

The Courier

March 17, 2021 Volume 21 Number 26

Expressing Creativity
Peter Gibson

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Art Matters

The expression of creativity

By Elaine J. Bean

Riding by the home of Peter Gibson in Ocean Pines, you wouldn't guess that filling his entire two-car garage is glass - an art studio where he creates colorful, glowing art glass. He currently displays and sells his creations at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, where he also gives classes in how to make things with fused glass.

"Art matters to humanity," Gibson said. "The expression of creativity is good for the soul, makes people happy, and keeps us grounded as human beings. Art consumes and encompasses a large part of both my wife Kathy's and my life."

Glass was an instant hit with Gibson when he first took a class. "I began working in glass in the winter of 1974 with an Adult Ed Class in

stained glass, where I constructed windows, lamps, and small ornamental objects," Gibson said. "I have always been attracted to color combinations and shapes."

Soon after he retired, he purchased a kiln, a special oven hot enough to bake pottery or melt glass. "It was my retirement present to myself, adding working in fusing glass to my stained glass work. I currently spend the majority of my creative time with fusing glass."

When or where glass fusing originated in history is not known precisely, but there is archeological evidence that the Egyptians and Romans were familiar with the technique, making fused glass an ancient art form. Gibson uses that same technique today but updates it with his bold contemporary colors and shapes. The jewelry sets he creates often combine geometric designs in unexpected, iridescent colors. He also places glass into molds and "slumps" it to take on the mold's shape, creating art pieces as well as functional bowls, plates, and platters.

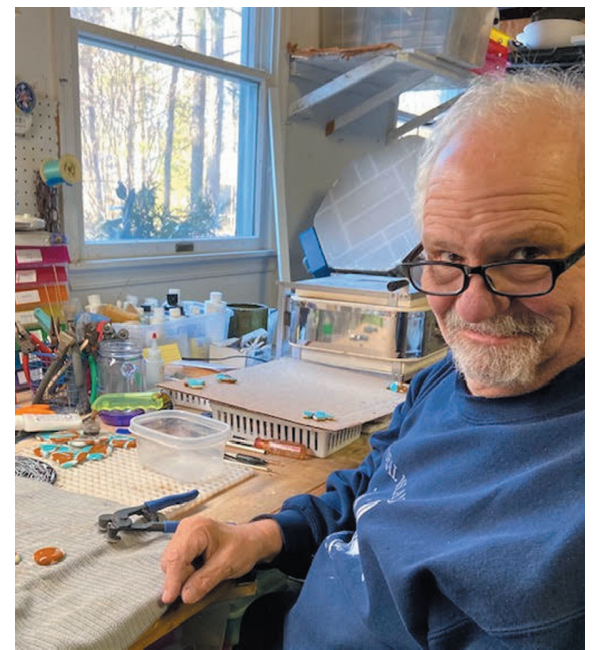
"My art is inspired by the beauty of glass, and the multitude of results

you can receive with different methods of construction," Gibson said. "Continuing to learn new techniques and methods for combining different colors and textures of glass allows me to expand on the technical aspects of glasswork."

Gibson was born in Michigan and received BS and MA degrees from Michigan State University, both in geography. He worked for 35 years at the National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, holding positions as cartographer, compiling nautical charts, and geographic researcher, studying shoreline movement over time. In 2008, with his wife Kathy, also an accomplished artist, he moved to the Eastern Shore "to be near the beach. The lure of the shore called us."

Not long after moving here, the couple became active with the Art League of Ocean City, at that time housed in a small abandoned pool house. Gibson joined the

board of directors as treasurer and became co-chair of a capital campaign with Rina Thaler. A new arts building seemed like a dream ... until opportunity knocked. The Art League had raised funds through a "Building the Arts" capital campaign and their annual Sand Castle Home Tour. Partners who could see the benefit to the community stepped forward - the



Town of Ocean City, Worcester County and the State of Maryland. The result was the two-story, waterfront Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St., now a mecca for culture at the beach.

"Constructing a new building was a critical component of widening the local art community," Gibson said. "At some point in the future, it is the dream of many members to further enhance art opportunities for the local community and expand membership of the Art League."

Meanwhile, Gibson passes on his craft by regularly teaching at the Arts Center, providing a range of colorful glass, often instructing students on how to inlay it with paper and paint, or kiln carve or stencil it. "Sharing my knowledge with others is an important part of my art," he said, "and I love to see what my students come up with. They are so creative, and it's fun to bring that out in them, even if they've never had any experience with glass or art."

Pete and Kathy Gibson are both active volunteers in the community with the Art League as well as the Worcester County Arts Council. Pete Gibson was on the founding committee for the "Artists Paint OC" plein air competition, an annual August event that brings 50 painters to Ocean City to paint outdoors, and he and Kathy Gibson continue to volunteer every year. Pete Gibson also belongs to several professional glass organizations to learn more about his craft.

As George Bernard Shaw famously said, "You use a glass mirror to see your face; you use works of art to see your soul."



At left are **Peter and Kathy Gibson**.

County economic future hinges on broadband infrastructure

Commentary by **Chip Bertino**
Worcester County Commissioner

Limitations in Worcester County's broadband infrastructure were readily evident as individuals, educators, students, health care providers, businesses and remote workers confronted and struggled with the realities of pandemic work-at-home orders, remote learning, virtual meetings and medical consultations and just staying in touch with family and friends.

Our experiences during the past year have compressed and sharply brought into focus what we have

learned about the importance of having in place broadband accessibility for all Worcester County residents and the consequences of not having it.

There are great swaths of our county, particularly the rural areas, where broadband accessibility hardly exists or is not available at all. Our residents, whether they live in Bishopville or outside Pocomoke, whether they live on a farm in Stockton or along the Pocomoke River, must have access to the internet like those living in the more concentrated population areas of our county.

Broadband connectivity is not a

luxury nor should it be viewed as such. There are multiple internet carriers doing business within our county. But their economic viability models focus on population density. They are businesses focused on maximizing their bottom lines. The reality is that much of our county is not densely populated and as such these areas are less attractive to providers who cannot justify the return on infrastructure investment.

We are in the third decade of the 21st century. Access to broadband is a necessity and must be made available to every home and business within our county. For this reason, this is a narrowly defined circumstance when government has a responsibility to bridge the chasm created when business is unable to fulfill the needs of our residents, homeowners and business owners.

No different than our road system, water and sewer systems and the electrical grid, broadband is an infrastructure capital asset that must be in place to meet the needs of Worcester County residents now and in the future.

Universal access to broadband will ignite and sustain economic development and opportunity within our county not just today but for many tomorrows to come. When all homes and businesses have access to reliable internet, Worcester County will be attractive to the individuals and businesses who will continue to work remotely, even after COVID subsides. By all accounts, the pandemic has

spurred a lasting demographic shift away from metropolitan areas in favor of more desirable locales. Remote work decouples the link between where a person works and where a person lives. Remote working allows individuals and families to choose where they want to live based on their needs and desires. Why shouldn't Worcester be a beneficiary of this reality?

Broadband accessibility will energize our communities and local businesses that for generations has been sustained by agriculture and tourism. Investment in countywide broadband infrastructure will improve the quality of life of our residents as well as the learning experience of our students. It will lure workers whose jobs allow them to work remotely. Worcester County will benefit greatly when we, as a county, invest in needed broadband infrastructure. Also, the positive financial impact on business will have no bounds.

The many natural assets that make Worcester County a desirable place to live, work and play are complemented by an exceptional school system, a proliferating health care system and a populace imbued with an indomitable entrepreneurial, we-can-do-anything-we-set-our-minds-to spirit.

Building the necessary broadband infrastructure so that every home and business in Worcester County can have access is a challenge worthy of our pursuits as a community and a county government.

Courier Almanac

On March 17, 1601 the first recorded parade honoring the Catholic feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was held in what is now St. Augustine, Florida.

Records show that a St. Patrick's Day parade was held on March 17, 1601 in a Spanish colony under the direction of the colony's Irish vicar, Ricardo Artur. More than a century later, homesick Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched in Boston in 1737 and in New York City on March 1762.



The official beginning of spring is a highly anticipated day among people who can't wait to put away their winter coats and soak up some warm sunlight. But the day of the spring equinox is just as worthy of celebration for its uniqueness as it is for its symbolic connection with the end of winter. According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, on the spring equinox, which is sometimes referred to

as the "vernal equinox" or the "March equinox," the sun crosses the celestial equator going south to north. Equinoxes (there's another one in September each year) are the only two times a year that the sun rises due east and sets due west for everyone on Earth. As the sun passes overhead on the equinox, the tilt of Earth is zero relative to the sun. That means that the planet's axis neither points toward

or away from the sun. Though it's understandable why so many people appreciate the spring equinox, which ushers in increasing sunlight hours and later sunsets, the day's uniqueness makes it even more worthy of celebration. This year the spring equinox happens on Saturday, March 20 at 5:37 a.m. EDT in the northern hemisphere.



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Subtle heritage

Today is St. Patrick's Day, a day of Irish pride enjoyed by those of Celtic descent and those who want to be, at least for the day.

Although I have an Italian last name I grew up in an American family where the traditions of the "Old

music of Tony Bennett, Dean Martin, Perry Como, Rosemary Clooney and Frank Sinatra, especially Sinatra, was the soundtrack of my youth. My grandfather would sometimes do his impersonation of Mario Lanza, "O sole mio!" Mario had nothing to worry about.

The first time I was aware that ancestral differences was a thing, I was about eight or nine when I overheard an older kid who didn't have a vowel-ending surname at the bus stop tell a joke, or at least what he thought was a

joke. "What happens when an Eye-talian turns around? A day go." I had no idea why he and the person he told were laughing. It made no sense to me. When I got home from school I retold the joke to my mother who understood it but didn't find it funny.

There have been a number of vowel-ending Philadelphians who have risen to fame. In politics it was Frank Rizzo, the mayor often referred to as "paisan" and even Uncle Frank. I believe he got the votes of many if not all his

Vowel-Crowd constituents each time he ran. There was "Rocky Balboa" an underdog Italian fighter portrayed by Sylvester Stallone. Others from Philadelphia include Frankie Avalon, Jim Croce, Buddy Greco, Al Martino and Vince Papale.

During the noon broadcast of Action News, there was a regular segment by the Green Grocer, Joe Carcione who talked about produce. When his face appeared on the screen, all talking stopped so that Gramps could hear what fruit or vegetable wisdom old Joe had to impart. It usually wasn't very long after that Joe's suggestions appeared on our dinner table.

Although it's fun to swell with pride about my heritage from time to time, I consider myself first and always an American ... who happens to be Italian who loves pasta and watching The Godfather movies.

I also enjoy St. Patrick's Day. *Éire go Brách!*



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

Country" were never a visible part of daily life. Aside from the vowel at the end of my last name, I didn't have an obvious connection with my European ancestors. If I've counted correctly, I am a third generation American; my parents and grandparents were born in the United States. It was my great-grandparents who emigrated from Italy and France, traveling steerage to come to the New World.

English was always spoken in our home and the homes of my grandparents and friends. Ethnicity was never an issue growing up. Looking back there could be a not-so-subtle reason for this, having grown up with friends who had last names such as Curcillo, Fardone, Armellini, Falcone, DeMarco, Buonomo, Covone and Mastracco? And although there was a sprinkling of McDermotts, McDades and Webers they were a definite minority.

We ate a lot of spaghetti and meatballs in my house as well as chicken cacciatore and eggplant parmesan, a dish made routinely by my grandmother and disliked intensely by my brother and me. Cannolis from Termini Brothers Bakery were a special treat sometimes brought to the house by my grandfather who lived in South Philly. Ravioli (not the Chef Boyardee kind) was a favorite as was Italian cream cake. Italian hoagies and pepper and egg sandwiches were mainstays. The



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Three ways to simplify retirement income planning

Presented by **Mark E. Engberg, CFP**

We have all been challenged in some way due to the COVID pandemic. Some things may return to normal but there will most likely be a “new normal” for many things going forward. Eventually, after a long working career, we do have to look ahead and consider retirement and what that might look like.

Retirement means different things to different people. It can be a time to travel, spend more time with family, or pursue a personal passion. But making a move from a steady stream of income to tapping into decades’ worth of hard-earned savings can be very overwhelming.

According to a 2020 survey* from Schwab, 52 percent of Americans within five years of retirement feel overwhelmed by how they will manage different income sources once they



Mark E. Engberg

make the transition into retirement. With 10,000 Baby Boomers turning 65 every day**, people need help turning their savings into steady income and making their money last in retirement.

Schwab’s survey also found that nearly three-quarters of pre-retirees are worried about running out of money in retirement, so if that idea scares you, you’re not alone.

Fortunately, there are some steps you can take to better manage your income needs in retirement:

Have a plan about how much you can spend in retirement. Schwab’s survey found that retirement income planning is more overwhelming than other financial topics often considered stressful including the financial impact of losing a job, buying a home, or paying for college. Mapping out a plan for how much money you’ll need, how to strategically withdraw money along the way, and how to manage your investment portfolio will give you more confidence that you’re on the right path.

Think about how to invest. Just because you’ve hit retirement and are starting to draw down from your savings doesn’t mean you should stop investing. A portion of your assets should remain invested in order to help contend with inflation and make your money last in retirement. Half of the pre-retirees surveyed by Schwab admit they find it difficult to know how to invest, so for some people it might help to get investing guidance from a professional.

Don’t forget about taxes. According to Schwab’s survey, 70 percent of pre-retirees are unfamiliar with the tax im-

plications of withdrawing money from their retirement accounts. How you manage tax obligations will depend on your specific situation, but it can be important to think about diversifying your account types, including tax-deferred, taxable, and tax advantaged accounts. And don’t forget about required minimum distributions from retirement accounts.

We are here to help, whether it’s retirement income planning or comprehensive financial and estate planning, we have the resources and tools to assist. We would welcome the opportunity to help you move forward with confidence and own your tomorrow.

Mark Engberg, CFP® is an Independent Branch Leader at the Charles Schwab Independent Branch located in Rehoboth Beach, DE with over 20 years of experience helping clients achieve their financial goals.

For more information visit the Rehoboth Beach Independent Branch Website at: www.schwab.com/rehobothbeach or call (302) 260-8731. Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., Member SIPC.

*Online survey of 1,000 Americans aged 55 and older with \$100,000 or more in investable assets. Respondents self-defined as within five years of retirement.

**Pew Research survey

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What is 'craic'?

Visitors to the Emerald Isle or even patrons of Irish pubs located outside Ireland may recognize the term "craic." The word can be confusing to people unfamiliar with Ireland, but upon learning its meaning people tend to embrace it. According to IrishCentral.com, craic is an Irish term that refers to the atmosphere and fun on a night out. When someone asks, "How was the craic?", they're essentially inquiring if a night out on the town was a good time, and just how good it was. Craic also may be a term for news, gos-

sip, fun, entertainment, and enjoyable conversation. Even social butterflies familiar with craic may be surprised to learn that, according to IrishCentral.com, there are varying degrees of craic.

Good craic: This refers to a fun night out but not one that was especially memorable.

Mighty craic: Someone might have done something extraordinary, but this is by no means the most outrageous level of craic.

Savage craic: A night of savage craic might have been dominated by flowing pints, funny jokes and an overall great night out for all involved.

Deadly craic: Turn savage craic up a notch and you have deadly craic.

The craic was ninety: A perfect, fun and amazing night was had by all. Everyone involved will almost certainly remember the night "the craic was ninety" forever. Oddly enough, IrishCentral.com notes that no one remembers just how "ninety" made its way into the phrase, thought it might have had something to do with a Christy Moore song.

Of course, as any reveler knows, not all nights out go as planned. When a night out doesn't go well, it's safe to say it was "minus craic."

OPA worker tests positive for COVID-19

Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Viola last Thursday issued a statement about a worker who tested positive for COVID-19.

The statement follows:

"An employee in our Administration Building recently tested positive for COVID-19. The employee was last at work on March 10.

"The employee has not returned to work and will not until it is safe to do so consistent with CDC protocols. We notified the local health department of the situation and will cooperate fully with public health officials. We understand that the employee had no close contact with residents or other employees.

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

Public hearing scheduled

The Ocean Pines Board has scheduled a public hearing on March 27 at 9 a.m. in the community center, on a proposal submitted in a petition for a referendum.

The Association mailed notice of the hearing to homeowners, this week.

The following is a copy of the proposal contained in the petition being presented to the members to vote on by referendum and the subject of the hearing:

Should OPA By-Laws Section 5.13.(d)(1) be amended to read "If the total estimated cost, capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, of any single capital expenditure exceeds One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), the proposed single capital expenditure SHALL require approval of the members by a referendum"?

The ballots, a copy of the proposal in the petition, a brief explanation of the proposal written by the petitioner, and a statement of position by the Board of Directors will be distributed not later than 30 days after the hearing.

Quarantine day 58: I built myself a Doberman



Standing out in a crowd



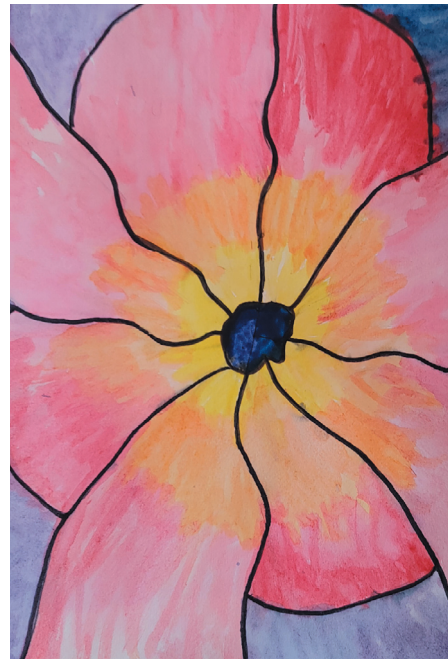
Mary Katherine West, better known as Katie, has been attending the day program at Worcester County Developmental Center (WCDC) for more than 10 years. Katie stands out in a crowd right away. Her smile is captivating, and her personality is fun and easygoing.

The first artwork Katie created

at WCDC was a self-portrait full of color, life, and joy. Wanda Millman, a WCDC staffer who has worked with Katie over the years, said, "Katie loves to make people happy. Her work takes you to a joyful and happy place. I feel that with her art, she is expressing the joy of making someone smile or laugh. She is a delight to help... Sometimes I feel that we are not helping her, but she is helping us."



According to Katie's parents, she started her journey at Cedar Chapel



Special School under the guidance of art instructor Mary Beth Lampman, where she grew and blossomed. At Snow Hill High, she worked with art teacher Mr. Hogan, who helped her develop more skills and increase her natural talents. Tammy Timmons, WCDC Day Program Director, said, "I can say that I never knew Katie had such talent. God has given her another way of



expressing herself, and it's absolutely beautiful. She is an amazing artist."

Sonora Goslee, personal supports manager at WCDC, said, "Since my first day at WCDC, I can always depend on Katie's smile and laugh to make the day at the center enjoyable. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know her."

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It's not too early to think about flounder fishing

Flounder: Regulations have not changed for the 2021 season. You are allowed to keep 4 flounder per day with a minimum size limit of 16.5 inches. The season is open year-round.

Usually when March arrives, I begin to think flounder fishing. We have been having some warm weather which could trigger an earlier migration of flounder into our coastal bays. Last year the first reported flounder being caught was in late March. That being said let's get ready to go fishing.

It usually takes at least a water temperature of 54 degrees to get them active and they really become active at 65 degrees. In the spring I usually fish the first two hours of the outgoing tide when the warm waters of the marshes flow through the bay.

However, I'm putting the proverbial cart before the horse. Don't forget to re-spool your reel with fresh line this will avoid all the kinks. I usually use 15lb. test monofilament on the spool then a three-way barrel swivel with either a 2 oz. or 3 oz. bank sinker depending on the tide drift and a three to five foot 20 lb. test leader. At the end of the line, I use a plain #1 or #2 wide gap hook without adding any beads or flashy hardware. I personally prefer a conventional spooling reel rather than a spinning reel. I find it easier to control. If you are like some fishermen I know you will want to buy only the most expensive equipment. Being frugal I go for the cheaper brands with plain old monofilament line and plain old leader material, honestly, I catch as many or more on my rig. If you are a new fisherman any local tackle shop can fit you up with an inexpensive flounder outfit and advise you on bait etc.

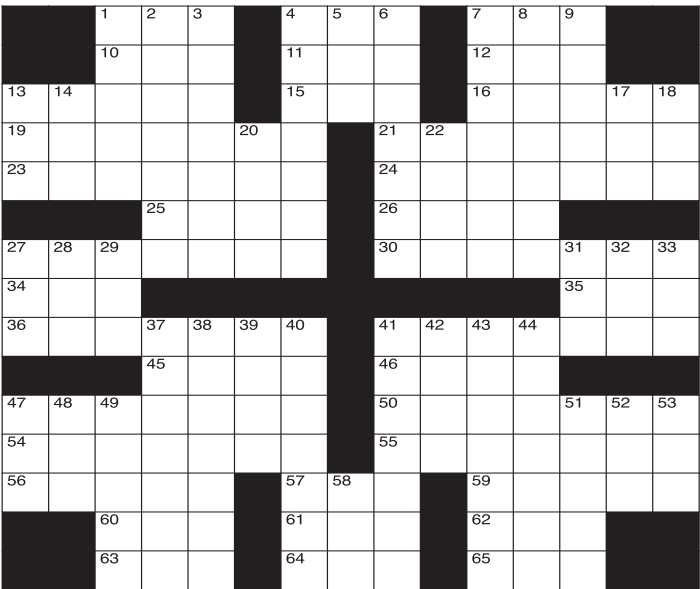
What about bait? I like to use frozen shiners hooked through the eyes with a narrow strip of squid or Gulp Swimming Mullet as an attractor. You might consider using a Pink Gulp as the early flounder are usually feeding on grass shrimp. Purchase these at your local tackle shops. Again, being frugal, when I see frozen shiners and squid at a good

price I'll buy several packs and put them in the freezer. However, a sound word of advice. If you want to avoid any conflict at home consult you wife before placing any frozen fish bait in the freezer. I did not. When they were discovered I promptly received a lengthy lesson on proper wrapping techniques beginning with, "If it is totally necessary to put *that* in the freezer."

Just a reminder that it is very important that you know your boat and that you properly prepare your boat for launching. Don't forget to put in the plug! Also be certain your boat has a current registration. Also, after this pandemic is over and meetings resume you might consider joining the Ocean Pines Angler's Club that meets the second Saturday of each month at the Ocean Pines library. Keep checking the Ocean Pines Association web site for when they will resume meetings. You can find a wealth of information about fishing from many of the men and women experts who are members and through the clubs educational and demonstration programs. Also, if you don't have a boat it is likely someone will offer to take you fishing.

Where to go? You will find most early season flounder fishermen north of the Rte. 90 bridge fishing in five to six feet of water as the flounder will seek the warmth of the shallower water. However, many fishermen do well in the flats at the Thorofare and in the South Bay behind Assateague Island around the airport and duck blinds. I would suggest moving around. If the water is warmer you may even do well along the ledges at the inlet or in the deeper holes at the Rte. 50 bridge. Keep your rig on the bottom and drift with the tide. When you feel a bite do not try to set the hook immediately. Let out a little line and give the flounder time to eat the bait. Then slowly raise the tip of your rod and set the hook. If you pull early, I'll guarantee you will miss most fish.

Good luck this spring and remember to take a kid fishing,
Capt. Ron

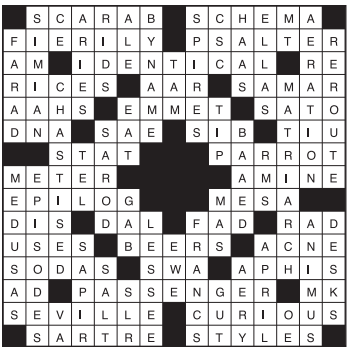


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. ___ fi: popular genre
- 4. Curved shape
- 7. Defunct airline
- 10. Beverage receptacle
- 11. Corporate bigwig
- 12. Belong to he
- 13. They cover cuts
- 15. Cost per mille
- 16. Walk into
- 19. Power-producing machine
- 21. Part of one's character perceived by others
- 23. Emotionally appealed to
- 24. Protected
- 25. Wrestling icon Okerlund
- 26. Thailand's former name
- 27. Muscle weaknesses
- 30. Chooses
- 34. American film studio.
- 35. Expression of satisfaction
- 36. Mythical winged horse
- 41. Ballplayers
- 45. Edible seaweed
- 46. Chinese politician
- 47. Tested for fertility
- 50. Glove worn with medieval armor
- 54. Basaltic lavas
- 55. Small shoaling fish
- 56. Surrendered
- 57. Taxi
- 59. Potato part
- 60. Female sheep
- 61. Trouble or difficulty
- 62. Put into service
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. 17th letter of Greek alphabet
- 65. Type of student

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Frighten
- 2. Partner to corned beef
- 3. Parts
- 4. Agrees to a demand
- 5. Elected official
- 6. Navigator's tool
- 7. Relating to heat
- 8. Attractive
- 9. Wealthy US merchant
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. A passage with access only at one end
- 17. Midway between northeast and east
- 18. Cool!
- 20. Brazilian NBAer
- 22. NW Pennsylvania city
- 27. Young dog
- 28. Mimic
- 29. Large truck
- 31. The NFL's Newton
- 32. One and only
- 33. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- 37. Julie __, actress
- 38. More nourishing
- 39. Compound
- 40. A small carrier attached to the side of a motorcycle
- 41. Object of fear or alarm
- 42. ___ Ladd, actor
- 43. Sacred place
- 44. A way to express enjoyment
- 47. Trigonometric function
- 48. A team's best pitcher
- 49. Intersecting points
- 51. Roundishly shaped
- 52. Adam's partner
- 53. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 58. Human hormone



Answers for March 10



Successful drive - Girl Scout Troop 812 and D. A. Kozma Jewelers sponsored a can food drive for the First Presbyterian Church in Ocean City. Because of donations from the public, they were able to donate food and personal hygiene items to the church.

Above (l to r): **Chloe Beall, Julia Kozma, Emery Busko, Paula Magathan, Evelyn Walsh, Summer Banks, Stephanie Sampson and Summer Brenner.**

Modified patient visitation announced

As TidalHealth works to balance patient safety and support and the desire to reunite loved ones with family members who are hospitalized, as of Monday the restrictions on visitation has been modified at both TidalHealth Peninsula Regional in Salisbury, Maryland and TidalHealth Nanticoke in Seaford, Delaware.

One visitor, over the age of 18, per patient will be permitted during a patient’s stay, except for patients suspected of having or confirmed to have COVID-19.

Visitation hours will be from 2-6 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

One visitor only will be allowed per the patient’s stay – not one at a time, but a single visitor appointed by the patient who will be the only designated visitor for the duration of the patient’s stay. This will assist in keeping the risk of infection lower as COVID-19 continues to circulate in the community.

All visitors are required to wear a

please see **visitation** on page 14



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I'M AT THAT DELUSIONAL AGE WHERE I THINK EVERYONE MY AGE LOOKS WAY OLDER THAN I DO

Accidentally went grocery shopping on an empty stomach and now I'm the proud owner of aisle 4.

Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

The older you get the more you appreciate cancelled plans, early nights, thunderstorms and alcohol that is on sale.

SOME PEOPLE WON'T ADMIT THEIR FAULTS. I WOULD, IF I HAD ANY.





Thank you - Sixth grade student **Lexi O'Hara** purchased snacks as a thank you treat for the faculty and staff at Berlin Intermediate School. She had the giftbox delivered to the school as a surprise. She included a note that read, "You guys deserve it, having to work with all of these children."

Board seeks Search Committee members

The Ocean Pines Board of Directors is seeking volunteers to serve on the Search Committee, which each year helps recruit candidates for Board elections.

According to Resolution M-09 that governs the Search Committee, "The role of the Committee is to stimulate community interest in the forthcoming Board election, solicit candidates from a broad spectrum of the Ocean Pines membership, provide information to, or otherwise assist potential candidates with the application process."

The committee should have at least five members, per Ocean Pines bylaws.

For more information or to inquire about volunteering on the Search Committee, email Association President Larry Perrone at lperrone@oceanpin.es.org.



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Arts center offers new residency program

The Art League of Ocean City is offering a new and free Artist-in-Residency program for the month of May at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, and artists are encouraged to apply. Deadline for applications is April 2, 2021.

The selected artist-in-residence for May will occupy the private, 140-sq. ft., second floor Studio E space at the Arts Center that includes two interior glass doors, south-facing windows, a sink, gallery lighting, gallery hanging system, WiFi, plus enough floor space to spread out and work.

"This is a great opportunity for any artist who is looking to spread their wings," Rina Thaler, executive director of the Art League, said. "The artist-in-residence will personally interact with our Arts Center visitors, share their ideas and processes, hear reactions about their work, be inspired themselves – and hopefully sell some art! Plus Studio E is an inspiring space to work in."

Artists working in all media may apply: painting, drawing, fiber, mixed media, video, clay, performing arts, photography – whatever they consider their art. The Art

League will promote the artist's Studio E residency in-person and on-line, through press releases and social media posts. If accepted, the artist may access the studio anytime during normal business hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There is no fee to apply and no fee for the residency. The Art League will retain a 35% commission on all sales.

The Art League adheres to a nondiscrimination policy, in both principle and practice, and will not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or physical challenge.

An application form is available on-line at www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/call-for-entries/. Completed applications – along with sample images of the artist's work and an artist's statement – and any questions should be directed to Gallery Manager Katie Brown at 410-524-9433 or katie@artleagueofoceancity.org. Deadline for applications is April 2, 2021.

Drainage project starts, some road closures will occur

Ocean Pines will start work on the Bainbridge Pond drainage improvement project this week, and some road closures will be necessary because of the construction.

The Association will provide regular updates on the Ocean Pines website and social media about any closures related to the project.

Work is estimated to continue through June, but construction on weekends is unlikely. Ocean Pines Public Works crews will be on site daily to monitor the situation.

Bainbridge Park will be closed starting today, Monday, March 15, and will remain closed until the project is completed. Upon completion, the Association will install a sign at the park with details on how the improvements should impact drainage and water quality in the area.

For questions, call 410-641-7717 or email info@oceanpines.org.



Service Project

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City sponsored five Kiwanis Student Leadership Clubs (SLC) in northern Worcester County. The clubs learn about community services and how to do them.

Pictured are Buckingham Elementary School K-Kids members with Club teacher advisor **Tonya Jones**. The club's project is making baskets for residents of Berlin Nursing Home containing a hand painted mug, cozy socks, handmade ornament, tie dyed mask and cards. See picture of close-up of the finished product.

visitation
from page 11

face covering or mask that covers both their nose and mouth at all times during their visit. People who are unable to wear a face covering should not visit. Gaiters and bandanas will not be permitted. A mask will be provided for those visitors arriving with either of the two unapproved face coverings.

Visitors must show identification and will be verified as the patient's appointed visitor. Upon entry, visitors will be screened for fever and other COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who is feeling ill or feverish should not visit, and will not be allowed to go to a patient floor if they are found to have a fever or symptoms.

"We have worked very hard throughout the COVID-19 crisis to protect the health of our patients and staff. Our personal protective equipment, social distancing and deep cleaning efforts have helped, but we know it has been very difficult for many of our patients to go through medical procedures and recovery without the support of a loved one," said Dr. Sarah Arnett, DNP, MS, RN, NEA-BC, Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional. "While our bedside care team has gone above and beyond to provide extra

support, we are happy to be able to allow this limited visitation. Patients' loved ones not only provide emotional support, but also can learn from our care team more about a patient's condition and what they will need when they are discharged."

At TidalHealth Peninsula Regional, visitors should enter via the Main Entrance (adjacent to the Emergency Department), located near the Visitor Parking Garage off Vine Street.

At TidalHealth Nanticoke Memorial Hospital, visitors should use the main entrance.

"Patient safety is still our priority," said Ray Fulkrod, Jr., DNP, Vice President and TidalHealth Nanticoke Chief Nursing Officer. "We hope that everyone will respect the need to limit visitation, screen visitors and require wearing a mask. It is important to keep the risk of COVID-19 as low as possible for our patients we help them heal."

One support person is allowed to accompany a patient in the Emergency Department (ED). If that patient is later admitted to a medical floor, the support person must follow the modified visitation policy once the patient leaves the ED.

TidalHealth reminds the community that visitation remains closed at both the Tawes Nursing Home and Chesapeake Cove Assisted Living Center in Crisfield.

Boating course offered

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering a virtual Maryland Basic Boating Safety Course on April 6, 7, and 8. The Maryland Safe Boating Certificate is required for all boat operators born after July 1st 1972 and is awarded after successful completion of the course. The class includes piloting in local waters, tying nautical knots, foul weather tactics, legal issues, updated Maryland regulations, and common marine maintenance. The cost is \$20 for all three evenings. Register or get more information by calling Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807, or Email: CGAUXOC@Gmail.com.

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Gnome Village in Ocean Pines

By **Joe Reynolds**
OceanPinesForum.com

"A gnome is a mythological creature and diminutive spirit in Renaissance magic and alchemy, first introduced by Paracelsus in the 16th century and later adopted by more recent authors including those of modern fantasy literature. Its characteristics have been reinterpreted to suit the needs of various storytellers, but it is typically said to be a small humanoid that lives underground," according to Wikipedia.

"Originally, gnomes were thought to provide protection, especially of buried treasure and minerals in the ground. They are still used today to watch over crops and livestock, often tucked into the rafters of a barn or placed in the garden," according to the website LoveToKnow.com.

Few are aware but Ocean Pines has an extensive family of gnomes living along the shore of the Veterans Memorial pond at the South Gate.

Photos by Joe Reynolds



Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High / Low	Tide Time
Th 18	Low	5:52 AM
18	High	12:05 PM
18	Low	5:55 PM
F 19	High	12:26 AM
19	Low	6:39 AM
19	High	12:47 PM
19	Low	6:38 PM
Sa 20	High	1:13 AM
20	Low	7:29 AM
20	High	1:34 PM
20	Low	7:27 PM
Su 21	High	2:06 AM
21	Low	8:24 AM
21	High	2:29 PM
21	Low	8:21 PM
M 22	High	3:07 AM
22	Low	9:23 AM
22	High	3:30 PM
22	Low	9:20 PM
Tu 23	High	4:10 AM
23	Low	10:22 AM
23	High	4:32 PM
23	Low	10:20 PM
W 24	High	5:09 AM
24	Low	11:18 AM
24	High	5:28 PM
24	Low	11:19 PM

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