



Graduate - Zachary James Dale graduated from Cape May Training Center, U.S. Coast Guard. He is currently stationed in Montauk, New York. He was a 2019 graduate of Stephen Decatur High School.

Pines earns another 'safest' community nod

Website "Money Inc." this week named Ocean Pines as one of the "20 Safest Places to Live in Maryland."

At least two other national websites this year have recognized Ocean Pines for being among the safest communities in the state, including "Safewise" (#2) in April, and "HomeSnacks" (#1) in January.

According to "Money Inc.," Ocean Pines is the fifth-safest community in Maryland:

"The name of this Maryland city denotes its location. Bordered by the Isle of Wight Bay to its east, Ocean Pines offers over 9 miles of waterfront living. If that's not enough for you to move, let's just add that it's some of the safest waterfront living you could ever find. It also has the lowest property crime rate in all of Maryland at only 4.2%. Interestingly enough, the cost of living here by the water is much affordable in comparison to some of Maryland's safe cities. So, if you're a fan of the water, there's absolutely no reason why this place wouldn't be at the top of your list."

The only other local community named was Berlin, which ranked at #13.

"Money Inc." also had this to say about the State of Maryland:

"With 6 million people spread across 12,400

please see pines page 4



Tosti is Crafter of the Month

The Ocean Pines Pine'eer Craft Club announced the crafter of the month for September is Carolyn Tosti.

Tosti is a lifelong resident of Frankford, DE. She is very familiar with Ocean Pines, as her father was a plumber who worked on many of the new homes in the community when it was established.

She learned to sew in high school home economics class. The first thing she made was an apron and, by the end of the class, she had to make a suit to wear during her senior class trip.

Her love for sewing has continued over the years. She and her mother bonded while creating items to sell together at craft shows. In addition, she enjoys making floral arrangements and has been a professional cake decorator since 1975.

Tosti is skilled at making drapes, curtains and chair cushions, and she has crafted several pieces of clothing for her daughter. She has also upholstered sofas and chairs, and even tackled the seats and interior door panels for her son's 1957 Chevy.

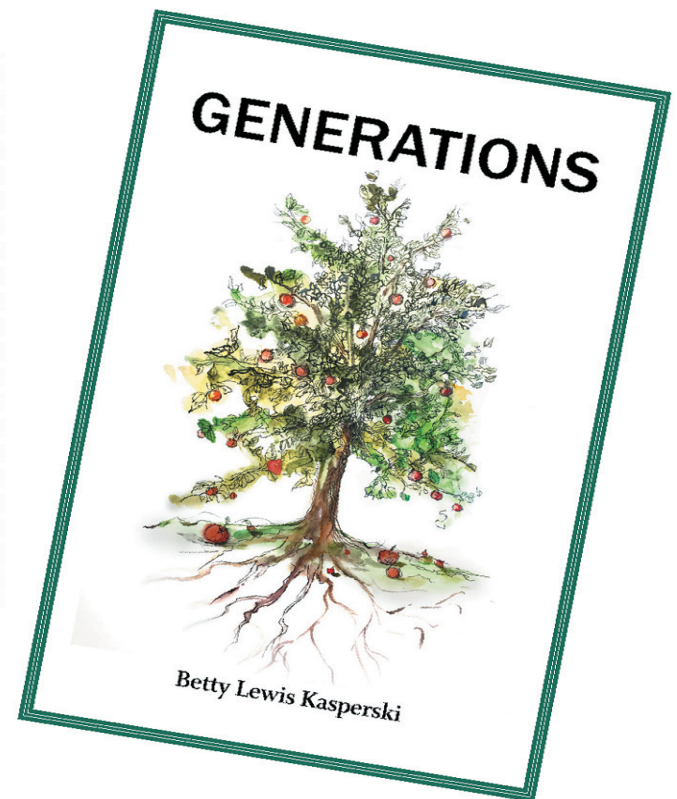
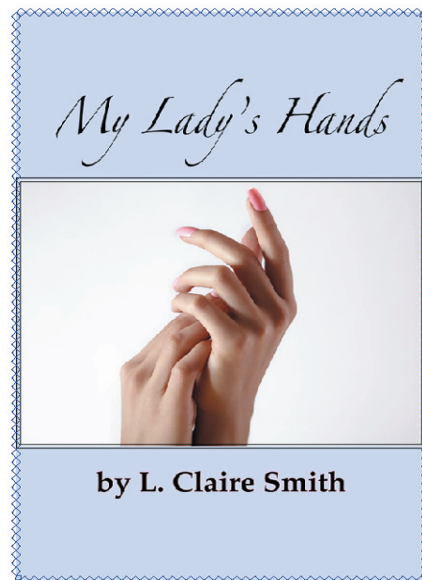
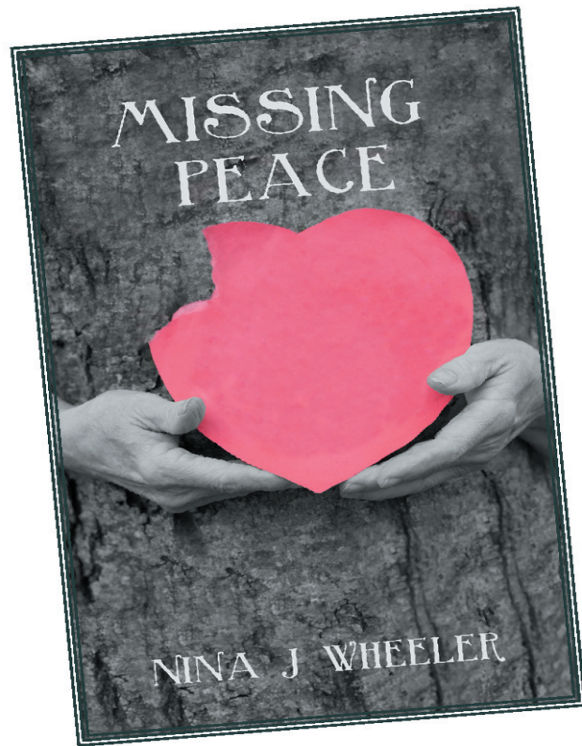
She was invited to join the Pine'eer Craft Club after taking part in the August 2019 Craft Show. Her items available in the Artisan Gift Shop include cellphone purses, kitchen hand-towels, beach bags, angels, and holders for doggie doo-doo bags.

Recently, she created handbags with a reversible cover that come with extra, changeable covers to represent different seasons and holidays.

Tosti's creations, as well as many other unique and handmade items, are available in the Ocean Pines Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park, next to the Farmer's Market and across from the Administration Building on 239 Ocean Parkway. The shop is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-craft-shop.

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Another OPA worker tests positive for COVID-19

Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Viola on Thursday issued the following statement about an Aquatics worker who tested positive for COVID-19:

“Another worker in the Aquatics department tested positive for COVID-19. The employee has not returned to work and will not until it is safe to do so, consistent with CDC protocols. We notified the local health department of the situation and will cooperate fully with public health officials.

“We understand that the employee had no close contact with residents

Semper Fi Bike Ride scheduled

The First State Detachment of the Marine Corps League announced it would host its first Semper Fi Bike Ride on the iconic Ocean City Maryland Boardwalk. The event is scheduled for Sunday October 18 and open to individual riders, family groups and teams of riders. Bring your bike or reserve a rental bike or classic Surrey from Bike World for the ride along the Atlantic Ocean the length of the Ocean City Boardwalk.

Funds raised at The Semper Fi Bike Ride will benefit the Semper Fi Fund which provides immediate financial assistance and lifetime support to combat wounded, critically ill and catastrophically injured members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. Interested participants can register by texting 410-353-0033 or visiting the Marines at First State Detachment Facebook page. Learn more about the event and register to ride or become a sponsor by visiting the web site at www.firststatemarines.org or by sending an email to websergeant@firststatemarines.org.

and minimal contact with other employees. We do not believe this employee had contact with the employee testing positive for COVID-19 earlier this month.

“We continue to stress the need to practice sound hygiene by frequently washing hands thoroughly, maintaining 6 feet of separation between others, and wearing masks when indoors or social distancing is not possible.”

Motherhood Walk scheduled for Saturday

On Saturday, September 12 the Grace Center for Maternal and Women’s Health will host a “Motherhood Walk” in celebration of the family. This event will take place at Stephen Decatur Park, located at Rte. 113 and Tripoli St. in Berlin from 9 a.m. until noon. Come to walk and shop in the park as a family. (This event was originally scheduled for the day before Mother’s Day.) A number of vendors have reserved spots for this event. There will be entertainment, pre-packaged snacks and drinks for sale, as well as raffle items. Activities and contests for children will include hula hoops, sidewalk chalk art and a scavenger hunt. All CDC and Health Department COVID-19 guidelines will be followed. All participants must wear a face covering and practice social distancing to ensure that everyone stays safe! Hand sanitizer and wipes will be available throughout the event.

This is a fundraiser for the Grace Center and donations will be gratefully accepted. The Grace Center is a safe haven dedicated to improving the ma-

please see walk on page 4

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Ocean Pines Chamber Community Connection

By **Kerrie Bunting, Executive Director**



Did you know that this is National Chamber Week? OK, so, that doesn't sound too interesting, but let me tell you why it is important.

Have you ever reached out to your local chamber asking for a recommendation? Used their business directory online or the printed version? If you answered no, why not? Chambers truly are a trusted resource for residents and visitors nationwide. Businesses and organizations who join chambers are investing in their com-

munity. They know that economic growth increases property values and can make the community stronger socially. Think about your neighborhood hang out, recreation area, eatery. These places are where we come together, our children play and learn, where networks begin. Your local chamber amplifies those networks, relationships and partnerships through events, advertising and advocacy. Chambers are a community resource, use us!

walk
from page 3

ternal health and well-being of women in the community. Assistance is available on many levels including, but not limited to: prenatal and postpartum group and individual classes, parenting and relationship skills, ultrasound examinations, support groups which include addictions and post-partum depression counseling, an avenue to

earn a Maryland high school diploma and much more. A minimum of \$500 in services is provided to each client during the course of a year.

Your support of this event is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding this family-oriented fundraiser or the services provided at the Grace Center, please contact 443-513-4124 or email info@gracematerialhealth.org.

pin
from page 1

square miles, Maryland is one of the least congested states you can find. In fact, out of a list of 300 of the most populated cities in the U.S., Maryland only has one entry with Baltimore at number 30. This is an excellent factor

for anyone looking to relocate to or within another area in the state. With this comes the factor of safety as well, as many cities and towns in Maryland boast of safety ratings that might be better than the state's best crab cakes."

To view the full article, visit <https://moneyinc.com/safest-places-live-maryland/>.

Symptoms commonly associated with menopause may actually indicate that a woman has entered a phase that precedes menopause. According to the National Institute on Aging, spotty menstrual cycles, hot flashes and other changes occur during perimenopause, a phase that's sometimes referred to as the menopausal transition. The NIA notes that menopause does not actually happen until one year after a woman's final menstrual period. After menopause, it's vital that women take certain steps to maintain their long-term health. That's because post-menopausal women are more vulnerable to heart disease and osteoporosis. A healthy diet that's rich in calcium can help women reduce their risk for each of these conditions.



Business owners: did you know consumers are 44% more likely to think favorably of a business and 63% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future when they know the business is a member of a local chamber of commerce? As chambers become a stable and trusted resource in the community, they create a direct conduit between chamber partners and potential consumers. Providing a larger platform, chambers increase your reach through events and advertising opportunities.

If there's one thing 2020 has taught us, it's that we need each other. Information came fast and furious, faster for the average, worried, business owner to evaluate. Chambers became a middle guy between federal, state and local assistance programs, new regulations and ever changing mandates and their partners. We were provided the unprecedented opportunity to really shine and prove why chamber dues should be an annual

line item in your budget. At times we were nothing more than an empathic ear but so many of us needed that. Just to be heard above the noise. Smaller businesses usually don't have the savvy or ability to have proper marketing in place. Chambers stepped in and shared social media posts regarding openings and offerings. We were their voice. We continue to be their voice.

So, while National Chamber Week doesn't have an anthem, a flag, or even a slogan, hopefully, now, you know WHY Chambers matter to you, your community, your service and goods providers. Your Ocean Pines Chamber has been here since 1975, we've grown right along side of the Pines and we will continue to advocate for our community's needs and place at the table. Be on the lookout for our annual business directory, a bit late this year, in late September. Our online directory can always be accessed at OceanPinesChamber.org.

Engage. Empower. Partner.

Veterinary assistant information session set

The continuing education division at Wor-Wic Community College is offering a free information session on Tuesday, September 22, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Mandatory for anyone interested in registering for veterinary assistant training, attendees can learn the requirements and expectations of the training, as well as about financial aid. The same session will also be held on Tuesday, October 13, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Tuesday, November 17, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

For more information or for the Zoom link, email tstevenson@worwic.edu or call 410-334-6780.

Courier Almanac

Though it had only been a part of the United States for less than two years, California became the 31st state in the union (without ever even having been a territory) on September 9, 1850.

Mexico had reluctantly ceded California and much of its northern territory to the United States in the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. When the Mexican diplomats signed the treaty, they pictured California as a region of sleepy mission towns with a tiny population of about 7,300-not a devastating loss to the Mexican empire. Their regret might have been much sharper had they known that gold had been discovered at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California, nine days before they signed the peace treaty. Suddenly, the greatest gold rush in history was on, and "forty-niners" began flooding into California chasing after the fist-sized gold nuggets rumored to be strewn about the ground just waiting to be picked up. California's population and wealth skyrocketed.

The
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Peasant food

The big hand on the clock was advancing toward noon, lunchtime, and I was getting hungry. What to have was-

given seventy-five cents to ride our bikes to Gaiss's Market to buy a half dozen long rolls. By the time we returned the aroma of frying peppers reached us before we neared the front door. My brother wasn't a big fan of peppers and eggs so there was more for me.

But I digress. Back to my story. While cutting the pepper my granddaughter



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

n't a question. My plans were in place since our run to the supermarket: a pepper and egg sandwich, one of my favorites. It ranks in my top two preferred lunch foods along with a cheesesteak "wit" and fried onions.

Out came the cast iron skillet, the cutting board and peppers. A little olive oil splashed into the skillet; the gas burner turned on low. I learned this routine watching my grandfather. He loved peppers and egg sandwiches, often packing them in his lunch bag when he went to work. My mother tells the story that near Wilt's lumber yard where my grandfather worked street vendors made and sold the sandwiches to the yard men. It was an inexpensive working man's meal, even considered peasant food by some. I guess to save a few cents, Gramps packed his own.

During a recent conversation, my mother shared that Gramps had always wanted to take her to a luncheonette that served what he considered to be the best pepper and egg sandwiches. But, according to my mother, he didn't want to expose his little girl to the workers because their language was a little coarse.

Growing up, peppers from Gramps' garden were picked fresh and fried up, as were the onions. Each morning around 11:30 my brother and I were

wandered into the kitchen, interested in lunch too. "What are you making?" she asked. I told her and then asked if she'd like to have try it. "Yes."

She watched as I fried the peppers, cut the onions and threw them in. She helped break the eggs which I scrambled and then added a few more ingredients which I'm not at liberty to share. When everything was done, I cut the Italian loaf and piled in the peppers and eggs. Now came the moment of decision. How large a hunk of the sandwich would she want? Holding the knife over the bread I asked her to tell me how much she wanted. She moved my hand nearly to the halfway point and I sliced. I put her part on a plate thinking she was not going to come close to finishing it. It was questionable that she'd even like it as she hadn't tried it before. I was wrong. She devoured it. That's my girl. The tradition lives on!

About a week or so later, during a conversation with my daughter, she told me that my granddaughter was pestering her to make pepper and egg sandwiches something my daughter never really took a liking to. As a result, there were no sandwiches forthcoming which disappointed my granddaughter.

On a recent Saturday, my son-in-

law and the kids surprised us with a visit. My daughter was at a friend's wedding on the west coast. It was nearing lunchtime. What to do? The decision was easy. Off to the market my son-in-law and I went for rolls and a couple additional peppers. Side note: I have had no luck growing my own peppers. I'm a disappointment to my heritage.

My son-in-law and I cracked open a couple beers while I prepared lunch. He texted my son to let him know Dad

was making pepper and eggs. He arrived a short time later. Once again, I sliced the Italian bread and spooned in the filling. I asked my granddaughter how much she wanted. This time, she moved my hand passed the halfway mark. Uh, no I don't think so. We settled on a 50-50 split.

Around the table we sat enjoying our sandwiches. Gramps would have savored the moment. Sure, it may be peasant food, but peppers and eggs bring families to the table.



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Health Dept. addresses concerns

Worcester County Health Department officials prepared the following summary for answers to frequently asked questions related to COVID-19.

Q. The county's positivity rate is nearly triple the state positivity rate, and the highest it's been since May 31. What does that mean?

A. Several factors are involved with the positivity rate. Over the past weeks we've dramatically increased testing within the county. We also have new, private labs entering the State reporting system who are not always reporting negative results. This will make the positivity seem particularly high.

We also experience a massive population spike in the summer months and more people = more chances for transmission of COVID-19. However, we know that positivity rates tend to ebb and flow from week-to-week. One of our primary focuses is to make sure that our hospital infrastructure and ICU capacity isn't overtaxed. And even with the increase in positivity rates right now, we're in strong shape.

Q. Does the data include residents only, or does it also include people who've traveled to the county and contracted coronavirus, but returned to their county or state?

A. The data reflects test results for Worcester County residents though sometimes individuals with multiple places of residence, vacation homes, etc, are counted with our numbers initially.

Q. How is the data affected by beach

towns like Ocean City?

A. Worcester County is a seasonal region and has been for decades. During the summer Ocean City swells in population to the second largest city in the State of Maryland. While it's true that more people increase chances for transmission, our county businesses and residents have done a tremendous job proactively following best public health practices such as: Wearing masks while around others; Physical distancing; Frequent handwashing; Following State limits on capacity; and, Getting themselves and their staff tested.

Q. What are county health officials doing about the positivity rate?

A. We continue to monitor the change in rates and communicate with State and Local agencies on a daily basis, promote testing promote awareness campaigns for best health and prevention practices and, monitor the status of our hospitals and ICUs to make sure we are well-under capacity. Our Contact Tracing and Isolation/Quarantine Teams work around the clock to track the spread of COVID-19 in our County and to support individuals who are either in quarantine or isolation to limit that spread.

Q. Are there health concerns ahead of Labor Day?

A. Vacation tends to put one into a "relaxed" state of mind. However, as a reminder we are still in the middle of recovery in Maryland and our expectation is that persons visiting our beach exert

personal responsibility. To continue to follow basic prevention strategies while on vacation.

When large crowds gather there's an increased chance for transmission of COVID-19. We want to again stress the importance of wearing masks, physical distancing, washing hands, being smart and healthy to protect yourself and your loved ones.

While our positivity rate did increase recently we are staying cautiously optimistic and don't have specific health concerns ahead of Labor Day (except for the increased crowds). Our hospitals and ICUs remain below capacity, we are releasing residents from isolation and quarantine daily, in fact we have released 1,691 people from monitoring as of this morning, and we have a recovery rate of 97%.

Q. Will Worcester move forward with Phase 3 plans, given the spike in positivity rate?

A. We follow guidance and framework laid out by the Maryland Department of Health and, at this time, are still on track for everything mentioned in Phase 3. Our hospital system is operating efficiently and not near capacity even with the increase in positivity rate. We are in constant communication with MDH and State officials so if there are any drastic changes that need to be accounted for while moving into Phase 3 of recovery, we will work closely with our partners to make sure the health of our residents and visitors remains a priority.



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NEWS, LIFE AND POLITICS
Ocean Pines, Maryland

He needs me, and I need to be his daughter

By **Meagan Sekscinski**
Procino-Wells & Woodland, LLC

Most people prefer to age in their own homes, but predictably, the majority of seniors will need help to make that a reality. When the natural aging process limits abilities or when there is a health care crisis, family members are often times the first people that are called upon. Namely, adult children.

For many adults, the role of being a caregiver to aging parents comes as a surprise. No matter how slowly or quickly a senior develops a need for help, adult children and family caregivers rarely anticipate the role of caregiver accurately. Without experience, how could anyone imagine what it would truly require to be the sole medical appointment scheduler; the primary provider of food, shelter and transportation; and just as important, the source of socialization and entertainment.

Imagine an adult child asking themselves very important questions when faced with the critical decision to become a caregiver: 'Does my work schedule allow me to be there for Dad as much as he needs me?' 'Am I financially prepared for the extra costs of caregiving?' 'Will I be able to make time for myself and my family?' 'How will caregiving affect my physical and mental health?'

Will I grieve the loss of my role of simply being my father's daughter?

Too often, the enormous job of caring for a loved one full-time can steal a family's dynamics. The same dynamics that filled Friday nights with rounds of Chinese checkers or telling old stories are now replaced with silence from exhaustion. Sundays used to be easy and happy as the family attended church together but now there is anxiety about leaving the home and it results in stress and impatience. Instead of a daughter being able to laugh with her dad as he peels an apple in one spiraling slice, she is too busy reacting to the chime of his washing machine.

Caregivers fill the giant shoes of advocating for their loved ones. And they are not alone. The National Alliance for Caregiving explains that over 65.7 million Americans currently provide care for a family member or loved one

and 36% of those are caring for an elderly parent. Not only is time spent dressing, bathing, feeding, and cleaning but caregivers are navigating medical diagnoses and required treatment, transportation, and the maintenance of their loved one's home. Meanwhile, over 73% of caregivers are employed at



some time when they are caregiving, adding the stress of reporting to work late, leaving work early, or taking unexpected time off to respond as a family caregiver.

Every family evaluates their circumstances differently, but often the decision to be a sole caregiver for a loved one is related to financial concerns. 'What if my dad can't afford care in his home?' or 'Dad can afford care now, but how long will his savings last?'. The 2019 Genworth Cost of Care study reports that on average, a client could invest about \$4,600 per month based on forty-four hours of professional in home companion care each week. That's typically a challenging expense to fit into the monthly budget.

Enter elder law. A specialized and experienced elder law attorney anticipates the possibility of long-term care for each client and suggests and implements legal tools that help clients when there is a need for care. Generally, the outcome of the case work includes a client's assets being sheltered from the costs of long-term care; a client receiving the care they need at home or in a facility; and caregivers being paid by other benefit programs for the important services they provide. Just as importantly, families can expect the outcome of spending more time as family, and less time as caregivers.

He needs me, and I have every intention of helping. But I still need some time to just be his daughter.

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My Backyard... sponsored by Maureen Kennedy



Tufted Titmouse

Population: 11 million

Habitat: Eastern deciduous forests

The active and agile Tufted Titmouse is easily recognized by its jaunty crest of gray feathers, big black eyes, and rust-colored flanks. This familiar bird feeder visitor often joins mixed foraging flocks with other common backyard birds such as the White-breasted Nuthatch and Black-capped Chickadee.

The Tufted Titmouse's name derives from the Old English words "tit" and "mase," basically meaning "small

Greek words for "small" and "crest." All five titmice species in this genus are found only in North America.

Once thought of as a southern species, the Tufted Titmouse has steadily expanded its range northward. At the start of the twentieth century, this species was found only as far north as New Jersey and Iowa. Today, it reaches southern Quebec and Ontario. Researchers think this expansion is likely due to warming winters, an increase in winter bird-feeding, and large areas of maturing woodland.

The Tufted Titmouse is a sedentary (nonmigratory) species, and mated pairs stay together on territory throughout the year. Young birds may disperse short to medium distances in search of new territories.

The Black-crested Titmouse, found in mesquite shrub in Texas, southern Oklahoma, and northeastern Mexico, was once considered a Tufted Titmouse subspecies, but the two were split into separate species in 2002, based on differences in ecology, physiology, and song. The Tufted Titmouse and Black-crested Titmouse hybridize where their ranges meet in central Texas and southern Oklahoma.

Like others in its family, such as the Black-capped Chickadee, the Tufted Titmouse is very vocal, employing a variety of calls to keep in contact with its family group, defend its territory, and warn against predators. During the spring and summer, it sings a sweet, repeated *peter-peter-peter* song.

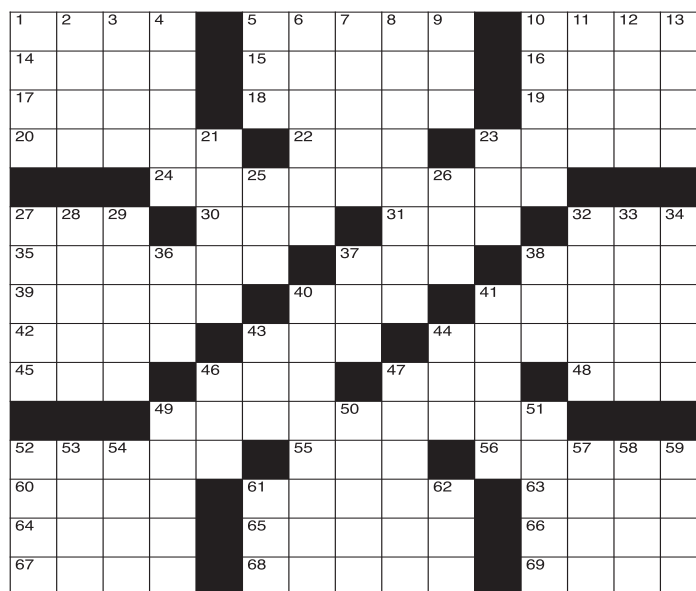
-American Bird Conservancy



Tufted Titmouse range map by NatureServe

bird." The word "mase" eventually became obsolete and this part of the name morphed into the familiar word "mouse," a convenient switch because the quick-moving little gray bird probably reminded people of the small rodent.

The Tufted Titmouse's genus name *Baeolophus* hails from two

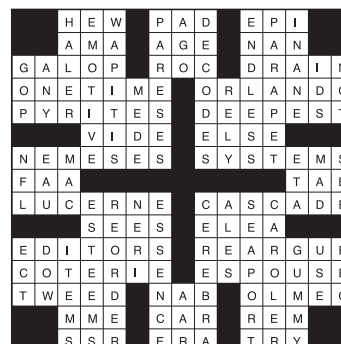


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Aurochs
- 5. Central Dravidian language
- 10. Split pulses in Indian cooking
- 14. Tropical starchy tuberous root
- 15. Well known constellation
- 16. About aviation
- 17. Bowfin genus
- 18. Proper
- 19. Expression of annoyance
- 20. Cabbies
- 22. Bro or sis
- 23. Spiritual leader
- 24. Where football coaches work
- 27. Old TV part
- 30. A way to color
- 31. Touch lightly
- 32. Surround
- 35. Breached
- 37. Aristocratic young woman
- 38. Dry ravine
- 39. Hebrew measurement units
- 40. Supporter
- 41. Type of sword
- 42. Influential Irish playwright
- 43. Witch
- 44. Flower cluster
- 45. Mark Wahlberg's animal friend
- 46. Psychedelic amphetamine
- 47. Actors' group
- 48. Cool!
- 49. Salts
- 52. Group of SE China
- 55. Illuminated
- 56. Semitic Sun god
- 60. Water (Spanish)
- 61. Employed
- 63. Japanese ankle sock
- 64. Fishing fly
- 65. Some pheasants are this
- 66. Literary name for Ireland
- 67. Must have
- 68. A way to write
- 69. One point east of southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. American state
- 2. Hindu model of ideal man
- 3. Type of acid
- 4. Drenches
- 5. "The Raven" writer
- 6. Emerged
- 7. Alpha Centauri: __ Centaurus
- 8. Democratic Presidential candidate
- 9. Hostelry
- 10. Fathers
- 11. Any plant with leaves used for flavoring
- 12. Member of a Semitic people
- 13. Lesotho monetary unit
- 21. Lots
- 23. Jewish address for "Sir"
- 25. Male parent
- 26. A way to get
- 27. Body part
- 28. Seam in an organ
- 29. Landlocked African country
- 32. Process for producing ammonia
- 33. Fluid accumulation in tissues
- 34. Bugged down
- 36. Native American tribe
- 37. Unfashionable person
- 38. Female grunts
- 40. Well known
- 41. Gurus
- 43. Norse mythological site
- 44. Tell on
- 46. __ Farrow, actress
- 47. Cotton fabric
- 49. Reciter of Scandinavian poems
- 50. Clouds
- 51. Satisfies
- 52. Shuttered Air Force base in Germany
- 53. Phil __, former CIA
- 54. Japanese seaport
- 57. Female horse or zebra
- 58. 1st month of ancient Hebrew calendar
- 59. Trigonometric function
- 61. Fashionable knowledge (Slang)
- 62. Insecticide



Answers for September 2



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Knots & Knots by Dan Collins

Try to remember

August is usually a transition month at the shore. The first two weeks are still in the height of the tourist season (July 15 to August 15). Then the third tends to see easing crowds.

By the last week in August the K-12 students are usually scrambling to finish their summer reading assignments between shopping sprees for back-to-school clothes and school supplies. College students and J1 exchange visitors are slipping away leaving the restaurateurs to make their annual apologies to their customers for poor late summer service and the life guards are well beyond the protection of SPF 1000+ sunscreen.

Late August is usually a calmer time on the water. The crab traps

seem less threatening. The boaters are beyond their annual May-June re-learning mistakes. Many are even starting to wind down their boating in difference to fall sports camps and band practices while others are warm-



USCG Auxiliary member **Lynn Killian** is seen here conducting a free boat safety inspection.

ing up to 'that project' that was too hard to tackle in the heat of summer.

But this was not the usual August. In the year of the pandemic, the paradigms of late summer have taken a sabbatical. This August was filled with voluntary restaurant closings, event cancellations and the public debate over virtual learning.

However, we were treated to a great White Marlin Tournament and the Ocean City Air Show that was delayed from Father's Day weekend. Although the weather was uncooperative – the White Marlin Tourney had to be extended two days because of Hurricane Isaias and Sunday's air show performance was cancelled due to rain – August was cool.

The White Marlin Tourney awarded a record 6.7 million dollars in prize money but the weigh-in party was quite different this year. Instead of a packed viewing stand filled with fans cheering for fatter fish, the on-lookers were resigned to watch the festivities on a big screen video at the nearby, social distance friendly, athletic field.

The air show also had its own distinction. Ocean City was privileged to be the first venue where the F22, Raptor, and the F35, Lighting II, per-

please see remember on page 15

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High /Low	Tide Time
Th 10	High	1:53 AM
10	Low	7:48 AM
10	High	2:30 PM
10	Low	8:47 PM
F 11	High	2:51 AM
11	Low	8:43 AM
11	High	3:31 PM
11	Low	9:46 PM
Sa 12	High	3:53 AM
12	Low	9:42 AM
12	High	4:32 PM
12	Low	10:45 PM
Su 13	High	4:53 AM
13	Low	10:41 AM
13	High	5:28 PM
13	Low	11:41 PM
M 14	High	5:48 AM
14	Low	11:40 AM
14	High	6:21 PM
Tu 15	Low	12:32 AM
15	High	6:40 AM
15	Low	12:35 PM
15	High	7:11 PM
W 16	Low	1:20 AM
16	High	7:31 AM
16	Low	1:29 PM
16	High	7:59 PM

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County initiates second round of grants

Worcester County Economic Development (WCED) officials awarded \$1.17 million to 205 county businesses during the first round of the Workforce Back to Business COVID-19 Assistance Grant Program.

Applications will be accepted at WCED online at <http://choose-worcester.org/> from Monday, September 7, at 8 a.m. through Friday, September 18, at 11:59 p.m. for the second round of the Workforce Back to Business COVID-19 Assistance Grant Program, for farmers and small business owners, including sole proprietors with no employees. Grant funds will be awarded in increments of \$2,500.

“We are pleased to be able to provide much needed relief to our businesses throughout Worcester County that have experienced business disruptions from COVID-19” said Tom Perlozzo, director of Worcester County Recreation, Parks, Tourism, and Economic Development. “While we know these grants will never re-

place the loss of revenue businesses have experienced, it is our hope that the funds will provide short-term relief to assist them in remaining open.”

Federal funds for this grant program in Worcester County were awarded through the State of Maryland under the CARES Act. The Worcester County Commissioners approved the allocation of grant funds as part of a multifaceted effort to help the community mitigate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Businesses that missed out on the first round of grant funding may apply for the second round of the grant program. Applicants should thoroughly review eligibility requirements and “Frequently Asked Questions” prior to applying. Submitting an incomplete or inaccurate application may render an applicant ineligible for program funding.

For more information, please visit WCED online or call 410-632-3112.

TidalHealth debuts to provide care to Delmarva

The former Peninsula Regional Health System announced last week its new name: TidalHealth. The name was chosen after months of research through interviews with patients and staff of the entities that make up TidalHealth – Peninsula Regional and Nanticoke hospitals; the McCready, Ocean Pines and Millsboro Health Pavilion; the many specialty and primary care offices of its affiliated provider network; and the providers of services such as laboratory and radiology.

“We spent countless hours talking with patients, physicians and employees to gain an intimate knowledge of our community so that we could discover a common identity and create something larger that best meets the needs of those we serve,” said Steve Leonard, TidalHealth President and CEO. “Throughout the process, we have come to realize three key points about our health system: Quality is our constant. Special is our signature.

Community is our core. We are better together and the community must feel it. Just as the tides shape our waterways, we are shaping healthcare on Delmarva.”

The new identity allows community members, as well as staff, to have a better sense of the scope of services offered across the health system. It also conveys the shared roots, values and culture of the organization.

The hospitals will retain some of the identity ingrained in the community for, in the case of Peninsula Re-

gional, more than 100 years. They have been renamed TidalHealth Peninsula Regional and TidalHealth Nanticoke.

“The tides are embedded deeply in the history of Seaford – and all of Delmarva, a peninsula crisscrossed by waterways and surrounded by ocean and bay. The tides are a constant in our culture,” said Penny Short, President of TidalHealth Nanticoke.

“Commonality of culture – not just in heritage, but in dedication to patient safety and to care for the communities we serve – is what drove Nanticoke to choose to join forces with the Peninsula Regional Health System last year. Our greater, combined force is reflected in our new identity as TidalHealth.”

Peninsula Regional Medical Group, the Nanticoke Physician Network, Delmarva Heart and Peninsula Cardiology have officially joined under the new name TidalHealth Medical Partners. Better together, the physician groups have united in a shared mission: to improve the health of the communities they serve.

“By coming together, we’re making it easier for every person on Delmarva to find care where and when they need it,” said Karin DiBari, MD, who will oversee the network of physician and specialty offices as President of TidalHealth Medical Partners. “It is essential for every person to have a provider who will be with them on their health

please see system on page 14



TidalHealth™



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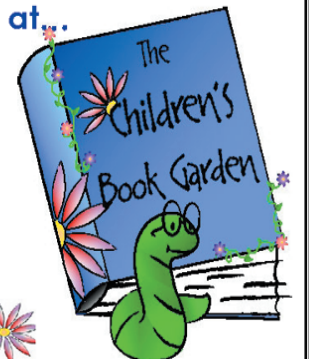
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Officials, staff honor former Ocean Pines Police Chief David Massey

Ocean Pines staff on Friday held a sendoff for former Police Chief David Massey, who officially retired on Aug. 1.

Massey was the Ocean Pines Police Chief for 17 years and previously served as chief of police in Ocean City. All told, his law enforcement career spanned nearly five decades.

Ocean Pines, local and state officials held a ceremony for Massey one week prior, and many of the same dignitaries were on hand again on Friday, outside at the White Horse Park pavilion.

The second event was scheduled because COVID-19 restrictions limited the size of the prior gathering, held indoors at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse, but that didn't stop many of the speakers from making light of the extended goodbye.

County Commissioner Chip Bertino joked that Massey was "taking more goodbyes than a vaudeville actor."

"We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to appreciate what the chief has done for us here in Ocean Pines for 17 years, and before that in Ocean City," Bertino said. "As a father of a son who is in law enforcement here in Worcester County, I can tell you that it's very important to have people of the caliber of the chief in leadership positions, to ensure the safety, not just of the people they serve, but also the officers that are

sworn to protect our community."

Maryland Sen. Mary Beth Carozza called for applause and celebration of Massey's many achievements on behalf of the community.



Senator **Mary Beth Carozza** presents **Dave Massey** with a commendation for his years of service to the community.

"If it takes two celebrations [or] three celebrations, it truly is important to recognize a lifetime commitment to public safety," she said. "We're not only recognizing Chief Massey's com-

please see *massey* page 14

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massey
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mitment to the community of Ocean Pines, but also his lifetime career commitment to law enforcement on the shore.”

Carozza noted that Ocean Pines is one of the safest communities in the state, and credited Massey for that designation.

“You only do that if you have a team and you have a community approach, and I’m really glad to see all of the team from Ocean Pines come out today, because it’s [a] community and it’s something that you have underscored in your leadership,” she said.

General Manager John Viola said Massey “did it right,” both in his career and as a family man.

“That’s one of the best things I can say for him,” he said. “I’m proud of him. I’m glad I had the opportunity to work with him. I wish him and his family the best in retirement.”

Association President Larry Perrone, on behalf of the Board of Directors, thanked Massey for his 17 years of service.

“We want to thank you for your professionalism [and] your service to the community, and we just want to wish you a great, happy retirement,” Perrone said.

Massey was presented a plaque on behalf of Ocean Pines, a commendation from the Worcester County Commissioners from Bertino, and citations from both the Maryland Senate and Gov. Larry Hogan, by Carozza.

Speaking last, Massey joked that his wife had asked him, a little annoyed, “is this the last retirement ceremony?”

“I said, ‘Yeah, this is going to do it,’” he said with a laugh.

“When I moved to Worcester County, I really didn’t know that much

about the county. But, having lived here for these many years, I can truly say it’s the best county in the state of Maryland,” Massey said. “It has the best elected leadership, it has the best people, has the best school system, [and] has the best law enforcement of any county in this state. I’m proud to be a resident of Worcester County.”

Massey said he was also proud to have lived and worked in Ocean Pines.

“We have the greatest team ... we’ve become so close in the last couple years. They are the hardest working people. They give everything to this community,” he said.

Massey said he is also proud of his successor, Leo Ehrisman.

“He paid his dues to this community. I couldn’t be more proud ... of the job he’s done and will do, and the fact that he’s going to keep this community safe,” Massey said.

He also thanked Viola and the Board for the recently renovated and expanded police station, something Massey had fought for, for many years.

“That takes courage because, in the past, we tried and it’s never happened. But, this Board of Directors should be very proud of this building and our general manager, who’s brought this [renovation] under budget,” he said. “It’s fantastic, the job they’ve done, and I’m so proud to have served under this Board and these great people, who have been here and are dedicated to this community.”

Massey said he gave 46 years of his life to public safety.

“And it’s been worth it,” he said. “Yeah, there’s been some heartache. There’s been some problems, there’s been some things you brought home with you at night, but to work in a community where you ride in your police car and people wave at you ... and they appreciate you” made it all worthwhile.

Massey said many police officers were “going through a tough time,” citing recent national news reports.

“We’re not a perfect profession – nobody is,” he said. “There’s always going to be the heightened incidents that happen where somebody abuses their authority, and they should be fired, and they should be prosecuted ... we don’t need them in our profession.”

Most officers, he said, worked hard for 365 days each year to keep their

communities safe.

Massey closed by thanking those in attendance “for a wonderful career.”

“Part of my life will always be in Ocean Pines and Ocean City. You can’t spend over half your life in communities without taking something home with you,” he said. “God bless every one of you and God bless Ocean Pines, and God bless Leo Ehrisman!”

To view video of the event, visit <https://youtu.be/MbdQcRCRGno>.

system
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journey, helping them to stay well, and providing care and guidance when they are sick.”

For patients, the change will be seamless – and will make care even more accessible. Patients will be able to rely on the same providers in the same offices. Appointments that have been previously scheduled will not change. What patients of the new physician group might find, though, is that they now have an office or specialty practice, medical campus or doctor closer to them and more conveniently located because of the collaboration.

“The name on the doors may change, but our commitment to the health of our community remains consistent,” Leonard said. “We know that with this new identity, we can continue to care for the people of Delmarva for generations to come.”

Online publishing course offered

Wor-Wic Community College is offering an online course called “Publish and Sell Your E-Books.” This six-week course begins September 16, with additional start dates of October 14, November 11 and December 9.

This course provides step-by-step instructions for students to learn how to publish their own e-book and sell it through online retailers.

For more information, visit ed2go.com/worwic or call 410-334-2815.

Registration event scheduled

Worcester County NAACP will host a Voter’s Registration Sign Up at Changing Palette restaurant on Friday, September 11 from noon to 2 p.m. Located at 104 W Green Street in Snow Hill, this event will be held in conjunction with a fried fish fundraiser sponsored by Hilltop. 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.

Virtual CNA information session scheduled

The continuing education division at Wor-Wic Community College is offering a free information session on Monday, September 14, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Mandatory for anyone interested in registering for certified nursing assistant (CNA) training, attendees can learn the requirements and expectations of the training, as well as about financial aid. The same session will also be held on Friday, October 9, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 14, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 1, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and Friday, December 11, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information or for the Zoom link, email tstevenson@wor-wic.edu or call 410-334-6780.

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remember
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formed on the same program. With show center de-emphasized to discourage crowds, spectators all along the extended beach viewing area saw the Raptor and the Lighting demonstrate both individually and flying in close formation.

That was extremely cool but not as cool as the true life rescue that occurred in the inlet during the well-rehearsed pageantry in the sky. Two gentlemen found themselves adrift and near drowning in the Ocean City Inlet Saturday awash in strong tidal currents and small craft advisory wind and wave conditions. Four Ocean City life guards swam to their aid while USCG and Maryland Department of Natural Resources boats converged to pull all six out of harm's way.

Although the rescuers modestly claimed that it was a 'routine' rescue mission that they have trained for, it was the 'Right Stuff.' The precision of the Ocean City on-the-water rescue teams should make us as proud of their effort as we are of the US Air Force Thunderbirds performing their precision maneuvers over-the-water. Practice and preparation can be monotonous and drain one's enthusiasm but the dedicated Ocean City rescue team stays sharp and makes an impromptu execution look 'routine'.

August did start to see some return to a new normalcy. The USCG Auxiliary taught the Maryland Recreational Safe Boating Class for the first time on-line and once again began to provide free vessel safety inspections— but wearing masks. So as the days get shorter, say farewell to COVID August and say hello to the new normalcy and the return to pre-pandemic gas prices.

From the 1960 hit song, "Try to remember the kind of September when life was slow and oh, so mellow." Be optimistic. Plan your victory party for V-C Day, victory of coronavirus. It may not be this month and it may not be as articulated as V-J Day but it will be a victory that will be celebrated 75 years from now.

Meantime, try to remember, to be socially distant and life will return to "oh, so mellow."

Dan Collins can be reached for comment at dancollins.oceanpines@gmail.com.

Empty Bowl Project returns

The Empty Bowl Project, a benefit for the Diakonia food pantry and the programs of the Art League of Ocean City, kicks off in September with both in-person and virtual events. Sponsors are First Shore Federal Bank and Shore United Bank.

The Empty Bowl Project is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger and a unique opportunity to use art in a way that helps the community. The project is a collaborative effort between the Art League and Diakonia to raise awareness and funds for hunger through creative engagement.

The public, including families with children, can get involved by hand-making ceramic soup bowls at six hands-on bowl-making sessions at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St. No experience is necessary, and all materials are included in the \$25 price. Robbie Johnson, the Art League's pottery studio manager, will guide participants through the process.

The one-hour bowl-making sessions are on Sundays, September 13, October 4 and October 18 – in two sessions each day. In the noon to 1

p.m. sessions, participants will use raw clay to form their own bowls and imprint their own designs. In the 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. sessions, participants will embellish already-made bowls, hand-thrown by Johnson.

Registration is required by calling the Arts Center at 410-524-9433 or by registering at ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org. Space is limited, and in-person sessions will practice social distancing and mask wearing. Children under six must be accompanied by an adult.

From November 8 through 21, the Art League will offer another opportunity to support the Empty Bowl Project. More than 100 hand-made bowls will go on sale online for \$25 on the Art League's website, ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org.

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