

## Libraries pushing forward despite shutdown

By Victor Fernandes

Doors remain closed at all five of Worcester County's library branches for the foreseeable future. But the information within those doors is simply a click - or phone call - away. "The staff really transitioned quickly to figuring out what kind of services we can offer while we were closed," Worcester County Library Director Jennifer Ranck said of serving patrons during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It's not the same as interacting with visitors in person, she admitted. "We cannot wait for things to return to normal. We are looking forward to that," she said. "It's always better if you can do it face to face. But in this time of social distancing, that gets a little hard."

Until that day arrives, whenever that is, staff at branches in Berlin, Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Pocomoke City and Snow Hill are working hard to find the mysteries patrons enjoy reading, the information online they covet and the copies of documents they need.

The branches began offering contactless pickup in May, with orders being online or by telephone and picked up on a table outside.

Visits by appointment began July 27, when the Ocean Pines and Pocomoke City branches reopened for patrons to use computers and copy machines, or to renew and apply for library cards. "I think it's been great for the people who need us," Ranck said. "We're just trying to provide those services that we can't mimic in a different way for people."

Branches in Berlin and Snow Hill soon followed, on August 10, with appointment-only service handled by staff members who have returned to shift work, with masks on and social distancing protocols in place, in hopes of providing a sense of normalcy for Lower Shore residents during a time that's far from normal. The Ocean City library remains closed because it features a smaller staff than the other branches. Ranck said it should reopen after Labor Day. In the meantime, library-to-go programs have gained popularity.

"If there's a DVD, audiobook, music CD, fiction book, books for kids, any of those things [that] are available," Ranck said, "you can call us up or place your order online. [We offer] printing to go at all five branches. That's been working really well for people."

All five branches closed March 14 in light of the coronavirus pandemic. "The day we closed is the day

please see **libraries** page 6



**Commendable** - The Worcester County Commissioners present a commendation to former Worcester County Commissioner Judith O. Boggs, a founding member of the Worcester County Commission for Women (CFW) for being named the 2020 Woman of the Year by the CFW. She received this honor from the CFW for her accomplishments and for her commitment to improving the lives of area residents. Those pictured include former Commissioner **Judy Boggs** (front row, from left) and her daughter, **Wendy Gary**; and Commissioners **Chip Bertino** (second row, from left), **Jim Bunting**, **Josh Nordstrom**, President **Joe Mitrecic**, Vice President **Ted Elder**, **Bud Church**, and **Diana Purnell**.

## Obey Maryland laws and follow safety guidelines while 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:

- 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](http://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 ves-

please see **waterways** page 6

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# Weddings, private events return slowly

By **Morgan Pilz**

Events and activities had been put on hold from March to just about the beginning of May thanks to the pandemic, but now small events and activities have resumed, including private events like weddings.

Ocean Pines' Yacht Club held its first wedding of the summer three weeks ago, and despite the obvious setbacks placed by Governor Larry Hogan requiring citizens to wear masks inside and outside, Ocean Pines Events Manager Lia Isel said it was a huge success.

"Everyone was pleased ... it went great," Isel said. "Our staff did a great job. The guests were happy, and [the couple] were just glad to get married because they had already postponed it since May."

The wedding had around 90 guests and was a seated dining experience, which meant that the Yacht Club, which can hold around 255 people in its ballroom, was able to hold the event (only non-seated dining events are limited to 50 people or less as of this time).

During the wedding, guests were seated at tables set six feet apart minimum, with only six guests at each table. They were also required to wear masks whenever they were not seated.

"We've had a few cancellations, unfortunately, but we fully understand and we work with all of our couples to try to reschedule," Isel said. "We've just been trying to cope as best as we can, keep as many brides and couples and events that we can at later dates and trying to work with them as close as possible to still try to make their dreams and their great day that they planned all year."

Isel also said that operations at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club only just started resuming events in late July. All of these events not including the first wedding were smaller than the mandated 50 people limit. She also said that some committees and other events are tentatively being planned for September and October.

For brides and grooms who want to get married at the Yacht Club, there are certainly some restrictions unlike the past. Guests will need to wear

masks and tables will be decorated with not just centerpieces but hand sanitizers as well. Traditional buffet style meals will also be out of the question.

Despite this, Isel said there are still plenty of couples who have plans to get married there.

"A lot of the couples have had to adjust on their end as well, if they want to proceed and try to still have their wedding day and still get married outside," she said. "The good thing is that we have a nice outdoor patio area where they have outdoor ceremonies."

The Yacht Club has already seen several couples booking or postponing their plans to 2021.

Also resuming private events and weddings is the Atlantic Hotel on 2 South Main Street in Berlin.

The Atlantic Hotel can hold up to 45 people at a time with the 50 percent capacity rule set in place.

In fact, the hotel held a very small wedding two weeks ago, with only 12 people in attendance, however, Gen-

*please see **events** on page 15*

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## A message from the Worcester County Health Officer

We've processed more than 3,300 COVID-19 tests since the launch of our



Rebecca Jones

Pocomoke and Park and Ride testing locations. This number represents over a quarter of all tests conducted in Worcester County to date. We want to thank the Town of Ocean City for their support providing

locations for testing in the north end of the county and Atlantic General Hospital for partnering with us to conduct testing in Pocomoke. Also a thank you to the State of Maryland for coordinating a testing clinic at the Ocean City Convention Center multiple weekends throughout the summer.

To date, we've monitored more than 1,500 Isolation and Quarantine cases, monitoring individuals with potential COVID-19 exposure. Our monitoring team, made up of staff from all of our departments, are working diligently days, nights, and weekends, to assist residents who are in isolation,

keeping track of their symptoms and providing assistance in the form of deliveries when needed.

Our nursing department has been conducting contact tracing on COVID-19 close contacts since the pandemic began while our Environmental Health team is working overtime to help keep businesses safe as Maryland reopens and moves through the Governor's Roadmap to Recovery. Staff from departments such as Prevention, Planning, Behavioral Health and Administration have been extremely flexible in picking up new duties including assisting on location at our testing sites and joining monitoring teams and our call center whenever needed. We couldn't be more proud of the dedication of our staff in helping their community during this difficult time.

We want to end with recognizing the Worcester residents who have complied with isolation and quarantine procedures due to either testing positive for COVID-19 or being a close contact. We know how difficult it is to stay isolated when we all want to get back to normal as soon as possible. Your sacrifice and diligence is helping so much as we continue towards recovery as a State. You are all public health heroes!

Remember, keep #masksonmaryland

**Rebecca Jones**  
Worcester County Health Officer

## Post office needs reform free of politics

**Editor:**

With all the hysteria surrounding the U S Postal Service and its potential involvement in our election in November, I thought it might be a good idea to talk to someone with experience, someone "on the ground" so to speak. So I contacted a friend who recently retired from the USPS.

I asked him to tell me the facts and give me his perspective. His first comment was that the reforms Postmaster General DeJoy is trying to put in place are desperately needed – that the system, like most bureaucracies, is bloated and inefficient at the management level and incredibly wasteful with taxpayer money and has been that way for years. He also told me that removing mail receptacles is a standard procedure (several years ago the USPS removed dozens of mail receptacles in Ocean City because they were not being utilized). This happens all the time all over the country. He also said it's a normal thing to disable

mail sorting machines. The Postal Service has, over the last several years, seen its business drop dramatically, almost entirely due to email, and more recently, due to the COVID shutdowns. There is nothing nefarious in removing (or moving) mail receptacles or getting rid of unneeded equipment.

So all of this hysteria is just not based in fact.

I'll tell you something that we should be hysterical about, though. How many people know that both of the postal worker unions, the American Postal Workers Union and the National Association of Letter Carriers, have donated to the campaign of and endorsed Joe Biden? Don't you think that would be quite a conflict of interest to have these postal workers handling millions of ballots?

Another issue - no matter what the media says, mail voting is not the same thing as absentee voting. In absentee voting, the voter requests a ballot and it is mailed to him or her. The type of mail voting the Democrats are pushing

*please see letter on page 6*

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## Courier Almanac

On this day in 1920 the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote, is formally adopted into the U.S. Constitution by proclamation of Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby. The amendment was the culmination of more than 70 years of struggle by woman suffragists. Its two sections read simply: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex" and "Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

America's woman suffrage movement was founded in the mid-19th century by women who had become politically active through their work in the abolitionist and temperance movements. In July 1848, 200 woman suffragists, organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, met in Seneca Falls, New York, to discuss women's rights. After approving measures asserting the right of women to educational and employment opportunities, they passed a resolution that declared "it is the duty of the women of this country to secure to themselves their sacred right to the elective franchise." For proclaiming a women's right to vote, the Seneca Falls Convention was subjected to public ridicule, and some backers of women's rights withdrew their support. However, the resolution marked the beginning of the woman suffrage movement in America.

At least one automotive manufacturer has taken a cue from NASA and offers drivers what they believe to be the ultimate in passenger comfort: zero gravity seats. These



seats, available on various Nissan vehicles, are designed to maximize comfort while reducing fatigue. In space there is no gravity force, so people can assume a relaxed posture that is comfortable and minimizes stress on the body. The zero gravity seats mimic that by trying to create a neutral posture position. These specially designed seats offer continuous support for the hips, pelvis, chest, and back. The cushions also flex in response to unique pressure points on the body. People who frequently take long car rides or find their body feels tired after

sitting in the car for long stretches of time may benefit from zero gravity car seat technology. These seats became a new feature in 2015 on various Nissan models. Other vehicle manufacturers also may have seats that offer similar support systems.

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# Did you say something?

My wife accuses me of having selective hearing, that I hear what I want to hear when I want to hear it. I have

tention. Once she rolled me right out of bed and I landed flat on my face. Then she had to deal with a crying baby and a crying husband. Truthfully, I did sometimes hear kids crying but I thought I was dreaming. Yeah, that's right dreaming.

Although it doesn't apply to me, I do understand my wife's frustration

because when our children were young, they heard only about half of the things we said, less of the things we asked them to do and none of things they didn't want to do. How frustrating it was when in the morning we'd ask that the dishwasher be emptied, only to come home to find not only had it not been emptied, but there were more plates and forks piled in the sink. When reminded of what they had been told the usual response was, "huh?"

My wife would leave at "to do" list of things she wanted accomplished while she was at work. The list was very detailed because if there was any sort of loophole our kids slipped through it

faster than a greased pig. Despite every effort to make the list airtight, inevitably there was something that went undone. Responses went something like this: "you didn't say to (fill in the blank)." This can be very challenging to say the least. My wife doesn't leave me any notes of things she wants me to do. She probably thinks I'd ignore them. Certainly I wouldn't ignore them. I may not see the notes, but ignore them? No, I wouldn't do that. Really I wouldn't. Who am I one of the kids?

I remember when he got older my grandfather claimed to have difficulty hearing, especially when my grandmother was talking to him. He would cup his hand around his ear and say, "Heh?" It drove my grandmother to distraction. However, if someone up the street whispered to a neighbor that the fish were biting, my grandfather was out the door in a shot, fishing pole in hand. Even as a kid I was dubious about his claims of not hearing too well. He was once fitted with a hearing aid. Much to my grandmother's frustration it spent more time in my grandfather's top dresser drawer than it did in his ear. I believe he knew exactly what he was doing.

My father-in-law readily admitted to have developed "artillery ears" as a result of his career as an artillery officer, spending a lot of time around howitzers and other things that went "boom." It was believed that there were only certain things that he would hear. I definitely don't doubt that especially if he was watching something on television. Yet, when he was in another room and someone in the kitchen questioned a recipe, that he could hear.

In the interest of fairness and to be as honest as I'm prepared to be, there are times when I think I hear my wife saying something to me to which I don't respond. I have several excuses, err, reasons for this. The first is that I'm focused on doing something and I can't be distracted. It takes a lot of concentration to flip through the television channels. The second reason is that she could in all fairness be talking to herself and I don't want to interrupt her train of thought. And the final reason is.... You know I think I'm already admitting too much. In the interest of self preservation, I think it best to stop right here. I have to go now. I think I hear my mother calling me. Yeah, that's it. I think I hear my mother calling me.



## ***It's All About. . .***

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

no idea about what she's talking about. I hear just fine thank you.

The other day she told me that she had already explained to me the answer to a question I was, according to her, asking again. If I already knew the answer why would I ask the question again? That's just a waste of my time and I don't like wasting my time.

When our children were babies, I never seemed to hear them cry out for their night feeding. According to my wife they could be screaming and I wouldn't budge from my slumber. Believing that I was fake sleeping or just ignoring the kids, she would literally rock me back and forth to get my at-

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# Evolution of the physical therapy and patient relationship

By **William “Billy” Hamilton Jr.**,  
DPT, CHT

For decades physical therapy has been thought of as a painful and time-consuming experience for the patient. As time has gone on, research has changed the way we practice and treat our patients. Not to mention the Pandemic has accelerated our thought process on how we can better help serve our communities moving forward.



*Billy Hamilton*

Traditionally, a patient would see their doctor for pain or some sort of physical problem. The doctor may or may not refer that patient for physical therapy, in addition to other medical treatments. The patient would have to call and schedule an appointment with a local PT that could take up to two weeks to get in for the initial visit. Then the patient would commit to treatments two to three times per week for a month or more. For many people, this commitment is either very inconvenient or impossible to maintain. Because of this, the patient would stop attending and performing their therapy and deem physical therapy as unsuccessful. In addition to traditional physical therapy being a commitment, it was

thought of as “physical torture” by some patients. Over the past 20 years or more, there has been a substantial amount of research on injuries, pain, phases of healing, and the psychological effect of pain on movement. It has been determined that increasing pain early in the healing process causes excessive amounts of swelling which in turn delays healing. Pain, and your brain associating pain with certain movements, will result in altering the way a person moves. This altered, pathological, movement will further delay healing and recovery from an injury. In short, the “no pain no gain” philosophy is no longer the physical therapy mantra.

Physical therapy should no longer be thought of as an extended time commitment or a hassle to receive. The state of Maryland allows patients direct access (No doctor referral needed) to physical therapy so you can now make an appointment for evaluation and treatment instantly. We understand that many people are still leery about being in public places. This is why I want you to know that we, physical therapists, provide expert evaluations followed by very specific treatment plans that you can do at home. A significant portion of the physical therapy experience is being educated on your issue and how to resolve it. Your experi-

ence can be as little as one visit if that is what you prefer. Food for thought, roughly only 8% of people who would benefit from PT treatment actually receive treatment.

The current pandemic has also accelerated our thought process on how we can better serve our communities. Medicare recently approved physical therapy as a telehealth provider. This gives patients the opportunity to be evaluated by any physical therapist in the state in which they reside via their computer, tablet, or smart phone in the convenience and safety of their own home. It is now easier and quicker than ever to resolve that nagging issue you have tolerated way too long!

Physical therapy no longer has to be a painful, inconvenient, and time-consuming experience. Now it doesn't even need to be in person with the availability of telehealth. The time is now to stop ignoring that nagging issue and come experience the evolution of physical therapy. It is important to note that at Hamilton Physical Therapy, we are following CDC guidelines for temperature checks, distancing, and sterilization to maintain a safe environment for our patients.

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

## Another OPA worker tests positive for COVID-19

The Ocean Pines Association released the following statement last Friday about a worker's positive COVID-19 test:

“The COVID-19 pandemic has again hit Ocean Pines. A worker in the aquatics department tested positive for COVID-19. The employee was last at work on August 20.

“We have notified employees believed to have had close contact with the affected employee directly, and asked them

not to report to work for 14 days.

“For the rest of us, it is important to continue practicing sound hygiene practices by frequently washing hands thoroughly, maintaining 6 feet of separation between others, and wearing masks when indoors or when social distancing is not possible.

“The Sports Core pool will be closed after today, August 21, for cleaning and draining, and will reopen on September 7.

“Due to the current situation, the Beach Club pool will be closed at the close of business today for the season. The Yacht Club, Mumford's and Swim & Racquet Club pools will remain open as planned.”

### libraries

from page 1

we started thinking about how we were going to reopen,” Ranck said. Initially, she said, “we [thought the shutdown] was going to be one or two weeks, then we'll be fine,” she recalled. So, staff members focused on cleaning and taking inventory in preparation for the anticipated reopening.

They soon shifted direction, as a longer shutdown grew more apparent. They completed projects that previously were set aside due to lack of time, namely transcribing 40 and 50-year-old interviews on cassette tapes with Lower Shore residents who were born as far back as the late 1800s. “That is painstaking work. Many staff members were working on that at home, Ranck said.

Yet, it proved to be quite educational. “Their experience with school, their experience growing up on a farm in a small town, what it was like to live through some weather situations like the hurricane of 1933,”

Ranck said, “[it was] fascinating history.”

Meanwhile, virtual programming such as online story times and book discussions held on the Zoom social conferencing platform, was put in place quickly, Ranck said, because “we wanted to try to stay connected to our patrons and keep some of that continuity.”

Staff members have become adept at finding exactly what patrons want when placing orders.

“If you know what book you want to read, or you call us and say, ‘I love mysteries.’ We can do all that,” Ranck said. “We have a lot of parents who call [and say], ‘I have a son. He loves dogs. He's in second grade. Can you pull some books for us? We'll certainly do that. So we've been able to get some material out. We've definitely gotten more familiar with our online research databases and helping people with technology issues over the phone.”

Staff members also have honed their on-camera skills through online programming such as storybook

time.

“Those kinds of skills are useful,” Ranck said. “I was impressed with that. We transitioned fairly quickly.”

Now, with schools across the county reopening next month - first on a virtual platform, then potentially in person as soon as late September - Ranck pointed to tutoring services and access to online information as part of the library-to-go program.

Libraries will reopen eventually. But Ranck won't attempt to predict when that will happen.

“I'm not a very good predictor. In March, I [thought] we'll be fine, in three weeks we'll be back,” she said. “We had a sense this was coming, but we certainly could not predict it would last this long. It would be hard for us to say [when branches will reopen].”

But there's a safe bet that virtual programming will remain in effect long after branches reopen.

“We all have become very comfortable with being able to pivot quickly,” Ranck said.

### letter

from page 4

is having the Boards of Election just mail ballots willy-nilly to everyone on the voter rolls, including all of those dead people and those who have moved. So what happens to all of those unclaimed ballots? I am glad Governor Hogan has insisted that those who do not want to vote in person must request a ballot.

I have no doubt that, by the time this letter hits our local newspapers, this will all be old news and there will be another “crisis” situation that is all Donald Trump's fault and that we must make sure he is not re-elected or IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD.

I wonder if people ever get tired of being treated like little children who can't think for themselves?

**Carol Frazier**  
Ocean Pines



# Delmarva Discovery Museum officially reopens

As restrictions continue to be lifted by the State of Maryland, we look to phase in reopening in the days to come. The Museum has been closed to the public since March 17 to support actions taken against COVID-19.

The Delmarva Discovery Museum re-opened August 20 after being closed since March 17 due to COVID-19 concerns. The Museum will be open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and on Sundays from noon to 3:30 p.m.

During the Museum's closure, all staff and volunteers have been trained on updated policies and procedures in response to COVID-19.

Plexiglas® sneeze guards have been installed at the entrance and Museum Store to protect guests, volunteers and staff during contactless transactions. Precautions have been taken to create appropriate distancing, and eliminate areas of congestion.

If you or anyone in your household is feeling sick, you should not enter the building, especially if you or anyone in

your household has fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

Everyone ages five and above needs to agree, and is required, to wear a face mask that covers both the mouth and nose upon entrance and the entire time you are in the Museum.

In activities that require interaction, physical distancing should be maintained between guests unless they are members of the same household. Maintain a minimum six feet distance and follow instructions by volunteers or staff.

"Our top priority is to provide a comfortable

and safe environment for our members, not-yet-members, volunteers and staff" said Stacey Weisner, President & CEO. "We are doing our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and we request that everyone visiting the Delmarva Discovery Museum does their part as well. We believe it is important to share the responsibility to monitor our health and stay home if


not feeling well."

All current memberships will be credited with five months to make up for the time the Museum has been closed. For more information about membership contactless entry, please renew or purchase memberships on-

line by visiting [DelmarvaDiscoveryMuseum.org](http://DelmarvaDiscoveryMuseum.org) or email [contact@DelmarvaDiscoveryCenter.org](mailto:contact@DelmarvaDiscoveryCenter.org)

The Museum is located at 2 Market Street in Pocomoke City and can be reached at 410-957-9933 or [www.DelmarvaDiscoveryMuseum.org](http://www.DelmarvaDiscoveryMuseum.org).





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## Housing sales remain hot

Housing statistics for the month of July are out and they indicate that real estate transactions are hotter than a mid-July afternoon on the Ocean City beach.

The number of units sold within Worcester County soared by 96.8% for the period compared to the same time last year, 374 to 190. Statewide the number of units sold during the period are up 8.1%. The average sale price jumped 2.1% from \$311,404 to \$317,868 year to year.

But inventory, units on the market, is tight with only 534 on the market during the month compared to 1,150 for the year before. This decreased inventory is driving up prices and shortening the time units remain on the market. "There's a need for more [listings] for the simple reason that the list [properties for sale] diminishes as they get sold. It's a never-ending struggle," said

real estate agent John Talbott in an August 5 story that appeared in *The Courier*.



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## Wor-Wic holds commencement

Wor-Wic Community College commencement ceremonies were recently held outdoors at the Arthur W. Perdue Stadium, in accordance with all state and CDC guidelines, including social distancing, timed arrivals and mask wearing. Graduates were limited to two guests and everyone needed a ticket to enter.

Dr. Ryan Messatzia, associate professor of social science and outgoing faculty council chair, addressed the 2020 graduates. A licensed clinical social worker, he also teaches undergraduate and graduate courses for the social work department at Salisbury University. Messatzia has worked at Wor-Wic for 12 years. Prior to becoming a faculty member, he was the academic and disabilities counselor for the college.

Messatzia told those assembled that he was not the first choice for commencement speaker. He explained that the original plan was to have a prior year graduate give the speech on the occasion of the college's 45th anniversary, but instead, he said, Dr. Ray Hoy, president of Wor-Wic, thought a faculty member, who went through many of the same stressors that students had to endure this spring, would have a more appropriate message.

Russell W. Blake, chairperson of Wor-Wic's board of trustees, introduced Gavin Stephens, student government association president.

Addressing his fellow graduates, Stephens shared his personal experiences of how Wor-Wic changed his life.

"In between where you start and where you end, there is always a journey," Stephens said. "My journey started out comfortable. I was well taken care of growing up, yet I still feel like I needed to stand out in order to fit in." Stephens told the crowd that desire led him to being incarcerated for more than four years, and that making that mistake and surviving the consequences, led him to a sense of peace. "On your journey, there will be critics, there will be naysayers and doubters," he said. "Don't worry about them. We have our own mistakes to learn from as well as the mistakes of others." Stephens said that he educated himself a lot in prison, yet knew he needed more education. "Wor-Wic was the answer. Wor-Wic gave me a chance

to prove that I was bigger than my past, and I'm sure that it gave you guys a chance ... as well," he said.

Stephens told the graduates that all of his experiences at Wor-Wic helped him become a better listener and a better leader, which helped him move past his mistakes.

"I found during my time at Wor-Wic that consistency and discipline are key to achieving goals," Stephens told the crowd. "Discipline is something you've already proven by the degree that you're obtaining today. But, don't lose the discipline now." After all,

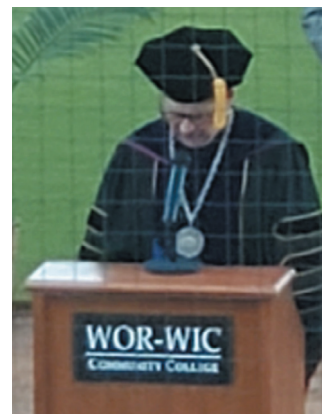
he told the graduates, it was discipline that made us get our homework done, show up for that early class and work on a project when we were invited to do something much more fun. "Discipline will serve you well beyond Wor-Wic."

"We must be consistent. When people get to know us, we want them to trust that they really know us. Being consistent builds trust and it builds respect. If you're not consistent in your efforts, your attitudes and your values, that job offer might slip away, family and friends, they may become distant and the health of your body could even deteriorate. It was discipline and consistency that helped me move along with my success at Wor-Wic."

Stephens told those assembled that he chose Wor-Wic to help him achieve his dreams and succeed in spite of his mistakes, urging the crowd not to be afraid to "share your story with somebody. It could be the key that unlocks somebody else's prison."

In conclusion, Stephens told the graduates, "The best is yet to come. However, you still may make wrong turns, mess up and make some mistakes. But, if you're committed to learning from your mistakes and becoming a better version of yourself every day, then you will be unstoppable."

After receiving his business transfer associate degree from Wor-Wic, Stephens plans to pursue a bachelor's degree at Salisbury University and hopes to own and manage his own business one day.





## State Board of Elections approves new early voting center

The Maryland State Board of Elections announced last week it has approved Worcester County's request to use the Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, as its early voting center.

Due to the pandemic, the former early voting center in Worcester County could not confirm the building would be open to the public by October, so the Election Office began its search for a facility that met the early voting law (located within 10 miles of 50% or more of the registered voters in the county), plus allowed enough room for social distancing. The Bayfront Ballroom at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center met all of these needs.

The State Board of Elections also approved changing the dates of early voting to begin Monday, October 26, and run through Monday, November 2, including Saturday and Sunday; and changed the voting hours of early voting to 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. each day.

Ballot drop boxes will be available outside at the Convention Center and at the local Board of Elections office located at 201 Belt Street, Suite C, in Snow Hill. The ballot drop boxes will be available to the public 30 days prior to Election Day for those voters that prefer to vote by mail, but do not want to mail their voted ballot back to the election office.

The Worcester County Board of Elections will also use vote centers for Election Day. The Board plans to have 4 vote centers located in the County (Pocomoke, Snow Hill, Berlin and Ocean City) where voters can go to any vote center to cast their ballot in person. There will also be ballot drop off

stations located at the vote centers where voters can drop their mail ballots without entering the voting room at the vote centers.

All vote center locations will be announced at a later date once approval from the State Board of Elections has been received.

Specimen ballots will be mailed in October to voters along with a listing of the early voting center and vote center locations.

## Teen health education project proposal sought

The Worcester County Health Department is requesting mini-grant proposals from community-based organizations, work places, churches, or other interested organizations for youth teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention education: Promoting Health Among Teens-Comprehensive education (PHAT-C). To be eligible for up to \$7,500 in grant funding, your program must be an organization which serves young people in Worcester County. Funded organizations will be expected to deliver the PHAT-C education program to a minimum of 12-15 Worcester County youth ages 12-19.

Proposals are due in the Worcester County Health Department by 4:30 pm on September 11, 2020. Interested parties may call the Worcester County Health Department, Prevention Services Unit at 410-632-1100, extension 1103 to receive an application packet.

For more information, contact Worcester County Health Department at 410-632-1100 or visit worcester-health.org.

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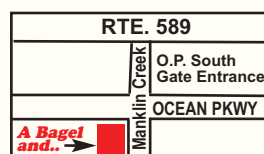
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# DRIVE & RIDE

*Special  
Feature*

## TV Cars of the 70s

By **Bruce Palmer**

You'd snap on the TV set...and even before the picture came to life, you could hear tires squealing in protest as someone on your favorite show forced two tons of metal through a hard turn at high speed. As the 1970s roared by, cars were often the biggest stars on TV. Let's take a peek in the rearview mirror and see which small screen memories are still hanging out back there.

It would be hard, for instance, to list the decade's best-loved detective shows without Jim Rockford flashing past in his Firebird. During the show's six years on NBC, James Garner at the wheel of his gold Pontiac was truly must-see TV. Could there be a more thrilling move than a "Rockford spin?" You know, the one where he backs up at high speed, then jams the brakes while spinning the steering wheel, using the car's momentum to spin the car 180 degrees?

And often that was James Garner you saw in the driver's seat. An experienced race car driver well before the show's 1974 debut, Garner noted in subsequent interviews that he'd chosen the Firebird for its maneuverability,

of '75, that red Ford Torino with the white stripe was the obvious star of the show. Every episode found room for a wild chase through the streets of LA, throwing caution (and often, passing vehicles) to the wind.

Take it from this author, who owned and drove an identical Torino for 15 years. It took an accomplished driver to keep one of those two-ton coupes under control on hard cornering at any speed above a typical school zone.

Just before the decade faded, a new V8-powered star swept the screen with a roaring exhaust. An already ten-year-old 1969 Dodge Charger was bouncing along rural roads in the new CBS action show "The Dukes of Hazzard," beginning in the fall of 1979.

By the late 70s, two fuel crises had so eviscerated power and style in cars that seeing the bright orange "General Lee" with the confederate flag on its roof was a sight for sore eyes. (Never mind the fact that much of the time, it was screeching its tires around the twists and

find an ample supply of replacements and even began leaving notes on Charger windshields in southern California parking lots, looking for people willing to sell their cars to the production company.

Finally, we turn our attention to two different cars which shared screen time over the entire decade on one very popular show. The cars were Mercurys,

establish his character's image.

He began with a hefty '68 Park Lane sedan, black with a red leather interior—a car which, by his own accounts, could be brutally uncomfortable while wearing full make-up and filming for hours in the hot Pacific sun. After a few seasons, Ford Motor Company (which supplied all vehicles used on the show) began urging an update to a newer model in order to showcase their latest offerings...but Lord didn't like them. In fact, when he was presented with a '71 for his own personal use, he balked—insisting that when it stopped, the car bounced up and down worse than "that canoe in the closing credits."

He finally relented at the start of season seven, swapping the Park Lane for a shiny new '74 Mercury Marquis...black, of course. The effect was essentially the same: McGarrett's ominous sedan, prowling the palm-lined streets and hunting down thugs in bright, flowered shirts.

Bad guys in polyester suits, predictable plot twists....and squealing tires stealing the scene. That's what 70s TV was to me. Still memorable long beyond that little dot disappearing from the center of the screen after you'd snapped off the set.

Steve McGarrett's Mercury



and the show starred Jack Lord as Steve McGarrett: chief of police on the original "Hawaii 5-0."

Debuting in the fall of 1968, McGarrett's big, black Mercury was a common sight for the next 12 seasons, flashing past endless tropical scenery in a show filmed entirely on-location. And while Lord wasn't specifically a car guy, he knew what car he wanted to es-

Below: "Starskey & Hutch" Ford Torino.

Far left: "Rockford Files" Firebird



knowing that he would be performing many of the show's automotive stunts.

Private Investigators weren't the only ones having fun behind the wheel. Just picture plain clothes officers David Starsky and Ken Hutchinson. From the first episode of "Starsky & Hutch" in fall

turns of dirt roads.)

Most noteworthy in five years of the Duke boys was the outlandishness of stunts featured. Multiple Chargers were being slammed, rolled and vaulted in a way that, after a few seasons, the show's producers struggled to





# What maintenance schedule does my car need?

Vehicle maintenance schedules vary depending on manufacturer recommendations. In addition, the way a car is driven and the environment it's driven in can dictate if routine maintenance like oil changes needs to occur more frequently or if belts and hoses need to be replaced sooner than manufacturers recommend.

Many people drive in ways that align with routine maintenance schedules. However, drivers who put excessive wear and tear on their vehicles may have to follow a "severe" maintenance schedule.

According to the automotive information site Car Gurus, many manufacturers adhere to a 30-60-90 schedule, meaning certain items need to be inspected, changed or replaced at 30,000, 60,000 and 90,000 miles. Certain vehicle parts wear out at predictable intervals, while others, such as rubber gaskets, windshield washer blades and tires, will degrade at irregular intervals.

It is generally recommended to speak with a mechanic and discuss driving habits to ensure vehicles operate efficiently and at peak capacity. The following are some conditions that may necessitate frequent maintenance.

**Urban driving:** Stop-and-go traffic in an urban setting can wear cars out more quickly than highway driving. Experts say lubricants found in motor oil break down rapidly under these and other condi-



tions, including especially hot temperatures.

**Short trips:** Frequent, short trips can take a toll on a vehicle. Again, this may be a problem for those who reside in cities or bustling suburbs. Short trips of no more than five miles can contribute to an accumulation of water vapor that dilutes motor oil and adversely affects its efficacy.

**Heavy loads:** Advanced Auto Parts says transporting or towing heavy loads can put more wear and tear on a vehicle. Loads can include cargo or passengers.

**Dusty or salty environments:** Dust can accumulate in air filters and clog internal engine components. Similarly, living close to the coast and salt water also can cause car parts to rust or degrade quickly.

**Extreme temperature conditions:** People who reside in extremely cold or extremely hot climates may find that

their vehicles have to work that much harder to operate, reducing the life span of automotive fluids, parts (especially car batteries) and the overall vehicle unless action is taken.

For those who frequently encounter these severe conditions, switching to a severe maintenance schedule with the guidance of an automotive service shop can help. The added cost of more frequent fluid changes and other maintenance can be recuperated by fewer breakdowns and the reduced need for potentially costly repairs.

## Gas in a car won't stay fresh forever

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 in 2019-20 had a significant impact on drivers. In an effort to stop the spread of the virus, many countries issued stay-at-home orders that mandated businesses close their doors and allow employees to work from home. In addition, restaurants and popular tourist destinations were closed for a period of time, giving people few reasons to drive. As a result, drivers ended up spending less time on the road and less money at the gas station. But what about the gas they did purchase? Can gas go bad? Yes it can, according to Consumer Reports, which notes that the lighter, more volatile components of gasoline evaporate over time. Old gas can compromise engine performance, potentially causing a car to hesitate or stall. Gas that has gone bad can begin to smell like varnish and will darken over time, though discoloration often occurs only in the most extreme situations. To determine if gas smells differently, drivers should avoid putting their nose into their vehicle's gas tanks. Instead, remove the gas cap and stand next to the car where you would normally put the gas pump. If you detect an aroma of varnish coming from the car, then the gas has likely gone bad. An easier way to determine if gas has gone bad is to consider how long it's been since you refilled the tank. Gas can begin to go bad in as little as three months, so drivers who haven't driven much over that period may have bad gas in their tanks. One way drivers can combat bad gas, even if they aren't driving much, is to add fuel stabilizer when filling up the tank. Fuel stabilizer keeps gas from degrading, but it's only effective if it is mixed with good gasoline, hence the reason to add it when filling up and not when you detect the gas already in the car has gone bad.

## Signs headlights may need to be replaced

Automobiles require a little TLC to stay on the road and operate efficiently. When vehicle maintenance is ignored, vehicles operate less efficiently and, in many instances, less safely as well.

Jerking and stalling is a telltale sign of engine trouble, but some vehicle problems are more subtle. One such problem is fading headlights. Fading headlights can pose a significant threat to drivers and their passengers as well as fellow motorists. According to the National Safety Council, drivers do only one-quarter of their driving at night. However, the NSC notes that 50 percent of traffic deaths occur at night. Such figures highlight the potential dangers of nighttime driving, which only becomes more dangerous if headlights are not operating at optimal capacity.

Since drivers do most of their driving during the daytime, it's easy to overlook headlight performance. However, it's important that drivers learn to recognize the signs that headlights need to be re-

placed.

Dimming. Dimming headlights do please see **headlights** on page 12

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# The original automotive hybrid

By **Bruce Palmer**

By its purest definition, a hybrid is a mixture. Two different things are brought together to form an entirely new and different entity. Today, when you hear hybrid in automotive terms you think of a vehicle which runs on either gas or electricity. But let's turn the calendar back to when a hybrid was an entirely different set of wheels.

Hybrid was one of the terms used to describe the vehicle introduced by Ford in November '56 for the coming model year. Promising the best of both worlds, it combined a car and pickup, bridging the gap for people who wanted a car and needed a truck but simply couldn't afford both.

Enter: the Ranchero.

To America this all-new 1957 model was revolutionary, though Ford already had a lot of experience with the concept. As the tale goes, 25 years earlier the wife of a farmer in the land "down under" had written a letter to Ford of Australia asking if they could build a car to take to church on Sunday that could then double as a truck in order to "take (their) pigs to market on Monday."

An idea was born.

By 1934 the idea was real: a coupe utility" or "ute" for short. Built on a car chassis with a typical coupe passenger compartment the trunk was replaced by a pickup bed. So while the chassis gave a slightly cramped, yet smoother, car-like ride it could haul much more than a car. Sales were strong.



A few little things got in the way of the "ute" coming to America (ie: WW II). It took until December of '56 before a car-truck hybrid arrived in U.S. Ford dealerships. By this point, the coupe-base had been replaced by the entry level Ranch Wagon (two-door station wagon) as the

vehicle's main platform.

Early ads proclaimed Ranchero as "More than a Car, More than a Truck" and the vehicle was an immediate hit with both the automotive press and car-buyers. While it didn't offer the clearance and ruggedness of the basic Ford truck, Ranchero actually boasted a higher cargo capacity (by 50 pounds) and a lower, more-convenient load-height. Sales topped 21,000 in a shortened first sales year, though they would drop back to the 10-15,000 range over 1958 and '59.

As times and needs changed, Ford adapted Ranchero to keep it relevant. First, came a major downsizing for its fourth model year. The initial design had been based on the full size Ford car-body but headquarters watched how Rancheros were being used and decided the vehicle should be more practical: smaller and lighter than a full size Ford. So when they introduced their first-ever compact car Falcon for 1960, Ranchero downsized with it, dropping load capacity to only 750 pounds. But with up to 30mpg and prices starting under \$2,000, sales rebounded to stay around 20,000 for each of the next seven model years.

1967 brought another major body change as Ford again shuffled their lineup and moved Ranchero to parallel the

recently-introduced mid-sized Fairlane model (up-scaling the following year to Fairlane's new top-of-the-line Torino.) Ranchero options began to proliferate with GTs that offered beefier, muscle car engines...and even a "squire" version, sporting fake wood (ala the popular squire station wagons of the day).

Sales began an upswing, reaching a peak of over 45,000 in the 1973 model year alone. Load capacities were back up to a half-ton and the interior creature comfort-level began to earn the car-truck hybrid a nickname as the "contractor's Cadillac." But geo-political issues were about to change the rules.

The oil embargo of 1973-74 arrived and with it an overnight demand for smaller, more efficient cars AND pickups. Those who needed full-size pickups continued to buy them but Ranchero sales suffered as smaller trucks arrived, both imported and domestic. Rather than to downsize the Ranchero again, Ford debuted its own little truck, importing compact Mazda pickups to the U.S. market as the Ford "Courier" by 1975.

When the Torino nameplate was retired after '76, Ranchero's structure changed one last time to the all-new Ford LTD II for 1977 but the sales drop continued and the last Rancheros rolled off the lines in '79. This coupe utility's time had come and gone but sales of "Utes" continue strong abroad even today (in fact the very first ute from Ford remains on display in an Australian museum). So, don't be surprised if the Ranchero one day returns in an updated form that still can carry either church-goers OR livestock. Now THAT's a hybrid.

## headlights

from page 11

not necessarily require replacement. In some instances dimming headlights are a byproduct of a dirty car. The buildup of dirt and grime can reduce light output even when the headlights are otherwise fine. If your car is dirty, take it to the car wash and make sure the headlights are scrubbed clean of dirt and grime. Then drive at night to see if the light output of your headlights is still dim. If so, the headlight bulbs may need to be replaced.

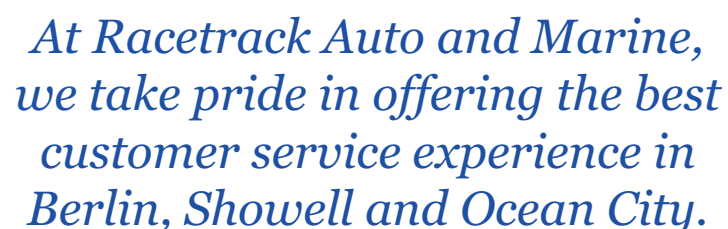
Flickering. Flickering headlights can indicate anything from worn out headlight bulbs to a weak car battery to loose connections. Flickering is one of the more dangerous headlight issues, as it can lead to headlights suddenly going dark while drivers are on the road at night. If headlights are flickering, take the car to a mechanic as soon as possible to have the issue resolved.

One light out. When one headlight goes dark, chances are the other is not far behind. Automotive experts recommend replacing headlight bulbs in pairs, even if only one bulb has gone dark, because this ensures equal light output.

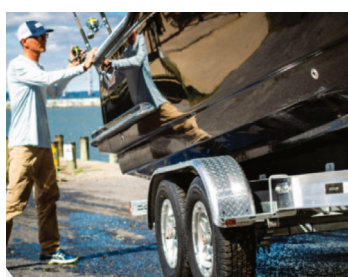
Headlight maintenance tends to be overlooked. But recognizing the signs of fading headlights can help drivers avoid accidents and vastly improve the safety of nighttime driving.







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## Flounder Fishing is hot

**Fishing report:** Flounder fishing has been hot both inshore and offshore with many limits being reported. The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Flounder Tournament was a great success with over 227 entries participating in the tournament. Many boats reporting limits. My grandson, son-in-law and friends were fishing on the “Lucky Break” and had nine keepers in the first hour. The hot baits were live bunker, spot and Gulp. Bluefish are hot in the inlet while king fish, spot and croaker can be caught in the surf on bloodworms. Croaker in the bay are hitting on bloodworms, squid, shiners and shrimp.

Here are some pointers so you can catch the big one.

**Water clarity.** If at all possible, find clean water as flounder are ambush fish and need to see the bait. Move around and you can usually find some clear water depending on the tide and weather conditions.

**Location.** This time of year, I prefer the deeper water of the East Channel, West Channel, Thorofare and finally the inlet. However, I don’t overlook the shallows if the weather has been warm. I’ll at least try Harbor Island, Bird Island or behind the airport.

**Bait.** From mid-August on, I prefer live spot in the three- to four-inch size, live finger mullet and live bunker. Don’t overlook frozen shiners if you don’t want the hassle of caring for live bait and Berkley Gulp 4” Swimming Mullet in white, pink and chartreuse and the new hot color red. I usually catch spot with hook and line and use a cast net for finger mullet. To catch spot on hook and line I prefer using an ultra light spinning rod with 4lb. test line to which I attach a SABIKI RIG Model # MSB-3G-8 IRIDESCENT/GREEN GLO size #8. I prefer the three-hook model as you have fewer tangles. To each hook I attach either a piece of cut night crawler, bloodworm or bloodworm fishbite and a small split shot - just enough to get you to the bottom and wait for the bite.

Jig it occasionally and you should be able to pick up 10 spot in less than an hour depending on water clarity and if there has been a recent heavy rain that could change the salinity of the water in the canals which impact the bite. If you live in the Pines a good location for spot and finger mullet are Pintail Park along the bulkhead. Both are easy to keep alive. I’ll catch spot or mullet the night before and keep them alive in a bait bucket secured to the dock, live bait well on a boat or a Styrofoam bucket with a bubbler overnight. Other good bait is strip bait. If you happen to catch one, a fillet strip cut off a sea robin or lizard fish is prime food for flounder.

**Presentation.** When fishing live bait, I prefer using a long leader of 30lb. test mono material approximately 48 inches in length. This is a double rig that I make with a straight shank #2 hook on top, sinker clip down 22 inches and a kale #1 hook at the bottom. You can also use a circle hook which I have had good luck with. I will hook the live spot or mullet on the bottom hook through the upper lip and out the hard cartilage in the nasal area. They live longer and I feel are more effectively hooked in this fashion. On the top hook I use a Gulp dressed with a strip of squid with a split tail which gives the squid strip more action. For weight, use either a two- or three- ounce sinker depending on how fast the tide is moving.

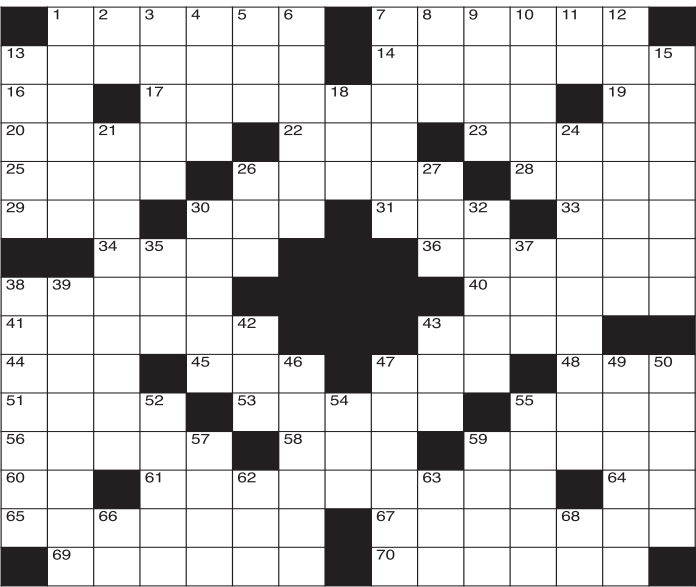
The pink Gulp is usually best in the spring when the grass shrimp are very active. White is good anytime and the chartreuse is usually best in the fall or when there is slightly cloudy water.

Now let’s go flounder fishing and good luck.

**Fun Facts.** Sailfish, swordfish, and marlin are the fastest fish in the ocean, reaching speeds of up to 70 mph.

**A Little Humor.** How do you communicate with a fish? Drop it a line.

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



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Slopes
- 7. Attacks
- 13. One who has left prison
- 14. Goes against
- 16. Atomic #37
- 17. Home of The Beatles
- 19. Mac alternative
- 20. A common boundary with
- 22. Fluid in a plant
- 23. Genus that includes scads
- 25. Longer of the forearm bones
- 26. Gradually disappears
- 28. AI risk assessor
- 29. Type of whale
- 30. Jaws of a voracious animal
- 31. Patriotic women (abbr.)
- 33. Ancient Egyptian God
- 34. Obsessed with one’s appearance
- 36. Erase
- 38. A type of smartie
- 40. Nostrils
- 41. Influential French thinker
- 43. Popular K-pop singer
- 44. One point south of due east
- 45. Payroll company
- 47. Moved quickly on foot
- 48. Bar bill
- 51. An idiot
- 53. Indicates silence
- 55. Protein-rich liquids
- 56. Rhythmic patterns
- 58. Scatter
- 59. Belongs to bottom layer
- 60. Impulsive part of the mind
- 61. Carousel
- 64. Type of degree
- 65. Ornamental molding
- 67. Locks in again
- 69. Sounds the same
- 70. Come into view

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Speak rapidly
- 2. Trauma center
- 3. River in W. Africa
- 4. Ancient Greek district
- 5. Bulgaria’s monetary unit
- 6. Children’s ride
- 7. Absorbed liquid
- 8. Markets term
- 9. Retail term recording sales
- 10. Automaton
- 11. Spanish form of “be”
- 12. Divide
- 13. Malaysian sailing boat
- 15. Writers
- 18. Cool!
- 21. Popular tourist attraction studio
- 24. Sets free
- 26. An enthusiastic devotee of sports
- 27. Unhappy
- 30. Alternate term for Holy Scripture
- 32. Influential French scholar
- 35. What thespians do
- 37. Local area network
- 38. Free from contamination
- 39. Coastal region of Canada
- 42. Sun up in New York
- 43. High schoolers’ exam
- 46. Fathers
- 47. Call it a career
- 49. Suitable for growing crops
- 50. Rose-red variety of spinel
- 52. Orange-brown in color
- 54. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
- 55. Late TNT sportscaster
- 57. A way to wedge
- 59. Cold, dry Swiss wind
- 62. Hockey players need it
- 63. Something highly prized
- 66. Atomic #45
- 68. Top lawyer



Answers for August 19



**waterways**  
from page 1

sel 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 head-rest, 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](http://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 misplaced 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.

**events**  
from page 3

eral Manager Laura Stearns is just happy to be returning to a degree of normalcy.

"At the beginning, all of the weddings that we had at that time were canceled and we refunded their money," she said. "And then as we moved through this pandemic, more and more began to cancel. We've been working with the brides to do whatever we possibly can to help them."

"I'm telling the brides that we'll do whatever we can to work with them or will refund their deposits if it becomes impossible for them to have a wedding," Stearns continued. "That's all I can do is reassure them that we'll work with them."

For the bride who had the small wedding, Stearns said she was just happy to get married and was not fazed by all the restrictions needed.

"Not just this bride, but all the brides ... they seem fine because they know there's nothing we can do. All of them just want to get married," she said.

The Atlantic Hotel has been keeping up with strict cleaning routines, constantly changing gloves and cleaning frequently used items like door-knobs and bathrooms.

Stearns has already received calls and deposits for weddings either later in the year or for 2021.

"We're just of course, hope it will end soon and that we can kind of get back to normal and help these couples have a beautiful wedding," she said. "And like I said, we'll do whatever we can."

## K of C offers seafood events

Each Tuesday through September 1, the Knights of Columbus will hold Seafood Nights. Call 410-524-7994 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday to place your take away order of steamed crabs, steamed shrimp and a number of items. This year only only take-out is offered. Orders can be picked up at 9901 Coastal Highway behind St. Luke's Church.

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

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