental groups and organizations who work towards this goal.

For more information on this year's Bay Day, contact MCBP education coordinator Liz Wist at lwist@mdcoastalbays.org, or 410-213-2297 extension 110.

Boating course offered

Summer will be over before you know it, but it is not too late to take a safe boating class. The US Coast Guard Auxiliary will be offering the Maryland Safe Boating Class one more time this year.

Learn the basics of boating, the rules of navigation, knot tying, boat maintenance, communication, and knowledge of the local waters.

The Maryland Boating Safety Education Act requires that anyone born after July 1, 1972 must possess a Maryland Basic Boating Safety Certificate to operate a boat in the state of Maryland. Those attending the class and passing the test will receive a Maryland Boating Certifi-

cate which is NASBLA approved and valid in all states and required for all ages when operating a boat in Virginia.

The course will be held at the Ocean Pines library on September 3, 4 and 5. The three-evening course will begin at 6 p.m. and end no later than 9 p.m. each evening. Space is limited.

A fee of \$15 is required to cover the cost for the course and all course materials. To register, or if you have questions, please contact:

Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807 or E mail CGAUXOC@Gmail.com

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Addiction counselor program now offered online

Wor-Wic Community College is now offering its chemical dependency counseling degree and certificate programs online.

"I am excited that we are now offering increased access to academic courses for students who would like to become certified addiction counselors in the state of Maryland," said Dr. Patricia L. Riley, human services department head and associate professor of social science. "Both the certificate and degree programs have fully online options and meet the educational requirements of the Maryland Department of Health Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists."

As a state-designated program, all Maryland residents enrolled in the chemical dependency counseling programs pay in-county tuition rates. An articulation agreement is in place with Salisbury University for those who want to transfer into the social work program there.

Face-to-face classes are still being offered. For more information, visit www.worwic.edu/cdc or call 410-334-2885.



The Courier has a NEW PHONE NUMBER:

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Captain Ron's Fish Tales

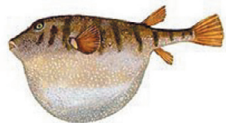
By Ron Fisher

What kind of fish is that?

Fishing Report: Sheephead are being caught in the South Jetty. A 29" striper was caught at the Rte. 50 Bridge. Nine keeper flounder were caught in the East Channel on live spot. They are also catching flounder in the inlet and at Harbor Island along the condos.

Recently I became aware that fish identification is an area that requires some attention. During a fishing trip a friend of mine caught almost every species of unusual non-game fish in the bay. As a result of this trip I thought I would dedicate this column to identification of some of those other fish you might catch in the bay's that are not your typical game fish.

Northern Puffer: These fish are frequently caught in the bays as they are bottom-dwelling fish and are commonly found in the flats and channels. They feed on small fish or crustaceans. Note: Contrary to popular belief, the Northern Puffer unlike some members of the puffer family is not poisonous. It is a delicious eating fish usually sold commercially as "sea squab."



Lizardfish: This fish has an elongated tubular body. It is colored light gray with pale olive brown blotches. The mouth of this fish is quite large, extending well past the eye. They have strong jaws lined with numerous sharp teeth. Be careful when removing the hook to avoid the sharp teeth.



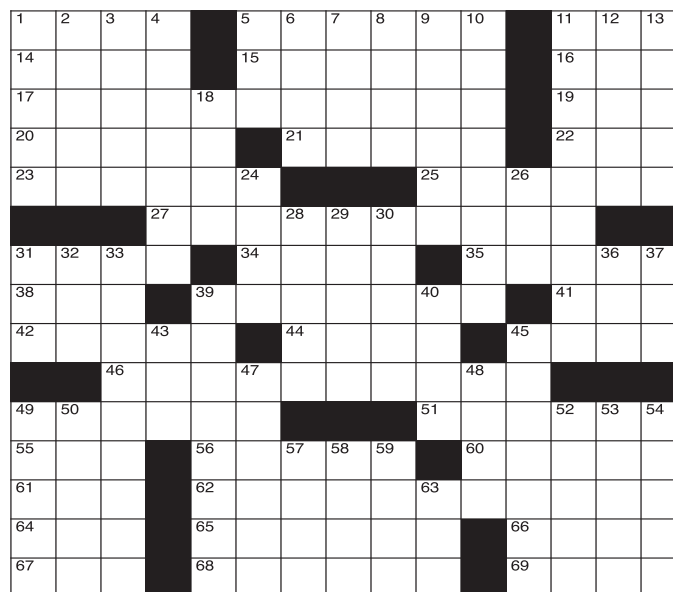
They are usually caught in shallow sand and mud bottom areas of the bay. They are an ambush fish that usually bury themselves in the sand and await unsuspecting bait to swim by. They are not good to eat but do make excellent flounder bait if you cut a fillet off the side and place it on your hook as a

strip bait.

Oyster Toadfish: The Toadfish has a scaleless body that is olive brown on top and pale on the underside. They usually have fleshy flaps or whiskers on their cheeks and jaws. They also have dark blotches or bars on their body. Their eyes are big and bulgy on the top of a very large flat head. They are carnivorous bottom feeders usually found around debris, vegetation, rocky or muddy bottoms and oyster reefs. Be careful to avoid the strong mouth when removing the hook. They are not good to eat and are not good for bait.



Northern Stargazer: (Caution: can deliver up to 50 volts of electrical charge.) This fish has a blackish brown body covered with white spots that gradually increase in size towards the rear of the body. The white spots are widely spaced on the top of the head and body. There are also three dark horizontal stripes on the tail. Their head is somewhat flat with small teeth and fringes around the mouth and nostrils to keep sand from entering as they bury themselves in the sand. The Stargazer has a special talent enabling it to produce electrical currents from an organ located around the eyes. It uses this feature to fend off threatening fish or anglers if they touch it. They are a bottom ambush feeder and fairly common in our bays. If you catch one either use pliers to remove the hook without touching the fish or cut the line. Some people say they are good to eat. I am not one of them!

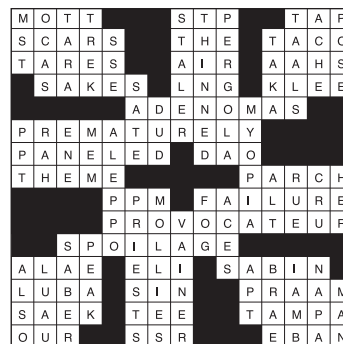


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Scottish tax
- 5. Filled with horror
- 11. Type of music
- 14. Variety act
- 15. Half-conscious state
- 16. Discontinued European money
- 17. Formal declaration
- 19. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
- 20. A way to express concentration
- 21. Airline
- 22. Goes well with a carrot
- 23. Length of pant leg
- 25. Mark with a cut
- 27. One who destroys completely
- 31. Greek sophist
- 34. Thomas Hobbes's "De ___"
- 35. Copyreads
- 38. Talk
- 39. Endangered
- 41. Snag
- 42. Comedienne Tyler
- 44. Castrate a male animal
- 45. Taj Mahal site
- 46. Tending to concede
- 49. One who accepts
- 51. Albanian capital
- 55. Takes kids to school
- 56. About Moon
- 60. ___ Seamounts: underwater volcanoes
- 61. ___ Lilly, drug company
- 62. Not working
- 64. Alaska nursing board
- 65. Howl
- 66. Muslim ruler title
- 67. Famed arena
- 68. Back again for more food
- 69. Check

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Raccoonlike animal
- 2. Small
- 3. Separates
- 4. Parties
- 5. Automated teller machine
- 6. One who earned his degree
- 7. Dislike
- 8. Flowering plant
- 9. Nova __, province
- 10. Inhabited
- 11. Breathing
- 12. Partner to pains
- 13. Immature insects
- 18. The back
- 24. Heavy club
- 26. Edible fish
- 28. Lament for the dead
- 29. Woody climbing plants
- 30. Small rooms for prisoners
- 31. Ottoman military commander
- 32. "The Crow" actress Ling
- 33. A way of lopping off
- 36. Cigarette (slang)
- 37. Helps little firms
- 39. Member of small discussion group
- 40. Copyread
- 43. V-shaped open trough
- 45. Pokes holes in
- 47. Beloved "Captain"
- 48. Resume
- 49. On a line at right angles
- 50. Light up lamps
- 52. Part of the psyche
- 53. Leeward Island
- 54. 1960s counterculture activist
- 57. Edible seaweed
- 58. Imitator
- 59. Look at and comprehend
- 63. Root mean square (abbr.)



Answers for August 14

Living 50 Plus

A Special Feature to *The Courier*

How to stay flexible as you age

Men and women may begin to feel less flexible as they get older. According to the University of Maryland Medical Center, that loss of flexibility is because muscles lose both strength and elasticity as the body ages.

A lack of flexibility can make men and women more vulnerable to certain types of injuries, including muscle strains and tears. While people might not be able to maintain the flexibility they enjoyed in their twenties, there are ways for them to combat age-related loss of flexibility.

Stretch frequently. Stretching is a great way to combat age-related loss of flexibility. Stretch major muscle groups, such as hamstrings and shoulder muscles, several times per week. When practicing static stretching, the goal is to gradually elongate the muscle being

stretched before holding the elongated position, and ultimately allowing the muscle to return to resting position. As flexibility improves, elongated stretches can be held for 30 seconds. Avoid stretching muscles that are sore or injured, and discontinue a stretch if you feel pain or discomfort.

Include yoga in your exercise regimen. Practitioners of yoga typically love how this unique discipline that exercises the body while relaxing the mind improves their flexibility. Many yoga poses are designed to improve the strength and flexibility of muscles, and some physicians may even recommend yoga to aging patients. Yoga DVDs or streaming sessions can be great, but beginners may want to visit yoga studios or sign up for classes at their gyms so instructors can personally ensure they are doing

each pose correctly. As their flexibility improves, men and women can try more difficult poses and classes if they so desire.

Get in the pool. Swimming is another activity that can help aging men and women improve their flexibility. Strength-training exercises are an important component of a well-balanced exercise regimen, but such workouts tend to focus on one or two muscle groups at a time. That means other muscle groups may be inactive and tighten up as a result. Swimming works the entire body, which helps all muscle groups stay loose and flexible. One or two swimming sessions per week can contribute to great gains in overall



flexibility, especially for men and women who remember to stretch when they get out of the pool.

Flexibility may decrease as men and women age, but there are various ways to combat the natural loss of flexibility.

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Seniors becoming more tech-savvy

Technology is the future, and digital communication has opened many doors for people around the world. Although younger generations have grown up with technology at their fingers, Baby Boomers and older adults did not. But in spite of that, studies show that growing numbers of seniors are open to the idea of technology and even seeking ways to further their use and knowledge.

According to a 2014 study by Pew Research Center, 59 percent of seniors regularly use the internet, a 6 percent increase from the previous study conducted in 2012. Today, 67 percent of adults age 65 and older say they go online.

Pew also says that, although seniors consistently have lower rates of technology adoption than the general public, four in 10 seniors now own smartphones, which is more than double the amount that did in 2013. Seniors in Australia are especially tech savvy, as Deloitte's mobile consumer survey found 78 percent of Australian seniors aged 65 to 75 own a smartphone, up from 69 percent in 2016.

While stereotypes have long painted seniors as technologically inept, seniors are actually more socially and digitally engaged than ever before. Seniors use technology in many different ways. Some use mobile apps to manage medications and doctor's appointments and monitor their fitness regimens.

Some families employ 24/7 alert systems or smarthome technology to keep seniors comfortable and safe at home for as long as possible. Noninvasive, "smart" technology can analyze factors such as whether or not doors are left open, if there has been movement in a home, or whether appliances/lights are on or off. This represents a great way for families to

stay informed and provide assistance even if they are not nearby.

SilverSurfers, a senior-based information website, says other tech that seniors are embracing includes online dating; audio and digital books; online shopping, which is especially valuable to seniors who have mobility issues; and social media, which can keep seniors connected to others and feeling less lonely.



Living 50 Plus

A Special Monthly Feature to *The Courier*



- Healthcare
- Travel
- Recreation
- Services
- Dining

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A study conducted by researchers from the University of California, San Francisco found 18 percent of American seniors live alone, and 43 percent report feeling lonely on a regular basis. Loneliness can increase death risk. Social media and internet connectivity can be an important tool in helping seniors feel like active members of society.

Technology is no longer just for teenagers or active workers. Seniors are increasingly embracing technology and becoming a fast-growing demographic for tech usage.

Home security tips for seniors

Seniors are often targeted by criminals. Though many criminals target seniors from afar via telephone or internet scams, criminals seek to enter seniors' homes. The Bureau of Justice Statistics offers that, between 2003 and 2013, the ratio of property crime to violent crime was higher for the elderly and persons between the ages of 50 and 64 than it was for younger persons between the ages of 25 and 49.

Home security is important for people of all ages, but especially so for seniors and aging individuals living alone. By following certain safety tips and developing a home security plan, seniors can feel safer at home.

Lock windows and doors. It may seem like common sense, but failure to repeatedly lock windows and doors can, and often does, give burglars easy entry into the home.

Think about a smart doorbell. Technology now enables doorbells to provide a video feed to a person's

smartphone or tablet over WiFi. This allows residents to see who is at the



door and speak to this person without having to open the door. Some prod-

ucts like Ring™ will even register motion activity and record short videos from outside of the house.

Don't share or leave keys. Avoid leaving keys under a mat or in a flower pot. Others may be watching your actions and gain access to your home while you are away.

Ask for ID. When service people or other individuals come to the door, verify their credentials by asking to see some identification.

Get a home security system. The best protection against burglars is a home security alarm, states HomeSecurityResource.org. Such an alarm often deters burglars from breaking in.

Install a lockable mailbox. Locked mailboxes restrict access to sensitive information, such as bank account numbers, sent in the mail. Make sure retirement checks or other payments

are deposited directly into bank accounts instead of having them sent by check.

Use home automation. Home automation, or a "smart home," can be utilized to turn on lights, set the thermostat, lock doors, and much more.

Adopt a dog. Dogs can be an asset to seniors. Dogs provide companionship and can bark or alert seniors if someone is around or inside of the home.

Home security is serious business for seniors who are vulnerable to criminals.

Geriatric psychiatry provides support through aging

Many positive changes come with aging. Financial independence, freedom to pursue hobbies and more time to spend with loved ones are some such benefits.

But as men and women age, they also must give consideration to those

please see support on page 14

Prepare for visiting elder guests

Homeowners may find themselves hosting senior guests several times throughout a typical year. These occasions can be wonderful opportunities for making memories, but homeowners may need to take certain precautions to ensure that guests are safe and comfortable. This may involve making some minor modifications around the home.

Mobility and comfort needs for seniors may differ those necessary to accommodate other guests. Meeting the needs of senior guests may involve any of the following.

Make sure pathways leading to and from the home are level, cleared and easy to see.

If possible, add a ramp over stairs that lead to the front door. Ensure handrails are sturdy.

Remove clutter and excess furniture if a guest visiting will be using a walker or a manual/motorized wheelchair.

Remove accent rugs from a home, and be sure that any mats are secured with nonslip material.

Increase lighting in entryways, staircases and hallways, especially areas leading to kitchens or bathrooms.

If guests will be staying overnight, arrange sleeping accommodations on the first floor and/or in a room closest to the bathroom.

Well-placed grab bars in the bathroom can be an asset. See if you can borrow a portable shower seat to make bathing or showering easier for overnight senior guests.

For long-term guests, consider replacing round doorknobs and other pulls with lever-action ones that are easy to grab.

Concessions may need to be made concerning interior temperature, noise levels and television viewing.

Several easy modifications can be made to make senior guests feel comfortable when visiting others.

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Adopting a dog or cat later in life

Companion animals bring great joy to their owners. The unconditional love cats and dogs provide appeals to people of all ages. While many people associate pets with kids who cannot wait to welcome the first cat or dog into their homes, pets can benefit aging men and women as well.

It's not uncommon for seniors to feel lonely or depressed when they retire, their children move away or they lose a spouse or close friend or friends. The American Humane Society states that studies show pets help seniors overcome loneliness and depression by providing affection, company and entertainment. Pets also provide much-needed mental stimulation, and many pet owners find their pets help them become more physically active as well.

Seniors who adopt pets may also feel a sense of purpose when helping animals who may not have anywhere to live. This is particularly true of older companion animals, which many young families are understandably hesitant to adopt. Mature pets might be an ideal fit for seniors. When seniors are looking to adopt a pet, there are various reasons why older pets or particular animals might be the perfect fit for them.

Adult pets may already be house trained, saving seniors the trouble and effort of training them.

Seniors may find cats fit their lifestyles more than dogs, as cats are less active and do not need to be walked or played with as much as dogs. Cats also are small and easily maneuverable, meaning even

seniors who have arthritis or other physical limitations can easily care for cats. Many cats are also content to spend long periods of time sleeping on their owners' laps.

Small dogs that can be active within the house might be a good idea as well, especially for seniors with mobility issues. They're also easily transported to and

from vet appointments.

It's important that seniors carefully weigh the benefits of adopting a pet against any limitations they may have. Having a backup plan for care is advantageous as well. Seniors should not adopt a pet if they anticipate frequent travel or medical care that require they be away from home for long periods of time.

support from page 13

changes few consider until they are happening. Retirement, loss of a spouse, distance from family, downsizing, and fears of illness must be given their due attention so aging adults can get the assistance they need when they need it.

Geriatric psychiatrists can fill the

gaps where others cannot.

The American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry defines the profession as a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathy with special training in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders that may occur in older adults. These disorders may include, but are not limited to, dementia, depression, anxiety, late life addiction disorders, and schizophrenia. Although geriatric psychiatrists can treat these and more, they also may help adults navigate emotional, physical and social needs that come with getting older.

The AAGP estimates that the rate of mental illness among older adults will double over the next 10 years from what it was in 2000. Many of the people treated will need assistance with symptoms of dementia. The organization Alzheimer's Disease International indicates there are more than 9.9 million new cases of dementia each year worldwide.

Geriatric psychiatrists can provide specialized care to this unique demographic. Geriatric psychiatrists often focus on prevention, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of mental and emotional disorders in the elderly, says the American Psychiatric Association, an advocate for improvement of psychiatric care for elderly patients. Geriatric psychiatrists understand how medication dosage and therapy treatments may need to be customized as one ages. These psychiatrists also can consult with experts in neurology and primary care physicians when there are symptoms across various fields, which may be the case when patients are experiencing memory impairment, anxiety and depression.

Geriatric psychiatrists suggest speaking with mental health professionals early on if symptoms of low mood, restlessness, insomnia, and other hallmarks of potential mental dysfunction are present in elderly patients. This way doctors can step in early and improve their quality of life.



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waterways
from page 1

- Boaters born on or after July 1, 1972 must carry a National Association of State Boating Law Administrators-approved certificate of boating safety education when operating a motorized boat on Maryland waters. For more information, visit www.dnr.maryland.gov/boating or call 410-643-8502.

- Bow riding, or sitting on the edge of a moving boat, is illegal. A fall from the bow could put someone in the path of the boat's propeller, causing serious injury or death.

- Life jackets must be the proper size for the intended wearer, in good serviceable condition and readily accessible. All recreational boats must carry one wearable life jacket (type I, II, III or V) for each person aboard.

- Any boat 16 feet or longer – except canoes and kayaks – must also carry one throwable type IV life jacket.

- Children under 13 must wear a

U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket while on a recreational vessel under 21 feet in length on Maryland waters. It must be the proper size and in good, serviceable condition.

- Children under 4 must wear a life jacket with additional safety precautions as appropriate for an infant, toddler or young child, including an inflatable headrest, web handle and crotch strap.

- Don't drink and boat. A boat operator whose blood or breath analysis shows an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or greater is considered to be under the influence of alcohol and subject to criminal prosecution. Alcohol has a more dramatic effect on the body while boating.

- Operators of personal watercraft in Maryland must be at least 16 and possess a valid certificate of boating safety education. A personal watercraft must be operated at 6 knots or less when within 100 feet of a vessel, another personal watercraft, shore, wharf, pier, piling, bridge structure, abutment or people in the water.

For more information about boating laws and regulations, visit www.dnr.maryland.gov.

For general information, call 410-260-8880. For information about boating regulations and education, call 410-643-8502.

In case of an emergency, call the Natural Resources Police. To report an emergency, violation or abandoned boat, call 410-260-8888. To report a missing, damaged or mis-

placed buoy, call 410-643-6521.

Additional information can be found in the iPhone or Android app stores.

"Maryland Department of Natural Resources also has an app for cell phones and tablets that has information on boating speed zones, fishing and crabbing regulations, and hunting seasons that some may find to be beneficial," Wilson said.

report
from page 1

Golf clubhouse is estimated at \$1.6 million, the Golf cart barn should cost \$400,000, and Northstar software implementation is anticipated to cost \$300,000. Other factors included \$150,000 for new playground equipment at White Horse Park and \$85,000 for the new Craft Club building.

Restarted bulkhead, dredging and drainage projects – each put on hold for several years – are also expected to draw down the reserves. Viola said Operations Director Colby Phillips and her team would give a presentation on those initiatives during the next regular Board meeting, in September.

"There are many initiatives to replace much of the infrastructure of Ocean Pines. As of now, [the projects] are on budget and on track," Viola said.

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New dean position created and filled

Wor-Wic Community College has restructured its occupational division of credit education to allow for future growth.



Dr. Karie Solembrino

With expected physical growth, an increased student body and new programs such as industrial technology, supply chain management and alternative energy, the college announced a new division of occupational education, with the creation of two new dean positions — dean of occupational and emerging technologies and dean of health professions.

Dr. Karie Solembrino has been selected to fill the latter position. A graduate of the college's radiologic technology program, she went on to earn her bachelor's degree in radiologic science from the Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences in Orlando, Fla., a master's degree in postsecondary and adult education, as well as a doctorate in education, through Capella University.

She returned to Wor-Wic as department head and assistant professor of radiologic technology in 2007.

fishing
from page 10

Cownose Ray: (Caution: They have a poisonous spine at the end of the tail.) You will frequently catch these rays in the bays as they usually travel in schools. They have a kite shaped body usually brown to olive green with a white belly. Their tail is long and looks like a whip. This particular ray has a square indented snout that resembles a cow's nose. They can have a wingspan of up to 3 feet and weigh up to 50 lbs. They feed on oysters, clams and will also find your minnow or other bait as they are not particular about what they feed on. My best advice unless you are very experienced is cut the line if you catch one as they have a poisonous spine at the end of the tail.



Northern Searobin: Very unusual looking fish with the large pectoral fins many confuse them with flying fish. They have a reddish-brown back and whitish belly with three finger-like pectoral rays and large pectoral fins, a flat, bony head and bright blue eyes. Their body tapers back to the tail. They usually grow up to 12 inches. They are bottom feeders and are found over the deep flats and channels. They feed on crabs, shrimp and other fishes such as your bait. In spite of their ugly appearance they are a good fish to eat although most people do not eat them. A fillet off the side of the sea robin fished as a strip bait however is good flounder bait.



I hope this was helpful and the next time you catch one of these unusual fish you will know what is on the end of your line.

*Remember to take a kid fishing,
Capt. Ron*

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