

A close-up portrait of a man with a mustache and goatee, wearing a blue baseball cap and a plaid shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a warm-toned wall with some green and pinkish leaves visible on the right side.

# The Courier

March 3, 2021 Volume 21 Number 24

**James Guy**

*Communicating through art*



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# Communicating through art

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Approximately one in six children have a developmental disability. During March the Worcester County Developmental Center (WCDC) will demonstrate how people with developmental disabilities can lead normal lives with proper sup-

ing behind your artwork? You do a lot of work that is beautiful and looks like statues and windows.

**James:** It's scenery and things I have seen.

James is an emotional artist who brings everything to life with his touch. As he said, most of his works are based on his memories.

**WCDC:** How does your artwork connect with you.

**James:** It's like a bond. It is hard to answer. It's just a feeling of peace when it's painting time, drawing time, you know? Whatever comes into my mind, it all gets put together. If it's in my mind, that's what I must want to do so I do it.

James' artwork is dreamlike. From the round spires to the solid lines and the hues, every stroke is very intentional.

**WCDC:** When people see your artwork, what do you want them to know about you?

**James:** That I am somebody.

Josephine Jarmon, a WCDC instructor who works with James in one of the WCDC residential homes, said, "James is an amazing young man who brings tears to my eyes every time I see his gift of painting and drawing. He has such gifted hands, and he works very hard on his goal and dream to someday have his own art studio."



James Guy

port structures. The center joins with people without disabilities to create strong, diverse communities.

WCDC is the only brick and mortar facility in Worcester County that provides comprehensive support services including day housing and employment services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Recently, WCDC started to transition into a center for the arts for people with disabilities. WCDC believes all clients will be able to find their "voice" through art and become more integrated into the community. Art is a way to speak when you don't know the right words to say.

Since May 2016 James Guy has been a participant in WCDC residential and day programs. Seasonally, James works on the center's lawn crew, but his passion is his art. The following interview gives insight into what James' art means to him. From his bold color palette to his great use of lines, James takes his viewers on a journey through his eyes.

**WCDC:** What is the mean-

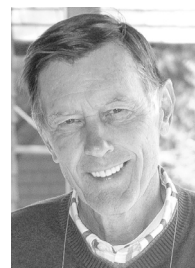




# Origins of a Witch Hunt ... or how not to run an HOA

Commentary by **Joe Reynolds**

A recent OceanPinesForum.com commentary examined an OPA Board of Directors' witch hunt to track down anyone involved in a purported scheme to start a "smear campaign" against OPA General Manager John Viola. Since then, more disturbing evidence has come to light, evidence that is not speculative but based on public comments by members of the OPA Board of Directors.



Apparently, the origins of the witch

hunt date back to a closed session of the board last August following the Organization Meeting where, subsequent to the election, the board selects corporate officers for the coming year. During that closed meeting, the board apparently decided to hire an attorney to investigate charges that one or more OPA top-level employees were planning a "smear campaign" against General Manager John Viola.

Here is what OPA vice-president Colette Horn had to say on February 20, 2021 about that August closed meeting: "The board voted unanimously in closed session to elicit an independent investigation of the senior management team based on allega-

tions that I cannot disclose due to confidentiality requirements."

Former OPA department head Colby Phillips says OPA president Larry Perrone told her in November 2020 "there was a unanimous vote to hire an attorney to investigate her." OPA board member Frank Daly says the investigation had no "target."

On February 23, 2021, Frank Daly wrote: "Credible, serious allegations were made regarding an attempt to undermine the GM. The Board approved the investigation to determine if the allegations were true. The investigation was conducted by Counsel. ... At the onset of the investigation there were no specific 'targets'."

The board apparently was concerned that any or all of OPA's department heads might be planning a smear campaign "attack" on General Manager John Viola. Common sense and a close examination of what transpired could lead a reasonable person to conclude Colby Phillips was the target.

On February 24, 2021, former OPA director Steve Tuttle, who was also in that closed meeting, wrote: "To the best of my memory there was a not a formal (board) vote (to hire an attorney). Maybe I had a senior moment. At the time I didn't believe this was a serious matter, that there really was a planned smear campaign. Rumor, yes but actual, not sure."

Tuttle also wrote: "The GM was not in the closed session where perhaps a vote (to hire an attorney) was taken. The GM told me that he had been told that someone was planning a smear campaign against him. No statement from the (GM) that it was a credible report. To the best of my memory, no other source of the rumored smear campaign was presented."

Tuttle recalls only General Manager John Viola talking about a smear campaign against Viola.

And this also from Tuttle: "There were no names presented at the closed session or in any other conversations I had with the GM as to who was planning the smear campaign. Frankly, I

would need other Board members to confirm that, in fact, a vote was taken (to hire a lawyer). My recollection is that it was discussed and President Perrone was designated as the person to set up an independent investigation. There were little, if any, statements that in fact there were credible charges."

Note that Tuttle's recollection is very different than Daly's as to "credible charges" about some supposed smear campaign against the General Manager.

Noting the differences of opinion, on February 24, 2021 Daly wrote: "A little different. The GM was not in the meeting (agreeing with Tuttle). I would have to review the minutes as to whether or not a vote was taken. I am certain there were no objections, so it may have been via unanimous consent. Probably the largest difference is regarding names. I do recall that at least one individual that described the threat was identified. I consider them to be a solid homeowner within the community with a distinguished record of community service (not some guy named Mike who thinks Ocean Pines is located in Delaware)."

The above statement by Daly is rather astounding. Daly practically confirms the witch hunt. He says the board hired an attorney based on the board identifying one individual who described the "threat." Notice the use of the word threat.

Net result — some individual who was perceived to be a distinguished member of the community with a record of community service told the GM or some board member that there was a serious threat emanating from within OPA's highest level employees to start a "smear campaign" against General Manager John Viola.

The investigation by the board's attorney apparently cost about \$15,000 of your hard-earned assessment payments and produced no credible evidence of the threat of any smear campaign against General Manager

*please see commentary on page 6*

## Courier Almanac

On March 3, 1875, indoor ice hockey made its public debut in Montreal, Quebec. After weeks of training at the Victoria Skating Rink with his friends, Montreal resident James Creighton advertised in the March 3 edition of the *Montreal Gazette* that "A game of hockey will be played in the Victoria Skating Rink this evening between two nines chosen from among the members." Prior to the move indoors, ice hockey was a casual outdoor game, with no set dimensions for the ice and no rules regarding the number of players per side. The Victoria Skating Rink was snug, so Creighton limited the teams to nine players each.

Health screenings are a vital component of preventative health care. Specific screenings for older adults can help them stay healthy. Healthline and WebMD recommend older adults schedule these routine tests. The frequency of the screenings may depend on individuals' health histories, so each test should be discussed with a physician during adults' annual checkups.



40

-Pap smear and HPV tests at the recommended intervals advised by a

doctor

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- Osteoporosis test
- Shingles and pneumococcal vaccines
- Eye exam
- Periodontal exam once per year..

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# Abandonment

Three years ago next week, my family situation changed unexpectedly when my wife and I adopted a shelter dog, or more accurately, a shelter puppy about three or four months of age. The antics of my dog Chooch have been discussed in this

searched until I found him curled up beside the sofa where my wife was sleeping. What's this? He raised his head to acknowledge me and then settled back down. My abandonment issues were somewhat allayed realizing he was keeping quiet vigil by my wife's side, or from his perspective I guess, his mother. But still, I was a little surprised.

My family is of the single observation that Chooch is my dog, that he's my shadow. The only exception being when my granddaughter is around

and he drops me like a bag of dirt. My wife and Chooch have at times had a very rocky relationship especially when he was a puppy. His housebreaking training was fraught with many unpleasant situations that irked my wife considerably. But during the past three years, things between them have improved. Yet, it's me with whom he sticks to closely. I've grown accustomed to this and even though I sometimes trip over him because he has to be "right there," I like it.



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

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

space several times since that time. He's an imp who can be a handful, a royal pain in the ... neck and a lovable companion simultaneously. But he's my pal, my buddy, who goes fishing with me, sits with me on the back porch on clear summer evenings as I enjoy a cigar and adult beverage while listening to the Big Bands and enjoys riding shotgun in the truck when I go to the post office. And, each evening when I watch television, he curls up at my feet.

So, I took notice not too long ago when our evening ritual was askew.

My wife hadn't been feeling well since the night before, spending most of her time on "Get Well Island," which is actually our sofa encircled by all sorts of feel-better aids and the television remote. Clutching a heating pad and ensconced beneath a blanket she slept most of the time. In her rare moments of wakefulness which could be determined when her eyes opened just a slit, she attempted to finish the sweet and sour soup I had gotten her. Aside from getting her the soup, there really wasn't much I could do. Through the years I've learned that the best way I can help her when she's not feeling well is to just let her be, which is what I did this time. I retired to the family room to watch some television.

While streaming an episode of an old legal drama, I absently reached down to run my fingers through Chooch's fur. There was no fur to be felt just air. What's going on here? I paused Prime. Where was he? Curiosity got the best of me. I was feeling a little abandoned which I know sounds silly. Through the house I

So, on the night in question, I went back to the family room trying to process the scene I found in the living room. Was I feeling jealous that Chooch had left me for my wife? At one point my wife came into the room. Chooch followed. As my wife and I talked for a few minutes, Chooch took his place by my feet. As soon as my wife turned to go back to the living room, he got up, looked at me, and then walked slowly to follow her. He spent the rest of the evening tucked up against the sofa.

Fortunately, by the following morning my wife was feeling fine. The world was again normal. Chooch has been back at my side or at my feet.

My wife found the whole situation amusing even more so because of the way I felt abandoned. Chooch has been reaping unexpected rewards with additional cookies from my wife. Maybe he knew what he was doing the whole time. I really hope though he doesn't become a "Mama's Boy."



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# Viola shines spotlight on OPA teamwork

General Manager John Viola, during the June 20 Ocean Pines Association meeting, highlighted staff teamwork during his monthly report to the Board.

"I've said this before and I'll say it again ... our team is fully engaged [and] is operating on all cylinders," he said.

He extensively featured Public Works' efforts on recent drainage projects, including on a Board-approved initiative to use a new process on drainage pipes along Ocean Parkway.

According to Viola, the new process would help address aged and rusted-out piping in a manner than is cheaper and less disruptive than prior methods used in the community. The Association budgeted \$375,000 for the work, but the new "cured-in-place pipe" (CIPP) process is expected to cost just \$207,000.

Viola also credited the Finance team for work done on the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget, and he said Director of Finance and Operational Logistics Steve Phillips put in some last-minute work to help reduce assessments ahead of the Board's vote to approve the budget.

He said Recreation and Parks would oversee repaving on the White Horse Park parking lot during the spring, once asphalt plants reopen. The department will also handle improvements to the Robin Hood Park playground.

Marina maintenance will occur from now through April 1, with board replacements expected to wrap about a month before the season starts.

Viola said the Golf maintenance team continues to work on greens, fairways and trees near holes two and three. The Association sent an email update to Golf members last week, which also included details

about a new handicap program and new hours at the Clubhouse Grille.

Ocean Pines also made improvements at the Yacht Club, including new wallpapering and painting in the ballroom and foyer, and new carpeting, lighting and painting in the bridal suite.

Viola said the county reviewed plans for new Racquet Sports courts, with permitting expected to follow shortly.

Turning to financials, Viola the Association closed out January roughly flat when compared to budget estimates, with revenues off by \$6,000, but expenses finishing about \$7,000 better than expectations.

Year to date, Ocean Pines is ahead of budget by about \$1.147 million. Viola said the current forecast for the close of the fiscal year is a positive balance of around \$650,000.

Following his report, Association Vice President Colette Horn thanked Viola for promoting teamwork within the Association, and especially for highlighting workers who normally fly under the radar.

Viola said one of his favorite words is "balance," and that he's encouraged both department heads and their subordinates to step up on key projects.

"I'm trying to get everybody involved, especially the number twos ... [and] they are doing a tremendous job," he said. "We're certainly seeing it in the results. A lot is getting done."

To view video of the full General Manager's Report, visit [https://youtu.be/ff05F\\_4GQUY?t=1649](https://youtu.be/ff05F_4GQUY?t=1649).

*commentary  
from page 4*

John Viola by OPA employees.

However, Colby Phillips says OPA vice-president Colette Horn saw the investigative results as giving the "perception" that Colby Phillips was the suspected threat.

There was apparently a strange level of paranoia over Colby Phillips within the board and the General Manager.



**Special breakfast** - On February 19, the Worcester Preparatory School Alumni Association sponsored a 100-Day Breakfast celebration marking the senior class countdown to graduation. In lieu of a speaker, alums sent in words of wisdom that were shared in the event program. Breakfast was generously sponsored by the WPS Alumni Association and Dunkin' Donuts and each student was gifted a WPS acrylic tumbler.

Above: WPS Development Coordinator Amy Tingle, Head of School **Dr. John McDonald**, SGA Vice President **C.C. Lizas**, SGA Secretary **Sophia Ludt**, SGA President **Teague Quillin**, SGA Treasurer **Arusa Islam**, SGA Liaison **Hannah Perdue**, Head of Upper School/Assistant Head of School **Mike Grosso**.

## Board approves FY21-22 budget, sets assessment at \$996

The Ocean Pines Board on Saturday voted 6-1 to approve the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget and set the basic annual assessment at \$996.

That figure represents a \$10 increase over the prior fiscal period.

Director Doug Parks, who is also the Association treasurer, said the budget reflected \$15,956,299 in revenues against \$13,024,180 in operating expenses.

Bulkhead and drainage repair expenses totaled \$1,368,221 and capital expenditures totaled \$1,047,970, Parks said.

The budget process started last fall, when department heads used a bottoms-up approach in crafting the budget at the direction of General Manager John Viola. Viola instructed each department to give budget estimates without specific adjustments related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

After a thorough review by Viola, Parks said the budget went through public review by the Budget and Finance Committee and the Board of Directors. It was also posted to the Association website, and the Board held a public hearing on Feb. 6 "to present the budget to the membership

and have an open discussion with the membership to address any questions or concerns," Parks said.

Parks thanked Viola and Director of Finance and Operational Logistics Steve Phillips for helping with some last-minute calculations, which helped to lower the assessment to \$996, from an earlier estimate of \$1,021.

"Kudos to them for the quick turnaround," Parks said. "I think they did a yeoman's job in getting this information, so we can have an updated budget that better reflects the real needs of the Association with regard to expenses and the overall annual assessment."

Association President Larry Perrone said those changes included removing salary and medical benefit costs related to the recent departure of Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips, as well as a significant reduction in health insurance premiums.

"We were anticipating a premium increase," Perrone said. "The original information we got from our broker was [that] it would be at about \$300,000. On Thursday, they advised

*please see **budget** on page 15*

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

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# New launch monitor enhances lessons, club fittings

Individual instruction and club fittings at Ocean Pines Golf Club with PGA General Manager of Golf John Malinowski now feature the Foresight GCQuad Launch Monitor.

This state-of-the-art technology can be used to help personally fit clubs to an individual's swing by ensuring the correct loft, lie and shaft. It is compatible with Ocean Pines Golf Club's TaylorMade club fitting system and other golf club manufacturers.

Professional club fittings ensure that the purchase of a new set of clubs is a worthwhile investment.

"Every golfer is built differently and has different swing characteristics, which is why it is so important for golfers to have clubs that are fit specifically for them," Malinowski said. "Properly fit clubs will help the golfers play and make better contact with the ball, which will ultimately help them to score better."

The price for a full club fitting, which includes irons, woods and putter, is \$50. A fitting for irons only is \$40. A woods fitting is \$30, and a putter fitting is \$20.

The new launch monitor can also

be used in private golf lessons for all ages by determining club path, face angle at impact, club head speed, distance, and point of contact on the clubface to enhance the personalization of instruction.

A thirty-minute lesson for ages 14 and under is \$20. Adult lessons are \$40 for thirty minutes and \$70 for sixty minutes.

"The indoor hitting bay can also be used for lessons in cold and inclement weather without the need for resched-

uling or wearing bulky clothing or jackets," Malinowski said. "This time of year, it allows golfers to get professional instruction to help make their game better now, instead of waiting several months for the weather to improve."

Appointments for private lessons or club fittings can be made by calling the Golf Shop at 410-641-6057 or emailing [jmalinowski@oceanpines-golf.org](mailto:jmalinowski@oceanpines-golf.org).



## Wor-Wic STEM info session to be held

Wor-Wic Community College is inviting prospective students and their families to learn more about the college's STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs. This virtual session will be held on Wednesday, March 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Visit the events section of [www.worwic.edu](http://www.worwic.edu) to register. For more information, call 410-334-6906.

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*In the Rear View Mirror*

# Dodge Dart: unsung hero of the compact set

**By Bruce Palmer**

One of the most-frequently seen, yet seldom talked-about cars of the classic era is one which quietly marked its place in automotive history among the most-reliable and economical vehicles of the 1960s and 70s - the mighty little Dodge Dart. It seemed as though all of us had a school teacher, neighbor or grandparent who drove one, if there wasn't one in our own driveway.

In order to best-identify the car we refer to, it helps to first specify what it is not. The "Dart" name first appeared in the Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge fam-

first mass-produced compact, the "Lancer." In its brief two year run, Dodge Lancer never sold well but the all-new Dart would quickly reverse Dodge's compact fortunes. With the most basic model starting around \$1,980, it was one of the cheapest cars in Detroit...\$10 cheaper than even a new '63 Chevy Corvair.

Dart hailed in 4 styles: 2-door, 4-door, station wagon and convertible. Lower and higher trim models were available along with a sporty "GT," but the only available engine was a thrifty 6-cylinder. In its sophomore year of 1964, the first V8 became optional but

90% of the Darts built still rolled off the assembly line with that economical "six-banger."

As far as produc-



**1966 Dart**

tion was concerned, it was all smiles at Dodge headquarters. An impressive first-year sales total

ily as a "dream car" concept which made the auto show circuit of 1957. Three years later, the nameplate showed up as a production vehicle. At this point, it wasn't a

of more than 150,000 ballooned past 200,000 by '65 and grew further still to what would become Dart's biggest



**1973 Dart**

separate model but rather just a name given to the cheapest available (full-size) Dodge at the time. This would remain the case through 1962.

And clearly, we're not talking about the modern-era Dart, based on Chrysler Corporate partner Fiat's compact body, which returned the name to Dodge Dealers' showrooms in 2013.

The classic Dart rolled onto Main Street, USA in 1963, replacing Dodge's

sales year ever in 1966. Over the period, despite quietly increasing power availability under the hood Dart remained a solid and reliable economy car capable of delivering nearly 25 mpg. Quite the feat at a time when industry averages were hovering in the teens.

By 1967, Chrysler Corporation decided that Dodge's little Dart was due for an update and so an entirely-new look was introduced—one which would largely remain through the end of the car's run.

**1967 Dart**

Even though the chassis had stayed the same, this all-new Dart appeared larger, more modern and ready for action. The station wagon version went away, leaving just sedans, hardtops and convertibles. Sales began to dip but most automotive historians would argue this was due largely to heavy competition from the equally-restyled sister car by Plymouth called "Barracuda."

As the end of the 1960s neared, all the major automotive

**1972 Dart**

manufacturers were getting into a game of engine power "one upmanship" and the Dodge Dart wasn't immune. What had once been exclusively a thrifty economy car could be packed with 330+ horsepower, turning the under-3000 lb car into something of a rocketship but this was clearly the exception as 6-cylinder versions continued to outsell the V8s by 3-to-1.

In 1970, a mild re-style of the 1967-69 body resulted in a remarkably new look and sales were on the rebound; back up near 200,000 for the first time in several years. "Economy" continued to be the way the car was positioned and marketed—everyone knew that, when you wanted to spend the least on gas—you bought a Dart from Dodge. Prices remained affordable with a basic 2-door sedan starting about \$2,400 in '71, increasing to nearly \$2,500 by 1973 and up past \$2,800 in '74 when the addition of

Government-mandated equipment began to take its financial toll.

Throughout the first half of the 1970s, Dart's appearance changed lit-



tle but sales stayed between 150 and 175 thousand annually. While some really liked the consistency and reliability others began to want something new. And something new was on the way. It was called "Aspen," destined to replace Dart for good with the unveiling of the new 1977 models, leaving the '76 Dart a "last of its kind."



Across 14 model years, the compact Dodge Dart populated the American road to the tune of about 2.8 million. Perhaps that's why, when you look back at photos of the 1960s and 70s, Darts were a veritable part of the landscape, quietly racking-up economic miles from city streets to suburban roads, supermarket parking lots and closer to home in Grandmom's driveway.

**DART**  
*Swinger*



# Festival gains exclusive film rights

Four new independent films that made their premieres at prestigious international film festivals have been added to the line-up of the 5th Annual Ocean City Film Festival, streaming March 4 to 11 at [OCMDFilmFestival.com](http://OCMDFilmFestival.com). These films have not yet been released to streaming services, and viewing during the Ocean City Film Festival will be exclusive.

"Because these movies are in between the festivals where they premiered and received rave reviews and the streaming services picking them up, we've had the opportunity to score exclusive viewing rights to these four fantastic films, all award winners at films festivals," B.L. Strang-Moya, Film Festival director, said. "Even with us obtaining these rights, only a limited number of people will be lucky enough to watch them during our festival. So, if one of these films interests you, don't wait too long to get your pass."

"Banksy Most Wanted," an 82-minute French film that premiered at the Alantida Spain Film Festival in 2020, follows the curious story of the graffiti street artist turned unidentified art world celeb. Behind Banksy's name hides a multitude of stories, artworks, stunts, political statements, and identities, leading to one of the art world's biggest unanswered questions: Who is Banksy?

"Through the Night," a 75-minute American film that debuted at the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival, explores the personal cost of the modern economy through the stories of two working mothers and a child care provider whose lives intersect at a 24-hour day-care center.

"Preparations to Be Together for an Unknown Period of Time," a 95-minute Hungarian film that premiered at the Venice Film Festival in 2020, tells the story of Márta, a 40-year-old neurosurgeon who leaves her American career and returns to Budapest to start a new life with the man she loves. But the man claims they have never met before.

"Jumbo," a 93-minute French film that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2020, is the story of a shy young woman fascinated with carousels who works in an amusement park while still living at home with her

mother. Jeanne meets Jumbo, the park's new flagship attraction.

Viewer discretion is advised for all films. Films are unrated. Jumbo contains sexual content and nudity and is recommended for ages 16+.

These films will stream as part of the Ocean City Film Festival, March 4-11. Festival passes are on sale now at [OCMDFilmFestival.com](http://OCMDFilmFestival.com) or by calling 410-524-9433. Prices allow customization to create a personal viewing experience. Passes start at \$10 per feature film or film block. Multi-film packages are also available: 6 features and/or film blocks, \$49; 13 features and/or film blocks, \$99. All-Access Pass are \$149.

The Ocean City Film Festival is produced by and as a fundraiser for The Art League of Ocean City and supported in part by these major sponsors - Town of Ocean City, Maryland State Arts Council, The Princess Royale, and The Maryland Film Office - as well as other generous sponsors throughout the community.

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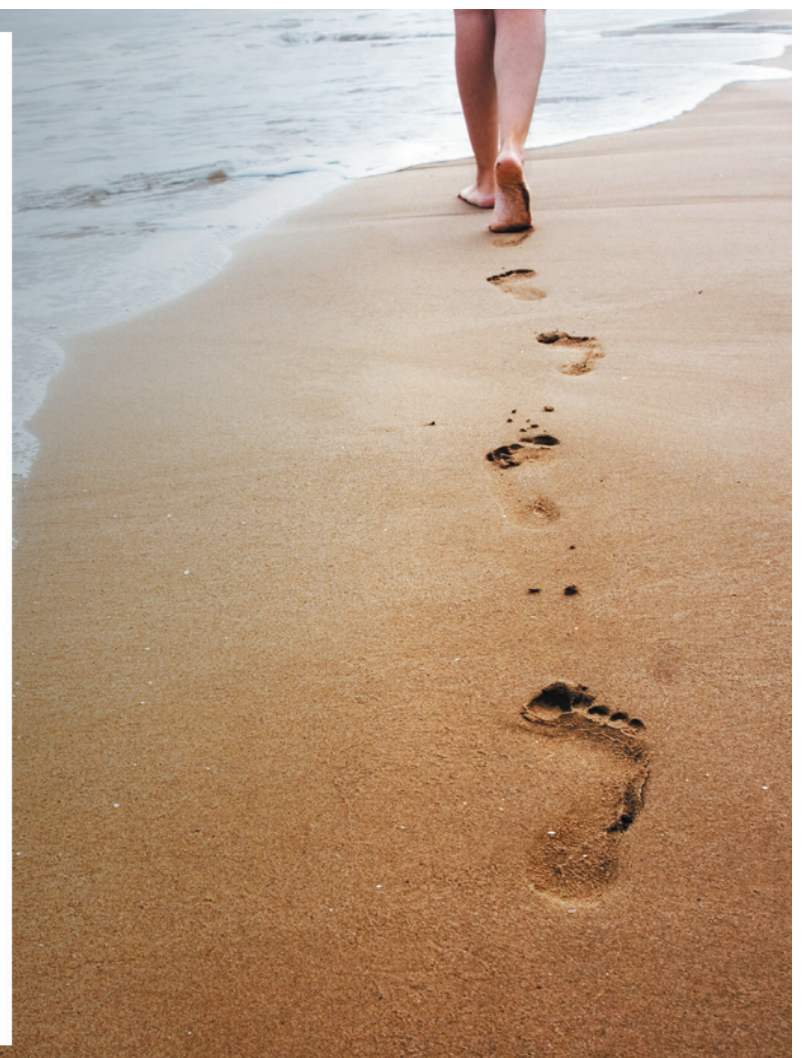
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**My Backyard...** sponsored by Maureen Kennedy

# Birds need extra assistance in winter

Cold weather can be particularly taxing on many of the birds individuals discover in their backyards throughout the year. Although some species migrate to warmer climates each winter, many stay put and attempt to ride out winter in their normal habitats. Birds that tend to stay put include finches, sparrows, titmice, jays, woodpeckers, chickadees, and cardinals.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology says that, in much of North America, winter days can be windy and cold for birds, and nights are even more challenging. In winter, birds no longer have berries and lush vegetation to consume and insects have died or gone underground. Since finding food can be especially difficult, and shelter may be scarce, many birds can benefit from a little help from their human friends.

Shelter. Wild Birds Unlimited says shelter for birds is hard to come by in winter. Trees have shed their leaves, and evergreens may not be as abundant or protective. As a result, birds frequently seek man-made structures that can provide refuge from the elements.

People can provide shelters for birds, which may include traditional birdhouses, windbreaks and snow shields. Even a brush pile can simulate the natural shelters of trees and shrubs that birds prefer. Roost boxes are another option and one that can accommodate small flocks that will group together and share their body heat.

Use leaves and branches to provide

natural camouflage and help attract birds to the shelter. Offer yarn, fabric scraps, cotton, and other insulating materials that birds can use to help make their shelters more comfortable.

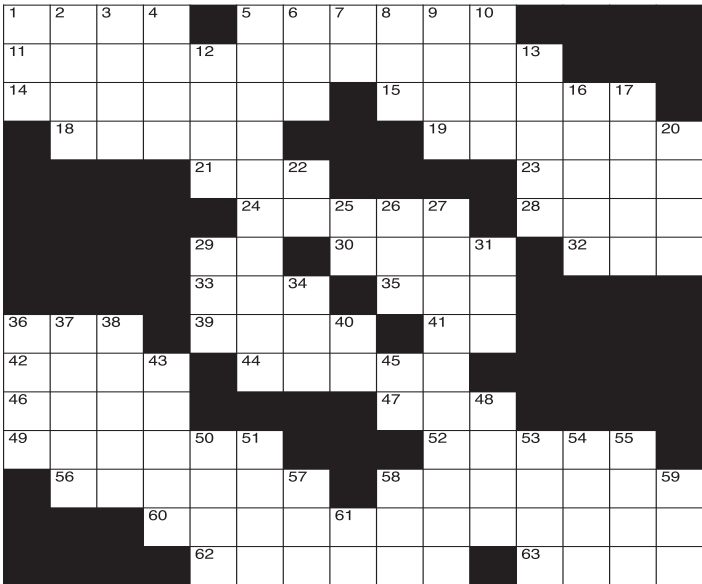
Food. Birds require high-calorie and high-fat foods in the winter so they can keep up their metabolism to generate warmth. Also, since birds' feeding habits vary depending on the type of bird, it may be necessary to place feeders at varying heights to maximize access.

Feeders should be located out of the wind and in an area that offers safe refuge from predators. The National Wildlife Federation also says individuals should put out sizable feeders and/or use multiple feeders to provide ample food during snow and ice storms. Feeders should be checked regularly and kept full.

Consistency is also important because birds will grow accustomed to being supplemented with food and may depend on such supplements to survive.

Bird Watcher's Digest suggests a variety of foods for birds. Black-oil sunflower seeds, peanuts, suet, cracked corn, millet, thistle seed, safflower, and various fruits can help many birds thrive. It's also suggested to include mealworms, which can be purchased at bait stores or pet stores. These larvae of beetles can be presented in a shallow dish with slippery sides so the worms cannot crawl out.

Birds typically need extra support to survive harsh winters. Offering food and shelter during these bleak months can help.

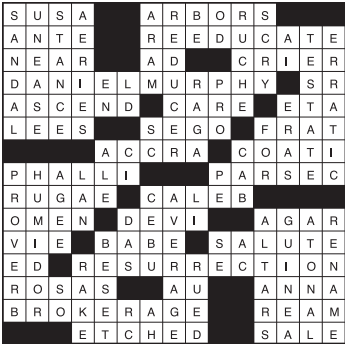


### CLUES ACROSS

1. One of Noah's sons  
5. Openings  
11. Rising from the dead  
14. Expressions for humorous effect  
15. North American country  
18. Flowed over  
19. Tags  
21. Long-lasting light bulb  
23. Off-Broadway theater award  
24. Khoikhoi peoples  
28. Beloved movie pig  
29. South Dakota  
30. Tai language  
32. Get free of  
33. Afflict
35. Transmits genetic information from DNA  
36. Commercials  
39. Digits  
41. Expression of sympathy  
42. Bleats  
44. Swiss Nobel Peace Prize winner  
46. Vegetable  
47. Turf  
49. Disorganized in character  
52. Takes  
56. Rules over  
58. More fervid  
60. Sweet drink  
62. Cry loudly  
63. A friendly nation

### CLUES DOWN

1. A title of respect in India  
2. His and \_\_\_\_  
3. Employee stock ownership plan  
4. A type of bond (abbr.)  
5. Acting as if you are  
6. Affirmative  
7. Not caps  
8. Type of medication  
9. Monetary unit  
10. Private school in New York  
12. Small stream  
13. A person of wealth  
16. Exclude  
17. Someone who vouches for you  
20. Vegetable part  
22. Gov't lawyer  
25. Term to address a woman  
26. Swiss river  
27. About senate  
29. \_\_\_\_ Paulo, cityr
31. Native American tribe  
34. "Titanic" actor  
36. Campaign for students' rights (abbr.)  
37. Capital of Senegal  
38. Slang for military leader  
40. Football's big game  
43. Women who threw themselves on funeral pyres  
45. Equally  
48. Forest animal  
50. Heavy stoves  
51. Releasing hormone (abbr.)  
53. Song  
54. Type of pickle  
55. Offer in return for money  
57. Soviet Socialist Republic  
58. Burns wood (abbr.)  
59. Beloved singer Charles  
61. Three-toed sloth



Answers for February 24



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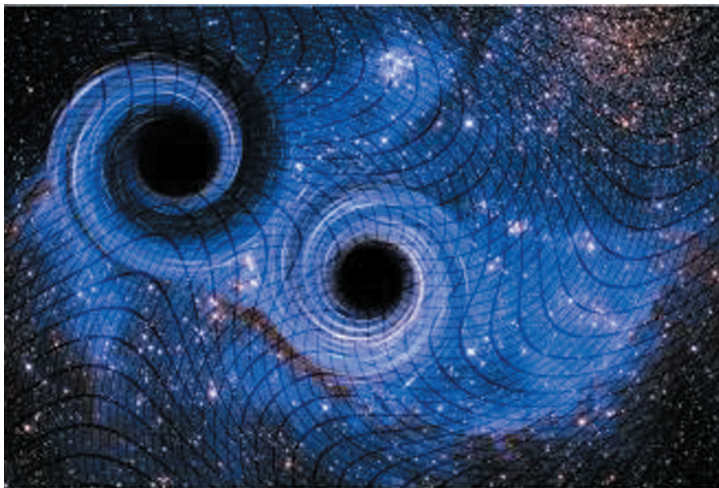
# Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



## Emerging evidence of gravitational waves

Twentieth century discoveries of unusual and surprising formations in the cosmos, such as pulsars, neutron stars, and black holes are continuing into this century with achievements in the new field of “gravitational waves.”



## Gravity waves emitted by collision of black holes

In February 2016, an instrument known as the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observer, (LIGO) made headlines around the world with the first direct detection of gravitational waves. The waves had been generated by two converging black holes located three million light years

remote. Three leading researchers of the LIGO group, Rainer Weiss, Kip Thorne and Barry Barish were awarded the Nobel prize in physics in 2017, for this discovery.

Gravitational waves are undulations, or “ripples” in space and time that are emitted from massive objects like black holes, especially when two of them undergo a collision process.

When a gravity wave passes through space, its influence causes subtle distortions of objects as it passes by. For many decades, these undulations were mainly hypothetical. More than a century ago, in 1916, Einstein’s theory of relativity included the concept of gravitational waves. Observatories like LIGO are using sensitive laser interferometer technology to measure the small, subtle ripples, thus confirming the theory.

In 2007 the U.S. based LIGO observatory merged its operations with a similar gravitational wave observa-

tory, VIRGO, based in Italy. Since the initial discovery of the waves in 2016, their combined efforts have detected 67 mergers of black holes, as well as collisions between neutron stars and black holes.

Another group of astronomers, known as North American Nanohertz Observatory for Gravitation, (NANOgrav) are using a different method of tracking gravitational waves. Astronomy fans may know that pulsars emit regular “blips” of radio radiation. NANOgrav is carefully monitoring any subtle changes in the timing patterns of pulsar blips which in turn indicate that space is undergoing vibrations caused by the gravity waves. NANOgrav has been observing 45 pulsars for at least three years and, in some cases, for well over a decade.

On January 11, 2021, NANOgrav announced its latest results in the “Astrophysical Journal Letters.”

The paper’s lead author, Joseph Simon, at the University of Colorado said: “Here on the Earth, we’re actually kind of bobbing in an ocean of low frequency gravitational waves. And as these waves pass, the Earth gets kind of pushed around very slightly, very

slowly, in slightly different directions.” Astronomers consider those published results to be consistent with low-frequency gravity waves, but they are not yet definitive. Yet they’ve found a strong signal in the data-set.

Research astronomers describe NANOgrav’s mission as exploring the “gravitational wave background,” which spans all of the cosmos. This background is believed to have been created early in cosmic history, when enormous galactic black holes underwent frequent collisions. In contrast, LIGO examines waves from smaller and specific cosmic events.

Four centuries ago, Galileo’s telescope opened the path of astronomy using visible light. Modern technology expanded this to include a variety of wavelengths like radio waves, infrared, gamma and x-rays. Even neutrino astronomy is now among the technologies useful to modern researchers. In this new century, gravitational waves offer an additional avenue for exploring the universe.

On February 18, NASA achieved another milestone, successfully landing the Perseverance Rover on Mars.

please see **evidence** on page 12

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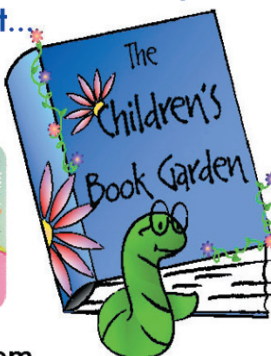
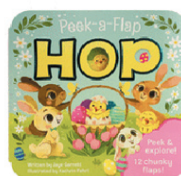
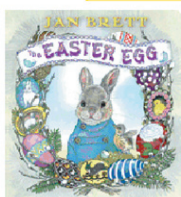
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# What to look for when test driving preowned vehicles

Preowned vehicles have become hot commodities in recent years, reflecting a change in what drivers are looking for when it's time to get a new ride.

According to the market and consumer data experts at Statista, preowned vehicle sales increased every year between 2014 and 2019 and more than doubled the number of new cars sold each year during that period. For example, in 2019 United States car buyers purchased 40.8 million preowned vehicles and right around 17 million new vehicles.

There are many reasons why more car buyers are increasingly looking to

the preowned vehicle market when replacing their existing vehicles. Certified preowned vehicles have increased consumer confidence in used cars and trucks and extended warranties have helped ease concerns buyers may have about such vehicles.

As reliable as preowned vehicles can be, prospective buyers must remain diligent when considering a used car and truck. Potential mechanical issues can be discussed with a mechanic of buyers' choosing, but it's up to drivers to gauge other factors that can affect how enjoyable it may or may not be to drive a given vehicle. Test drives remain a great way to get a feel for preowned vehicles and prospective buyers can consider various factors to determine if a given car or truck is for them.

**Comfort:** Comfort is a big consideration when purchasing new vehicles, and there's no reason to downplay the importance of comfort when shopping for preowned vehicles. Consider the available headroom and legroom when test driving a vehicle, but also take note of comfort-based accessories that the vehicle may or may not have. For example, if you've grown accustomed to heated seats on your existing vehicle, then a preowned vehicle without such seats, or one without functioning heated seats, will likely bother you in the years to come.

**Visibility:** Sight lines vary from vehicle to vehicle, so make sure your test drive is long enough to give you an accurate idea of a vehicle's visibility. Blind spots may not differ much in new versus older models or even in vehicles made by the same manufacturer, but they can differ considerably between manufacturers (i.e., Toyota versus Nissan). Get a feel for blind

spots during the test drive to determine if you'll be comfortable driving a given vehicle.

**Connectivity:** Modern vehicles are designed to connect with our devices, and drivers have quickly grown to prioritize connectivity. Compatibility with devices can make it easier to use GPS and stream music while driving, so don't hesitate to connect your phone when test driving a vehicle. If the car and phone are incompatible, that can affect how much you enjoy driving the car.

Preowned vehicles are incredibly



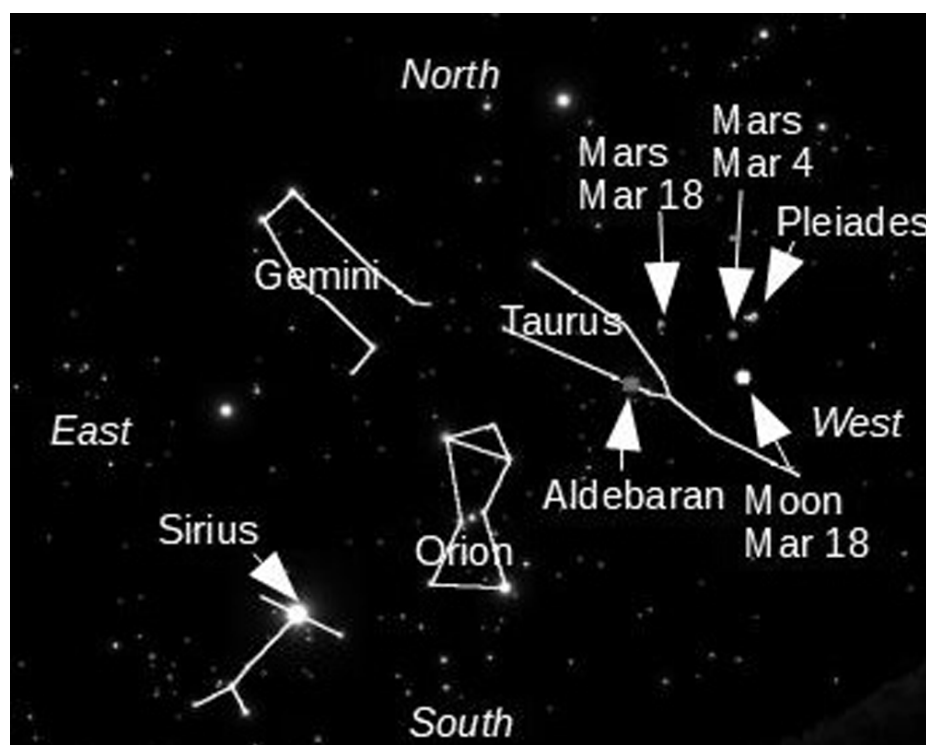
popular. Buyers considering used cars or trucks can look for certain things during a test drive to determine if a given vehicle is the right fit for them.

## OPA sets up one email address for general questions

To help improve customer service, Ocean Pines is asking that all homeowners and residents send general questions, complaints, or concerns to [info@oceanpines.org](mailto:info@oceanpines.org), or contact 410-641-7717 during business hours, or 410-641-7747 after business hours and on weekends.

Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski and Public Works Office Manager Linda Martin will handle questions sent to that email address and redirect them to the proper person or department, if needed.

"We feel this will be a more efficient method of ensuring that people's concerns are being addressed in a timely manner," General Manager John Viola said. "This will also allow us to have controls and metrics as part of a dashboard created by Linda, to make sure the system is operating efficiently."



evidence  
from page 11

This mission is the first step in the elaborate program designed to drill and collect Martian rock specimens for several years, then to blast off and bring the samples back to Earth. Astronomy fans can sense the future excitement occurring in 2031 when the Martian materials are arriving back and examinations can begin for clues of ancient life.

As the March sky grows dark at about 7 p.m., Orion appears prominently, well above the southern horizon. The great hunter will be surrounded by his usual companions, Taurus the Bull and Gemini the Twins. Leo the Lion is majestically anticipating the arrival of spring and after 8 p.m. emerges in the eastern sky.

When Daylight Saving time begins on Sunday, March 14, stargazing times will jump one hour later.

The planet Mars continues its prominence this month appearing near Taurus and the Pleiades cluster. Since February 25 and continuing until March 11, Mars appears within five degrees of the well-known cluster. The closest approach occurs March 4, when Mars comes within two degrees of the Pleiades. On the 18, Mars, the moon, the Pleiades and Aldebaran form a rectangle in the sky.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.

## Annual flounder tournament returns

The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce announced their 14<sup>th</sup> annual Flounder Tournament and Auction will take place on Saturday, August 7.

This year there will be larger cash prizes and calcuttas. Anglers must be registered by noon on Friday, August 6. Weigh in will take place at the Ocean Pines Marina and Yacht Club. Lines in at 7 a.m., out by 3 p.m., and fish must be weighed by 4 p.m.

All information and registration can be found at <https://business.oceanpineschamber.org/events/details/14th-annual-flounder-tournament-12667>.

For more information and to register, call the Ocean Pines Chamber at 410-641-5306 or email [info@oceanpineschamber.org](mailto:info@oceanpineschamber.org). Ocean Pines Association and Gateway Subaru are the event's main sponsors. More sponsorships are available.





**Collaborative art** - The Berlin Intermediate School (BIS) Afterschool Academy Art Club completed a collaborative art piece demonstrating their love for BIS. The piece is inspired by the artist Jim Dine and his abstract heart paintings for Valentine's Day and American Heart Month. Students pictured are **Cooper Glover, Luke Riser, Nadia Menendez, Emory Jack, Lily Philavanh and Caitlyn Crockett.**

## TidalHealth Gastroenterology has new location

TidalHealth Gastroenterology has a new location at the Woodbrooke Medical Park in Salisbury, Maryland. The office was formerly located at Riverside Drive.

The new building was designed specifically for the needs of patients and staff. Located off Route 50, it is a comfortable and accessible location for care. In addition to the Gastroenterology practice, the Woodbrooke Medical Park now includes TidalHealth Primary Care, TidalHealth Family Lab, TidalHealth Neurology and TidalHealth Neurosurgery.

The TidalHealth Gastroenterology office in Salisbury is located at 1640 Woodbrooke Drive, Salisbury, and

may be reached at 410-912-5640. Other offices specializing in gastroenterology are located at TidalHealth Nanticoke and the TidalHealth Ocean Pines campus.

## Chamber Community Expo returns in May

Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce announced its second annual Open Air Community Expo will take place on Saturday, May 1, between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at White Horse Park. Social distancing protocols will be in effect. The rain date is Saturday, May 8.

## Women's Club to award scholarships

The Women's Club of Ocean Pines (WCOP) will be awarding scholarships in June 2021 to promising students who are full-time residents of Ocean Pines. These students must graduate from high school in good standing with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 and plan to attend an accredited institution for further education. These awards may be used by the recipient to help defray post-high school expenses at any approved degree, certificate-granting college or university, technical or vocational school.

The WCOP Scholarship committee will consider the applicant's needs, goals, scholarship, citizenship, community service, extra-curricular activities and motivation. The club believes in non-discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin or family status, in both principle and practice.

Applications for these scholarships may be found on the Naviance website. All applications must be returned to a senior counselor at

Stephen Decatur High School by March 22. Qualifying applicants who do not attend Stephen Decatur High School are asked to call 410-641-8046 for information and/or an application.

## Health Dept. offers youth stop smoking program

Do you need help quitting smoking or vaping? If so, we are here to help! The Worcester County Health Department is committed to preventing tobacco and nicotine product use among youth and offering quit resources. The Worcester County Health Department is offering a youth Tobacco Cessation Program, set to begin in March. The online program is designed for youth ages 14-17. Join one of our youth smoking cessation classes starting next month:

-Wednesdays, March 24 to June 17 (3 p.m.-4 p.m.) Online Distance Learning

-Thursdays, March 25 to June 18 (4 p.m.-5 p.m.) Online Distance Learning

The program consists of ten weekly sessions that are 50 minutes in length. Through group support, you are able to meet with a trained tobacco coach who will support you during your quit journey. Key topics of discussion will include stress management, communication, nicotine addiction, effects of smoking and vaping, reasons for quitting, how to develop a quit plan, and relapse prevention.

Enroll today and you will receive weekly handouts, a quit kit, earned prizes for participation, quit resources, and more! All materials will be mailed directly to your home. For more information or to register, please contact Alyssa Rink by email at [Alyssa.Rink@maryland.gov](mailto:Alyssa.Rink@maryland.gov) or by calling 410-632-1100 ext. 1102. Pre-registration is encouraged.

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# Fare to remember

Jack Barnes pulled together some nostalgic photographs and information about the beginnings of some restaurants that have become part of the American landscape.



**A&W** began in June 1919, at 13 Pine Street in Lodi, California, when Roy W. Allen opened his first root beer stand. Two years later, Allen began franchising the drink, arguably the first successful food-franchising operation. His profits came from a small franchise fee and sales. The following year, Allen partnered with Frank Wright to help Wright with the root beer business he had started that year. They branded their product A&W Root Beer.



**Dairy Queen**

Opened 1940 in Joliet, Illinois

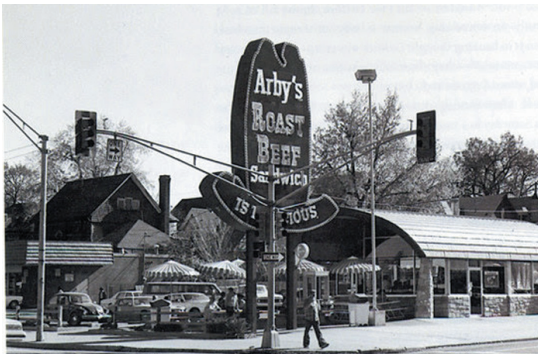
The **McDonald** family moved from Manchester, New Hampshire to Hollywood in the late 1930s, where brothers Richard and Maurice McDonald began working as set movers and handymen at Motion-Picture studios. In 1937, their father Patrick McDonald opened "The Airdrome", a food stand, on Huntington Drive (Route 66) near the Monrovia Airport in Monrovia, California with hot dogs being one of the first items sold. Then Hamburgers came along and were ten cents with an all-you-can-drink orange juice at five cents. In 1940, Maurice and Richard ("Mac" and "Dick") moved the entire building 40 miles (64 km) east, to West 14th and 1398 North E Streets in San Bernardino, California. The restaurant was renamed "McDonald's Bar-B-Que" and had twenty-five menu items, mostly barbe-cue.



The predecessor to **Burger King** was founded in 1953 in Jacksonville, Florida, as Insta-Burger King. After visiting the McDonald brothers' original store location in San Bernardino, California, the founders and owners (Keith J. Kramer and his wife's uncle Matthew Burns), who had purchased the rights to two pieces of equipment called "Insta" machines, opened their first restaurants. Their production model was based on one of the machines they had acquired, an oven called the "Insta-Broiler". This strategy proved so successful that they later required all of their franchisees to use the device. After the company faltered in 1959, it was purchased by its Miami, Florida franchisees, James McLamore and David R. Edgerton. They initiated a corporate restructuring of the chain, first renaming the company Burger King. They ran the company as an independent entity for eight years (eventually expanding to over 250 locations in the United States), before selling it to the Pillsbury Company in 1967.

**Arby's**

Opened 1964 in Youngstown, Ohio ... (ARBY'S also, started as ROY ROGERS ROAST BEEF..in Van Nuys, Calif.)



**Dominos**

Opened 1960 in Ypsilanti, Michigan





**budget**

from page 6

us that the new estimate was a reduction of about \$100,000."

Director Tom Janasek said he would not vote for the budget, because of those last-minute changes.

"I just haven't had a chance to review it diligently enough to vote 'yes' on this," he said.

Director Frank Daly praised the new budget and said he had requested many of the final changes.

"I think this budget has been put together in a very concise manner," he said. "We asked the general manager and his team to put one [together] from the bottoms-up and they did it. [And] things were very carefully reviewed by the Budget and

Finance Committee."

Daly said the final assessment increased over the prior budget "exactly at the rate of inflation."

"Just like everybody's household, Ocean Pines faces inflation and we're managing to do what we're doing and still keep [within] that inflation rate," he said.

Parks said he received questions about a projected surplus from the current fiscal year, and why that wasn't used to help reduce the assessment.

"Unfortunately ... it doesn't really work that way," he said. "Retained earnings allows us the flexibility to address any issues that may be out of our control due to COVID restrictions continuing through the upcoming fiscal year. So, I think it's a prudent and conservative approach to keep the money in retained earnings, anticipating that we may have to make some adjustments in ... the revenue that we won't realize if certain restrictions are put on activities."

Parks specifically mentioned Recreation and Parks, Golf, and the Yacht Club as departments that could suffer revenue losses if pandemic restrictions continue.

"We just wanted to make sure that

retained earnings are being used appropriately," he said.

Viola said another thing the new budget would do is end prior-year deficits that, at one point, totaled roughly \$1.6 million.

"Our team, along with this Board, we inherited somewhere around \$1.6 million of deficit," he said. "With this budget ... that deficit is going to be wiped out."

"Part of that [deficit] would have been part of the assessment to pay it off – we didn't need it," Viola continued. "This Board over the last three years, and your team [of staff], we covered that \$1.6 [million]."

Also on Saturday, the Board also approved a 6% delinquent assessment fee.

"This 6% has been consistent over the past several years," Parks said, adding that Ocean Pines bylaws require setting the rate. "It's not a departure from anything we have done in the past."

To view video of the meeting, visit [https://youtu.be/ff05F\\_4GQUY](https://youtu.be/ff05F_4GQUY).

To view the approved fiscal 2021-2022 budget, visit [https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/914415/RecommendedBudget\\_FY21\\_22\\_2.19.21.pdf](https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/914415/RecommendedBudget_FY21_22_2.19.21.pdf).

**Tides for Ocean City Inlet**

Day		High /Low	Tide Time
Th	4	Low	5:38 AM
	4	High	11:47 AM
	4	Low	5:49 PM
F	5	High	12:21 AM
	5	Low	6:41 AM
	5	High	12:44 PM
	5	Low	6:46 PM
Sa	6	High	1:24 AM
	6	Low	7:47 AM
	6	High	1:48 PM
	6	Low	7:47 PM
Su	7	High	2:34 AM
	7	Low	8:57 AM
	7	High	2:58 PM
	7	Low	8:52 PM
M	8	High	3:46 AM
	8	Low	10:07 AM
	8	High	4:07 PM
	8	Low	9:58 PM
Tu	9	High	4:51 AM
	9	Low	11:11 AM
	9	High	5:08 PM
	9	Low	11:01 PM
W	10	High	5:46 AM
	10	Low	12:02 PM
	10	High	5:59 PM
	10	Low	11:56 PM

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*Memory Care*  
*Respite Care*

430 West Market Street  
Snow Hill, MD 21863  
410.632.3755



*Assisted Living*  
*Memory Care*  
*Respite Care*

300 Lemmon Hill Lane  
Salisbury, MD 21801  
410.742.1432



*Short-Term Rehabilitation*  
*Long-Term Care*  
*Memory Care*  
*Respite Care*

110 West North Street  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
302.856.4574

