

Census deadline is September 30

U.S. Census Bureau workers continue efforts to ensure a complete and correct count in the once-in-a-decade survey, which helps decide federal funding levels for the next 10 years.

Kelly Henry, Worcester County's Complete Count Coordinator, said statistics from the Census are used in the distribution of \$675 billion in federal funding for community services such as education, transportation, and health care.

As of last Monday, all three Ocean Pines districts measured by the Census were above 2010 response levels:

Census Tract 9506 (Western Ocean Pines):

92.3% of occupied units responded and 54% of total housing units responded, compared to 87.3% and 53.8% in 2010

Census Tract 9511.01* (Eastern Ocean Pines 1):

92.1% of occupied units and 63% of total housing units responded, compared to 88.4% and 61% in 2010

Census Tract 9511.02* (Eastern Ocean Pines 2):

92.1% of occupied units and 59.8% of total housing units responded, compared to 88.4% and 61% in 2010

On August 21, the Census Bureau reported that, overall, 73% of housing units had been counted, including 9.7% counted by census takers and other field data collection operations, and 64.2% of housing units responding online, by phone or by mail.

"This is the final stage of data collection for the once-a-decade population count of everyone living in the United States," the Census Bureau said in a statement. "Households can still respond ... online at www.2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by completing and mailing back their paper questionnaire."

As part of its Nonresponse Follow-up Operation, the Census Bureau is visiting every household that has not already responded to the 2020 Census.

Census takers are scheduled to visit nonresponding households through September 30 to ask a few questions and to enter the answers on a secure Census Bureau smart phone. If a family member is not home when the census taker visits, they will leave a notice of their visit with information about how to respond online or by phone.

Census takers will follow social distancing protocols and state and local health and safety requirements.

Locally, Census Bureau efforts are also focused on reaching secondary homeowners.

Henry said more than 60 percent of the homes in Worcester County are considered "vacant" or sec-

please see census page 15



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Bluewater Advisory navigates troubled waters

By **Victor Fernandes**

For two weeks in March, the COVID-19 pandemic took away more than thousands of Mark Debinski's frequent flier miles.

Many of Bluewater Advisory's clients canceled leadership training events, said Debinski, founder and president, because "our business is a luxury for companies to do for employees. That was the first thing to go. There were a couple weeks of uncertainty."

Then Debinski and Lindsey Weigle, his business partner of five years, turned to a potential revenue source the coronavirus didn't affect, one that clients previously clamored for from a decade-old Ocean City business with ties to high-end firms across the nation.

Unlike 2019, when Debinski crisscrossed the United States on roughly 120 flights to "help individuals and businesses work at their highest and best opportunity," the team at Bluewater Advisory has refocused on providing executive coaching through live virtual training that has been well received from new clients seeking to support company executives working remotely from home.

"With COVID, it's just been a huge demand for that type of coaching," Debinski said. "[Companies] give people working from home an unbiased third-party coach and confidant that's needed because people had to adjust to this new normal."

Companies that hire Bluewater Advisory learn how to work seamlessly

Voter registration event planned

Worcester County NAACP and Tyree AME Church will host a Voter's Registration Sign Up on Friday, September 4 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Located at 9004 Trappe Road in Berlin, this event will be held outdoors on the church premises. Remember that in Maryland, if you have been convicted of a felony and have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, you are eligible to vote, but must re-register. Absentee ballot information will also be available.

For questions call NAACP President Ivory Smith at 443-944-6701.

with their colleagues while working alone at home.

"The fact that people are remote, it almost gives people an excuse not to deal with conflict," Debinski said. "We have a leadership development program, and one of the modules is conflict resolution. It really is transformational for folks."

The pivotal shift in Bluewater Advisory's already successful business model began March 13, as Debinski and Weigle waited to board a flight home from Key West, Florida, after another successful client event. The nationwide coronavirus shutdown began the following day, and after taking the next two weeks to accept the sudden and daunting challenge that loomed ahead, Debinski and his team began training business executives - likely 300 in all - through live virtual sessions in less than six months.

"That was really fortuitous," Debinski said. "What we really found is when people are working remotely successful companies want to invest in their team members. So, our coaching business has just skyrocketed this year. They say luck is where preparation meets opportunity. We were lucky enough to identify that this is something our clients are asking us to do."

For the past 10 years, approximately half of Bluewater Advisory's work centered on what Debinski called soft skill training for architects, attorneys, engineers and other professionals seeking secrets to handle issues such as conflict resolution.

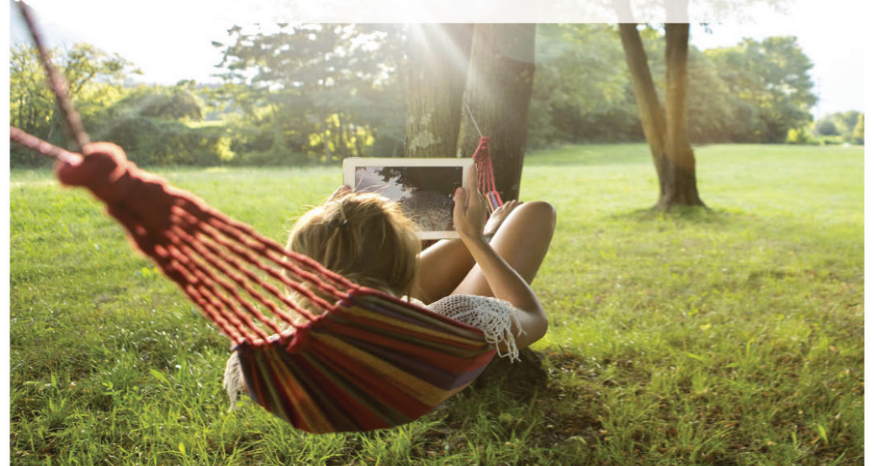
Debinski has built a successful business by providing tools professionals need to take their businesses to the next level through a highly personal approach. "Up until this year, [the work has] been in-person and high-touch," he said. "We charge healthy fees because we pride ourselves on excellence [and] we're in person. I'll fly to California to do a 1-to-1 coaching session. All of that changed overnight. When COVID entered the picture, that basically took that [business approach] away."

Bluewater Advisory transitioned to a virtual platform with an in-person feel that comes when the same quality service clients expect meets a healthy

please see **advisory** on page 14

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Truth: Prenuptial agreements protect children, charities and business partners as much as spouses, particularly with Maryland's new laws effective this October.



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Another OPA worker tests positive for COVID-19

The Ocean Pines Association released last Saturday the following statement 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 six

feet of separation between others, and wearing masks when indoors or when social distancing is not possible.

"The Sports Core Pool closed on

Monday, Aug. 24 for semiannual cleaning and partial draining, and will reopen on Sept. 7. However, the Sports Core offices will remain open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to noon, for class registration. Fall classes at the Sports Core Pool start on Sept. 7.

"Because of staffing shortages, the Beach Club Pool closed on August 22 and will remain closed until this weekend. The Beach Club Pool will reopen on Friday, August 28 and remain open through Labor Day Monday, September 7.

"Pending available staff, Mumford's Landing and Swim & Racquet Club pools will remain open through Labor Day, and the Yacht Club will remain open through Labor Day,

plus weekends in September. Please call the Sports Core office at 410-641-5255 for further pool updates."

GM statement

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola released the following statement last week about a worker's positive COVID-19 test, originally announced last week:

"In follow-up to our prior communication about an Aquatics employee testing positive for COVID, we wanted the community to know that OPA contacted the Worcester County Health Department immediately when it learned of the positive employee test. We will continue to cooperate with, and follow the advice of, these public health officials. In addition to re-

*please see **statement** on page 6*

Maryland deer archery season set to open

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced that archery hunting for white-tailed and sika deer opens statewide September 11, and continues through January 30.

New for the upcoming deer season, archery and muzzleloader hunters may participate in Primitive Deer Hunt Days from February 1-3. During this special season, hunters may use vertical longbows, vertical recurve bows, flintlock, or sidelock percussion muzzleloaders only. Telescopic and electronic aiming devices are prohibited during this hunt. More information on these special hunt days is available in the 2020-2021 Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

For the 2020-21 season, the statewide bag limit for white-tailed bucks is two deer (no more than one per weapon season). Hunters have the option to take one additional bonus buck in Region B (the state's central, southern, and eastern regions including Worcester) after purchasing a Bonus Antlered Deer Stamp.

The antlerless archery deer bag limits differ between deer management regions. In Region A, no more than one antlerless deer may be harvested during the regular archery season. An additional antlerless deer may be harvested in Region A during the Primitive Deer Hunt Days.

In Region B, the antlerless archery limit is 15, except for in the Suburban Deer Management Zone, where the archery antlerless limit is now unlimited. This newly re-established zone

comprises Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties.

An antler-point restriction remains in effect. Deer hunters may harvest one antlered white-tailed deer within the yearly bag limit that does not meet the requirement of having at least three points on one antler. Any additional antlered deer taken within the established bag limit must meet the minimum point restriction. Licensed junior hunters and apprentice license holders, 16 years of age or younger, are exempt from this restriction.

The sika deer archery season bag limit is three with no more than one being antlered. An antlered sika is defined as a deer with at least one antler visible above the hairline. The sika deer archery season is open in every county.

Multiple Sundays are open to archery hunting in most counties, including on some public lands.

"We are excited to expand our archery hunting opportunities this year with the new Primitive Deer Hunt Days and re-established Suburban Deer Management Zone," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "Archery hunting has become increasingly important for effective deer management in Maryland, and is especially needed in urban and suburban areas."

Hunters should carefully inspect all tree-stands and always wear a full-body safety harness while in the stand

*please see **deer** on page 6*

Dog owners often find that having a fenced-in space gives pets an opportunity to run around off-leash and enjoy time outdoors and can make it easier for pets to go out on bathroom breaks. Still, pet owners must recognize that



inquisitive dogs can get into trouble even in seemingly safe yards. One potential danger is ingestion of potentially toxic mushrooms. It is essential for homeowners to check their yards for mushrooms all year long, but especially during wet springs and in the fall. Mushrooms can pop up overnight. Depending on the type of mushroom and the size of the dog, ingesting even a small amount can result in gastrointestinal distress or more dire circumstances, like liver failure. Certain

mushrooms give off a fishy smell and they may entice dogs who are prone to indiscriminate eating. According to the animal care resource Preventative Vet, signs of mushroom toxicity include vomiting, salivating, yellowing of the skin and "whites of eyes," coma, seizures, and loss of balance. Other dogs may experience diarrhea or refuse to eat. Any pet owner who has suspected a dog has eaten wild mushrooms should consult a veterinarian. Early treatment can help and prevent more serious organ damage or death. Pet owners who cannot trust their dogs unattended in the yard should bring their pups out on leashes or keep careful watch on them while they're outdoors

Courier Almanac

On September 2, 1969, America's first automatic teller machine (ATM) made its public debut, dispensing cash to customers at Chemical Bank in Rockville Center, New York. ATMs went on to revolutionize the banking industry, eliminating the need to visit a bank to conduct basic financial transactions. By the 1980s, these money machines had become widely popular and handled many of the functions previously performed by human tellers, such as check deposits and money transfers between accounts. Today, ATMs are as indispensable to most people as cell phones and e-mail.

**The
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First day of school

Admittedly, the start of this school year is like nothing experienced before. Standing alone in classrooms of

pair of black and one pair of brown lace shoes. In and out of the backseat of the old blue Oldsmobile 88 we endured stops at Sears and Korvette's department stores looking for white, maybe pale blue, button-down shirts that were the right size, or close enough, five pairs of pants either gray or navy, and clip-on ties that weren't too

hideous. Eventually we'd pull into the near capacity Woolworth's parking lot at Neshaminy Mall where other mothers too were leading their kids through the doors in search of non-spiral copybooks, pencils, six-inch rulers, jars of paste and the most important purchase of all, the lunchbox.

There was always a crush of people where the lunchboxes were displayed along two or three aisle shelves. This was a time and age when lunchboxes were metal not plastic and the lining inside the Thermos was glass. Looking through the lens of time, unless you lived it, it's hard to truly appreciate the importance attached to making the right lunch box selection. Scooby Doo. Speed Racer. Happy Days. Bugs Bunny. Jose and the Pussycats. Starsky & Hutch. GI Joe. The Munsters. The list goes on.

If mom was in the mood and not too frazzled, and it wasn't too

crowded and a booth was available, she would take us to lunch at the Woolworth's diner for a hot dog and glass of milk, white milk never chocolate. We could order fries but were only allowed to eat them after we finished our hot dogs. We had to eat the fries with a fork. Yes, you read that right. We ate our fries with a fork.

There was a rhythm to the first morning of the first day of school. Our mother would poke her head into our room and with a sunny tone to her voice tell my brother and me to "Rise and shine." Who wants to rise and shine at 6:10 in the morning? Mom would return at 6:12 and with a little less sunny tone tell us to "Rise and shine!" And by 6:15, if we weren't rising and shining, the sunniness of her tone was overtaken by storm clouds and clapping thunder, "RISE AND SHINE!!"

Into our new pants and shirts we slipped. We marched to the dining room where either a bowl of Cream of Wheat or oatmeal awaited. We weren't allowed to add sugar to our bowls so it tasted like, well, Cream of Wheat or oatmeal, without sweetener.

By quarter of seven my brother and I were in the bathroom brushing

our teeth. Our mother was in the doorway ensuring we brushed correctly. If we didn't, she would snatch the brush from our hands and go to work brushing our teeth while firmly holding our chins. She was a hard brusher who could brush white right off rice. Next, she'd run the hair brush under the spigot, getting it just wet enough so she could brush our hair: part down the side and hair brushed to the right.

After the ritual first day photo and mom's kiss on the cheek, my brother and I ran out the front door across the lawn to the bus stop which was up the street. Meeting up with our friends, who also had wet, flattened down hair, we inspected each other's lunch boxes, talked about which teacher we didn't want for homeroom and debated the fine points of baseball card flipping.

It really wasn't a simpler time then. But through the sepia tone memories of a man nearly 45 years removed from that time and place, it's remembered as if it was, especially when his grandchildren will spend their first days of school at the kitchen table participating in Zoom meetings.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

empty desks, teachers will instruct students remotely through the wonders of technology, modems and broadband, where it's available. Bus stop waits, class changes, note passing, locker runs and high school football are, at least for now, on hold. Such a scenario could not have been imagined back when I was going to school. Technology was a retractable pencil and if you were learning remotely you were suspended.

Let's harken back to a simpler America when Richard Nixon was president, Archie Bunker dominated the airwaves and the Chevrolet Vega rusted on showroom floors. Preparing for the new year at St. Albert the Great grade school was a multi-pronged endeavor that involved my mom dragging my brother and me to Buster Brown Shoes and that "Great American Shoe Store" Kinney for one



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WPS welcomes new Head of School



John McDonald

The Board of Trustees of Worcester Preparatory School announced that on July 1, Dr. John McDonald assumed the role as the new Worcester Preparatory Head of School. A leader with a lifelong passion for education and learning, Dr. McDonald comes to Berlin from Ticonderoga, NY, where he most recently served as Superintendent of Schools in the Ticonderoga Central School District. In addition to his notable educational background, leadership

statement
from page 4

porting the positive test to the Health Department, we were able to determine who had close contact with the employee in question and communicated directly with those individuals. No residents were identified as having been in close contact with the employee with a positive test.

"None of the individuals who were in close contact with the employee will return to work until it is safe for them to do so, consistent with protocols established by the Health Department and CDC.

"We understand the public concern about these matters and appreciate the desire by many to know more information. However, we cannot disclose additional information as we are legally obligated to respect the privacy rights of our employees."

deer

from page 4

and while climbing in or out. The department strongly recommends using a sliding knot, commonly known as a prusik knot, attached to a line that is secured above the stand that allows the hunter to be safely tethered to the tree as soon as they leave the ground.

When checking in their deer, hunters should report deer taken with a long, compound, or recurve bow as harvested with a vertical bow. Crossbow hunters should register their deer as taken with a crossbow. This information helps biologists collect information on preferences and trends in how deer are harvested.

Maryland hunters are encouraged to donate any extra deer they may harvest to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry. Last year, the program provided more than 650,000 venison meals to community food banks and other efforts.

qualities, and ability to connect with people, he brings extensive knowledge and experience in almost every facet of education, from independent schools to the public school sector.

Dr. McDonald holds an undergraduate degree from Washington & Lee University, a master's degree from Northeastern University, and a doctorate from Columbia University's Teachers College in Educational Leadership. He began his career at Bayside Academy, an independent school in Alabama with over 700 students, where he taught history and then transitioned to Middle School Head and Assistant Head of School. For the past 19 years, he has served as the Superintendent of an 800-student school district, managing a \$20M budget.

Dr. McDonald and his wife, Andrea, along with their two daughters, relocated from New York to Berlin this summer. His youngest daughter, Anna, will attend WPS this fall and his oldest daughter, Meg, is a student at the University of Delaware.

Meal fundraiser planned

Bethany United Methodist Church will host a Take Away Dinner fundraiser on Saturday, September 12. Between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The meal includes pot roast, mashed potatoes, green beans and a roll for \$15. The church is located at 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway in Berlin. Pre-orders recommended. Call 410-641-2186 to leave a message.

Free COVID-19 testing offered

The Worcester County Health Department is continuing to offer COVID-19 testing from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at the West Ocean City Park and Ride (12940 Inlet Isle Ln, Ocean City). Testing is also available for Worcester County residents from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Pocomoke Health Department (400 Walnut St, Pocomoke City) in partnership with Atlantic General Hospital.

Simple ways to stop the spread of COVID-19 include washing your hands often and practicing social distancing staying at least six feet away from others. Avoid crowds and stay home except for essential travel, for example, to the doctor or grocery store. If you do have to go out, cover your mouth and nose with a face covering.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include: fever, coughing, shortness of breath,

Free virtual health event planned

Atlantic General Hospital, in partnership with Susan G. Komen Maryland, Sussex & Kent Counties in Delaware, will offer a free virtual health event on September 10.

The two-hour "Hope in Bloom" event will address early detection, treatment and survivorship with area experts. Manoj Jain, M.D., Radiation Oncologist from Atlantic General Hospital's Burbage Regional Cancer Care Center will be presenting on the latest in breast cancer treatment. Our keynote speaker will be Dawn Denton, R.N., who will share her experience of hope, health, and survivorship. Also speaking will be Katie Busacca, licensed and registered dietitian at Atlantic General and the Regional Cancer Care Center, who will discuss breast health and nutrition.

Advance registration is required by September 9. Please call 410-641-9268 or email gblake@atlanticgeneral.org to register.

loss of smell/taste and, in more severe cases, pneumonia (infection in the lungs)

Appointments are strongly encouraged. To schedule a testing appointment, please call 410-632-1100 option 8, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Virtual Maryland Safe Boating Course offered

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will offer the Maryland Safe Boating course which you can take it online from the comfort of your home. This is an interactive class taught by certified instructions with student participation. The three-evening course will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Classes will be offered September 22, 23 and 24, October 20, 21 and 22 and November 17, 18, & 19

All mandated material and information on local waters will be included. Time is provided for questions and discussions. Everyone is welcome.

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

A fee of \$20.00 covers the cost of the course and materials.

Checks should be made payable to: "USGCAUX 12-05 and mailed to: USGCAUX 12-05, PO Box 1682, Berlin, MD 21811

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Massey honored for 17 years of service

By **Josh Davis**

Ocean Pines Association and local and state officials on Thursday honored former Police Chief David Massey during a retirement luncheon at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse.

Attendees included Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola, Association President Larry Perrone, former General Manager Dave Ferguson, County Commissioner Chip Bertino, and Maryland Sen. Mary Beth Carozza.

Massey officially retired on Aug. 1 after serving the local community for nearly five decades, including 17 as Ocean Pines Chief of Police. New Police Chief Leo Ehirsman succeeded him.

Viola said three words come to mind when thinking about Massey: appreciation, respect and admiration.

"I am a homeowner here in Ocean Pines ... I know what the chief has done for this Association, as well as the team he's put together," he said.

Viola said Massey showed him respect as a new general manager, even as Massey was preparing for retirement. As for admiration, Viola said the former chief built up the Ocean Pines Police Department, and then took it to the next level.

"He had a terrific career," Viola said.

Perrone joked that he questioned the timing of Massey's retirement, which just so happened to coincide with the opening of an expanded and modernized police headquarters.

"You pushed us all these years to get you a new building, and you can't even move into the chief's office!" Perrone said with a laugh.

Perrone said another word also came to mind when he thought about Massey: professionalism.

"You're the epitome of professionalism for a police officer, and Ocean Pines has been very blessed to have you here for the last 17 years," he said.

Ferguson said he came on as general manager in 1999, when Rod Murray was the chief of police.

"[Murray] was well qualified and really an excellent chief of police, however, the department suffered from poor pay ... [and] huge turnover," Ferguson said. "The biggest issue was that the police officers were 'special police' with very limited police powers."

Ferguson said Murray helped to recruit Massey as his successor, and that Massey fought for better pay, improved morale, and to help certify Ocean Pines Police and put them on par with the municipal departments in Worcester County.

He said Massey focused on community policing, and he helped the department to gain respect and attract better officers.

Ferguson said he's managed communities for 42 years, including three decades as a city manager in New Jersey. He's worked with 10 different police chiefs during that span.

"I can tell you without any doubt, Dave was the best I've ever worked with. He's not only the best in this

area, I think he's one of the best nationwide," Ferguson said. "I truly enjoyed working with you."

Bertino agreed that appreciation, respect, admiration and professionalism summed up the former police chief's career well, but added he was thankful for Massey's service for another, more personal reason.

"During the time that you were chief, I never got a traffic ticket," he said with a laugh.

Bertino credited Massey with helping to make Ocean Pines one of the safest communities in Maryland, if not in the entire United States. He presented Massey with a commendation, on behalf of the Worcester County Commissioners.

Carozza said she benefited from Massey's service both as an Ocean City resident and an Ocean Pines property owner.

"Ocean City was always safe, [because] you made a commitment about keeping crime down," she said.

She said Massey rose through the ranks in Ocean City to eventually become police chief there, and she lauded his consistent focus on "keeping the community safe, of keeping crime down, of involving people."

Carozza said Massey also did well in building a formidable team around him.

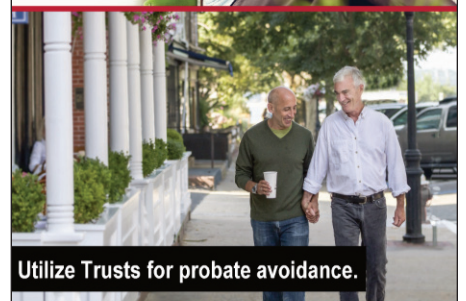
"He has standards. He expects his team to reach those standards. And, if they don't, he's not going to tolerate it.

please see massey page 14

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PRHS prohibits gaiters, bandanas as approved face coverings

As the Peninsula Regional Health System continues to refine its limited visitation policy, it announced last week that neck gaiters and bandanas will no longer be allowed as face coverings by patients, visitors, staff and the limited number of contractors allowed access at Peninsula Regional Medical Center (PRMC), Nanticoke Memorial Hospital and all offsite medical office locations and labs.

Recent research has found that certain cloth face coverings, like neck gaiters and bandanas, have been found to be less effective in containment of the droplets from person to person.

Patients scheduled for procedures/testing/appointments and approved visitors and contractors are encouraged to bring and wear their own surgical or cloth mask to gain access to all Peninsula Regional Health System locations. Approved masks must be worn for the duration of the stay. Those who refuse to wear a cloth or surgical mask or remove them once past the screening point will be asked to exit the facility.

The Peninsula Regional Health System reminds designated individuals approved for visitation at PRMC and Nanticoke Memorial that the following procedures must be followed in each hospital:

- Only one designated visitor per pa-

tient for the duration of the patient's stay.

- The designated visitor must wear a facemask at all times covering both their nose and mouth. Neck gaiters and bandanas are not permitted. Failure to comply will result in a loss of visitation.

- People who are unable to wear a mask should not be the designated visitor.

- All designated visitors must show identification.

- All designated visitors will be screened for fever and other COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who is feeling feverish or ill should not visit and will not be allowed access to the floor if they are found to have a fever or symptoms.

- Limited Visiting Hours are Monday through Friday from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Support people or visitors accompanying patients in the Emergency Department who are later admitted to a medical floor must follow regular limited visitation practices once the patient leaves the Emergency Department and is admitted.

The Peninsula Regional Health System again thanks everyone for their help in the fight to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at their facilities and in the surrounding communities.



The Ocean Pines Chamber Presents

Our 2nd Annual Corn Hole Tournament

\$50 per team

Check in at 11am, bags fly at Noon

Register at OceanPinesChamber.org

Compliant alcohol, tobacco retailers recognized

The Worcester County Health Department (WCHD) is hosting a Virtual Recognition Event for alcohol and tobacco licensees that passed compliance checks conducted by local law enforcement during Fiscal Year 2020. In previous years this recognition has been done at a celebration Breakfast, but at this particular time, with the concern surrounding coronavirus and subsequent social distancing requirements, WCHD has changed the nature of the recognition to a Virtual Event using Facebook Live.

The Virtual Recognition Event will take place on Monday, September 14, at the Worcester County Health Department. It will start at 10 a.m. Officials from Worcester Health and other community partners will officially recognize the 143 Worcester County alcohol licensees and 31 tobacco retailers for a job well done while reinforcing the benefit to the community, and visitors to the community, of responsible beverage service. Not all 300+ alcohol and 142 tobacco licensees received compliance checks during Fiscal Year 2020.

"We think taking our traditional Alcohol and Tobacco Licensee Recognition event online is the best step right now with COVID-19," said Mimi Dean, Director of Prevention for WCHD. "Turning this virtual with Facebook Live will allow us to reach an even larger audience than in the past and will be a convenient and safer option for viewers."

For more information on the event visit WorcesterHealth.org. To watch the Virtual Recognition live follow the Worcester County Health Department on Facebook @WorcesterHealth.

Center seeks art, recipes sought

In an effort to keep the creativity flowing during uncertain times, the Art League of Ocean City is publishing a hardcover book in autumn 2020 that will pair the visual and culinary arts and is seeking participation from the community and beyond.

The book featuring the visual and culinary arts will be professionally printed, with full color pages throughout and a bound hard cover, suitable for gift giving. The Art League will offer the book for sale in their gift shop at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, online on their website, at upcoming local events, and at select local bookstores.

The Art League is offering two facing pages in the book, pairing a recipe with a piece of original art, for a sponsorship fee of \$60. Participants will also receive a copy of the printed book and the opportunity to exhibit the featured art during December at the Arts Center.

"During these times, many of us are creating beautiful pieces of art and cooking favorite family recipes,"

Aubrey Sizemore, Art League volunteer coordinator, said. "We thought publishing a book featuring some of these marvelous creations would be a fun way to share with each other and also a means of support for the Art League."

Participants are asked to share original recipes from their own kitchens, provide a few words of the story behind the recipe, and include a piece of art that will be printed in full color on the page opposite the recipe. The art may be in any media, but vertical images are suggested as they will work best in the vertical book format.

"If someone would like to sponsor a page and submit a recipe, but is not an artist, we can pair you with an artist to illustrate your recipe," Sizemore continued. "If anyone is eager to participate in this project, we can help you make it happen."

For questions or more information, contact Sizemore at aubrey@artleagueofoceancity.org or 410-524-9433.



Community Expo

Saturday, September 12, 2020

9am - Noon

White Horse Park in OceanPines

FREE to attend

Over 50 local exhibitors

Flow easily between our expo and the OP Farmers Market.

Health care, HVAC, home improvement, elected officials, insurance, financial assistance and planning, plumbing, non profits, realtors, home health, education, contractors, and so many more!

RAIN DATE: Saturday, September 19, 2020.

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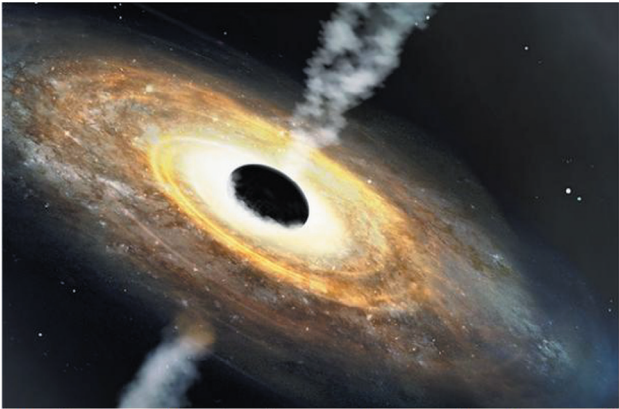
Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Massive quasar puzzles astronomers

In June 2020, astronomers at the University of Arizona announced the discovery of a quasar which is notable for its massive size, at 1.5 billion solar masses, and for its era, only 700 million years after the Big Bang. The new quasar was originally detected by the Blanco telescope in Chile. It was later confirmed by telescopes at Mauna Kea in Hawaii, including the Gemini North and Keck observatories, and the United Kingdom Infrared Telescope.



Artist's depiction of newly-found Quasar "Poniua'ena."

This massive new quasar is formally called "J1007+2115," and has been named "Poniua'ena." after a special Hawaiian deity. The name translates as "unseen spinning source of creation, surrounded with brilliance."

The mystery facing astronomers is how such a massive quasar as Poniua'ena could form "in the blink of an eye" cosmically speaking, just 300 million years after the first stars. Some have called it an inconceivably ancient cosmic object. The University of Arizona announcement pointed to this aspect, saying: "the light from Poniua'ena took 13.02 billion years to reach Earth, starting its journey just 700 million years after the Big Bang."

Quasars are located in active galaxies which contain an enormous black hole at their core. The high temperature material swirling into the black hole releases enormous streams of energy, creating the quasar's "beacon," that can be detected across vast distances of space. But super-massive quasars like the one just found are generally located only in mature galaxies.

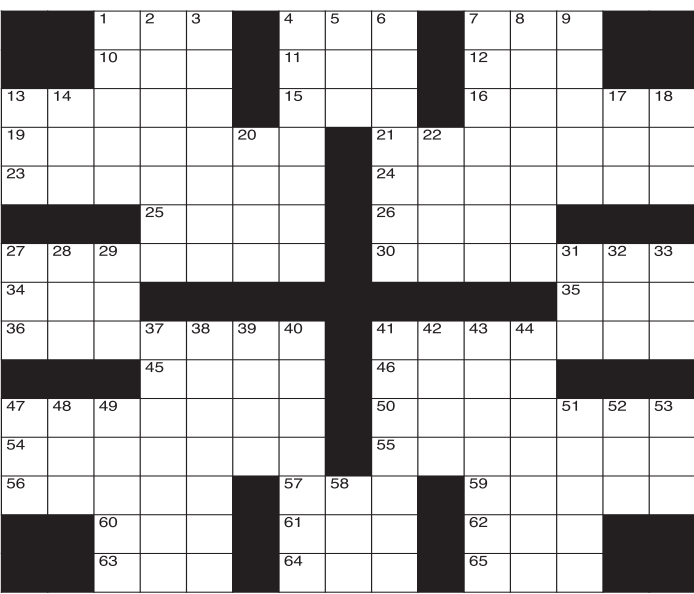
"How can the universe produce such a massive black hole so early in its history?" asks Xiaohui Fan, astron-

omy professor at the University of Arizona. This question is the biggest challenge facing theorists studying the early universe.

Looking back at conditions when the Big Bang took place, about 13.7 billion years ago, there were no stars or galaxies, and not even any atoms. With the passing of time, the initially very hot "brew" began to cool – then the first atoms could condense, and after longer elapsed time, the stars and galaxies were formed. The very first stars are believed to have formed about 400 million years after the Big Bang.

In standard astronomy theory, super-massive black holes form by accreting matter over several hundreds of millions of years to grow their extraordinary size. So, it is puzzling how such an object can exist so early in the universe's history because there does not appear to be enough time for it to grow.

Astronomy fans generally know, when looking at features of the night skies, they're observing light emitted in the past. Thus, it may seem amazing to realize that the recent observations of Poniua'ena represent images from 13 billion years earlier. The newly discovered quasar is the second



CLUES ACROSS

1. Chop with an ax

4. Where a bachelor lives

7. Indicates near

10. Doctors' group

11. It's just a number

12. Type of bread

13. Lively ballroom dance

15. Charles S. Dutton TV series

16. A way to use up

19. Singular event

21. Home of Disney World

23. Minerals

24. Most insightful

25. Consult

26. In addition

27. Agents of downfall

30. Organizations

34. Supervises flying

35. Bar bill
36. Alfalfa

41. Dish soap

45. Witnesses

46. Ancient Greek City

47. Newspaper bigwigs

50. Discuss again

54. Small group with shared interests

55. Support

56. Popular sportcoat fabric

57. Take hold of

59. Pre-Mayan civilization

60. Woman (French)

61. Wheeled vehicle

62. Georgia rockers

63. Cold War player (abbr.)

64. Pitching stat

65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Czech monetary unit

2. Arousing intense feeling

3. Elks

4. Muscular weaknesses

5. Before the present

6. Figures out

7. Infinite

8. A low wall

9. Silly

13. Political organization

14. Used of a number or amount not specified

17. Divisions of the psyche

18. Denial

20. Ancient Iranian person

22. Count on

27. Popular sports league

28. Water (French)

29. Partner to cheese
31. When you hope to get there

32. Angry

33. One point east of due south

37. Respects

38. Organize anew

39. French wine grape

40. Intrinsic nature of something

41. Neural structures

42. Brews

43. Where ships take on cargo

44. Holiday season singer

47. Shock treatment

48. Popular average

49. Products

51. A type of bear

52. Utilize

53. Old world, new

58. Swiss river



Answers for August 26

space
from page 10

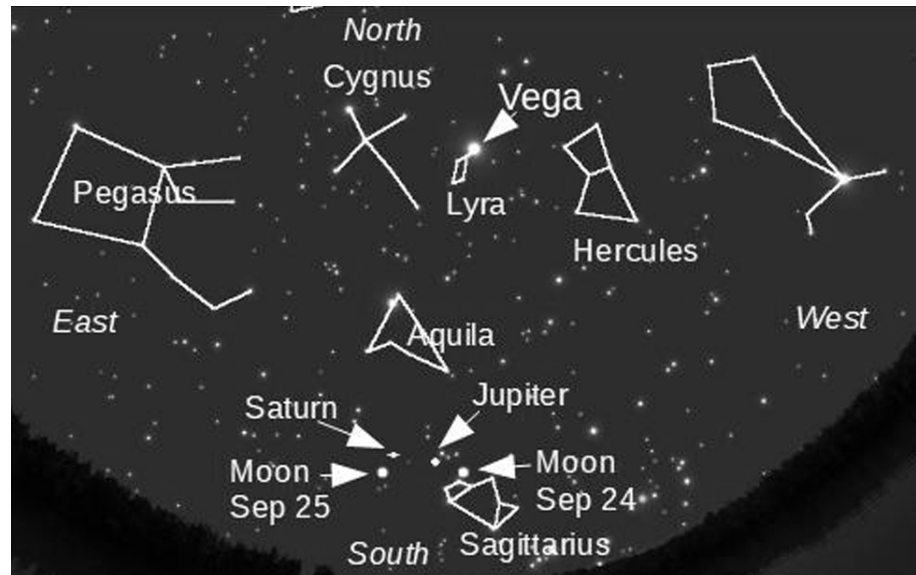
farthest ever detected, and it is about double the size of any from that same era.

Astronomers attempting to model the early development of the cosmos now have an important new challenge in explaining this unexpectedly massive quasar.

Recent news from NASA includes the successful return of U.S. astronauts from the International Space Station. On August 2 the SpaceX capsule *Dragon* splashed down and the crew Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley were retrieved offshore from Pensacola, FL.

On July 30, the Mars rover Perseverance was successfully launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida and is expected to arrive at the red planet in February, 2021.

If you live in Ocean Pines, be sure to contact The Courier if you want the paper each week in your driveway. Call 410-629-5906



The full celestial vista appears after about 8:30 p.m., as the constellation Cygnus the Swan (the Northern Cross), appears almost directly overhead. To the west of Cygnus, one can see the bright star Vega.

Hercules the Hero is "high flying", and one might imagine it as a smaller and fainter "cousin" of the famous wintertime constellation, Orion the Hunter. Hercules can be seen in the northern part of the sky, to the west of Vega.

Near the southern horizon, Sagittarius, the Archer (teapot shape) appears.

The Great Square of Pegasus comes into view in the eastern sky after 9:30 p.m.

To the east of Sagittarius, one can see the planets Jupiter and Saturn. On September 24 and 25 the Moon "does a dance" with those two bright planets. On the 24th, the moon is 5 degrees west-southwest of Jupiter, and on the 25th, it is 3.6 degrees south-southeast of Saturn.

Wishing clear skies and good luck to all stargazers.

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day		High /Low	Tide Time
Th	3	Low	3:12 AM
	3	High	9:22 AM
	3	Low	3:18 PM
	3	High	9:45 PM
F	4	Low	3:46 AM
	4	High	10:02 AM
	4	Low	3:57 PM
	4	High	10:23 PM
Sa	5	Low	4:20 AM
	5	High	10:41 AM
	5	Low	4:38 PM
	5	High	11:01 PM
Su	6	Low	4:55 AM
	6	High	11:20 AM
	6	Low	5:21 PM
	6	High	11:39 PM
M	7	Low	5:33 AM
	7	High	12:01 PM
	7	Low	6:07 PM
Tu	8	High	12:19 AM
	8	Low	6:13 AM
	8	High	12:45 PM
	8	Low	6:56 PM
W	9	High	1:03 AM
	9	Low	6:58 AM
	9	High	1:34 PM
	9	Low	7:50 PM

Fall is in the air

IN OCEAN PINES, MARYLAND!



TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS

Tue Sep 8-Oct 27
9:30-10:30am
White Horse Park Pavilion
\$65 OP residents | \$81 public

This program is geared toward people with arthritis or other joint issues to provide greater flexibility and strength in the joints and to increase balance to reduce falls. The practices are upright, slow and continuous movements. Spaces are limited - call 410-641-7052 to register.

YOUTH SOCCER AT SOMERSET PARK

Happy Cleats
Age 2: Tue Sep 8-Oct 13
Age 3: Thu Sep 10-Oct 15
5:15-5:45pm
\$40 OP residents | \$50 public

Pee Wee
Ages 4-5: Tue Sep 8-Oct 13
Ages 6-8 Thu Sep 10-Oct 15
6-6:45pm
\$45 OP residents | \$55 public

Call 410-641-7052 to register.

FALL T-BALL

Tue Sep 15-Oct 6
5:15-6pm
Manklin Meadows
\$25 OP residents | \$35 public

For ages 4-6. Modified to meet CDC guidelines. Bring a glove - balls and bats will be provided! Call 410-641-7052 to register.

KIDS' AQUA TRAMPOLINES

Tue/Thu Sep 15-Oct 8
1-1:30pm OR 4:30-5pm
Sports Core Pool
\$25 swim members
\$30 OP residents | \$40 public

For ages 7+. Must be able to swim. Spaces are limited - call 410-641-5255 to register.

TOTAL BODY FITNESS AT THE SPORTS CORE POOL

Mon/Wed/Fri Sep 7-Oct 16
10-10:35am
\$70 swim members
\$82 OP residents | \$102 public

OR
Tue/Thu Sep 8-Oct 15
9-9:35am
\$47 swim members
\$54 OP residents | \$68 public

This full-body workout includes a combination of cardio, kickboxing, dance and Tabata. We'll focus on building lean muscles while burning calories! Call 410-641-5255 to register.

PLUS....
Ocean Pines outdoor pools* & Beach Club open through Labor Day!

*The Yacht Club Pool will also be open weekends Sept. 12-27 (pending available staff).

Visit us at oceanpines.org!

Guidelines when adopting a shelter dog

If there has been a silver lining to 2020 and the upheaval caused by COVID-19, it's that more people have found they have more time on their hands to care for a new pet.

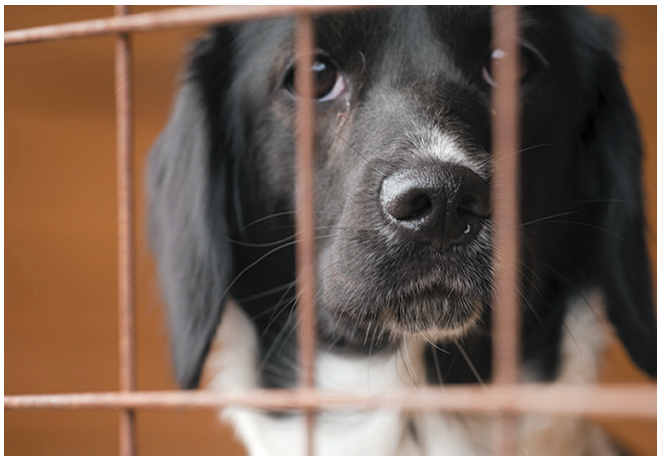
"Adopt don't shop" is a mantra popular among many pet lovers. It calls to mind that there are thousands of dogs currently residing in shelters that are in need of good homes. Supporters of "adopt don't shop" urge people in the market for new pets to adopt animals from local shelters rather than buy them from breeders.

The Humane Society of the United States says that there were approximately 10,000 puppy mills operating in the United States in 2019. Prospective pet owners who want to do their part against animal cruelty can adopt a needy pet from an area shelter. Some shelters are filled with pets from the local area. Other shelters work with rescue groups that transport dogs from various parts of the country. When adopting a shelter dog, keep these tips in mind.

Understand the responsibility first. Dogs make wonderful, boisterous and loving additions to a home. Much like having a child, welcoming a puppy into a home means spending weeks or months training the animal. This may result in initial damage to belongings and time constraints on people's schedules. Older dogs may be set in their ways

and also require training, or they may have special medical needs. Be sure to weigh all of the requirements carefully before adopting the animal.

Get a behavioral and health assessment. The Humane Society of Ocean City indicates that an established shelter that prides itself on animal rescue



will provide health and behavioral assessments for all dogs. Personality, energy level, shyness, and aggression levels will be determined before putting the dog up for adoption. This helps people find a dog that meshes with their expectations and lifestyles.

Match the household. Consider the household's lifestyle and pace pre-pandemic to see if it is conducive to having a pet. While there may be plenty of time now when people are working remotely and children are not attending in-person classes, things may change in the months to come as life returns to normal. Can a dog still fit in when responsibilities change? Can you modify to accommodate the dog?

Look at the shelter itself. Make sure you adopt from a shelter that is clean, friendly and organized and has follow-up resources. Reliable shelters typically conduct interviews of prospective pet owners and will ask for references. Be leery of rescues or shelters that are dirty, do not ask pertinent questions and seem to have dogs that appear unwell.

Expect a fee. Shelters and rescue groups vary in regard to adoption costs. Anything from \$150 to \$400 may be collected. Keep in mind that 25 to 30 percent of dogs in shelters are purebreds, according to a report by CBS News. Adoption fees can be a small price to pay for a loving dog.

Adopting a shelter dog can be a great way to welcome a new pet into a home.

Home access diabetes program offered

Small changes often lead to major results and the Worcester County Health Department's Lifestyle Balance: Diabetes Prevention Program aims to help residents eat healthy, be active and lower their risk for type 2 diabetes with easy-to-follow tips and tools.

If you have been diagnosed with prediabetes or have a history of gestational diabetes, this program is proven to help you improve your eating habits, increase your daily activity, lose weight and reduce your chance of developing type 2 diabetes. On average, participants lose between five to seven percent of their body weight.

The Lifestyle Balance- Diabetes Prevention Program will allow you to learn about healthy eating, exercise, and weight loss all from the comfort of your own home. It is a yearlong, group program beginning September 21 and running through September 23, 2021. Class times are Mondays 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Thursdays 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. You will participate in 16 weekly sessions followed by once month support sessions for the re-

mainder of one year.

When enrolled in this great program, you will receive one-on-one support from a certified wellness coach, learn about healthy eating and active living, lose weight, earn weekly prizes, improve health, and participate in weekly chats with others to help encourage them during their healthy lifestyle journey!

"Residents in our county have the power to prevent diabetes." We are excited to continue to provide the Diabetes Prevention Program in our county in a distant learning online format. Research has proven that healthy eating, physical activity, and weight loss can prevent type 2 diabetes in those with prediabetes or those who are 'at risk' for the disease," said Mimi Dean, Director of Prevention Services at the Worcester County Health Department.

Please call 410-632-1100 ext.1108 or email crystal.bell1@maryland.gov to discuss program enrollment, eligibility, and to request a registration packet. Space is limited; pre-registration by September 18 is encouraged.

Annual fall golf tournament scheduled

The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation announced that the 2020 Robert E. Warfield Memorial Tournament to benefit Atlantic General Hospital will be held on Thursday, September 24, rain or shine, at Ocean City Golf Club.

Event coordinators anticipate holding a fantastic event albeit with a few modifications this year due to the current global pandemic. The health and safety of participants and staff are at the forefront of logistics planning. Player check-in, giveaways distribution, and dining will be adjusted to reduce touchpoints and accommodate social distancing guidelines.

For local golfers this tournament has become an annual tradition, with last year's event raising \$90,000 to expand health care services and programs for our community through our local hospital. This year's format will be scramble with all golfers playing nine holes on each course, Newport Bay and Seaside. Check-in begins at 10 a.m. with a noon shotgun start. Player entry fee includes cart and greens fees, lunch provided by Taste Events and

dinner provided by Boxcar40, as well as snacks and beverages/cocktails on the course. Deluxe giveaways, tournament awards, and team photograph are also included. Additional excitement includes a variety of on-the-course challenges with fabulous prizes and Harborside's famous orange crush bar.

Team reservations can be submitted online or by texting WARFIELD to 41444 and must be received by September 17. Space is limited and earliest entries are accommodated first. Non-golfers can join in the fun by purchasing raffle tickets for the "Big Bucks" cash raffle or reserving golf balls for the new "Drop Zone" helicopter golf ball drop that will take place at the conclusion of the tournament. Numbered golf balls will be dropped from a helicopter over the driving range with the ball closest to the target winning a cash prize. The raffle ticket and ball drop sales are open to the public and winners need not be present. Purchase raffle tickets by texting AGHRAFFLE to 41444 and reserve golf balls by texting DROPZONE to 41444.

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Arts center announces September exhibits

September's art shows at the Ocean City Center for the Arts will be a combination of online and in-person exhibits. On First Friday, September 4, the Art League of Ocean City will premiere an online video with a preview of the gallery shows on their Facebook Live page and at www.ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org.

In addition, the physical galleries at the Arts Center will be open with extended hours to 7 p.m. The Arts Center will limit in-person access to the galleries to social distancing capacity, and attendees must wear face coverings to enter. Admission is free and open to the public.

"While this is not going to be our normal First Friday party reception with food and drink, we are hoping a small gathering of art lovers will inspire creativity and be a bit of fun, something we all could use a dose of right now," Rina Thaler, executive director of the Art League, said.

The Thaler Gallery hosts a group show entitled "Patterns," an all-media show with works in 2D and 3D created by local and regional artists. Christopher Harrington, chair of the Department of Fine Arts at UMES, will judge the show and award cash prizes.

The best work from the "Artists Paint OC" plein air event will continue on display in the Galleria through September. "This is one more opportunity to see the wonderful paintings created by our plein air artists in August, and also to take home a masterpiece for your own home or business," Thaler continued.

Carol Rydel of Fenwick Island exhibits her mosaic work in Studio E in September. For her featured "52 Leaves" series, she created a leaf-themed mosaic

every week for a year, using a unique color palette and materials for each season, and was inspired by the shape, colors, and textures of different leaves. Studio E will showcase all 52 works that will be sold individually.

Helen Smith of Berlin occupies the Spotlight Gallery with her "Pattern in Art and Nature" work, connecting to the Patterns show in the Thaler Gallery. Her paintings and photographs repeat and communicate a sense of balance, harmony, contrast, rhythm, and movement. She uses pattern to organize her artwork and stimulate an emotional response from the viewer.

Nancy Jarvis of Ocean Pines is the artisan for September. She creates visual pictures in 2D and 3D collage using vintage costume jewelry, and also creates seascapes under glass domes, mah jongg necklaces, and items made from seashells.

The exhibits will on display in the galleries of the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St. through September 26.

More information is available at 410-524-9433.

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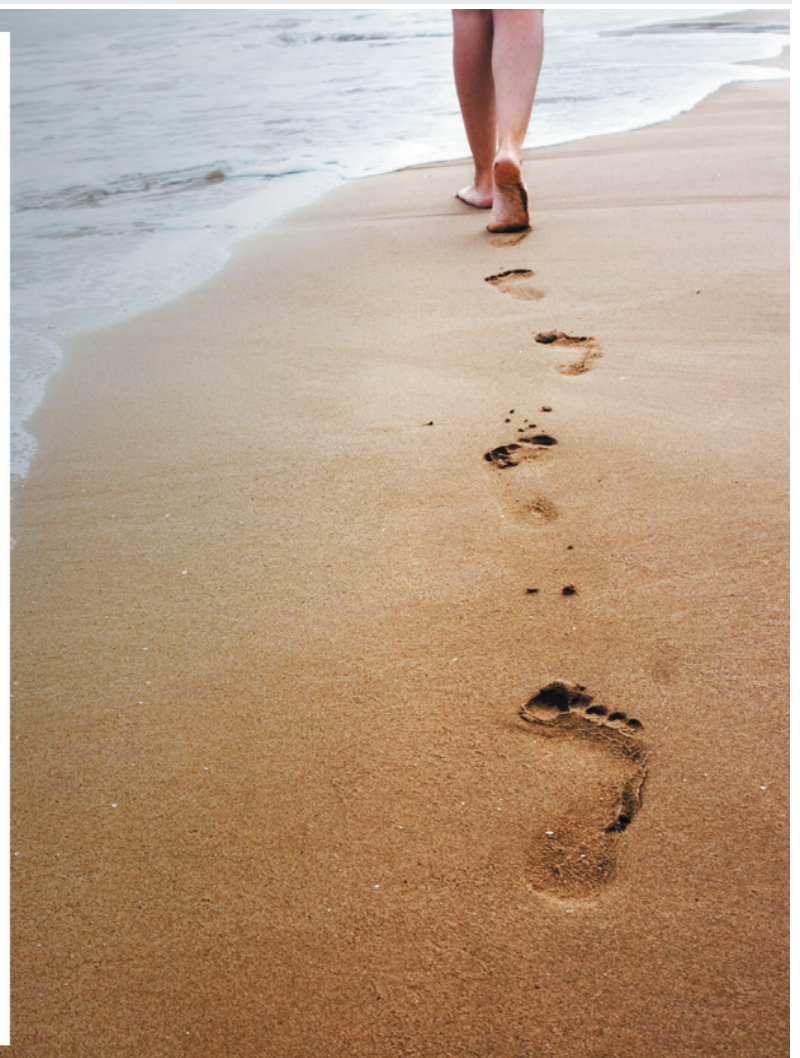
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The benefits of a new approach to learning for students

The validity of the adage “necessity is the mother of invention” was on full display during the COVID-19 outbreak. People quickly had to learn to adapt to a new way of life, including an educational system that was transformed dramatically by social distancing guidelines.

More than 76 million students are enrolled in United States schools, per the latest Census Bureau information. In a matter of days, millions of students who once attended classes in-person were forced to transition to virtual learning instruction. The process showed just how flexible learning systems can be, and how virtual instruction may become more than an emergency protocol in the future.

Schools utilized systems like Google Classroom, Canvas and virtual meeting apps to connect and learn. While in-class lessons provide the socialization and one-on-one interaction that can be vital for students’ academic success, there are many different reasons why virtual instruction can be a key component of learning models as well. When virtual learning is used in conjunction with traditional teaching, students may have a more well-rounded experience. Here are some potential benefits that may unfold as more data is collected.

Pace. Virtual learning affords students the chance to work on lessons at a pace that fits their individual needs. Students can go back and re-read or re-work prob-

lems until they’re satisfied that they have learned their lesson. Lessons can be slowed down or sped up depending on proficiency, creating a customized educational experience.

No more weather days. Many school districts include snow or extreme weather days into their calendars, adding on extra days at the end of school year to meet the specified number of educational days. Remote learning can take over in these times

How to manage low bandwidth during remote learning sessions

In the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, many schools hastily transitioned from traditional in-person learning to remote learning. This transition posed new and unique challenges to educators as well as students and their parents.

One of the biggest challenges posed by remote learning was keeping students connected to their teachers and their classmates, not all of whom had readily available access to devices that could facilitate such connections. In recognition of that challenge, school systems worked to procure devices for students only to be confronted by another challenge: low bandwidth. According to Microsoft, bandwidth refers to the amount of data that can be transferred over an internet connection per second.

Low bandwidth can compromise

and keep school districts from having to pad calendars.

Convenience: The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that middle and high schools start at 8:30 a.m. or later to provide students the best chance to get the amount of sleep they need. Still, most adolescents currently start school before 8:30 a.m. Remote learning enables students to complete their assignments when it works best for them. This may help them get more

students’ ability to stay connected to their virtual classrooms. In an effort to help students overcome that challenge, Microsoft offers the following tips on how educators, students and parents can manage low bandwidth during remote learning sessions.

Reduce reliance on video during class sessions. Turning video cameras off during live class sessions can help to overcome the challenges posed by low bandwidth, as live video is a key contributor to excessive use of bandwidth. If video must be used, encourage students to turn off their cameras when they are not speaking.

Use pre-recorded content. Pre-recording content enables students to stream video over the internet, saving those with low bandwidth the hassle of downloading large video files to their computers. Microsoft recommends ed-

sleep, too.

Apps: Learning apps are a new wave of educational tools that have helped buoy virtual instruction. Primary school students or those with individual education plans may benefit the most from reinforced app skills that match their learning pace in fun ways.

Virtual home instruction may become a large part of the educational landscape even after it’s no longer a social distancing necessity.

ucators who pre-record content for their students to stream to instruct those students to use class time to complete assignments. Educators can make themselves available via chat to answer questions students may have about their assignments.

Avoid video-based assignments. It can be difficult for students with low bandwidth to send very large files, such as videos. Educators can help students avoid that issue by not requiring them to submit videos as part of their assignments.

Encourage students to sync files to their devices. Each device is different and each manufacturer has its own instructions on how to sync files to devices. But Microsoft notes that syncing files to a device allows students to read them offline, which is ideal for students with limited internet connectivity.

massey
from page 7

That, ladies and gentlemen, is real leadership,” she said.

“We really need to honor this today, especially in light of what our law enforcement family is going through,” she continued. “To take time now to recognize a lifetime of commitment to public safety service is so important.”

Carozza presented Massey with a proclamation on behalf of the Maryland State Senate, as well as a resolution from Gov. Larry Hogan.

Massey thanked everyone for attending, but especially took the time to recognize his family.

“It’s not easy to have a police officer as a father,” he said. “My kids grew up [as] the cop’s daughter, the police officer’s daughter ... and we sacrifice so much, being a police officer.”

Massey said he remembers having to spend 11 weeks at the FBI National Academy when his wife had a difficult pregnancy with their first daughter, Erin.

He recalled another time when he

was the patrol captain in Ocean City, and a metro transit bus ran over and killed a 7-year-old boy.

“I brought that home with me. And, as I pulled into the driveway, my 7-year-old daughter, Jill, came up on her bicycle and said, ‘Look at me, daddy – first day without training wheels!’ These kind of things stay with you, your whole life – you’ll never forget them. And that night, I cried like a baby because it was so traumatic,” he said.

Massey said many police officers experience similar hardships.

“Their divorce rate is higher than everyone else’s because of the things you see – the deaths, the domestic violence, the things you can’t always tell your wife about,” he said. “But, there’s so many good things that also come with this career.”

In Ocean Pines, for example, Massey said residents will take the time to wave and say hello to police.

“I can’t tell you, with a lot of the national controversy, how many people have come up to me and said, ‘We sup-

port you. We know you have a tough job. We’re there for you,’” he said.

Massey admitted there were certainly “a few bad police officers out of the 600,000 that are on the street today, protecting us.”

“I’ve never defended a bad police officer – I’ve had to fire a few in my career, because that’s my job and that’s my community,” he said. “If they shoot somebody unnecessarily, lock ‘em up, charge ‘em, fire ‘em. That’s the way it is.”

However, Massey said he’s worked with thousands of good police officers.

“They’re your sons and daughters. They’re good people. And, to be a police officer today, is a challenge,” he said.

Massey said he has a “five-decade view” of police, “And today’s police officer is better educated, better trained and better equipped than when I started.”

“I’ve never fired my gun. I’ve always treated people with dignity and respect and I always will, because that’s our job,” he said. “There are times when we deal with people who do not like us ... but we must endure. We must continue to do

our job. And it’s hard ... not to take that home.”

Massey said his whole family believes in public service. One grandfather fought for the British Army and the other fought for the United States in World War I. His father was an infantry sergeant at Omaha Beach and his mother served in the British Army during World War II.

“My daughter is a nurse that gives everything to her community. I’m so proud of her,” he said. “My wife, Donna, who came to me when I was down and brought me back ... was a schoolteacher who dedicated her life.

“They’re heroes, just like police officers. They’ve given everything in their lives to their profession,” Massey added.

He closed by also thanking Ocean Pines staff and leadership.

“We have a wonderful general manager. We have the best Board of Directors I’ve ever had. We have such wonderful department heads. It’s a tremendous team,” he said.

To view video of the ceremony, visit https://youtu.be/Wo6_9eiqgjo.

advisory
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investment in production. Debinski turned a recently finished upper level in his home into a studio. Weigle did the same in the basement of her home. Backgrounds in their respective studios are nearly identical enough that clients, Debinski said, "think we're working in the same office. Not that we're trying to fool them. We're trying to give them a consistent look."

They also have purchased lighting equipment and microphones, and licenses to top social conferencing platforms. "We stand at our desk

instead of sit so we are on point," he said. "We've gone to the same level of detail that we do when we're in person."

Debinski hasn't boarded an airplane since that March day in Key West. If this was a normal year, he likely would have topped 120 flights. COVID-19 dramatically changed his plans. Debinski could have felt sorry for himself. It took him those first two weeks of the shutdown to accept what happened and focus on what needed to happen next.

"We're vulnerable just like anybody else," he said. "We've had a 10-year run of continued growth and success, and those second two weeks

of March really took the wind out of us and humbled us and forced us to take stock in what we have and what we do really well. We've transitioned about 30 percent of the planned business [to virtual training]. Our clients have postponed out another 30 percent. About 40 percent is new business that we rebuilt and resold based upon the demand for executive coaching."

Debinski is grateful for the success Bluewater Advisory has enjoyed in an otherwise difficult time.

"For such a strange year," he said, "we're going to end up in a very good place as far as our business plan and where we are."

census
from page 1

ondary homes, because of the resort nature of the area.

"While the highest number of vacant/secondary homes are in Ocean City, there are also large numbers in South Point, Ocean Pines and West Ocean City," Henry said. "There are still many areas throughout the county where residents, both primary and secondary homeowners, need to respond to the survey."

She added that the deadline to complete the Census was moved to Sept. 30, meaning there's still time to

try and reach those who have yet to take part.

"For both primary and secondary homeowners, it is vitally important to complete the 2020 Census survey received at their Worcester County residence," Henry said. "The U.S. Census Bureau wants to assure that all housing units are contacted, and the occupants properly counted. So, even secondary homeowners should respond, even though they have completed the Census at their primary residence."

Information on completing the 2020 Census can be found online at

www.my2020census.gov, or by calling 844-330-2020.

"Avoid that knock at the door from a census enumerator," Henry said. "Take 10 minutes to complete the 2020 census survey online or by phone, for your primary and secondary home. It's easy. It's safe. It's important. Do your small part to help your community over the next 10 years by being counted."

**Note, the U.S. Census Bureau previously, in 2010, counted Census Tract 9511 as one district. The Census Bureau split the tract into two parts for the 2020 Census.*

Free virtual health event planned

Atlantic General Hospital, in partnership with Susan G. Komen Maryland, Sussex & Kent Counties in Delaware, will offer a free virtual breast health event on September 10.

The two-hour "Hope in Bloom" event will address early detection, treatment and survivorship with area experts. Manoj Jain, M.D., Radiation Oncologist from Atlantic General Hospital's Burbage Regional Cancer Care Center will be presenting on the latest in breast cancer treatment. Our keynote speaker will be Dawn Denton, R.N., who will share her experience of hope, health, and survivorship. Also speaking will be Katie Busacca, licensed and registered dietitian at Atlantic General and the Regional Cancer Care Center, who will discuss breast health and nutrition.

Advance registration is required by September 9. Please call 410-641-9268 or email gblake@atlanticgeneral.org to register.

*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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