

GM, golf pro host meeting with golfers

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola and Golf Director John Malinowski met with about 75 golf members on Monday to discuss course conditions, the timeline for the new clubhouse, and other upcoming happenings at the course.

Viola showed slides from about a month ago of significant wear on the grass of the 14th hole green.

“There was some type of consistent situation that was occurring,” he said. “We believe we knew what it was and, when the consultants came in, they substantiated what John and I thought. We have taken measures to address the situation and, hopefully, it doesn’t happen again.”

A follow-up slide, taken October 11, showed new sod installed on the green and the rough patches virtually gone.

“Here’s what the 14th green looks like today,” Viola said, drawing applause from those in attendance. “I can tell you this, John [Malinowski] himself was up there working on this. I thought they did an excellent job with the sod that they got.”

please see **golf** on page 15



Ribbon Cutting

Hamilton Physical Therapy celebrated their Grand Opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday October 8. The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce co-hosted the event. Owners Billy and Jennifer Hamilton opened their doors to the community and welcomed everyone to tour their new facility. They were joined by many community business owners, patients, family and friends.

Owner Billy stated “We are so thankful for the support of our family and friends, and especially the Ocean Pines community. We started our own practice so we can give an abundance of care to each patient we treat, in a friendly and professional environment.”

Hamilton Physical Therapy is located in Pennington Commons, next to the Food Lion in Ocean Pines.

Art League announces honorees of 2019 SHERo Awards

The Art League of Ocean City announces the honorees of the 2019 SHERo Awards, honoring Delmarva women who have shown courage in facing adversity and turned that around into something positive. The awards will be presented on Friday, October 25 at 7 p.m. at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St., and the public is invited to the free event.

The SHERo Awards are part of the October-long all-women art exhibition entitled “RISE” at the Arts Center. Curated by Deborah Rolig of Berlin, the exhibition seeks to empower women through art, emphasizing women overcoming adversity. The exhibit is sponsored in part by

the Women’s Fund of the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore.

“The SHERo Award winners are filled with courage and tenacity,” Rolig said, “the kind of women who have overcome a major challenge in their lives — be it health, family, job, or something similar — yet have dug-in to thrive and persevere. These are the women we honor as SHERos.”

This is the second year for the SHERo Awards, and seven women will be honored.

Pamela Ann Greer Buckley has lived Ocean City for more than 35 years and “helped make Ocean City what it is today,” according to her nominator, Tommie Mor-

rison. A real estate appraiser by profession, she donated her time and talents to the Town of Ocean City on the Planning and Zoning Committee for many years. A dedicated member and lay leader of the Atlantic United Methodist Church, she supports many nonprofits and is also a family caregiver.

Robin Cook of Bishopville met her nominator, Judy Tremellen, at a foster care parent support group. She and her husband, Seth, had one adopted son, and over the years, they adopted and fostered four more children of mixed races whom she loves, inspires, and home schools. Tremellen said, “[Robin] defies life’s expectations and ... does so with a

unique internal grace.”

Chrissy Ehrhart of Berlin, co-owner of Zenna Wellness, was nominated by Art League executive director, Rina Thaler, who said, “I admire the spirit and positive attitude that Chrissy has kept despite her health issues and the challenges she faces.” In 2011, while Ehrhart endured two heart surgeries, she practiced guided visualization and visualized her cells regenerating and becoming new at the incision. She now shares this healing technique with others and is also certified in sound healing and therapy. “By collaborating with area artists to show their work at Zenna Wellness, she

please see **awards** on page 15

Community Calendar OCTOBER

Monday

Ocean Pines Poker Club

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

Delmarva Chorus

The Delmarva Chorus meets every Monday evening at 7 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center in Ocean Pines, Md. Women of all ages are invited to sing with us. Please contact CAROL at 410-641-6876.

Monday/Tuesday

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.

Tuesday

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.

Tuesday/Thursday

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.

Wednesday

Kiwanis Club Meeting

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

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.

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.

Second Wednesday

The Polish American Club of Delmarva meets at the Columbus Hall, behind St Luke's Church, 100th St & Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month. Come join us if you are of Polish or Slavic descent. No meetings.

June, July, August. Call Helen Sobkowiak 410-723-2639 or Maryann Lula 410-250-2548 for more information.

Thursday

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 or Kate at 410-524-0649 for more activities. BeachSingles.org.

Gamblers Anonymous

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

Friday

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.

First Saturday

Creative Writing Forum

Every first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Berlin library. Novice and established writers gather to share their fiction, non-fiction, and creative writing projects. Program includes critiques and appreciation, market leads, and writing exercises.

A Time To Remember

Marcus Junius Brutus, a leading conspirator in the assassination of Julius Caesar, died by suicide after his defeat at the second battle of Philippi.

Two years before, Brutus had joined Gaius Cassius Longinus in the plot against the Roman dictator Julius Caesar, believing he was striking a blow for the restoration of the Roman Republic. However, the result of Caesar's assassination was to plunge the Roman world into a new round of civil wars, with the Republican forces of Brutus and Cassius vying for supremacy against Octavian and Mark Antony. After being defeated by Antony at a battle in Philippi, Greece, in October 42 B.C., Cassius killed himself. On October 23, Brutus' army was crushed by Octavian and Antony at a second encounter at Philippi, and Brutus took his own life.

Artisan, craft festival returns

On Saturday, November 2, the Ocean Pines Community Center will be turned into a Winter Wonderland by the Pine'eer Craft Club. The group is sponsoring the Annual Holiday Winter Wonderland Artisan and Craft Festival with vendors filling the rooms with handcrafted items, all for sale to help you with your holiday shopping list.

The show hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., so come early for the best selections. Specialty items such as jewelry, stitchery creations, beach decor, glass and holiday decorations for sale. The Artisan and Gift Shop will also be opened featuring handmade items for sale. In addition, The Craft Club Bakers and Friends will fill the Bake Sale table with homemade items such as cookies, cakes, bread, pie and candy, all at reasonable prices. The local Kiwanis Club will also be there serving breakfast and lunch items as well as coffee and other beverages.

Owls, snakes to take center stage

Owls and snakes will be the topic of a Scales and Tall Tales event to be hosted by My Backyard Bird Shop on Saturday, October 26 at 1 p.m. The workshop will explore the sometimes spooky world of owls and snakes and offer a close-up encounter with live birds of prey and reptiles. Folklore and legends of native wildlife will be part of the discussion.

My Backyard is located at 11312 Manklin Creek Road in Ocean Pines.



Medicare open enrollment underway

The Medicare open enrollment period is officially under way. MAC, Inc., the Area Agency on Aging will help you navigate the Medicare maze and pick out the prescription plan which best suits your needs.

MAC is offering a series of free Medicare open enrollment events throughout the Lower Shore, featuring one-on-one counseling with members of MAC's State Health Insurance Pro-

gram (SHIP).

Participants should bring their Medicare card and all medications in their original containers; do not bring lists of medications.

Registration will begin 30 minutes before the start of each enrollment event, and participants will be seen in the order of their arrival.

This is a free service.

Medicare Part D open enrollment sessions will be held at MAC from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following Fridays: October 25, November 1, November 8,

November 15, November 22 and December 6.

Open enrollment also will be held at MAC on Monday, November 25, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

In addition, other open enrollment events, all held from 1 to 3 p.m., include:

Ocean Pines Library, Monday, October 28;

Pocomoke Library, Wednesday, November 6;

Snow Hill Library, Tuesday, November 12;

Berlin Library, Monday, November 18;

For more information, call MAC at 410-742-0505.

MAC Incorporated, the Area Agency on Aging, is a private, nonprofit organization serving senior citizens in Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties. MAC's mission is to provide programs and services which promote dignity, health and independence for an aging population. It is located at 909 Progress Circle, Suite 100, Salisbury MD 21804.

Maryland reminds motorists to stay alert for deer

Fall means cool weather and colorful foliage. It can also mean unpredictable wildlife. Deer mating season is right around the corner, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources urges motorists to stay alert for deer and other wildlife as these animals seek food supplies and mates before winter.

"Deer greatly increase their movements during the breeding season from mid-October through November as they search for mates," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "Motorists should be especially cautious from dusk to dawn when deer are most active and likely to be encountered on the road."

Motorists are reminded to:

-Be particularly attentive in the early morning and evening periods.

-Gradually brake to avoid hitting a deer; do not swerve as this may cause you to lose control of a vehicle.

-Slow down if a deer crosses the road ahead. Deer often travel in groups and others may be nearby.

-Stay alert and slow down in areas

where deer crossing signs are posted. These indicate locations of frequent deer activity.

-Watch the shoulder. Be alert for deer standing along the shoulder as they may suddenly move into the roadway. Slow down and sound your horn to scare them away.

Carozza to hold listening hours

Senator Mary Beth Carozza will hold a series of listening hours throughout Senate District 38. The sessions will allow individual constituents to share their views and visit with Senator Carozza prior to the 2020 Maryland General Assembly Session which convenes on January 8.

The next event will take place Monday, October 28 between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the East Room at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Constituents also may share their views by emailing marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us or calling 410-841-3645.

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Dinner Specials
 Ocean Pines Yacht Club

*Open Thur-Sun 11am-11pm
 Closed Mon-Wed*

Call 410.641.7501 for info.

THU	Trivia Night
FRI	25% off Steamed Shrimp/Mussels & Raw/Baked Oysters \$20 Seafood Alfredo & Catch of the Day \$25 Lobsters
SAT	Prime Rib \$15.99 12oz / \$19.99 16oz
SUN	Theme Night 1st Sun - Italian Night; 2nd Sun - Comfort Food 3rd Sun - Fiesta Night; 4th Sun - Breakfast for Dinner

Ladies' Night Dive-In Movie
 Sports Core Pool

Enjoy a ladies' night out! Come swim with us and watch "Steel Magnolias" on our giant movie screen. Light snacks provided - BYOB.

Saturday, Nov 23
Doors Open 6:00pm
Movie Begins 6:15pm

\$3 OP Swim Members
\$5 OP Residents
\$7 Non-Residents

Hydrorider Aqua Bikes
 Sports Core Pool

Give our user-friendly, in-water bikes a spin!

Mon/Wed
Oct 28-Dec 11

Call 410.641.5255 to register.

8:00-8:45am

\$85 OP Swim Members
\$90 OP Residents
\$95 Non-Residents
Drop-Ins Available

Senior Living Expo
 Community Center

Information, resources, products & services for seniors. **FREE event!**

Saturday, Nov 9
9:00am-Noon

Vendor spaces are available. Call 410-641-7052 for more information.

Creative Doodling
 Community Center

Much more than just coloring. Gain a new perspective on creating art!

Oct 24, 31 & Nov 7, 14
10:00-11:30am

\$40 OP Residents
\$45 Non-Residents
 Call 410.641.7052 to register.

November Bus Trips
 Community Center

Lancaster, Pennsylvania M & T Bank Stadium, Baltimore

Kitchen Kettle Village
Saturday, Nov 2
Bus leaves at 8:00am

\$45 per person
 transportation only

Call 410.641.7052 to sign up!

Ravens vs Texans
Sunday, Nov 17
Bus leaves at 8:00am

\$140 per person
 transportation, game ticket
 PLUS tailgating with food, drinks, music & games!

Worcester County vote on hotel next door

Commentary by **Joe Reynolds**
OceanPinesForum.com

In what can only be described as an unfortunate turn of events, the Worcester County Commissioners approved a new law that will likely make things worse for Ocean Pines association members near single-family residences operated as “hotel-next-door” businesses. The new law may also have an adverse impact on Ocean City.

With ever-increasing hotel-next-door operations in Ocean Pines, The Town of Ocean City could see somewhat less income from room tax fees. Strangely, Ocean City area Commissioner Joseph Mitrecic made the motion to pass the new law.

This new bill, taking effect in Janu-

ary, will make life easier for those who wish to turn their homes into short-term hotel-next-door rental businesses, but exacerbate an ongoing problem of some Ocean Pines residents seeing five or more vehicles and 10 to 20 people show up every week in nearby homes to party or vacation in the single-family residential community of Ocean Pines.

Mitrecic and other commissioners voting to approve the new legislation suggested it was a good first step. Unfortunately there was no consideration of the fact that the new law will allow more people to occupy a single-family residence used as a short-term rental than the existing law. Existing unenforced law, for example, allows a maximum of five unrelated individuals to occupy a home in Ocean Pines. Under the proposal pushed by Mitrecic, allowed occupancy will likely go to 10 or more based on a formula related to the square footage of bedroom space.

Both Commissioners representing Ocean Pines, Chip Bertino and Jim Bunting, voted against the bill. They do favor stricter controls on short-term rentals, but felt the bill as proposed and passed will make the hotel-next-door problem worse, not better. Bertino asked Mitrecic if he would consider discussion of an amendment to provide more control over the allowed number of occupants and other important issues missing in the legislation. Mitrecic would not accept discussion of any amendment.

The bill passed with Joshua Nordstrom, Diana Purnell, Ted Elder, and Joseph Mitrecic voting to approve the legislation, with Bertino and Bunting opposed. Bud Church was absent. An interesting aspect of the bill discussion was when Elder said he was not particularly in favor of any short-term rentals in single-family residential communities but then went on to vote favorably on Mitrecic’s motion. Had Elder voted No, the motion to approve the new legislation would have failed on a tie vote, more or less forcing the

Commissioners to discuss amendments to make the legislation more palatable to everyone.

What is done, is done. OPA association members with a hotel-next-door will see no relief as a result of the new legislation, and things may become worse.

There are two avenues for those adversely impacted by hotel-next-door rentals to follow:

1. Seek a change in the Declarations of Restrictions of their section in Ocean Pines. Such a change would require the change to be recorded at the

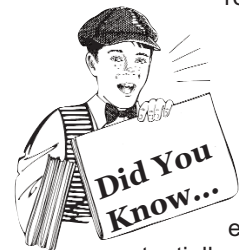
County with signed approvals of a majority of the section’s lots. One or more sections already have restrictions that prohibit renting for periods less than 30 days. This is also something the OPA Board of Directors could consider.

2. Insist the County government strictly enforce the current county law requiring those renting out short-term to file the appropriate paperwork and pay the required room tax fees, along with information on who to contact to report possible violations.



What is diabetic eye disease?

The term diabetic eye disease refers to a group of eye conditions, such as diabetic retinopathy and diabetic macular edema, that can affect people with diabetes.



The National Eye Institute notes that all forms of diabetic eye disease can potentially cause severe vision loss and even blindness. However, the NEI says that vision loss can be prevented or delayed if diabetes patients take their medications as prescribed, stay physically active and eat a healthy diet. Seeking timely treatment by consulting a physician the moment they notice changes in their vision, however insignificant those changes may seem, is another way for diabetes patients to protect themselves against vision loss. It’s especially important that diabetes patients heed that advice, as the NEI notes that vision lost to diabetic eye disease is sometimes irreversible. It’s also important that diabetes patients know that help could be on the way, as the NEI is conducting and supporting research to find better ways to detect, treat and prevent vision loss in people with diabetes.



Denk joins Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City welcomed another new member on Wednesday October 9 at the weekly meeting when Diane Denk was installed.

Diane is originally from Delaware County, PA. She worked for 46 years in Delaware and Pennsylvania as an executive administrator. She was a Deacon and an Elder in her church in Springfield, PA for 12 years.

In 2017 Diane retired and moved to Ocean Pines where she is enjoying new friends, the beach, and many other activities. She likes to travel, dance, crochet, and not having a strict schedule. She has a son and two grandsons who live in Denver. Diane said, “I joined the Kiwanis because I want to volunteer and give back to the community.”

Pictured (L-R) are sponsor **Kitty Wrench**, **Diane Denk** and Kiwanis Club President **Roy Foreman**.

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Remembering Halloween

It will soon be Halloween and thoughts take me back to an earlier time. The holiday, if it can really be referred to as such, was fun when I was a kid. Dressing up in a costume and walking the neighborhood,

Looking back, I can only imagine what this old man with poor eyesight who spoke little English thought about some little kid singing his heart out over some old French song dressed as a "zebra." After this obligatory familial visit my mother would take me around our neighborhood to go trick or treating. When the plastic pumpkin was filled, we were done.

Once we got home my mother would separate and then inspect all the

candy and other items collected before I was allowed to partake. Anything that was homemade or wasn't wrapped was immediately tossed out. Pieces of fruit were thrown out with nary a second thought.

After Mom finished her vigorous inspection, I got to have one, just one, piece of candy and then had to immediately brush my teeth. It was years before I could enjoy a piece of chocolate without an imagined minty aftertaste. She was heartless. All that work walking from house to house, not to mention having to sing to an old man who most likely didn't know who I was, and all I was allowed to have was one piece of candy!

The days following Halloween were not much better. Some candy I was not allowed to have because it was being saved for my grandfather. He liked Reese's Cups so I would have to save them for him. He also liked Three Musketeers bars. In those days they didn't make bite size bars, only the full-sized bars. And I had to give them up! Gramps was never ashamed of taking candy from his grandchild. In fact, if I held out, he'd tickle me to get me to give it up. Looking back on it I did an awful lot of work to satisfy Gramps' sweet tooth.

Looking back on it I'd do it all over again.

As the years went on the fun of Halloween diminished. By high school trick or treating was a thing of the past for me. Pity!

There's something special about dressing up in a costume, being someone or something else just for a little bit. And to be sure it's fun to shake down the neighbors for some sweets and then going home to enjoy the booty, even if it is just one piece of it.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

knocking on doors and getting candy was exciting.

Sometimes deciding on what costume to wear could take days or longer. My mother would let me pick out my costume at Woolworth's where there seemed to be several aisles devoted to costumes of all sorts. The costumes were packaged in boxes with clear cellophane fronts so you could see the mask. Yogi Bear. Snow White. The Fonz. Charlie Brown. Ben Franklin. There was something for every taste. There were even Richard Nixon masks. The costumes were fairly simple, a plastic mask and light weight gown combination that tied behind the neck.

I think one year I went as Fred Flintstone. However, it's been such a long time ago it could have been one of the neighborhood kids who went as Fred and I was jealous. I do remember one year going as Speed Racer, at least I think I did. I'll have to look at old family albums to be sure.

One Halloween memory of which I'm most certainly sure was when I was about three or four and dressed in a tiger suit. I was taken to visit my octogenarian great-grandfather in West Philadelphia. He was a French immigrant who to me always looked frail. He had a lot of whiskers.

My mother habitually made me sing "Frere Jacques" when I saw him. He was hard of hearing so I had to sing loudly. When I was finished singing, he would reach over to the glass tray on the table next to his green leatherette recliner, snatch several lemon-drop candies and drop them into my plastic jack-o-lantern. I'm not sure if he enjoyed my performance or was glad it was over so he could return to his nap.

RELIEF... IS JUST STEPS AWAY.



If you're in pain that is making everyday activities difficult... there's a new Physical Therapy practice in Ocean Pines that you should know about. You may already know Billy and Jenn Hamilton, they've been Doctors of Physical Therapy in the region for over 13 years, and they are both Certified Hand Therapists.

NOW, just around the corner, Billy and Jenn have set up a very special kind of practice in Pennington Commons. So call, email or simply stop in to experience a new kind of physical therapy, it's a breath of fresh air for anyone who is experiencing pain.

¡Se Habla Español!



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New mentoring program applicants sought

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services (WYFCS) has developed a youth mentoring program that will serve 6th graders through high school seniors with the goal of improving academic performance, social outcomes and ultimately graduation rates for school children. The program is seeking volunteer mentors interested in serving the community through mentor-based leadership.

The Worcester County Board of Education will partner with WYFCS to play a vital role in identifying students with warning signs of disengagement from school, such as truancy, low grades or behavioral issues. The Board will communicate with WYFCS to find youth participants suitable for the new initiative. Studies demonstrate youth mentoring programs are effective at improving school attendance, performance, social skills, graduation rates and ultimately greater employment opportunities. While Worcester County graduation rates are much better than statewide averages, roughly 30 students drop out of Worcester County Public Schools annually.

WYFCS is requesting mentor appli-

cants interested in helping children succeed in school and enhancing opportunities for life outside of school. Potential candidates may include:

- Young professionals
- Business leaders
- School teachers
- Social workers
- Nurses
- Police
- Veterans
- Retirees
- Faith-based community members
- Civic groups
- Philanthropic individuals
- Government officials
- WYFCS supporters

Mentors candidates will be interviewed, receive a background check and participate in approximately 10 hours of training from WYFCS before being matched with a student and meeting the child's family. Volunteer mentors will meet face-to-face with their mentee at least twice per month and attend a group meeting at least once per month. Mentors will be asked to commit to one year of participation after assignment and will receive ongoing support from the program coordinator. Mentors will

meet with the student to ensure they have the tools and resources to be successful in school. Those resources may include tutoring, referral to counseling, and navigation of social and family support resources.

Founded in 1975, WYFCS is a non-profit organization that provides critical services to at risk youth and families who are struggling emotionally and socially. The organization advocates for children suffering from child abuse or neglect, assists families on the brink of homelessness, promotes education and experiential learning, and provides therapy for people coping with life-changing stressors and mental health challenges. The youth mentoring program will serve as another avenue to reach children who are struggling and to provide the supports necessary for a brighter future for our youth. Funding for this program is provided by the Worcester County Local Management Board through Worcester County's Initiative to Preserve Families.

If are interested in becoming a youth mentor, please contact WYFCS by calling 410-641-4598 or by emailing us at shine@gowoyo.org.

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9936 Stephen Decatur Highway, West Ocean City, MD 21842 in the Food Lion Shopping Center

Wor-Wic offers new STEM degree

Wor-Wic Community College is expanding its credit programs by offering a new STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) transfer associate of science degree with six areas of concentration: biology, chemistry, chemistry: pre-pharmacy, engineering, mathematics and physics.

The degree and six areas of concentration are designed to prepare graduates to transfer to four-year institutions to pursue a degree in a STEM discipline in support of careers in biology, chemistry, mathematics, statistics, physics, engineering, pharmacy, medicine, veterinary, dentistry and mortuary science.

“For us, it is personal,” said Dr. Stacey Hall, mathematics and science department head and associate professor of biological science. “We have small classes staffed with dedicated and caring faculty with advanced degrees who passionately model and practice critical thinking skills in their courses. Our classrooms and laboratories have state-

of-the-art equipment to ensure students have the hands-on learning experiences that promote academic success. We also have a mathematics laboratory staffed with highly-skilled tutors who provide personalized support to help students overcome challenges and meet their academic goals.”

According to a recent U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report, STEM occupations are some of the fastest-growing and highly-compensated professions. The national average wage for all STEM occupations was \$87,570, which is nearly double the national average wage for non-STEM occupations. In addition, employment in STEM fields grew by 10.5% between May 2009 and May 2015. The STEM group that is projected to add the most new jobs from 2014 to 2024 are those in the mathematical science occupations, which is 28.2% growth compared to 6.5% for all occupations.

For more information, contact Hall at shall@worwic.edu or 410-334-6785.



Honored

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #166 Member Jessie Parsons was chosen by a group of her peers as the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #166 2018-2019 Member of the Year. Pictured receiving her award from President **Emily Nock** is **Jessie Parsons** who spent over 200 hours this past year volunteering with the Auxiliary Unit 166, her church, Worcester County Relay for Life and various youth programs.

A BAGEL

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New Economic Development Deputy Director named

The Worcester County Commissioners announced recently the hiring of Lachelle Scarlato to the position of Worcester County Economic Development (WCED) deputy director. She stepped into her new role with WCED on October 7. Scarlato earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Maryland. She is an accomplished entrepreneur who brings two decades of government and business management experience to her new position.

"Lachelle will be a wonderful addition to our team here in Worcester County," WCED Director Kathryn

Gordon said. "She provides a great blend of education and knowledge with a strong passion for community development and entrepreneurship."

Scarlato has worked in local government economic development, is a licensed Realtor with a background in both residential and commercial real estate, and is co-owner of several small businesses to include two marinas located in the Northern Chesapeake Region. She resides in Ocean City and is a lifelong equestrian and horse owner who has a comprehensive understanding of the importance the agricultural community and its contributions to the economy of Worcester County and the state of Maryland.

"As a Maryland resident, it thrills me to realize a dream of calling Worcester County my full-time home," Scarlato said. "It is exceptionally exciting to also be able to work in Worcester County and be a part of a community that values its natural resources while continuing to be progressive in its business, educational, and environmental initiatives."



Recognition - Wednesday, October 2 was National Custodial Recognition Day. Pictured is the Custodial staff at Ocean City Elementary School. Front L to R: Dawn Manuel and Malinda Purnell. Back L to R: Ivory Smith, Reggie Mills, Joe Sineno and Larry Finney.

**The LORD will surely save me
So we will play my songs on
stringed instruments** Isaiah 38:20



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Poet's reading to be held

The public is invited to attend a free poetry reading by Luisa Igloria on Friday, November 8, at 7 p.m., in Room 302 of the Hazel Center at WorWic Community College in Salisbury.

She is one of two co-winners of the 2019 Crab Orchard Poetry Open Competition for her manuscript, "Maps for Migrants and Ghosts," which is coming out in 2020. In 2015, she was the inaugural winner of the Resurgence Prize, the world's first major award for

ecopoetry. Other works of hers include "The Buddha Wonders if She is Having a Mid-Life Crisis" and "Ode to the Heart Smaller than a Pencil Eraser," which won the 2014 May Swenson Prize. She is a professor of English and creative writing at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

For more information, email rdayton@worwic.edu or call 410-334-2852.



The Courier has a NEW PHONE NUMBER:

410-629-5906

Phillips, Santa Claus sending letters to local children

For nearly a decade, Ocean Pines Operations Director Colby Phillips has partnered with the North Pole to help send letters from Santa Claus to local children.

Eight years ago, Phillips said she went online to look for a service that would deliver a holiday letter to her two daughters, then 10 and 5 years old.

“There were plenty out there, but they cost upwards of \$15. That seemed high for a letter I could probably write myself, with Santa’s help,” Phillips said. “So, Santa and I came up with a fun letter and offered the same service to a few friends, and it’s just grown over the years.”

Each year, Phillips sends letters from Santa to 400-500 children in the Ocean Pines area and beyond. She starts in October to keep up with the high demand, and said she’s used enough glitter over the years to fill several large warehouses.

“My house glistens for a few months, and my dogs sparkle for sure!” she said.

Phillips became acquainted with St. Nicholas when she was just a little girl.

“Because I have always believed in him, he trusts me to help him carry out this important tradition,” she said. “He truly is a jolly person! And his sweet tooth is as big as mine, so we enjoy discussing letters over sweets!”

Along with getting to know Father Christmas, Phillips said she’s also met with his loveable, furry sidekicks.

“The reindeer are wonderful!” she said. “Last year, a new reindeer named Peppermint was born into the family and Santa sent a picture in his letters to all the children. This year, he will talk about Peppermint’s learning to fly! Oh, and who knew, but reindeer love Rice Krispies.”

Community donations over the years have helped cover the cost of

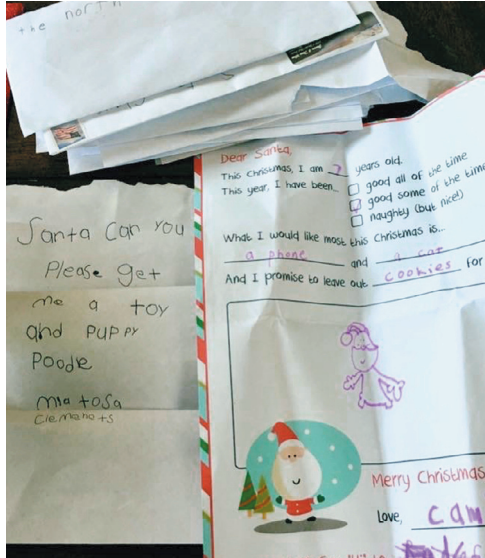
sending the letters, and neither the North Pole nor Phillips has ever charged for the service.

To receive a letter from Santa, simply email santaphillips@yahoo.com by Dec. 1 and include the child’s name and address.

“If children write a letter to Santa (he loves those!) they can drop them off at the Ocean Pines post office, as I also receive those,” Phillips said. “A personalized letter will be sent back to the children at one address. Santa mentions a bunch of stuff he has been doing and adds some fun details in the letter too.

“And, don’t worry, Santa does not promise anything, especially puppies or iPhones, even when asked!” she

please see letters page 15



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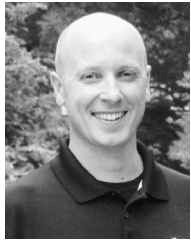
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What is Direct Access?

By **William "Billy" Hamilton Jr.**
DPT, CHT

Did you know that in addition to Breast Cancer Awareness, the month of October also is Physical Therapy month? October is a great time to bring some awareness and knowledge about the best kept secret in the world of physical therapy known as Direct Access.



Billy Hamilton, Jr.

Direct Access to physical therapy means that you can seek evaluation and treatment without a referral from your doctor. A question I frequently receive about direct access is, "will my insurance cover it?" The simple answer is yes! Every state has different levels of limitations to direct access, but here in Maryland there are "no restrictions". I do have to add that there are a couple insurance companies that do require a primary care referral for physical therapy treatments. However, these DO NOT include most of the major private health insurance companies and Medicare.

Another question that has been asked, are physical therapists qualified to deliver services independent of a physician's referral? I believe the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) answered this best by stating, "Physical therapists are educated at the post-baccalaureate level and receive extensive education and clinical training in the examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, and intervention of patient/clients with functional limitations, impairments and disabilities."

In fact, it is legal in all 50 states for a physical therapist to make a diagnosis. Physical therapists diagnose every patient they evaluate in order to prescribe the most effective treatment

plan of care. Physical therapists are also educated in differential diagnosis, which means we can determine whether you need to be referred to another specialty other than physical therapy for appropriate evaluation and treatment.

Direct Access has many benefits, I will mention a few of the more important and relevant ones here.

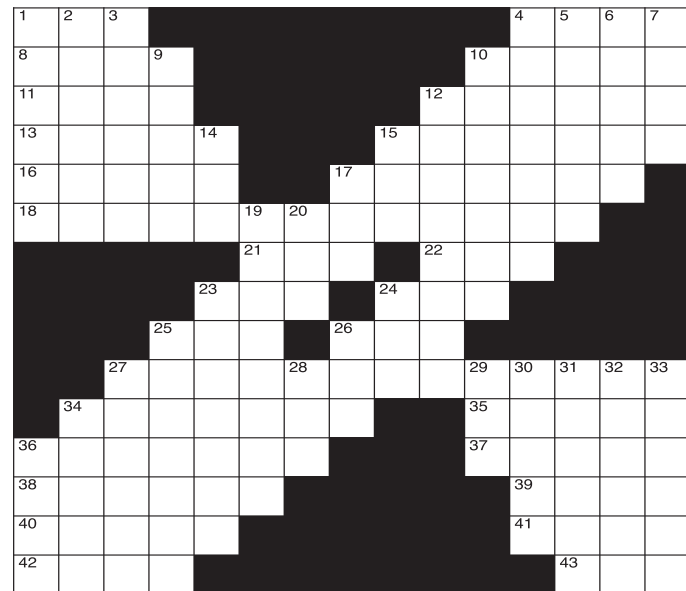
First, direct access can reduce the overall financial burden on the health-care system. It is well documented that delays in treatment end up resulting in overall higher costs as acute conditions become more chronic.

Second, Direct Access gives you the ability to be seen by a physical therapist and receive treatment quickly. Many times, you may be able to be evaluated the same day that you call a physical therapy clinic. This ability to begin treatment quickly can reduce the overall time needed for successful treatment. This not only saves money as previously mentioned but can get you back to your normal daily and recreational activities much faster.

Third, performing physical therapy treatments closer to the onset of your symptoms can greatly improve your overall functional outcomes. Meaning the sooner an issue can be evaluated and treated, the more likely it is that the highest maximum outcome is achieved.

In closing, remember that Direct Access gives you the power to take control of your physical health by calling your physical therapist directly for treatment. If you're having an issue you believe can be helped with physical therapy, give your therapist a call today.

William "Billy" Hamilton Jr., DPT, CHT is owner of Hamilton Physical Therapy in Ocean Pines. He can be reached at 410-208-3300 or Billy@HamiltonPTcares.com.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Third-party access (abbr.)
- 4. This (Spanish)
- 8. Goals
- 10. Something to do lightly
- 11. "Great" North Sea Empire legend
- 12. Iced or chilled drink
- 13. Weight units
- 15. Immune system response
- 16. Groundbreaking German pharmacologist
- 17. Milk-supplying companies
- 18. Enjoyable distraction
- 21. Doctor of Education
- 22. Type of submachine gun (abbr.)
- 23. Curved shape
- 24. Brew
- 25. The 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 26. Advanced degree
- 27. Shock rocker
- 34. Enthusiast
- 35. Quiet's partner
- 36. Hijacked
- 37. TV's once needed them
- 38. Brings together
- 39. Narrow piece of wood
- 40. Paths
- 41. Monetary unit
- 42. Wings
- 43. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Gear
- 2. Outer part of a bird's wing
- 3. Good luck charm
- 4. Removing from memory
- 5. Group of seven people
- 6. Records
- 7. German river
- 9. "Last of the Mohicans" actress Madeleine
- 10. Ancient Greek war galley
- 12. Nonsensical speak
- 14. Title of respect
- 15. Cast out
- 17. Have already done
- 19. Wood-loving insects
- 20. Analog conversion system (abbr.)
- 23. Pokes holes in
- 24. Waiver of liability (abbr.)
- 25. Sea cow
- 26. Protein coding gene
- 27. Where boats park
- 28. The top of a jar
- 29. Fitting
- 30. German city
- 31. Martens
- 32. They're all over the planet
- 33. One that nests
- 34. Coming at the end
- 36. Croatian coastal city

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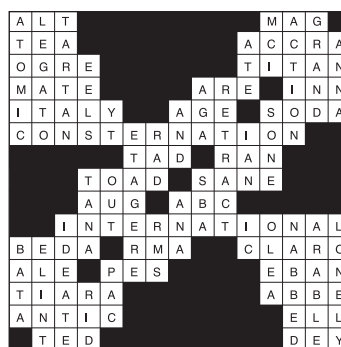
Sunday, October 27th at 3pm

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Accompanied by Dick Smith

11227 Racetrack Road, Berlin, MD

(A free will offering will be taken)
(Funding for this event is in part provided by the Worcester County Arts Council)





Answers for October 16

Golf scholarship applications available

The membership of the Ocean Pines Golf Club and Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council are looking to award several scholarships of \$500-\$2,000 each to current high school seniors in support of their college plans for 2020-2021.

Scholarship organizers encouraged students from the Ocean Pines area, including Berlin and Worcester County, to check with their college guidance counselor and submit an application. Consideration will also be given to students from outside the area with a local connection, including those who participated in local junior golf programs or played on a local

team.

Bob Long, scholarship committee chairman of the Ocean Pines Golf Members Council, said the organization awarded more than \$5,000 to local students in 2018 and \$7,000 this year.

"Next spring, we are prepared to increase our scholarship budget and hope to again find a number of deserving students for our awards," Long said.

"Information about these scholarships has been sent to the guidance offices of Worcester Prep and Stephen Decatur for distribution to eligible students," he continued. "Because the criteria for our scholarships includes an interest in golf, we are also asking these guidance counselors to distribute our information to their respective golf coaches."

Long added the scholarships are for local students who have shown an interest in golf. Active participation in competitive golf is not a requirement. Golf team members and recreational golfers, along with those interested in golf management and turf science, are encouraged to apply.

To download an application, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Scholarship-Application-2020.pdf>.

Self-management classes offered

The Atlantic General Diabetes Center at Atlantic General Hospital will offer diabetes self-management education classes in November 2019.

The series of four, two-hour sessions will address blood glucose monitoring, foot care, nutrition, exercise, and other self-management skills to help individuals better manage their diabetes. A family member is invited to attend. The program is recognized by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) for quality education, and program staff includes a Registered Nurse and a Registered Dietitian, both of whom are Certified Diabetes Educators.

Advance registration and a referral from your primary care provider (which the program can obtain) are required.

Diabetes Self-Management is a Medicare benefit and the cost of the classes is covered by most insurances.

Classes will be held on the following Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon on November 5, 12, 19 and 26 at Atlantic General Hospital Regional Cancer Care Center located at 9707 Healthway Drive in Berlin.

Please call 410-208-9761 for more information and to register.

If you live in Ocean Pines, be sure to contact The Courier if you want the paper in your driveway.

Call 410-629-5906

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day		High /Low	Tide Time	Sunrise /Sunset
Th	24	High	5:01 AM	7:18 AM
	24	Low	10:57 AM	6:11 PM
	24	High	5:29 PM	
	24	Low	11:38 PM	
F	25	High	5:58 AM	7:19 AM
	25	Low	11:59 AM	6:09 PM
	25	High	6:24 PM	
Sa	26	Low	12:30 AM	7:20 AM
	26	High	6:51 AM	6:08 PM
	26	Low	12:57 PM	
	26	High	7:16 PM	
Su	27	Low	1:18 AM	7:21 AM
	27	High	7:42 AM	6:07 PM
	27	Low	1:51 PM	
	27	High	8:06 PM	
M	28	Low	2:04 AM	7:22 AM
	28	High	8:32 AM	6:06 PM
	28	Low	2:43 PM	
	28	High	8:55 PM	
Tu	29	Low	2:50 AM	7:23 AM
	29	High	9:21 AM	6:05 PM
	29	Low	3:33 PM	
	29	High	9:43 PM	
W	30	Low	3:35 AM	7:24 AM
	30	High	10:10 AM	6:03 PM
	30	Low	4:24 PM	
	30	High	10:32 PM	



Prevention - October 7-12 was National Fire Prevention Week. Each year during Fire Prevention Week, the Ocean City Fire Department sponsors a poster contest for grades Pre-K to three and an essay contest for fourth grade students. This year's theme was "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" Each grade level then had a specific topic on which to focus. Pictured with members of the fire department are this year's contest winners from Ocean City Elementary School.



Donations - On October 12, a luncheon was held at St. Peter's Lutheran Church to raise money to rent a U-HAUL to transport goods to the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP) in Kentucky. A Pillowcase Ministry effort, the truck will carry warm clothes, food, personal hygiene, kitchen kits and blankets to the needy prior to Thanksgiving. Since its inception in 2011, Pillowcase Ministry has provided for the destitute both in the U.S. and abroad. What began as a seamstress project of turning pillowcases into sundresses, the mission has expanded. Participants are from all areas of Delmarva. Phone 443-669-3781 to donate or for more information.

Above: **Barbara Entwistle**, Project Coordinator (left) and **Sherry Chambers**, avid seamstress and crocheter. Chambers has made over 300 hats plus blankets for CAP.

‘Holiday Gifts for Soldiers’ drive scheduled for Saturday

Friends of the late Anna Foulz will host a food and supply drive in the parking lot of the Ocean Pines Food Lion this Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The drive is part of “Holiday Gifts for Soldiers” event originated by Foulz and her late husband, Carl, more than a decade ago. Anna Foulz passed away in September and volunteers from the Star Charities nonprofit she founded vowed to continue the drive, one last time, in her honor.

Volunteers placed collection containers across the Ocean Pines, Berlin and Ocean City area at the beginning of October, including in the lobbies of the Ocean Pines administration building and community center. The drive collects nonperishable items to send to men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed overseas.

Collection containers are marked with a list of the most requested items, which include baby powder and foot powder; black and white cotton socks; chewing gum; powdered Crystal light, ice tea and Gatorade; Slim Jims, nuts and other nonperishable snacks; games like

checkers, backgammon, chess and dominos; tooth paste and brushes; feminine products; and small paperbacks. Do not place any perishable items, glass, hotel samples (as they do not include a list of ingredients that might cause allergies) or pork products in the containers.

The drive at Food Lion on Saturday will collect the same type of items.

For more information on “Holiday Gifts for Our Soldiers,” contact Barb Peletier at 443-896-4914.

Additionally, Ocean Pines and friends of Anna Foulz on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. will rededicate the Marlin Room of the community center on 235 Ocean Parkway in honor of Foulz. A remembrance will follow in the Assateague Room of the community center until 5 p.m.

GOP women receive award

Republican Women of Worcester County (RWWC) won the national Diamond Award for Achievement during the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW) 40th Biennial Convention held in September in Indianapolis. More than 400 awards were given to clubs which demonstrated excellence in several key areas.

Beth Rodier, RWWC president stated, “I was proud to receive this award on behalf of RWWC’s hard working members. The Diamond Award, the highest award given by the National Federation, demonstrates the dedication and volunteer hours of Worcester County Republican Women in supporting our legislators and Republican candidates as well as our community service dedicated to our active military, veterans and local nonprofit organizations.”

AYCE breakfast scheduled

The Grace Parker Breakfast returns to First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City located at 13th Street on Wednesday, November 6 from 7 a.m. to noon. Eggs to order, ham, sausage, bacon, biscuits, pancakes both plain and buckwheat are on the menu. The all you can eat breakfast is \$9.

Events invitation extended

The Community Church at Ocean Pines located at 11227 Racetrack Road in Ocean Pines invites the community to upcoming fall events:

A Choral Concert will be held at the church on Sunday, October 27 at 3 p.m. The Chorus is combined from area churches. The conductor is Dr. Jeffery Baer, supervisor of Fine Arts for Wicomico County Public Schools; the organist is Dick Smith.

Kick off the holiday season at the Community Church’s Bazaar to be held at the Family Life Center on Saturday, November 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Center is transformed into a market place where attendees are able to shop for the holidays. There are trees, wreaths, home décor, bake goods, white elephant treasures and fashion accessories and gifts.

For directions or more information, contact the Church Office at 410-641-5433.



National Honor Society recognized by Ravens

The Stephen Decatur High School (SDHS) National Honor Society (NHS) was recognized by the Baltimore Ravens Honor Rows program for its outstanding service to the school and community on Sunday, September 29 during its home game versus the Cleveland Browns. This was the sixth time the NHS has received this honor.

The group was hosted to an on-field experience and featured on the Jumbotron. It was also issued a special citation by Governor Larry Hogan.

In addition to sponsoring an after-school tutorial program and hosting school events throughout the year, the SDHS NHS fundraises for Believe in Tomorrow, runs its own food drive for Diakonia, participates in Berlin Park clean-ups, and adopts a needy family through Worcester G.O.L.D. The organization is advised by Mary Berquist.

SDHS officers **Ellie Dutton, Kiley Hamby, President Richard Poist, Ella Peters and Mikayla Denault.**



Fingerprinted - Ocean City – Berlin Optimist member **Melva Middleton** fingerprinting **Kalin Bouaphakeo**, a prekindergarten student at Showell Elementary School (SES). The club recently fingerprinted 200 students at SES as part of the Youth ID program that began in 1996. Since that time, under the leadership of club member Steve Acton, the club has fingerprinted 75,000 children at schools throughout Worcester and Sussex counties.

Westcott joins Worcester GOLD

Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity) welcomed the Honorable Terri Westcott to its Board, bringing diverse and extensive experience in community relations and enhancing the well-being of Worcester County citizens. Westcott shares in GOLD's mission to provide a "helping hand" to assist families facing crisis situations and those in critical need. GOLD is fortunate to have her as a new member of the team as she brings empathy and knowledge to the table.

Westcott gained experience in estates and trusts during 14 years of employment at the law office of Harry S. Groton, Jr. She served as the Chief Deputy Register of Wills for over 18 years before being elected and sworn into office as the Register of Wills for Worcester County on December 1, 2018. Westcott is a member of the

Maryland Register of Wills Association, serves on the Maryland Register of Wills Technical Committee, sits on the Worcester County Library Foundation, and is a member of the Worcester County Commission for Women.

Since its inception in 1997, Worcester County GOLD, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has had the honor of providing critical financial assistance for Worcester County residents who experience an unexpected crisis while already living in poverty and low-income circumstances. In 2018, GOLD provided emergency assistance for 919 families that include 1,292 adults and 1,468 children. All requests for emergency assistance come directly from trained social workers at partnering community agencies to ensure that each person has been fully vetted for financial need. As GOLD works to provide immediate vital assistance for those in crisis, the referring agency works to provide resources to assist these individuals with ongoing support until they are back on the road to self-sufficiency.



Terri Westcott



National Merit Scholarship Program

Worcester Preparatory School's Acting Head of School Mr. Mike Grosso announced that Max Huber, Kurt Leinemann and Kat Marini have been named Commended Students in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, was presented by the Head of School to these scholastically talented seniors.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2020 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2020 competition by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

"Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."

Above: WPS Acting Head of School **Mike Grosso** congratulates Commended Students **Kurt Leinemann, Kat Marini, and Max Huber.**



Approved

The Board of Public Works approved the Maryland Stadium Authority's ability issue new bonds and structure financing terms for expansion of the Ocean City Convention Center. Pictured (l to r): are MSA Chief Financial Officer **David Raith**; MSA Senior Vice President of the Capital Projects Development Group **Gary McGuigan**; Ocean City Town Engineer **Terry McGean**; Senator **Mary Beth Carozza**; and Ocean City Mayor **Rick Meehan**.

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When are pets considered adults?

Kittens and puppies grow up fast. One minute they're small, fluffy balls of fur, and the next minute they're taking up your entire sofa.

Young animals are full of seemingly boundless energy. Young pets may sprint from room to room as they explore the world around them, sniffing, scratching and chewing along the way. All of this can be adorable for the first few months, but many pet owners are left scratching their heads wondering when their pets are going to "grow up" and be less of a full-time job.

The pet resource Rover.com says that puppies are generally considered adults by the time they reach their first birthday. This may vary depending on the breed. The home life guide TheNest.com says that kittens take about a year to reach adulthood.

Just because a cat or dog is considered an adult does not mean he or she will behave more maturely. In fact, adulthood often means the pet simply won't grow any more. Many behav-

ioral issues associated with young animals may continue into adulthood.

A pet's journey to emotional maturity can take quite a while, but it will come. Hormonal surges will even out, and the animal will begin to settle down. Only when that point is reached will pet owners get an idea of what their animals will be like over the long haul.

It can take a cat up to four years to reach emotional maturity. Dogs' journeys to maturity will vary depending on the breed and the size of the animal. The pet food company Pedigree says a large dog breed will mature into an adult between 15 months and two years, while smaller breeds may only act like puppies for

nine months.

Since emotional maturity varies from pet to pet, these signs may indicate it has happened or is just about there:

-Responds appropriately to training.

-Doesn't get into the same level of puppy or kitty trouble around the house.



-Settles down more readily and has fewer episodes of "the zoomies."

-Listens better.

-Responds to social cues from other animals.

-Older animals treat the animal like an adult.

Even as cats and dogs mature physically and emotionally, they may still have some bouts of youngster behavior. But in general, after a year or two pets start to show their true colors and behave more maturely.

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awards

from page 1

has helped to build community,” Thaler said.

Marie Gilmore of Ocean Pines, nominated by Sharyn O’Hare, is serving her second term as president of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial. The foundation hosts annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day events that Gilmore funds by running a golf tournament. She is also past president of the Sinepuxent Post 166 American Legion Auxiliary in Ocean City and the Women’s Club in Ocean Pines and past chair of the Parrot Head’s Mardi Gras in Ocean City. Gilmore is a caregiver to family members while she herself deals with multiple sclerosis.

Brittney Herz Glenn of Salisbury is the founder of the non-profit Lemonade Bookstand, a non-profit that bring bibliotherapy to young children by sending books, activities, toys, and educational material geared towards their special needs. A caregiver to her health-challenged daughter, she also wrote a book about her struggles with being a parent of a child with psychological and behavioral challenges, “You’re Going to be Fine: A Short Version of a Long

Story about Special Needs Parenting.” She was nominated by Sharon Owens.

Dianne Shearon of Rehoboth Beach is founder of the Food Pantry program at the Community Resource Center in Rehoboth Beach and was nominated by one of the center’s volunteer day managers, Susan Morrison, for “her vision, her persistence, her persuasion.” Shearon handles fund-raising, food donations, and pickup and delivery of food for the center’s clients, plus setting up a volunteer program. She is also active in the artist-owned and operated Gallery One in Ocean View.

Amy Wood of Ocean City, nominated by Olive Mawyer, is the mother of Alex, a survivor of a pituitary brain tumor. She founded the Raymond A. Wood Foundation to provide life support for childhood brain tumor survivors and their families by creating connections to innovation and information. To date, the foundation has provided more than \$100,000 of medical equipment and supplies to pediatric brain tumor patients. Wood also launched Art of Surviving, an online art exhibit to showcase art as a form of therapy and self-expression.



Pride - Berlin Intermediate School sixth grade students sported their new shirts while attending *Catapult: A Shadow Dance Co.* at the Ocean City Performing Arts center as part of our Arts Integration Program. Pictured from left to right is **Layla Jenkins, Marely Cabello-Vargas, Alyssa Clymire and Za’Mya Handy.**

letters

from page 9

added.

For Phillips, continuing the tradition is a wonderful way to stay in touch with an old friend, who just so happens to be made of pure Christmas magic. It also warms her heart to help share good tidings each year with hundreds of area kids.

“I love the innocence of children,” Phillips said. “Children really teach us about faith, believing in something they don’t actually see with their own eyes, like Santa coming into their house at night. I feel that, in this day and age, if we can keep them believing in the miracle of Christmas and bring a smile to their face, then I have accomplished what I set out to do.

“Spreading joy is contagious and I love being a part of that, and I believe Santa is thrilled with me helping him!” she continued. “There are so many good boys and girls and, with the elves so busy building toys, Mrs. Claus and I can help with the letters.”

golf

from page 1

Viola next presented a timeline for the new, one-story Golf clubhouse.



Between now and the middle of November, he said, the foundation should be set, concrete poured, and slab work done. Framework will start in November, with the building enclosed somewhere around the Christmas holiday.

“Hopefully, the weather holds up

for us,” he said. “Then the [contractors] can work on the inside, and they can start with the siding, the trim, the electrical, plumbing, insulation and drywall. All that will bring us to the flooring, the painting, the ceiling tile [from February into April], and that will bring us to the third week in April, and then there’s a final punch list.

“Hopefully, everything is completed that first week in May, when we start the outside play,” he added.

Viola said the clubhouse would include meeting space, with a 75-person community room that can expand to

hold banquets of up to 140 people. The building will also feature an outdoor deck, pro shop, club-fitting room, bag room, and the Tern Grille restaurant. The Matt Ort Companies, who will operate food and beverage programs in the building, had input on the Tern Grille layout, Viola said.

A prefabricated cart barn is scheduled to be delivered and set around the middle of November, Viola added.

He said the course will also get a new golf leaderboard similar to ones at Glen Riddle, Ocean City and Lighthouse Sound. Viola originally envisioned Public Works building the structure, but after doing research discovered a local vendor who uses sponsorship tiles on the leaderboard to offset the cost, meaning Ocean Pines will not have to pay for it.

“We are in the process of signing a contract with that gentleman to have something like that built for us when we open up, hopefully, on May 1,” Viola said. “There will be sponsorships here. That’s obviously what he does, and that’s how you get a leaderboard of this value that’s not going to cost us anything.”

Viola said the leaderboard would have several panels used to hang tournament information, as well as a digital display to show live tournament scores.

He added a patio area, provided by another vendor at a minimal cost, would surround the leaderboard, and that neither structure would block the

view of the course from the clubhouse.

“It’ll be – what does Trump say? – a great patio, the best patio you ever saw. And somebody else is going to pay for it!” Viola said, drawing a big laugh from the crowd.

“Now we’ll have this beautiful deck, beautiful clubhouse, we’ll have this patio and this beautiful leaderboard ... so, what do we need? What’s missing May 1? We need a tournament!” Viola said.

He said Don McMullen volunteered to help organize the event, scheduled to coincide with the opening of the new clubhouse.

“I’m working with someone to sponsor it and I have a handshake agreement,” Viola said. “That should bring in money for Ocean Pines.”

Viola also answered questions from golfers for roughly 30 minutes.

“Let’s have a big round of applause for our general manager,” McMullen said at the end of the meeting. “That’s the first time in the history of Ocean Pines that a general manager got the Golf group together like this about something new that’s going to happen. I certainly applaud that.”

NEW

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