



The Courier

March 2, 2016 Volume 16 Number 27

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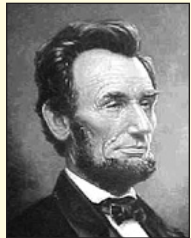
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Bertino to hold Town Meeting

Chip Bertino, Worcester County Commissioner for the Ocean Pines district, will hold a Town Meeting on Saturday, March 5 at the Ocean Pines library. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Commissioner Bertino will provide information on issues and developments occurring within the district and the county. Beau Oglesby, Worcester County State's Attorney is the guest speaker. County Attorney Maureen Howarth will also be introduced.

GOP to hold Lincoln Day dinner

The Worcester County Republican Central Committee will host its 2016 Lincoln Day Dinner on Saturday, March 12 at the Atlantic Hotel in Berlin beginning at 6 p.m. The speaker, Michael Anthony Peroutka of The Institute on the Constitution will give a presentation on "The Founders and the American View of Law and Government."



The cost is \$50 per person and there will be four dinner choices. For more information, call 443-614-4953.

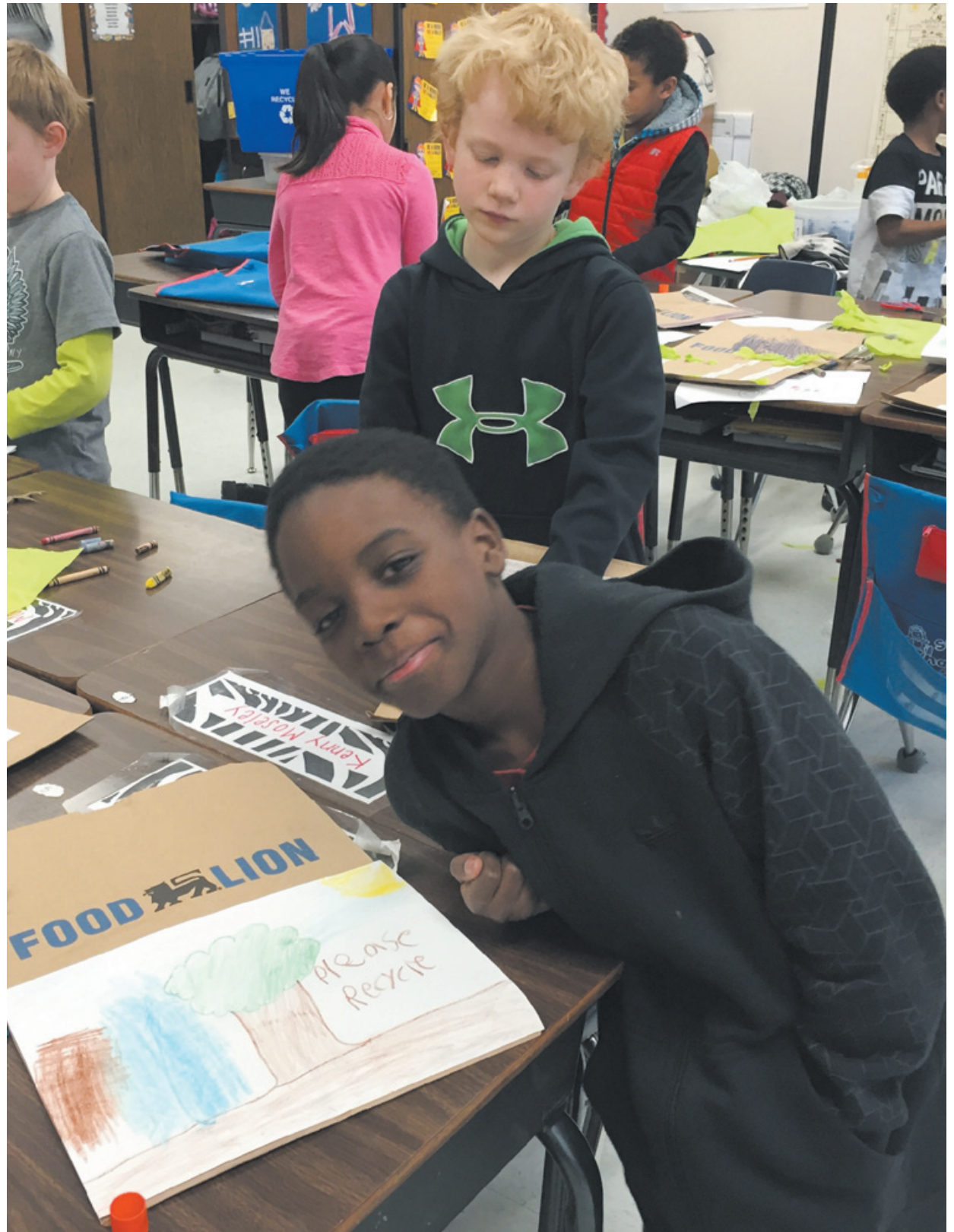
AARP to meet

The AARP will meet March 7 at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 9:30 a.m. Kristina Toadvine, director of computer training at Wor-Wic College will be the guest speaker. Prior to the meeting, at 9 a.m., a demonstration of the new voting machines will take place by the staff of the Board of Elections.

Attendees are asked to bring a can of food for Sarah's Pantry to help those in need within the community.

Parrothead Club to hold event

The Ocean City Parrothead Club will hold a social on Sunday, March 20 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. All current members and anyone interested in becoming a member are invited to join the group at Twinning's Shanty (Route 54, Fenwick Island, DE) for food and drink specials, raffles, games, prizes, and fun. Email ocphc@comcast.net for more information.



BES partners with Food Lion

Buckingham Elementary School's 21st Century After School C.A.R.E. Academy, partnered with Food Lion to educate and promote environmental awareness. Students decorated grocery bags donated by Food Lion with messages about recycling. Student **Jarmar Smith** is pictured with his recycling bag. The bags were then used to carry groceries at the store. Through community partnerships such as these we can begin to reduce our environmental footprint.

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To reserve your spot in *Living 50 Plus*, contact Chip Bertino at 410-641-6695 or 410-251-2082 or Email at chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com before the Friday, March 18, 2016 deadline.

Living **50** PLUS

Birding weekend registration opens

The 2016 Delmarva Birding Weekend is set to bring hundreds of nature enthusiasts to the shore April 21-24 to enjoy the full complement of mid-Atlantic birds as the region welcomes warblers, tanagers, and other spring migrants and prepares to bid adieu to its loons, falcons, and waterfowl as they head northward. Registration for the popular event is now open at www.delmarvabirding.com.

April is the time to shed those winter blues, dust off the binoculars and get outside. Guided by local birders with decades-long experience on the peninsula, the walking tours, boat trips, and canoe and kayak paddles will accommodate visitors from the curious nature lover to fowl fanatics. Every year, birdwatchers from surrounding states flock to the event.

"This is one of our biggest nature-oriented weekends," said Lisa Challenger, Tourism Director for Worcester County, Maryland. "People go crazy over the number of eagles and herons, but they will see a lot more than that birding with our guides around Assateague Island and our cypress swamps near Snow Hill."

Boasting patient and fun-loving guides, new trips will feature jaunts around Laurel, Delaware and Maryland's Chincoteague Bay through some of the most pristine habitats on the East Coast. For the first time, the Delmarva Birding Weekend is co-hosting a showing of the bird documentary, "The Messenger," with the Rehoboth Beach Film Society. The film will be shown on Friday, April 22, at the Cinema Art Theater in Lewes, DE.

"The April weekend is spectacular,"

said Southern Delaware Tourism Director Scott Thomas. "Picture slinking around a bend in your canoe on Trussum Pond to be met with one of the most beautiful yellows you've ever seen... in the form of a prothonotary warbler. Or spend a Friday afternoon at Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge or boating around Lewes and the Delaware Bay, followed by craft beer and a movie. That's what the weekend is all about."

Social events for new and experienced birders are scheduled throughout the weekend. These "Tally Rallies" are held at local breweries, bars, and restaurants, and provide participants to add to the species checklist and swap birding stories with new friends.

Indeed participants recount the event in terms of experiences rather than simply observing birds – a majestic Bald Eagle soaring over the marsh, a loon in breeding plumage catching fish, or the eerie hoot and shadow of a barred owl at dusk. An outdoor experience is the true draw.

The Delmarva Peninsula is one of the country's premier birding areas, thanks to an extensive variety of habitat protected by our coastal parks, refuges and wildlife management areas. More than 400 bird species have been recorded in the region and previous Weekend tallies have topped 200 species.

If boasting that many species is not enough, participants should feel even better knowing that they've helped Delmarva's birds by promoting birding and habitat conservation. Birders, both novice and experienced, make an

please see birding on page 4

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Local charity unveils new logo

Worcester County GOLD has launched a new logo to identify its programs, materials and activities. The logo features an umbrella that symbolizes the protection that GOLD provides to Worcester County families in crisis, vulnerable adults and children in foster care.

The local nonprofit held a competition among Worcester County high school art students in 2015. Rachel Thomas of Stephen Decatur High School submitted the winning concept which was the inspiration for the final design executed by D3 Corp of Ocean City.

Pictured with the new logo are **Claire Otterbein**, executive director of GOLD (left) and **Carol Jacobs**, board president. GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity) has been providing emergency assistance and special programs for local citizens since 1996.

BIS ArtFest is Saturday

Artfest is community event featuring local artists and art experiences for children. Each year Berlin Intermediate School (BIS) hosts the event which is ever-growing in size and enthusiasm.

Children, ages four through 12, are invited to experience materials they may not have previously been exposed to. Artfest will take place from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 5 in the cafeteria at Berlin Intermediate School. Admission is through the front entrance of the school and the fee is \$3.50 which includes an official ArtFest tee shirt design by a local artist and access to all creation stations. It is advised children wear paint friendly attire. In addition, every child must be accompanied by an adult. If a child is unsupervised then entry will not be permitted.

The BIS Art department is planning 18 to 24 stations, including a variety of mediums (sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking, music, etc.). Each station is a different creation zone, including a numerous amount of supplies ordered

and organized per station. Each project costs an average of a dollar per child. The number of children in attendance in the past has averaged 250 attendants and increases attendance every year. The goal is to provide each child with the opportunity to make as much art as possible; many children create as many as 6 to 7 projects.

Irish-American lit presentation offered

Dr. Robert Mooney, an associate professor of English and creative writing at Washington College, will give a presentation on Irish-American literature on Tuesday, March 22, at 7 p.m., in Room 302 of the Hazel Center at Wor-Wic Community College in Salisbury.

Mooney is the author of the novel, "Father of the Man." He is a co-founder and the executive editor of Etruscan Press. This event is sponsored by Wor-Wic's cultural diversity committee. For more information, call 410-572-8711.

OPA board holds meeting

■ Approves budget; base membership dues at \$921

By **Kelsey Reichenberg**

On Thursday, February 25, the Ocean Pines Association (OPA) board of directors held their monthly public meeting at the Ocean Pines Community Center. President Pat Renaud opened the meeting with an announcement. "I wanted to clarify something from the meeting we had with developer Gillis. While the board approves of a task force in the community, the board will not create it."

General Manager Bob Thompson then took the floor to deliver his report. He began by announcing that the quarterly financial standings of Ocean Pines major amenities, which include golf, the Yacht Club, and aquatics, are all ahead of budget. The overall association is ahead of budget by \$47,242.

Thompson went on to give updates on current capital projects that are underway in Ocean Pines which include bridge repairs, improvements to the Sports Core Pool, building new bathrooms at White Horse Park, and the addition of more tennis and pickle ball courts at Manklin Meadows Park. Thompson announced that the request for a proposal to repair bridges would be out on Friday, February 26.

The Sports Core Pool project, which includes pool expansions and improvements, deck improvements, pool technology insertion, and pool operational costs savings, is projected to begin in July and end in September 2016. The proposals for the project have been received and reviewed. The bid for the total project is \$255,634 and the budgeted total for 2016-2017 is \$250,000.

Thompson continued with discussion of the plan to build new bathrooms at White Horse Park. While he could not specify the precise location for the new bathrooms, he said they would be built in a more convenient and accessible spot. Visitors will no longer have to cross the street to utilize the restrooms. As Thompson went on to discuss the bids placed on the project, board member Dave Stevens claimed Thompson had not properly presented the project to the board and that he needed more information before he felt comfortable voting on it. After a lengthy, contentious conversation amongst the board members, they agreed to discuss the project in further detail following Thompson's report and public com-

ments.

The next topic of discussion was the Manklin Meadows project which refers to the addition of two paddle ball courts now, with the design including the addition of two more courts in the future; the relocation of the existing playground; a realignment of the existing playground parking lot; and the addition of four new pickle ball courts now, with the design including the addition of four more courts in the future. Thompson announced that OPA is currently working with an engineer and county staff to redesign the storm water mitigation. The original design was for a bio-retention basin. The new approach will be a wetland pond. There are several types and the groundwater hydraulics are the concern. The pond might dry out too quickly killing the wetland plantings.

To conclude his report, Thompson announced that there are no current CPI violations and gave updates on the reserves study, which involves the study of the physical status and repair/replacement cost of the major common area components OPA is obligated to maintain as well as the evaluation and analysis of the OPA's reserve balance, income, and expenses. OPA will be meeting with the Design Management Association to finalize the study in March.

Following comments from the public, the board approved Thompson's Sports Core Pool recommendation and also agreed to discuss the White Horse Park bathrooms in further detail after all of the board members had the opportunity to study the project more closely. Furthermore, the board approved three motions which included two documents, the C-03 and the F-01. The C-03 was presented to the board to replace the current C-03. The second reading of the document will be presented to the board on March 24. The F-01 document contained investment guidelines and was presented to the board to replace the current F-01. The second reading will also be presented to the board on March 24.

The third motion approved by the board was the proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017. The budget reflects total revenues of \$11,179,372 and operating expenses and transfers of the same amount, a basic annual assessment of \$921, and capital expenditures of \$3,490,800. The fiscal year runs from May 1, 2016 through April 30,

The Courier

Independently Owned

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2012 Business of the Year

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Aquamarine is the traditional birthstone for March. It is also the accepted anniversary gem for the 19th year of marriage.



The ideal color of aquamarine is a refreshing pastel sea blue. Stones with a green or gray are generally the most valuable.

If you are looking for a big, durable gemstone, aqua is readily available in larger sizes and is truly dramatic when cut in rectangular or oval shapes. It is a member of the important beryl family, which also includes emerald.

In ancient times, the stone was said to aid seafarers; thus it is an excellent gift suggestion for sailors or one who takes frequent cruises! To dream of aquamarine signifies the making of new friends; to wear aquamarine earrings brings love and affection. It is a universal symbol of youth, hope and health.

Art League seeks artists for plein air event

The Art League of Ocean City is reserving spots now for the “Artists Paint OC” event, which will be held from August 11 through 14. Only 50 spots are available for artists, and they are filling up quickly.

The artists may check in and begin painting on the morning of Thursday, March 11. That evening, the Art League will hold an opening reception for the artists at the Ocean City Center for the Arts with a plein air discussion and a light Eastern Shore dinner.

On Friday and Saturday, August 12 and 13, artists will paint en plein air in scenic locations at the beach, on the boardwalk, at bayside and in the Ocean City and West Ocean City harbors from dawn to dusk.

The highlight of the event occurs

at the Arts Center on Saturday evening, August 13, with formal judging of the plein air artwork, awarding of cash prizes and a wet paint sale open to the public.

The plein air event concludes on Sunday morning, August 14, with a quick draw competition in downtown Ocean City.

The registration fee is \$35 for all events or \$15 for the quick draw competition only.

The Art League will award more than \$2,300 in total cash prizes during the event. Additionally, art created during the plein air event will be featured during the remainder of the month of August at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.

Artists interested in participating

may view the full prospectus and register online at www.artleagueofoceancity.org or by contacting the Art League of Ocean City at 410-524-9433 or info@artleagueofoceancity.org.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the visual arts in the Ocean City area through education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events. The arts center is supported by memberships, corporate and civic funding, donations and sales of art.

Pines alerts to thefts

Ocean Pines Police are investigating a series of thefts from unlocked autos which occurred between February 8 and February 22. Vehicles were entered and various items taken including electronic devices, currency and other personal items. It is believed that most of the thefts occurred during the early morning hours.

Residents are encouraged to lock their vehicles and remove all valuable property which they may store in their vehicles. Police are requesting anyone having information concerning the thefts to contact Corporal Tish Ottey of the Ocean Pines Police at (410) 641-7747.

Please report any related suspicious activity as it occurs, to the Ocean Pines Police at 410-641-7747.



Welcome - A special welcome to **Peggy Rumburg** (standing on left) a new resident at Ocean Pines Woodlands. Peggy was welcomed by residents with a good dinner and a fun time.

birding

from page 2

important statement about the economic value of birds and their habitats through the money they spend in local hotels, restaurants, and shops. Participants are encouraged to remind local businesses that they are here to enjoy Delmarva’s natural areas and the birds that inhabit them.

“It’s our vast shallow bays and large tracts of protected marshes and bald cypress forests that make the Delmarva Peninsula one of the finest birding regions in the nation,” said guide and organizer Jim Rapp. “During the Weekend, our guests will hike on private farmland and woodland that are normally off-limits to birders, and our waterborne trips go where the birds are.”

Co-organizer Dave Wilson added that none of our trips were physically taxing and that the event provides a rare opportunity to tally 100 species in a day in places that are normally inaccessible to the public.

Additional sponsor and registration information, field trip descriptions and other resources for Delmarva Birding are available at www.delmarvabirding.com. To become a sponsor or for additional information contact Jim Rapp (443-614-0261) or Dave Wilson (443-523-2201) at Conservation Community Consulting at conservationcc@gmail.com.

Thompson to hold town meeting

Ocean Pines Association General Manager Bob Thompson will hold a town hall meeting on Tuesday, March 8 at 6 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. The meeting is open to the public.

Thompson will use the meeting as an opportunity to address comments and questions posed by Ocean Pines residents and property owners, who are encouraged to participate and share feedback. Questions may be submitted in advance via email to info@oceanpines.org.

Those unable to attend the meeting may view it live at OceanPines.org or on Mediacom channel 78. It also will be posted on the Ocean Pines website and will air on channel 78 afterward.

The Pink Flash

My first set of wheels as a kid was a little blue sedan that I peddled. I loved that little car, racing it down the drive-

ously turned the throttle. She finally came to a stop when she hit a rock and tumbled off the bike. My daughter and the kids in the yard, including the little boy who was the object of my granddaughter's attention, took off toward the Flash. When they reached her she was laughing. She got back on the bike and was off again, leaving all in the dust be-



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

hind her. way and parallel parking it between my father's car and my brother's tricycle. I really thought I was something.

Flash forward nearly half a century. My granddaughter, for Christmas, was given a dirt bike. She's three years old, soon to be four, and she got a dirt bike from her parents. I don't mean one that is peddled or that is battery operated. I'm talking about a real dirt bike with an internal combustible engine.

And get this, it has training wheels. My daughter and her husband didn't just get her the bike but also a complete protective apparel ensemble; from the helmet to the boots she's a walking fashion statement who punctuates her movements with an "I got this" attitude.

She's been riding for a couple months now and my son-in-law tells me that she's doing very well. She's getting the hang of the brakes and changing gears. Fortunately she lives across the street from a desert so there's plenty of room to ride and learn. On one of her first rides, as her father was showing her the ropes, she decided to open the throttle. Off she flew with her father running behind her, shouting for her to stop which she eventually she did. Like her father, I believe she will be a speed demon.

During a recent conversation with my daughter, she recounted that earlier that day my granddaughter also known as the Pink Flash was riding back and forth in front of the house. Her neighborhood friends were playing in the yard watching her. Gaining confidence, the Pink Flash decided to show off a little for one of the little boys by waving to him as she rode by. Unfortunately she became distracted and hit a bump. According to my daughter, who was watching the scene unfold, when she hit the bump, she sort of fell off the seat and simultane-

I like the fact that my daughter and her husband expose their children to many experiences and opportunities. However, in all honesty, I'm a little envious of my granddaughter. I had to wait until I was nearly fifty to get my first motorcycle. Do you know how embarrassing it is to be my age learning to ride a motorcycle with training wheels?



Author's Note: Last week Worcester County government suffered a tragic loss when Scott Tatterson of the Roads Division of Public Works was killed while performing maintenance along Greenbackville Road in Stockton. He and co-worker Wade Pusey were struck by a vehicle last Monday afternoon. Wade was flown to Shock Trauma in Baltimore where he remains as of this writing.

Scott, 48, left behind a wife (Robin) and twin children, Hunter and Katlynne, 17, who will graduate from Pocomoke High School in June. A college fund has been set up for the children. Your consideration of a donation would be greatly appreciated.

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New Logo • New Location • Exciting Networking Opportunity
Location: Ocean Pines Yacht Club, 1 Mumford Landing Road, Ocean Pines, MD

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EXPO
March 9, 2016
promote • connect • educate



<p>OP Chamber Member Exhibitor Space: \$150 each Double Spaces: \$250 <i>Please bring an item for the door prize drawings!</i></p>	<p>Non-Member Exhibitor Space: \$250 each <i>(\$100 toward membership fee if you also join the OP Chamber at the same time)</i></p>	<p>BAG SPONSOR <i>We will add your company logo and insert brochures to bags to be given out at registration. Add \$50 to your fee fee</i></p>
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Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce, 11031 Cathell Road, Berlin, MD 21811
Register with credit card online at: www.oceanpineschamber.org/events
or call the office at 410-641-5306

Online health resource available

Worcester County Health Department and Atlantic General Hospital have partnered to offer an online health resource for the community. The Network of Care website acts as a one-stop shop for all the services available related to public health, disease prevention and treatment, communicable diseases, crisis services, and more.

“For new and long-time members of our community, this tool is an extremely valuable resource offering a single place to find available health care resources and education, mental health services, health related support groups and senior services,” said Colleen Wareing, vice

president of Patient Care Services at Atlantic General Hospital.

Network of Care can be searched by health category, program or agency name, or by inputting a keyword related to your needs. This comprehensive directory is free and available 24/7. Listings are updated regularly and the website is available in more than 40 languages. .

“The Network of Care is a great asset to our community,” said Jessica Sexauer, acting director of Worcester County Health Department Local Management Board/Core Service Agency, “This website offers data broken down by county level, promising program practices, legislative tracking tools, and a ‘my personal health record’ tool where important health information can be organized and stored.”

The Network of Care resource can be found by visiting the Community Health and Wellness page of www.atlanticgeneral.org and clicking “Community Resource Guide” or directly at worcester.md.networkof-care.org.

Motorcoach tours offered

Spend a day you’ll never forget in Washington DC, a Day on Your Own or Cherry Blossom Luncheon Cruise.

This day trip, scheduled on Monday, April 4, offers two options from which to choose: explore Washington D.C. on your own at a cost of \$60 per person for motorcoach transportation; or take the Odyssey Luncheon Cruise to see the Cherry Blossoms at a cost of \$120 per person, which includes transportation and ticket to the luncheon cruise.

For the On Your Own trip, take advantage of seeing the sights of your Nation’s Capital. Enjoy time exploring the National Mall, visit one of the Smithsonian Museums or walk around the Tidal Basin to view the Monuments & Cherry Blossoms.

For the Odyssey Luncheon Cruise, you’ll enjoy a ride along the Potomac River for a breathtaking view of the World famous Cherry Blossoms. Step aboard the “Odyssey” and experience the elegance and entertainment only a true cruising vessel can provide.

For more information on this Motorcoach tour, contact Lea Cataggio, at 410-632-2144 ext. 109 or lcataggio@co.worcester.md.us. Don’t forget to visit our website at www.WorcesterRecandParks.org, join our mailing list, and like us on Facebook.

Women’s Club to meet

The Women’s Club of Ocean Pines will meet on Thursday, March 3, between 10 a.m. and noon in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center. The voter registration process will be explained and you will be introduced to the new voting machines.

Light refreshments will be served and there will be an opportunity to participate in a 50/50 Raffle. For information, contact Dianna Bolyard at 410-208-9326.

Parrothead Club to hold event

The Ocean City Parrothead Club will hold a social on Sunday, March 20 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. All current members and anyone interested in becoming a member are invited to join the group at Twining’s Shanty (Route 54, Fenwick Island, DE) for food and drink specials, raffles, games, prizes, and fun. Email ocphc@comcast.net for more information.

Wor-Wic: an education gem

By **Chip Bertino**

For more than 40 years Wor-Wic Community College has been serving residents of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties. Once known endearingly as the “college without walls” because it had no central campus and classes were taught in store-

1976. Through legislation enacted by the Maryland Assembly in 1989, Somerset County residents were allowed to attend at the in-county tuition rate.

The, College Without Walls nickname became obsolete in 1994 when the Academic and Administrative Building, subsequently Brunkhorst Hall, opened. During the next twenty years, the number of buildings multiplied quickly: Henson Hall (1999), Guerrieri Hall (2001), Hazel Center (2005), Jordan Center (2006), Fulton-Owen Hall (2007) and Allied Health Building (2011).

At the helm of the college since 2000 has been Dr. Murray “Ray” Hoy. His senior management team includes Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Steve Capelli, Vice President

for Institutional Affairs Dr. Reenie McCormick, Vice President for Administrative Services Jennifer Sandt and Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services Bryan Newton.

Wor-Wic offers postsecondary educational opportunities to area residents at a reasonable tuition. The open door admission policy allows those with a desire and ability to benefit from the provided courses and programs to enroll. According to Fall 2015 statistics, the average age of full time credit students is 26. The average age of non-credit students is 35.

The credit programs offered by the college lead to associate degrees in applied sciences, science, arts and teaching as well as proficiency certificates or letters of recognition. Additionally it



fronts, the college now boasts a multi-building campus on more than 200 acres on the corner of Route 50 and Walston Switch Road in Salisbury. It enrolls more than 10,000 students in 2,500 classes each year

What is now a well respected focal point for education on the Lower Eastern Shore, the college started humbly in 1975 when the State Board for Community Colleges approved a proposal for the creation of a community college to serve the postsecondary vocational and technical education needs of the residents of Worcester and Wicomico counties. That same year, the college’s Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Arnold Maner to serve as president, a position he held until retiring in 2000.

Continuing education courses were offered in the fall of 1975; credit programs were offered to students in fall

please see gem on page 8



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The Ocean City Aviation Association Breakfast

Saturday and Sunday Mornings
March 5 through May 29.
9 a.m. to noon

Pancakes, sausage, coffee and hanger flying
Suggested donation is \$5.

Proceeds benefit the Huey Veterans Memorial Fund
For details call
Coleman Bunting at 410-726-7207





Neighborhood Dinner - Ocean Pines residents who live on Drawbridge Road meet once a month to have dinner at different restaurants. Pictured recently at DeNovos are residents with organizer **Barbara Loffler** (third from the right) and **Andy Loffler** (second from right).



Donation

Star Charities Founder/Director Anna Foultz and her group of volunteers presented a check for \$6,600 dollars to the VFW and Wounded Soldiers on February 19 at the Ocean Pines library. Star Charities raised the money through its annual Beef and Beer event held January 8 at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

From left: **Janet Donaway, Sandy McAbee, Peggy Rumberg, Gilly Foultz, Robin Beall, Lee Tilghman, VFW Past State Commander Jack Lewis, Anna Foultz, Veterans and Military Support representative Thomas Kimball, Mary Evens, Larry Walton, Faith Stanley, Paul Mazzei, Sharon Sorrentino, Irmgard Heinecke, and Barbara Mazzei.** Photo by Ted Page.

Southgate Ocean Pines

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Wednesday
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Choice of salad or cup of soup **\$9.95**

Thursday
Meatloaf Dinner served with potato and a vegetable,
choice of soup or salad **\$9.95**

Friday
Fried Shrimp with Fries and cole slaw, served with choice of soup or salad **\$14.75**

Saturday
Crabcake served with 2 sides, and choice of soup or salad **\$15**

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gem
from page 7

offers the first two years of a baccalaureate degree with programs such as general studies, business, education and science for those who desire to transfer to a four year institution. All Wor-Wic graduates are guaranteed placement into a Maryland State college such as Salisbury University and University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

The FY2015 credit enrollment was 4,406 students or 1,934 Full Time Equivalents. The student profile for Fall 2015 was:

- Males: 35%
- Females: 65%
- White: 67%
- Non White: 33%
- Wicomico Residents: 58%
- Worcester Residents: 26%
- Somerset Residents: 9%
- Full Time: 28%
- Part time: 72%
- Average Credit Load: 9 cred-

its

- Occupational Majors: 52%
- Transfer Majors: 52%
- Undeclared Majors: 11%

The per credit cost for residents of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset is \$103; out-of-county, \$231; and out-of-state, \$284.

The college offers a wide selection of Continuing Education and Workforce Development courses. Courses are offered in fields such as supervision, computers, child care, health and industrial trades. In FY 2015, almost 300 employers paid the tuition for more than 2,500 employees. There are 6,112 students enrolled in non-credit courses during the three teaching semesters. In Fall 2015 there were 2,772 students enrolled. The student profile was:

- Males: 53%
- Females: 47%
- White: 61%
- Non White: 39%

- Wicomico residents: 55%
- Worcester residents: 18%
- Somerset residents: 18%

The college derives revenue from various funding sources including tuition/fees (39%), state (32%) and the counties (25%). In FY2015 Worcester and Wicomico counties allocated \$1.57 million and \$3.96 million to the school respectively. The total college budget for FY2015 was \$23,292,914.

The cost per full time equivalent student is \$8,504 which is considerably lower than the \$13,117 average of other small community colleges in Maryland (Allegany, Carroll, Cecil, Chesapeake, Garret and Hagerstown).

The college also offers dual enrollment with allows high school students to earn college credits while getting general education courses out of the way. Dual enrollment can significantly lower the cost of a college education and increase the likelihood of a student earning a bachelor's degree in four years or less.

Wor-Wic says in its class catalog, "whether [a student] is planning to earn a four-year degree or preparing for a rewarding career, there's no better place to begin than Wor-Wic. Not only will [a student] receive a top notch education, but [student and parents] can avoid going into debt."

And it is all available right here on the Lower Shore.

The author is the Worcester County Liaison for the Wor-Wic Board of Trustees.

STEVEN W. RAKOW
Attorney at Law

General Practice / Civil Litigation / Criminal Defense
Contracts / Construction Law

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- Former Assistant State's Attorney, Worcester County
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Understanding some of Maryland's handgun and firearm laws

By **Steven W. Rakow**, Esquire

Maryland's handgun and firearm laws are among the strictest in the nation. Understanding the laws fully means that one must comprehend both Maryland's Criminal Law Article as well as the Public Safety Article – statutes that can be quite confusing to the layperson. The Criminal Law Article defines firearms to include handguns, rifles, shotguns, and short-barreled rifles and short-barreled shotguns. The Public Safety Article defines firearms broadly to include any weapon that expels a projectile by explosive means and further defines a handgun as a firearm with a barrel less than 16 inches long. While not all firearms require permits, handguns do. Assault-style weapons and high-capacity magazines are banned altogether.

The following individuals may not possess a firearm of any kind: those convicted of a disqualifying crime (just about any crime of violence, assault, or sexual offense) and those convicted of distribu-

tion of any drug. Those under the age of 21 may not possess a firearm. There is an exception allowing juveniles to possess a firearm provided they are under supervision of someone over 21, which allows juveniles to hunt. Other under-21 exceptions include members of the armed forces, those required to possess a firearm due to their job, when participating in marksmanship training, and in self-defense inside a residence.

The law also regulates who can purchase firearms. Only one firearm may be purchased in a 30-day period unless multiple purchases are approved by the state, or if the person is a firearms dealer. Individuals purchasing firearms must submit an application, which includes a number of requirements including a handgun qualification license. Firearm training is just one of the requirements for firearm ownership.

There has been a lot of press hype about a "gun show loophole." The Public Safety Article defines a gun show as a place open to the public where any firearm is displayed. Anyone who is not a licensed firearms dealer must obtain a temporary transfer permit to display firearms for sale or transfer. Both the

gun dealer and the temporary transfer permittee must abide by all firearm sales requirements before making a sale. In essence, there is no "gun show loophole" under Maryland law.

The following are disqualified from obtaining a handgun permit: juveniles, anyone convicted of a crime and sentenced to more than a year, anyone convicted of any drug offenses – including possession, and anyone under age 30 who was found delinquent as a juvenile. Additionally, one may not be an alcoholic, drug addict, or be prone to violence. A handgun permit applicant must also demonstrate that he or she has a good and substantial reason to wear, carry, or transport a handgun as a reasonable precaution against a perceived danger and have taken, unless exempt, a handgun safety course.

Without a handgun permit, one may not wear, carry, or transport a handgun in Maryland. Maryland does not recognize handgun permits from other states. No permit is required to carry on one's property or business; to transport to or from a residence, place of business, or shooting range; or if one is a bona fide gun collector. When transporting, the

handgun must be unloaded and carried in an enclosed case or holster. Simply carrying a handgun in your car without a permit can result in a misdemeanor conviction with up to three years in prison.

Make sure you're aware of the firearm and handgun laws in Maryland – ignorance of the law is no excuse. Some of the more serious offenses involving unlawful possession of a handgun or firearm can result in many years in state prison. The scope of all handgun and firearm laws cannot be captured in the space of this article. Consult with an attorney experienced in firearms and handgun laws if you have any doubts about what you can and cannot do with handguns and firearms in Maryland.

Steven W. Rakow, Esquire, handled dozens of handgun and firearm possession prosecutions as an assistant state's attorney. Now in private practice, he focuses on civil litigation, construction law, criminal and traffic law, and other general practice matters. He's also a retired Marine officer. Steve can be reached at 410-600-3075, by email at steve@steverakowlaw.com, or through his website www.steverakowlaw.com.



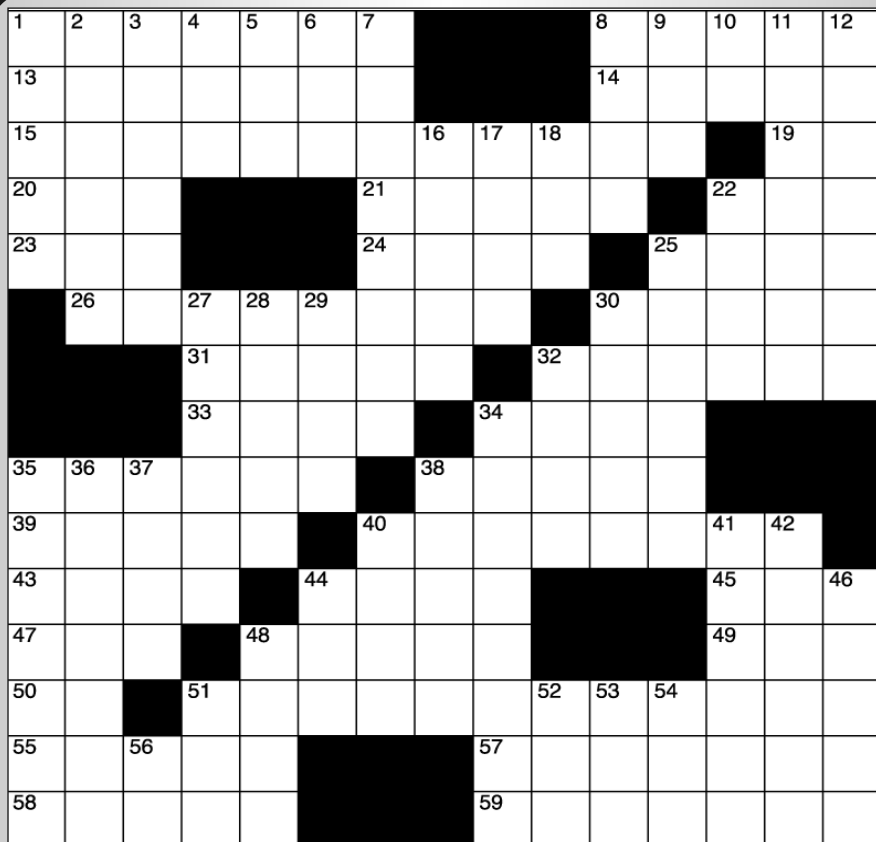
Steve Rakow



17th Annual Ocean Pines Community Easter Sunrise Service

If it rains, join us at the school at 6 a.m.
For more information call 410-641-6000

6 a.m. at
Showell Elementary School

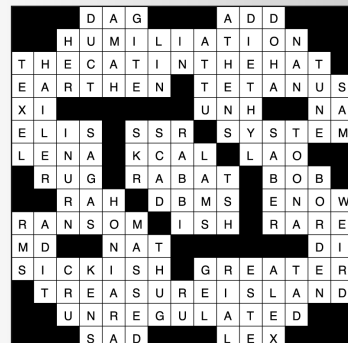


ACROSS

- 1. Sold at a higher price
- 8. Instill fear
- 13. Can be domesticated
- 14. Oohed and ___
- 15. Make too simple
- 19. Plutonium
- 20. Necessary for breathing
- 21. Make happy
- 22. Mythological bird
- 23. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 24. Put on ___
- 25. Type of dough
- 26. Blushed
- 30. Celestial object
- 31. Point ___ National Seashore
- 32. Purplish red
- 33. Towards the mouth or oral region
- 34. Portuguese musical genre
- 35. Steals
- 38. Acts insincerely
- 39. City in Belarus
- 40. Anticipates
- 43. Paris air-

DOWN

- 1. Portico
- 2. Delicacy
- 3. Punish with an arbitrary penalty
- 4. Household god (Roman)
- 5. Public television station
- 6. ___ Lilly, drug company
- 7. Degraded
- 8. Free from danger
- 9. Low bank or reef of coral
- 10. Exclama-
- 11. Lies down in rest
- 12. Give an education to
- 16. Provides
- 17. Fat from a pig
- 18. Belonging to a thing
- 22. Branches of a bone
- 25. Having a cheerless aspect or disposition
- 27. Edema (archaic)
- 28. Bo __, Ò10Ó
- 29. Unfledged or nestling hawk
- 30. Surrenders
- 32. Type of desert
- 34. Planted with trees
- 35. Washing-
- 36. Listen in
- 37. Inwardly
- 38. Chinese province
- 40. Garrison
- 41. Converts thermal energy to mechanical work
- 42. Holy people
- 44. Lowest point between two peaks
- 46. Boundaries
- 48. Utter obscenities
- 51. ___ and cheese
- 52. Member of the cuckoo family
- 53. Type of microscope
- 54. ___ and Barbie
- 56. Michigan



Answers for Feb 24

Eyes on the Skies

Early Exploration of Mars

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



The month of March marks the transition from winter to spring and there are corresponding changes

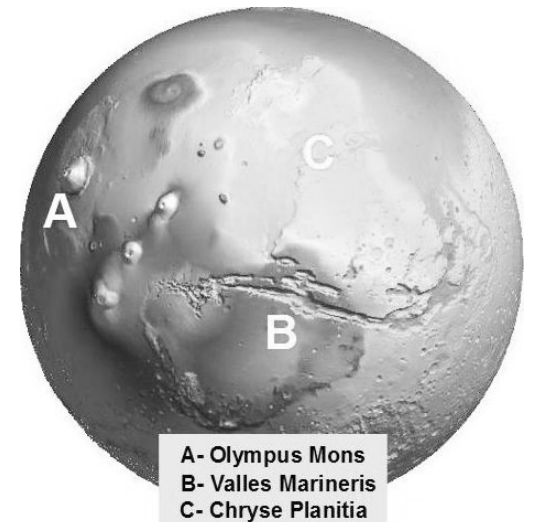
in the night skies. Over the course of the month the sun sets later, with an abrupt change occurring on March 13 when daylight saving time (DST) takes effect.

The theme of planetary explorations continues this month with Mars. Located fourth in line from the sun, Mars is outermost and coldest of the terrestrial, rocky planets. The other terrestrials are Mercury, Venus and Earth. Prior to launching space probes, astronomers knew some basic characteristics of Mars including that it is half of Earth's size (diameter) and its orbit around the Sun takes almost two years (686 days).

When the first probes were launched in the 1960s, speculations of intelligent life on Mars had long since died away. Readers may recall that from the early 1900s some claimed that canals had been constructed on the red planet. Some still speculated about simple plant life such as lichens or mosses, even up to the dawn of the space age. For example, in 1956 Professor Gerard Kuiper noted a "touch of moss green" in the Mars equatorial regions. Seasonal changing of its polar caps caught astronomers' imaginations as well, leading to notions of

Martian water flows. Curiosity ran high as the first space probes made their way to the planet.

The first successful vehicle was Mariner 4 reaching Mars with a flyby in July 1965. This probe photographed the planetary surface from a height of about 12,000 kilometers, taking about 22 successive shots. It also sampled



the strength of the Martian magnetic field and measured the Martian atmosphere.

The Mariner 4 results were quite interesting. First, the photographs revealed the presence of craters clearly visible on the surface - an indication that the forces of erosion had played little role over the planet's history. Second, the planet seemed to have no

please see eyes on page 11

Tide and Sun Chart

* tide is for Ocean City Fishing Pier. Add two hours for Isle of Wight tide

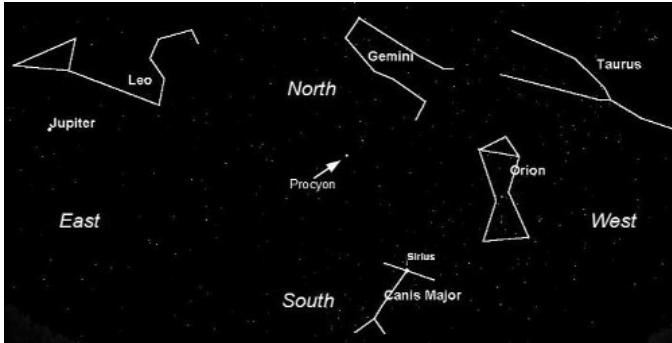
DATE	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Thur., March 3	2:12 a.m. 2:32 p.m.	8:33 a.m. 8:40 p.m.	6:29 a.m.	5:56 p.m.
Fri., March 4	3:11 a.m. 3:31 p.m.	9:32 a.m. 9:38 p.m.	6:27 a.m.	5:57 p.m.
Sat., March 5	4:07 a.m. 4:25 p.m.	10:28 a.m. 10:36 p.m.	6:26 a.m.	5:58 p.m.
Sun., March 6	4:59 a.m. 5:17 p.m.	11:21 a.m. 11:30 p.m.	6:24 a.m.	5:59 p.m.
Mon., March 7	5:50 a.m. 6:08 p.m.	12:10 p.m.	6:23 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Tues., March 8	6:39 a.m. 6:58 p.m.	12:23 a.m. 12:57 p.m.	6:21 a.m.	6:01 p.m.
Wed., March 9	7:28 a.m. 7:49 p.m.	1:14 a.m. 1:43 p.m.	6:20 a.m.	6:02 p.m.

eyes
from page 10

measurable magnetic field, suggesting a lack of molten interior responsible for Earth's magnetism. Perhaps the most surprising observation was extreme thinness of Mars atmosphere – only about one-half of one-percent of Earth's.

Next, Mariners 6 and 7 examined Mars during flyby missions in 1969 confirming the planet's low atmospheric pressure and obtaining more detailed images of its cratered region.

Analysis of the Martian atmosphere found carbon dioxide and water ice clouds, ionized hydrogen, and ionized oxygen. Technical failures prevented further detailed observations.



The arrival of Mariner 9 in November 1971 marked the opening of new scientific vistas. While orbiting above the Mars surface for 349 days, Mariner 9 took 7,329 photos covering about 80% of the planet, surpassing all expectations. In addition, the probe made scientific observations of the two Martian moons, Phobos and Deimos, as well as further atmospheric testing, and searching for any heat-production from volcanoes.

The Mars photographs revealed some of the biggest, widest and deepest features, dwarfing similar features on Earth. An enormous Mars volcano, "Olympus Mons" is more than three times as tall as Mount Everest. An enormous canyon at the Mars equator, the "Valles Marineris" is 2,500 miles long, and would extend all the way across the United States. This enormous canyon is 10 times longer and four times deeper than the Grand Canyon, the largest one on Earth.

The southern regions of Mars contain its oldest craters whereas the northern area consists of flat, low-lying plains.

As if this were not fascinating enough, a number of possible ancient river beds were discovered. For example, patterns of water erosion described as large outflow channels appeared in photos of an area called "Chryse Planitia" suggesting that liquid water may have once flowed on Mars. All this served to reinvigorate interest in the red planet.

On March 2, Orion will appear hovering over the southern horizon just as the sky becomes dark at about 7 p.m. Orion will be surrounded by its usual companions, Taurus the Bull to the west, Gemini the Twins to the northeast, and the brilliant Sirius to the southeast. To the northeast of Sirius, one can see the star Procyon. As the evening goes on, spring constellations come into view, beginning with Leo the Lion which can be seen over the eastern horizon after about 7:30 p.m. To Leo's southeast the planet Jupiter will enter the stage after about 8:30 p.m.

Daylight saving time begins on March 13 and this changes the stargazing times. Clocks should be set forward one hour, so that the times of all celestial observations will jump forward by one hour, as well.



Dinner fundraiser - Ocean Pines residents enjoyed eating the dinner during the New Hope United Methodist Church Fried Chicken Dinner fundraiser on February 20. Standing (L-R) **Dot Carey, Marie Brittingham, Lee Hudson**, who celebrated her birthday and **Isbelle White** event chair. Seated (L-R) **Peggy Rozzano** and **Irma-gard Heineck**.

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County accepting applications for STEM internship, leadership and camp programs

Worcester County Economic Development (WCED) is accepting applications from Worcester students ages 12-22 for 2016 STEM Summer Programs, which provide exceptional opportunities to explore career paths in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Online applications will be available at www.chooseworcester.org/STEM beginning March 1 and are due no later than March 31.

"WCED offers the STEP UP and Reach for the Stars programs to engage local students in STEM disciplines," WCED Director Merry Mears said. "These programs allow students, from middle schoolers through the university level, to engage with professionals in their own community while allowing businesses the opportunity to home grow their workforce."

Reach for the Stars STEM Camp is a computer science and aerospace en-

gineering summer camp taught by a team of qualified educators and engineering professionals. Students will participate in hands-on activities, engineering challenges, and related field trips. Offered at The Red Doors Community Center on 3rd Street in Ocean City, the camp is open to Worcester residents currently enrolled in grades 6-8. There is no cost to participate in the camp, and daily transportation is provided from central pickup points in Pocomoke, Snow Hill, and Berlin. Space is limited to 20 students. This eight-day camp will take place July 18-21 and July 25-28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

New this year is the Worcester STEM Leadership Program for students currently in grades 9-11, added as a bridge from the camp years to the internship program. Students will participate in professional development sessions on Thursdays from June 30-July 28 to develop and en-

hance leadership skills. They will work with Hardwire LLC, the Pocomoke-based engineering company that produces armor systems, to complete a team engineering challenge. Students will be selected by application and interview, and will earn a \$250 stipend for participation.

The STEP UP Summer Internship Program provides high school and college students with hands-on work experience in a STEM career field, thus allowing them to apply classroom studies to real life tasks. Interns will be placed in local medical settings, IT companies, engineering firms, environmental science agencies, and digital media production companies. They will also participate in professional development sessions, while on the job, that teach communication, time management and career skills. Interns are paid \$11/hour for 100 hours of program participation between June 1

and July 28. To be eligible, students must currently be in grades 11-12 or Worcester County residents attending a university and majoring in a STEM field.

Along with completed applications, students applying to any of the three programs must provide transcripts and contact information for recommendations from teachers, community members, or former employers. Transcripts should be mailed to:

STEM Summer Programs
Worcester County
Economic Development
100 Pearl Street, Ste B
Snow Hill, MD 21863

For more information, please contact Fawn Mete at 410-289-5576 or fawn@reddoors.org or visit www.chooseworcester.org/STEM.

CLASSIFIEDS

Display Ads: \$15 per column inch Deadline: 5 p.m. Friday Prepayment required. Cash or check accepted



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Community Calendar

When submitting items for the calendar please include the event name, date, where held, time and a little about the event. Items being considered for the calendar need to be in by noon on Friday. E-mail to thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Mondays

Ocean Pines Poker Club

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

Open every Monday through October: **Historic St. Martin's Church Museum.** 1-4 pm. 11413 Worcester Highway, Showell, MD. For more information, call 410-251-2849

Sweet Adelines

The Delmarva Sweet Adeline Chorus meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Call 410-641-6876.

Mon. & Tues.

Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge

Open bridge games Monday at 12 p.m., Tuesday at 10 a.m. at OP Community Center. Call Mary Stover 410-726-1795

Mon., Wed. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

OC Baptist Church's Thrift Shop by Seaside Christian Academy behind White Marlin Mall open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat. Call 410-251-6971.

Tuesdays

Families Anonymous

From 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at room 37 in the the Community Church at Ocean Pines on Rte. 589. For more information call Carol at 410-208-4515.

Take off Pounds Sensibly Meeting.

Berlin group No. 331, Worcester County Health Center 9730 Healthway Dr., Berlin, 5:30-7:00 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly on Tuesdays. Info: jean-duck47@gmail.com

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Poker players wanted for Gentlemen's Poker in North Gate

area Ocean Pines. Game played every Tuesday & Thursday evening 5:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. on Pinehurst Rd. Ocean Pines. Call 410-208-0063 for more information.

Wednesdays

Kiwanis Club Meeting

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

Elks Bingo

Ocean City Elks in Ocean City (behind Fenwick Inn) open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 and bingo at 7 p.m. Call 410-250-2645.

Delmarva Hand Dancing

Dancing at The Fenwick Inn in Ocean City from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Contact 302-934-7951 or info@delmarvahanddancing.com

Rotary Club

Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. at the Captains Table in Ocean City. Contact Stan.Kahn@carouselhotel.com.

Square Dancing

The Pinesteppers have introduction to square dancing at the OP Community Center at 7 p.m. Call Bruce Barrett at 410-208-6777.

AL-Anon/OP-West OC-Berlin

Wednesday Night Bayside Beginnings Al-Anon family meetings are held at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

The Shepherd's Nook at Community Church at Ocean Pines is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 410-641-5433.

Diakonia Thrift Shop

'Used to be Mine' offers clothing, furniture, household items and

more. Proceeds benefit Diakonia shelter and pantry. Located at Rte. 611 and Sunset Ave. Open 10 - 4. Call 410-213-0243.

Thursdays

Story Time

Stories, music and crafts at 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3-5 at Ocean Pines library. Call 410-208-4014.

Beach Singles

Beach Singles 45 for Happy Hour at Harpoon Hanna's at 4 p.m. Call Arlene at 302-436-9577, Kate at 410-524-0649 or Dianne at 302-541-4642.

Legion Bingo

American Legion in Ocean City opens doors at 5:30 p.m., games begin at 7. For information call 410-289-3166.

Gamblers Anonymous

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

Fridays

Knights of Columbus Bingo

Bingo will be held behind St. Luke's Church, 100th St. in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments available. Call 410-524-7994.



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K of C dinners scheduled

The Knights of Columbus will host their Simple Supper at Columbus Hall located behind St. Luke's Church on March 30 and April 27 between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The cost is \$7 per person. There will be a cash bar. For more information call 410-524-7994.

Bull, oyster roast set

The Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual downtown Bishopville Party, Bull and Oyster Roast on Friday, March 18 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the fire hall. All your favorites will be served: oysters, beef sandwiches and fried chicken. Call 410-352-5757 for tickets which are \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door. Proceeds will be used toward the purchase of a new fire truck.

Breakfast to be held

The First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City will hold its Grace Parker All You Can Eat Breakfast on Wednesday, March 2 between 7 a.m. and noon. The menu will include eggs any style, pancakes, buckwheat pancakes, Milton sausage, country ham, homemade biscuits, hash brown potatoes, grits, coffee and tea. The cost is \$8 or \$6 for carry out. For more information call 410-289-9340.

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- Ocean Pines Association Basic Assessment Fee Paid for one year (*non-waterfront*)
- One Year Free Trash Collection from Republic Services (*must be existing customer*)
- \$200 Credit towards Electric Bill courtesy of Choptank Electric (*must be existing customer*)

2nd Place: *Spring Cleaning Package*

- One Free Air Conditioning Tune-Up from 5-Stars Plumbing, Heating & Cooling
- \$50 worth of lawn care from Reynolds Lawn Services, LLC
- One Free House Cleaning from Git R Done Cleaning Services

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or purchase online at: www.oceanpineschamber.org
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Spring is almost here with Easter due at the end of the month. To me Easter is the start of the summer season, fresh vegetables and lots of healthy foods. We can now look forward to the local garden markets and all of their goodies.

With Easter comes family gatherings and if you are asked to bring a dish here are some suggestions for you.

Salmon Appetizer

1 - 14.75 oz. can of red sockeye salmon
 3 T. chopped onion
 1 stalk finely chopped celery
 1 T. finely chopped green pepper
 1 T. horseradish
 Chopped parsley or flakes
 2 T. mayonnaise
 Salt, pepper and dill seasoning to taste

Remove any bone and skin from salmon. Add the rest of the ingredients and mix well. Form in long roll. Chill and serve with crackers.

Raspberry Aspic

3 - 3oz. size of raspberry Jell-O
 6 T. horseradish
 5 Cups V-8 juice

Heat V-8 juice, add Jell-O and horseradish. Pour into 6 cup greased ring mold. Chill until set. Remove to platter and put small cup of mayonnaise in center. Garnish with cucumber slices dipped in lemon juice.

Legion to hold meeting

On Tuesday March 15 at 7 p. m. the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166 will hold its monthly meeting at the American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 23rd Street in Ocean City. Current members and those interested in becoming a member are encouraged to attend.

OCAA to hold breakfast

The Ocean City Aviation Association will hold a pancake breakfast each Saturday and Sunday during March between 9 a.m. and noon. The suggested donation is \$5. The event will benefit the Huey Veterans Memorial Fund. For more information call Coleman Bunting at 410-726-7207.

Sweet Potato Casserole

3 lb. can sweet potatoes
 1 lb. 4 oz. can apple pie slices
 1 cup milk
 1/2 cup melted butter
 1/3 cup brown sugar
 1/4 cup molasses
 3 eggs
 1/2 t. cinnamon
 1/2 t. nutmeg
 1/2 t. grated lemon rind
 2/3 cup raisins

Beat potatoes and apples until smooth, add milk, beat in rest and stir in raisins. Bake uncovered in greased casserole for 50 - 60 minutes at 325 degrees. (This is a buffet recipe. For dinner cut ingredients in half.)

Enjoy,
 bevwisch@aol.com

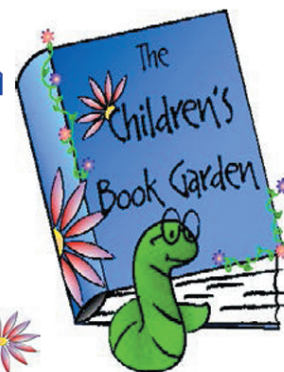
Happy Birthday



Ed Novack celebrated his birthday at the Tuesday Night Bridge Club at the Ocean Pines Community Center recently. Above are **Charles Smith, Marion and Ed Novack, and Jo Smith.**

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