

The Courier

June 2, 2021 Volume 21 Number 36



Sharaon Pusey holds a plaque given to her by **Kerrie Bunting**, Chief Executive Officer of the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce during the recent grand opening of the new Pine'er Craft Shop. See story on page 3. Photo by Josh Davis

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Craft Club hosts ribbon cutting, anniversary celebration

By **Josh Davis**

An official ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Artisan Gift Shop on Saturday also served as an unofficial celebration of the shop's one-year anniversary.

The store, run by the Pine'eer Craft Club of Ocean Pines, opened in February 2020. However, as with many things in the past year, the COVID-19 pandemic forced several delays.

Attendees on Saturday included Maryland Sen. Mary Beth Carozza and Del. Wayne Hartman; Ocean Pines Association President Larry Perrone, General Manager John Viola and Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue; and Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kerrie Bunting.

Craft Club President Sharon Puser said she had planned three grand openings since the new building opened.

"We are so pleased today that we could finally have a ribbon cutting, and we have a perfect day for it," she said.

Puser said the old shop, now part of the expanded parking area of Ocean Pines' community center, administration building and White Horse Park, closed in January 2020. The new location opened a few weeks later, on February 8.

"We didn't have a grand opening right away, because we thought ... we'll wait and we'll have a great grand opening in March," she said. "Well, that didn't happen."

Puser said the shop was only open for a few weeks before the pandemic halted operations for nearly three months.

"We didn't open again until Memorial Day weekend, so this celebration ... [is] kind of our reopening and kind of [the anniversary] of a year of being open to the public," she said.

Puser thanked the Ocean Pines Board, who approved the new structure in June of 2019. A groundbreaking ceremony was held a month later, and Ocean Tower Construction built the shop based on a design by engineering firm MAD Design Group.

"They [the Board members] all understood what our mission was," she said. "And they supported us all

along the way."

Perrone said many volunteers in the community support the Craft Club, including his wife, Kim, who is a co-manager of the shop.

"What other people may not know, is the money that is made here by the Pine'eer crafters gets contributed back to the community," he said. "They've contributed over \$170,000 back to the community, and that goes to the Police Department, Fire Department [and] all the operations."

Perrone said it took some work to decide where the new building would fit on the Association's asset register. He and Viola eventually learned the shop was once a general store, and was a fully depreciated asset.

"While this building, now, is properly on our asset register and is an asset of Ocean Pines, the real asset here are the members of the Pine'eer Craft Club who do all the hard work, make their products that get sold in here, and the money comes back into the community," Perrone said. "On behalf of the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors, I want to thank the Pine'eer crafters for all the money that does come back to the Association, and congratulate you on this beautiful building."

Puser also applauded Viola, who she said worked closely with the club to bring the building from design to fruition.

Viola, in turn, thanked the Craft Club for supporting the community.

"I just wanted to say thank you to the Craft Club," Viola said. "They do make a lot of donations ... to Police, Rec and Parks and other amenities."

Viola said a lot of work goes on behind the scenes for any new building. He highlighted Joe Costello, a former Ocean Pines Public Works employee, who made most of the shop's interiors.

"I've seen Joe's work ... throughout Ocean Pines," Viola said. "He's done a great job."

"There are no words that can express the gratitude that we have for Joe Costello ... All along the way, he was there for us and helped us," Puser added.

Puser said Costello built a custom counter and storage cabinets in the



shop, and he and the Public Works team "did [all] the painting and putting up slatwall and trimming."

"He was there every step of the way, and we are so grateful," Puser said.

She said another Public Works employee, Josh Vickers, designed the new shop signs.

"Josh made our beautiful signs ... and we want to thank him as well," she said.

Puser also thanked the other architects, builders and electricians who put the shop together.

"It was so exciting watching this building go up and become a reality. We had hoped for a new building ... for a long time, but this is an answer to a prayer," she said. "We especially want to thank [Public Works Director] Eddie Wells and his crew that was so helpful, so accommodating and so generous."

Puser also recognized local carpet and hardwood shop Sea Floor and its owner Don Robertston for donating the flooring.

She called Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue a tireless advocate for the club. Puser said Donahue was even at the shop a day earlier and suggested new mulch for the ribbon cutting. Not long after, the new mulch appeared.

"Debbie was our liaison with John and the construction team during the project, and she has been our champion from start to finish," Puser said.

"We thank you, from the bottom of our hearts."

She praised the Public Relations and Marketing team of Director Josh Davis and Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski for their support.

"Josh is always there for us," she said. "He's taken pictures of the contract signing, the groundbreaking, the re-signing, the official opening, and here he is today taking pictures again."

Lastly, Puser thanked Craft Club members, especially Carol Quinto. She said Quinto led a small group that helped design the building's layout, and she served as a liaison between the club and Ocean Pines.

"I also want to thank our current shop managers, Diane Denk and Kim Perrone, for keeping the shop running smoothly and finding new crafters and new merchandise," she said. "You never know what you're going to find in our shop, because as we get new members, we also get new items."

"Our customers love the new store [and] we get positive comments from them all the time," Puser continued. "The mission of the Pine'eer Craft Club has been, since we started in 1974, to craft high-quality items that we can sell in the shop and donate the profits ... back to the community. We're so happy to do that, and that's our goal, always."

To view a video of the ribbon cutting, visit <https://youtu.be/VWin-LiOS-eM>.

D-Day – the event that changed the world

By **Robert Adair**

Sunday marks the seventy-seventh anniversary of the greatest amphibious assault in the history of warfare was underway. Thousands of French citizens and German soldiers arose that morning to find a huge armada approaching the beaches of Normandy. The significance of this sight was not lost on anyone, but the enormity of Operation OVERLORD (Codeword for the attack on Europe) would not be fully comprehended for months, and in some respects, for years. Tom Hanks portrayed a Ranger captain in the movie “Saving Private Ryan.” The movie and its actors did a superb job of portraying the actual tactical conditions that existed, but it would take ten more movies, equally as detailed just to begin to explain the complexity of the Normandy invasion.

The forces of the nations involved in the assault are grateful that the number of casualties, although high, was not what made this operation one of the most historic events of the century. The development of the strategy, the complexity of planning not only a joint ground, air and sea campaign, but a combined operation involving troops, logistics and tactics of several nations made it unique in the annals of history.

Strategically, from the day Germany invaded Russia, the Allies knew an invasion of the European continent would be necessary. Soviet leader Joseph Stalin urged the U.S. and Britain to initiate this campaign as soon as possible at every summit con-

ference he attended with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Other strategic considerations entered into the picture as the Combined Staff in England began to work out the actual details of a cross-channel operation.

The war against Japan was drawing forces and logistics from the overall assets of the U.S. President Roosevelt made the decision that the primary effort would be the defeat of Hitler and the Axis, however, the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral King, had the responsibility of maintaining pressure against the Japanese efforts in the Pacific. This demand for troops and equipment to supply two different theaters simultaneously became the paramount challenge for planners.

Coupled with the president’s decision to weight the effort in the European theater came his order to maintain the supply lines sending equipment, ammunition and food to the Soviet Union by sea convoy. It was critical that Russia maintain its pressure on the German army in the east to prevent reinforcement of the Axis forces occupying France. In 1942 it was agreed that operation ROUNDUP (Initial cross-channel operation) would be launched in the spring of 1943 if the Russians could hold out. If not, then Operation SLEDGEHAMMER (Cross-channel attack in late 1942) would have to be executed with any and all available troops located in Britain.

Operation BOLERO (codeword for U.S. build-up in England) had just

begun in early 1943 when the British army in Egypt and Northern Africa suffered a huge defeat at the hands of German General Erwin Rommel. The British were forced to take ships from the convoys to Russia and those ferry-

cally, none of these units would participate in OVERLORD.

Operation ROUNDUP was cancelled due to lack of everything, but mostly time and troops. Also, Britain enthusiastically cancelled SLEDGE-



ing U.S. troops to Britain in order to re-supply and reinforce its 8th Army in Africa.

Fewer than 125,000 U.S. troops were moved to Britain by the spring of 1943.

The British situation in Africa was so bad that Winston Churchill convinced President Roosevelt that a second front in French North Africa was needed. Operation TORCH (amphibious attack in North Africa) would actually become the major thrust. One of the arguments Churchill put forth was that such an operation would “blood” the troop units for the larger assault against fortress Europe later. Ironi-

HAMMER because it would have been an all-British show with little chance of success.

The military forces sent to Africa would move on to Sicily and Italy, with some of them participating in Operation ANVIL (invasion of southern France). General Dwight D. Eisenhower was appointed the Commander in Chief of Operation OVERLORD, once the summit leaders approved the general outline of the campaign, now scheduled for the spring of 1944.

Eisenhower’s task would involve the assembly of 1.2 million troops, 52

please see d-day on page 11

Hundreds of rivers and tributaries criss-cross North America. Major ones often supply fresh water to local residents and some even serve as important commercial routes. The Brazos, the Colorado, the Columbia, the Hudson,

and the Mississippi are major waterways, but smaller rivers are equally important to people and animals. Each June marks National Rivers Month, when people are encouraged to participate in river cleanup events throughout the month and even through the year. Various nonprofit organizations organize river cleanups that aim to prevent plastic from entering the world’s oceans from rivers. Others help collect trash that otherwise would contaminate rivers and prove harmful to wildlife. River trash is more than an eyesore; it can contaminate drinking water and poison marine life.



Courier Almanac

On June 2, 1935, Babe Ruth, one of the greatest players in the history of baseball, ended his Major League playing career after 22 seasons, 10 World Series and 714 home runs. The following year, Ruth, a larger-than-life figure whose name became synonymous with baseball, was one of the first five players inducted into the sport’s hall of fame.

**The
Courier**

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Not the top rack

My wife and I have different perspectives on what is the correct way a dishwasher is to be loaded. So different are our points of view that I'm told I'm wrong.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

My belief is that if everything fits in the confines of the machine, then it's loaded correctly. Whether it be pots, pans, colanders, serving spoons, serving plates, dishes, bowls or anything else, as long as I can close the door, things are good to go.

My wife thinks otherwise. For more than 30 years she has been giving me remedial tutorials on how a dishwasher is supposed to be loaded. Apparently, just because the door can close doesn't mean loading has been done properly. In fact, more often than not, it's been done wrong, at least according to my wife.

A refrain I hear often is, "How are the sprayers supposed to be work properly when you have everything jammed in there?"

Another aspect of loading that I often ignore is rinsing things in the sink first. I thought the whole idea of having a dishwasher was that it did all the work, not me. It doesn't. The mashed potato bowl has to be rinsed almost clean before it can be placed on the bottom rack. The same is true with the spatula that was used to serve the stuffed shells. A scrub brush has to be applied to remove the cheese and sauce that's dried on it. This makes no sense to me.

We didn't have a dishwasher growing up. After each meal my mother washed the dishes, pots and pans, leaving them to dry on a rack beside the sink. On holidays, an after-dinner production broke out as the women in attendance gravitated to the kitchen to wash and dry and wrap leftovers that would eventually be shoehorned into the refrigerator.

In time my parents installed a dishwasher. It was a KitchenAid

with a butcher block top. I remember that first time it was used. It was a big deal. My brother and I helped our mother load it. (Side note: that was the last time we helped load it). My mother referred to the directions to ensure everything was done properly including putting the soap in the right place and closing the door. And then it was time to start it. Both my brother and I

wanted to be the first to hit the button. In the interest of fairness, my mother did "Eenie, meenie, minie, mo." I won. The button was pushed and the machine came to life. We could hear the water jets engage. When it was finished, it was a new sensation to feel the warm plates and glasses as we put them away.

We had a dishwasher in the house as our children grew up. They didn't have to "rough it." However, there were times when we required one, two or all of them to clean the dishes by hand as a punishment for something. To listen to the howls of protest, you would have thought they were being forced to bear a punishment beyond human endurance instead of just washing by hand five plates and accompanying forks and knives. "Oh, the humanity!"

Getting back to my apparent misunderstanding of how a dishwasher is to be loaded. On an evening not long ago, I was cleaning up after dinner, wiping down the counters and loading the dishes when my wife came into the kitchen. "The bowls go on the bottom," she told me.

Ah, I thought I had her this time. "There's no room on the bottom," I responded.

Without saying a word and in movements that would have made "The Flash" seem like he was left behind, my wife reorganized both the top and bottom racks, making room for at least another two meals' worth of dishes.

"How do you do that," I asked. All I got in return was a look that expressed sentiments that could be loosely translated to: "I'm a woman and I'm better."

No argument here.



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Land Trust to hold pollinator garden tour

On Friday, June 25, and Saturday, June 26, the Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT) will hold its first-ever Garden Tour. The tour will be self-guided and cover nine Pollinator-Friendly gardens across Maryland’s Lower Eastern Shore.

Visit beautiful gardens located throughout the Lower Shore and gain inspiration and resources to incorporate native plants in your own gardening projects. LSLT strives to promote good health and habitat for a variety of pollinators in urban and suburban settings on the Lower Shore by encouraging conservation landscaping. LSLT manages a certification program to provide resources for people who wish to implement practices that support pollinator habitat. Residential, suburban and rural properties are all important across the landscape in providing critical habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

This inaugural event will support efforts to increase pollinator habitat, promote the use of native landscaping, raise awareness for the benefits of pol-

linators and promote the LSLT Pollinator Certification Program. Featured gardens reflect a variety of garden styles beneficial to butterflies, pollinating insects and birds.

A highlight of the Pollinator Garden Tour will be the raffle of “Beehives and Butterflies”, an original oil painting by artist Laura Jenkins valued at \$750. The painting conveys the artist’s eye for color and love for nature. Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 3 for \$50. See the painting online or visit the Lower Shore Land Trust Conservation Center in Snow Hill during the Garden Tour.

Tickets for the tour are \$25 in advance or \$30 day-of. They can be purchased online at www.lowershorelandtrust.org. For sponsorship opportunities or more information call 443-234-5587 or email info@lowershorelandtrust.org.

The Lower Shore Land Trust is a nationally accredited 501(C)(3) non-profit that is dedicated to preserving rural lands, promoting vibrant towns, and to building a healthier and more connected Eastern Shore.



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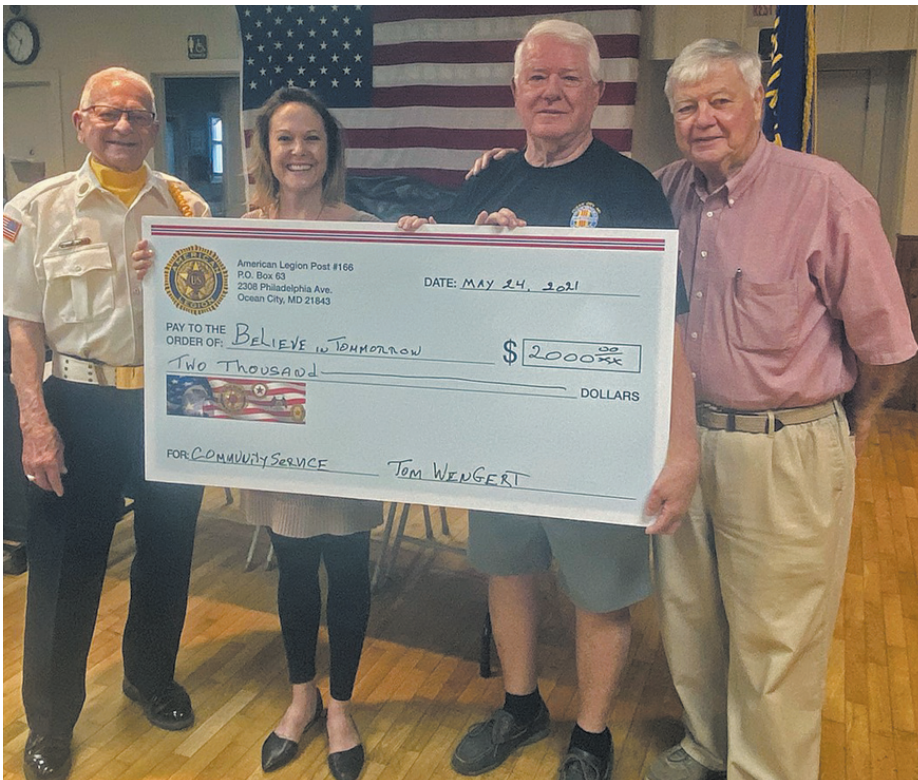
Reid Tingle, president & CEO of Bank of Ocean City and the Board of Directors, announced that Melissa von Bank has graduated from Commercial Lending School-Foundational from the American Bankers Association. Melissa von Bank is the AVP/branch manager of Bank of Ocean City’s Fenwick Island, DE location.

“Customers benefit from having ABA certified lenders. Buying a home or funding a business can be overwhelming. Having a certified personal banker makes this process more enjoyable, and ensures our customers can get the information they need to make a sound financial decision. We congratulate Melissa on this accomplishment,” said Tingle

American Bankers Association (ABA) Commercial Lending School provides in-depth learning, and brings together bankers from all over the country while providing an evolving curriculum developed with input from regulatory experts.



Melissa von Bank



Donations - Ocean City American Legion Post 166 approved \$10,000 in donations to five local organizations in May: The Believe in Tomorrow Foundation that is based in Baltimore and the Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Showell, and Bishopville volunteer fire departments.

Believe in Tomorrow operates the House by The Sea and the House on the Bay in Ocean City, and the House on Fenwick Island, three facilities that provide beach vacation get-aways for critically ill children and their families.

Courtney Blackford, director of sales and marketing for Ocean City's Residence Inn by Marriott, promotes the Believe in Tomorrow Children's Foundation, which operates two residences in Ocean City and one on Fenwick Island that serve as vacation get-aways for critically ill children and their families. On May 24 she made a presentation to the membership about Believe in Tomorrow. The Legion gave her a \$2,000 donation toward her 2021 Prom Queen campaign.

Each of the fire companies received \$2,000 as well.

Above: (L-R) **Earl Hewitt, Courtney Blackford, Robert Smith and Bob Gilmore.** The membership approved four other donations that night, \$2,000 each to the volunteer fire departments of Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Showell, and Bishopville.

Five candidates certified for OPA Board election

Ocean Pines Association Secretary Camilla Rogers last week announced that she has certified five candidates as eligible to run in the 2021 Board of Directors election.

The candidates are: Stuart Laker-nick, Lisa Romersa, Richard Farr, Frank Daly, and David C. Hardy.

This year, two seats on the Board of Directors will be up for election: those currently held by Daly and Frank Brown. The seven-member volunteer board is the governing body of Ocean Pines.

Important upcoming election dates include:

-Candidate Draw (to determine ballot order and seating during candidate forums) - Friday, June 4 at 11 a.m. in the East Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center.

-First Candidate Forum - Wednesday, June 9 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center.

-Second Candidate Forum (if needed) - Saturday, June 19 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center.

-Cutoff date for voter eligibility - Thursday, July 8.

-Ballots mailed - No later than Monday, July 12.

-Ballot Deadline - Wednesday, Aug. 11 by close of business.

-Ballots Counted and Vote Totals Announced - Friday, Aug. 13 starting at 10 a.m. Venue TBD.

-Annual Meeting - Saturday, Aug. 14. Time and Venue TBD

For questions about the election, contact elections@oceanpines.org.

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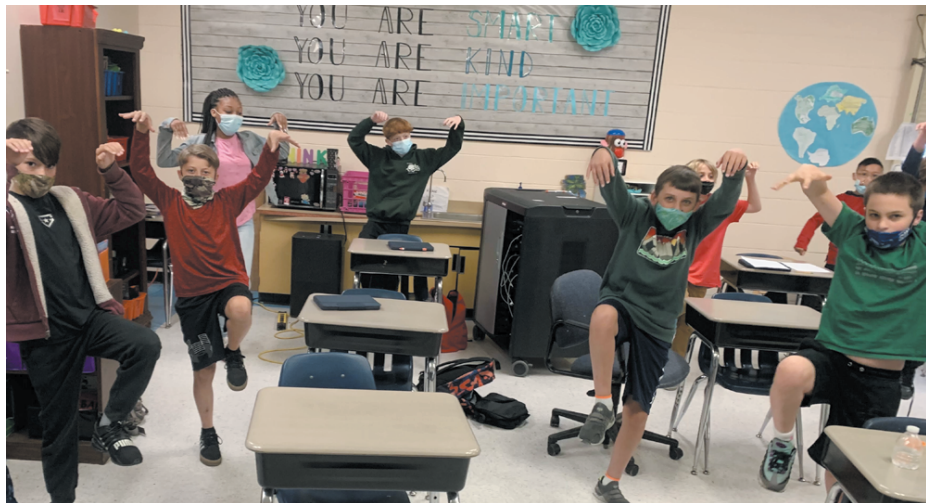
Volunteer mentoring meeting scheduled

Worcester Youth & Family Counseling Services, Inc. (WCYFS) and its volunteer programs, Worcester Connects Mentoring and CASA, are gearing up for the summer. With children out of school and many beautiful outdoor places to visit in Worcester County, it is the perfect time to become a volunteer and work with a child who needs a positive influence in their lives. For mentoring, WCYFS has youth in grades one through 12 who are in need of caring adults who can offer extra support and guidance. To students, mentorship means having someone they can talk to, spend quality time with, and have fun with. To mentors, it means helping a student with communication, self-confidence, and making healthy choices. For both parties it is a positive lifetime experience that will never be forgotten.



For the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program, WCYFS is looking for volunteers to work with children in foster care system who need a caring adult who can advocate for them. In an overburdened social welfare system, it is important that abused and neglected children not slip through the cracks. The CASA volunteers become a constant person to advocate for them amidst the countless list of strangers, who work to find a safe and permanent home.

If not you, then who? Maybe you or someone you know would like more information on becoming a volunteer. Join Debbie Smullen (Worcester Connects Mentoring Director) and Jerrona Smith (CASA Director) for an Interest Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, June 9 at 6 p.m. If you are unable to make the Zoom meeting, but would still like to hear more, please contact Worcester Youth at 410-641-4598.



Choppy grammar - Students in Ashley Miller's class at Berlin Intermediate School were reviewing dialogue and editing sentences for correct punctuation by "karate chopping" and inserting punctuation where needed. Pictured are **Logan Shelly, Foster Wakefield, Ariyanna Johnson, Aiden Buchheit, Jack Ritchie, Chandler Muller, Ben Marino and Jayden Ye.**

Mask receives faculty honors scholarship

Brooke Mask of Berlin, an honors student at Wor-Wic Community College, is this year's faculty honors scholarship winner.

Selection is based on scholastic achievement and an essay competition judged by the honors program committee at Wor-Wic. Applicants were required to write a three- to four-page research-based argumentative essay that addresses whether programs like SpaceX should continue to focus on space exploration/colonization or should be abandoned for more pressing concerns at home. Mask's award-winning essay called "To Mars and Beyond" argued that we already have programs exploring our world and working on bettering it, and we are doing no harm by further researching the universe.

A dean's list student, Mask said that she has had the opportunity to see people who were a part of the honors

program grow immensely, and she wanted to be able to see that change in herself as well. "I feel that the honors program is pushing me to reach my full potential. The work can be challenging at times, but it is quite rewarding, and I feel that anything worth having requires hard work. This program has been beneficial to me in so many ways ... being surrounded by peers who share the same goal-oriented mindset, being able to see what I am capable of, and of course, the generous scholarship opportunities. Having the privilege of being a part of the honors program has demonstrated that hard work and determination do pay off."

After receiving her associate degree from Wor-Wic, she plans to transfer to a university to earn her bachelor's degree in psychology and then pursue a career as a therapist, psychologist or behavioral analyst.

The Children's Book Garden will be closing...

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Review of

When Breath Becomes Air

By **Jean Marx**

The book, *When Breath Becomes Air*, by Paul Kalanithi is a tear-jerker for sure, but in my opinion, is a must-read. In his own words, the author chronicles his life which was tragically cut short at the age of 36 from metastatic lung cancer.

The book starts out with Paul viewing his own CAT scans of his lungs that are covered in tumors. Here he was as a neurosurgical resident finally on the verge of his graduation. During his residency, it was common for him to work 14-hour days, most of which would be spent in surgeries requiring meticulous precision and accuracy. His wife Lucy had also completed her medical training as an internist. They had met in medical school, and while they were in love with each other throughout their arduous days, the punishing schedules had put a strain on their marriage. Paul writes that ironically it was his cancer journey that knitted their marriage back together.

Paul's father was also a doctor, and what Paul remembered most about his years growing up was that his father was largely absent. His father had moved their family from Manhattan to Arizona when Paul was 10 and his two brothers were 14 and eight. His mother's strong will ensured that her sons were well-rounded in their education. She insisted that her sons read great works of literature at their young ages, she joined the school board, and she orchestrated bringing Advanced Placement classes into the flagging school system in their area at the time.

Paul came to love reading and writing, and he went on to graduate from Stanford with dual undergraduate degrees in English literature and human biology. He was not sure if he would end up pursuing a career as an author or a doctor – and as exemplified in his riveting memoir, he achieved both. He had always had a fascination with trying to find the meaning of life and how human relationships fit into it. As part

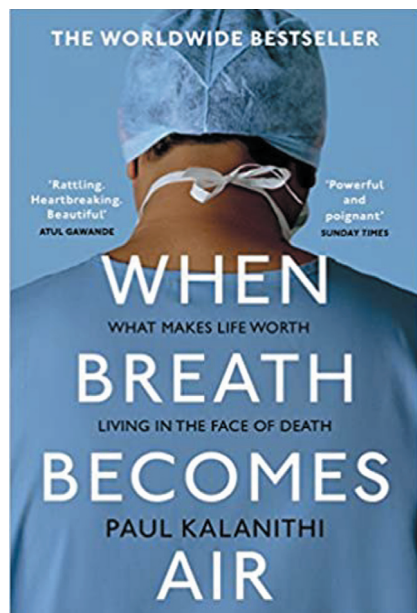
of this fascination, he was always interested in unlocking the secrets of death. As he described the subject of death, he wanted “to grasp it, uncloak it, and see it eye-to-eye, unblinking.” He found that neurosurgery helped him blend all of these concepts – that is, the intertwining of life and death by studying the intricacies of the brain. Another beautiful quote of his is, “Before operating on a patient's brain, I realized, I must first understand his mind: his identity, his values, what makes his life worth living, and what devastation makes it reasonable to let that life end.”

The stirrings that something was amiss in his body started when he began having painful back spasms that ranged in intensity. A few months later, he began experiencing severe chest pains as well as a significant weight loss. At times, his back pain

would reach excruciating levels. He went in for scans, and at first, it was just a lesion on one of his lungs. He underwent chemotherapy treatments and appeared to beat the disease – or at least kept it at bay for a few years. On the day that he would have graduated from his residency program, he experienced a wave of such intense nausea that

he was forced to miss the graduation. From that point forward, he was never able to perform surgery again, and he and Lucy braved the remainder of his journey firmly rooted in their love for one another.

As Paul realized his days were getting more numbered, he became driven to finish this book, and he did. His memoir achieves all he set out to do in his deeply inspiring life. He had tremendous gifts in his words, his skilled hands, and in his ability to see the connections between science and one's soul. It is my prediction that his beautiful words and those of his wife in her epilogue will stay with you long after you finish the book.



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My Backyard... sponsored by Maureen Kennedy

Bird nesting

Most birds build some kind of structure to contain their eggs and nestlings. A bird's nest may be as simple as a nighthawk's or Killdeer's depression on the ground, a hole in a tree excavated by a woodpecker, or an elaborate pouchlike nest woven by an oriole. The most familiar nest type is a cup made of vegetation and sometimes mud. Often, the outer layers are of coarse material, and the inside is lined with softer or finer material. Depending on the species, cup-nesters may hide their nests in trees or shrubs, build them on the ground, or place them in nest boxes or tree cavities.

If your yard has safe nest sites and adequate construction material, it will be more attractive to birds, including those that don't visit feeders.

Fallen leaves and twigs left unraked make excellent nest materials for many birds. Providing nooks in your backyard where this untidy debris can collect provides a variety of material for the birds to check out when they are building nests. They may even pick through your compost pile looking for suitable nest material.

You can also put out concentrated stashes of nest material.

Do provide any combination of the following:

- Dead twigs
- Dead leaves
- Dry grass (make sure the grass hadn't been treated with pesticides)
- Feathers
- Plant fluff or down (ie cattail fluff, cottonwood down)
- Moss
- Bark strips
- Pine needles

Don't provide:

- plastic strips
- tinsel
- cellophane
- aluminum foil
- dryer lint

Among the materials birds occasionally use in their nests are snakeskin (especially favored by Great Crested Flycatchers), and spider silk (especially used by small birds, including hummingbirds). The latter holds the other



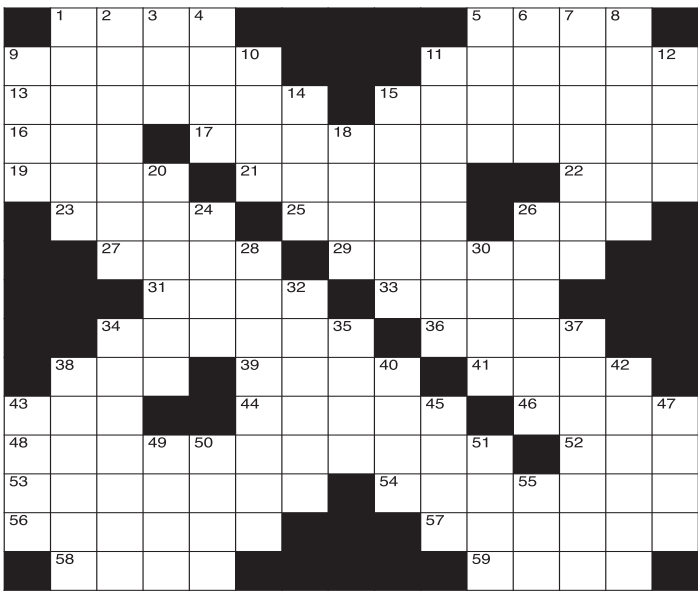
nesting materials together while making a tiny nest stretchy enough to accommodate growing nestlings. Providing a safe environment for spiders will enhance nesting opportunities for these birds. Barn and Cliff

Swallows, phoebes, and robins use mud to construct their nests. You might consider creating or keeping a muddy puddle in your garden for them. Birds may also use plastic strips, cellophane, and aluminum foil, but we don't recommend that you offer these materials. Also, don't offer dryer lint. It may seem nice and fluffy, but becomes crumbly after it's rained on and dries.

Do provide nesting material in any of the following ways:

- in piles on the ground (works well for leaves and twigs)
- in clean wire-mesh suet cages, or in mesh bags hung on tree trunks, fence posts, or railings
- pushed into tree crevices
- draped over vegetation
- in open-topped berry baskets
- spiral wire hangers made especially for putting out nest material (one type looks like an oversized honey-dipper)

-The Cornell Lab



CLUES ACROSS

1. Partner to "flows"

5. French industrial city

9. Diagrams

11. Diplomat

13. Hires

15. Hawaiian island

16. Set aflame

17. Very happy

19. Blue dye

21. Small terrier with short legs

22. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)

23. Northern pike genus

25. Expression of annoyance

26. Female deer

27. Casella and Kellerman are two

29. Actor's lines to audience

31. Days (Spanish)
33. Close a person's eyes

34. Cloaked

36. Comedic actor Rogen

38. It's all around us

39. Neutralizes alkalis

41. Native people of New Mexico

43. No seats available

44. Famed "Air Music" composer

46. Fit of irritation

48. Psychic phenomena

52. Knicks' first-rounder Toppin

53. Seed used in cooking

54. "WandaVision" actress Hahn

56. Samples food

57. In a lucid way

58. Stair part

59. Adieu

CLUES DOWN

1. Type of moth

2. A Christian sacrament

3. It lends books to Bostonians (abbr.)

4. Turn away

5. Impersonal

6. Shortly

7. Indigenous Alaskans

8. Subtle difference of meaning

9. Sicilian city

10. Put in harmony

11. Administrative divisions

12. As happily

14. Horse mackerel

15. Muddy or boggy ground

18. Monetary unit of Italy

20. Construction site machine

24. 22
26. Tracts at the mouths of rivers

28. Earnings

30. Insect repellent

32. Runner-up

34. Musician

35. Serious or urgent

37. Esteemed one

38. Where rockers play

40. Work furniture

42. Greek prophetesses

43. Quantitative fact

45. Missing soldiers

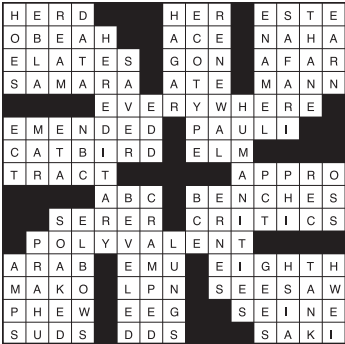
47. Minute

49. This (Spanish)

50. Maintain possession of

51. Assault with a knife

55. Holiday text message greeting



Answers for May 26



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Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



SLS completes test firing, moves to Florida Space Coast

Many space fans know that NASA's mission to send astronauts back to the moon will be powered by the "Space Launch System" (SLS) rocket. This super-heavy-lift rocket is designed to become the world's leader in payload lift capacity. Its first lunar mission, Artemis-1, is targeted for late 2021 or 2022. Following that initial unmanned flight, SLS will be propelling astronauts to the moon for the first time since 1972.

reduced power setting is typical of rocket launches, which move at slightly slower speed in the thicker, lower part of our atmosphere.

During the test, the engines used 733,000 gallons of liquid hydrogen and oxygen from the propellant tanks. When the propellants are fed to the engines, they are at more than two hundred degrees below zero Fahrenheit, but the exhaust that emerges is 6,000 degrees Fahrenheit - hot enough to boil iron.

This series of tests also monitored the performance of the core's more than 500 sensors, their temperatures, pressures, and structural loads to ensure the safety of flight computers, and hydraulic systems.

NASA officials were pleased with the test, a critical step for the SLS rocket program. Steve Jurczyk, NASA's acting administrator said "This is a major milestone advancing our goals and objectives for Artemis, to land the first woman and the next man on the surface of the moon."

In April the SLS core stage departed from the Stennis facil-

ity in Mississippi, aboard the specially equipped barge, Pegasus. After a five-day voyage, the Pegasus barge, assisted by two tug boats, arrived at the Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral Florida, on April 27.

Assembly of the entire SLS rocket into its final configuration will soon begin. The large core stage will be joined on its sides by two booster rockets. Each of the boosters contain five propulsion segments. Above the

core stage will be mounted the Interim Cryogenic Propellant Stage (ICPS). Finally, the Orion capsule will be attached at the apex of the system.

The full height of the rocket and capsule comes to 322 feet (98 meters) tall. When combined with the two solid rocket boosters, the full SLS assembly will produce 8.8 million pounds of thrust.

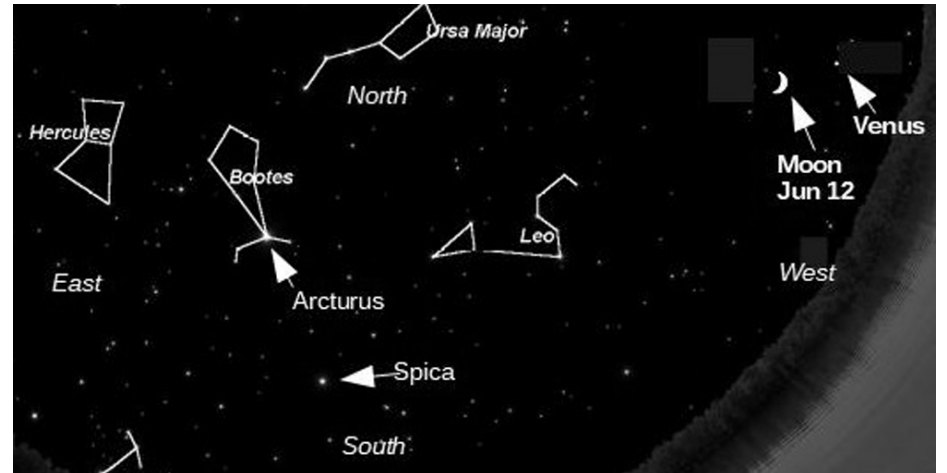
Boeing manufactured the large core stage and Northrup Grumman the two boosters. United Launch Alliance and Boeing built the ICPS and Lockheed Martin the Orion capsule. Along with their many subcontractors, this group represents an extensive collaboration,

NASA officials hope the initial SLS launch of the Artemis program - carrying the Orion capsule to the moon and back, - will take place either in late 2021 or early 2022. This will be followed by Artemis-2 - another lunar trip with the same components but with astronauts in the capsule. Finally, the Artemis-3 mission will mark

Venus will begin sinking close to the western horizon after about 9 p.m. On June 12 Venus will rendezvous with the crescent moon, within two degrees.

As the stars become fully visible at about 9:30 p.m., Leo the Lion appears high overhead, along with Bootes (boh OH teez) the Herdsman.

On June 10, around the time of sunrise, an "annular eclipse" of the sun will occur. This means that the sun's disk will be partially blocked off by the moon, with a dark circular shadow taking a "bite" from the disk. In the Ocean City Md. region, the sun will rise at about 5:35 a.m., already about 60 percent eclipsed; then the moon's blockage will gradually decrease, totally vanishing by about 6:27 a.m. Viewers are warned to use only professionally approved filtering devices for viewing all eclipses—not sunglasses. Even during a hazy sunrise, the infrared rays can damage the retinas of your eyes. A safe alternative is to watch solar eclipses on TV,



the journey where again U.S. astronauts will touch down on the lunar surface.

June stargazing begins early, as the bright planet Venus appears around 8:30 p.m. Look promptly, as

YouTube or other sites. Here's one link: <http://time.unitarium.com/events/eclipse/062021/live.html>.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.



SLS rocket core arriving by barge at Cape Canaveral where it will be moved to the Vehicle Assembly Building.

In March the "core" stage of SLS rocket successfully completed its "hot fire" test at Stennis Space Flight Center in Mississippi. The test used the Stennis B-2 tower, the same location where Saturn-5 engines were tested during NASA's Apollo program.

The SLS core's four rocket engines fired for about 8 minutes. They were initially raised to full power - about 109 percent throttle - before being lowered back to 95 percent full. The

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Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

Never buy a border collie when your drunk.



Marketing department wins national awards

Wor-Wic Community College recently received several national marketing awards.

The college received three gold, one silver, one bronze and one merit award in the 36th Annual Educational Advertising Awards competition sponsored by the "Higher Education Marketing Report," a monthly magazine covering the admissions marketing field.

Gold awards were received for its Walks of Life direct mail postcard, the 2020 commencement video and the STEM, general studies and education series of television ads. Silver was awarded for the Walks of Life television ad, bronze for the 2020 holiday greeting and merit for the Walks of Life print ad.

A national panel of industry specialists reviewed each piece of the annual Educational Advertising Awards, judging creativity, marketing execution and message impact. Judges awarded gold, silver, bronze and merit designations to those entrants whose programs and materi-

als displayed exceptional quality, creativity and message effectiveness. This year, more than 2,000 entries were received from about 1,000 colleges, universities and secondary schools from all 50 states and several foreign countries. Judges for the awards consisted of a national panel of higher education marketers, advertising creative directors, and marketing and advertising professionals.

The college also recently received a gold Paragon Award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations in the quick turn video category for its 2020 commencement video. The Paragon Awards recognize outstanding achievement in design and communication at two-year community and technical colleges. It's the only national competition of its kind that honors excellence exclusively among marketing and public relations professionals at two-year colleges.

Baker named PW director

The Worcester County Commissioners named Dallas Baker as the new director of Public Works. He stepped into his new role with Worcester County Government (WCG) on May 24.

"I'm grateful to the Commissioners for this opportunity and look forward to serving the citizens of Worcester County," Baker said.

Baker brings 21 years of experience to WCG. Prior to joining WCG, he served as assistant district engineer for project development with the Maryland State Highway Administration and as director of Wicomico County Public Works. Baker, a registered professional engineer in Maryland, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech in 2000.

Baker has lived on Delmarva since 2000 and raised three children here. Baker takes over for John Tustin who retired April 30 following

a 36-year career with WCG.

In his role as director, Baker will provide direct oversight and direction of superintendents charged with the daily operation of the Fleet Management, Maintenance, Mosquito Control, Roads, Solid Waste, and Water and Wastewater Divisions and with indirect supervision of all Public Works staff. He will also implement policies and approve bid specifications for equipment and capital projects; head long and short-term capital work projects; give public presentations about public works issues to the County Commissioners and other councils, advisory boards, citizen groups and special meetings as required; provide direct fiscal oversight of all Public Works divisions; work with the county engineer for major and complex civil engineering projects and act as a liaison with project consultants.



Dallas Baker

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Summer 2021

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Blended Learning option available to students

Worcester County students will have an option to continue with virtual learning, albeit more stringent, during the next school year beginning in September due to a state mandate.



Lou Taylor

In a statement, School Superintendent Lou Taylor said, “since the beginning of our school system’s response to the pandemic back in early 2020, our team has been developing, reevaluating, and enhancing options for students and families that were not yet comfortable with returning to in-person learning. While we certainly believe that our efforts over the past year to make in-person learning not only possible, but safe for our students and staff, we recognize that some students may have thrived in the

virtual learning environment.” To that end Worcester County Public Schools, in conjunction with other regional school systems, has developed a Blended Learning Program. “This program is very different from the distance learning options previously offered by our school system,” said Taylor. “One thing certainly remains the same, and that is our dedication to ensuring every learner has a personalized learning experience that will help them reach their own dreams of success.”

Because this this full-year blended program differs from the distance learning that students experienced this school year particularly in terms of the amount of screen time required, Taylor stressed that any families interested in pursuing this option have the opportunity to review exactly what this program entails.

The school system has launched an informational page on its website, www.worcesterk12.org, that has several documents for families to review including a family guide with sample schedules and course offerings, the year-long agreement, and of course, the enrollment application. Taylor encourages families to reach out to school counselors or principals when deciding if this option is the right one for their child.

Virtual poetry reading to be held

Wor-Wic Community College is inviting the public to a free virtual poetry reading with Nancy Chen Long on Tuesday, June 8, at 7 p.m., via Zoom.

Long is the author of five books of poetry, most recently “Wider than the Sky,” winner of the Diode Editions Book Award, and “Light into Bodies,” winner of the Tampa Review Prize for Poetry. Her writing has appeared in publications such as “Poetry Daily,” “Verse Daily,” “Copper Nickel,” “The Cincinnati Review,” “The Southern Review,” “Pleiades” and “Ploughshares.”

Visit the events section of www.worwic.edu or <http://www.worwic.edu/> for more information.

Devan joins Bank of Ocean City

Reid Tingle, President & CEO of Bank of Ocean City along with the Board of Directors, recently welcomed Jennifer Devan, compliance officer/vice president, as the newest addition to their staff.

Devan joins Bank of Ocean City with 25 years of banking experience. She is a graduate of University of Pittsburgh and most recently served as Chief Compliance Officer at AmeriServ Financial Bank in Johnstown, PA. Devan brings with her, a vast array of knowledge in the fields of internal audit, consumer loan operations and underwriting, as well as compliance. She earned a Certified Regulatory Compliance Managers (CRCM) designation.





Movie production - *Delayne Kerrigan*, a student in Mrs. Lloyd's Stem Class, is busy creating a stop motion movie using the Stop Motion Studio app. Students have been working to plan their movies by creating story boards and then filming their movie frame by frame using animation techniques. Their final steps will be to create title and credit sequences and then bring everything together in iMovie, including adding voice narration and sound effects.

d-day
from page 4

air groups, 50,000 military vehicles, 20,000 railroad cars and 1,000 locomotives, plus 163 airfields in England. Operation BOLERO was much larger than most imagined.



the necessary ammunition and supplies to the beachhead of Normandy over a two-day period.

Once ashore the ground commander would be Britain's top field general, Field Marshal Bernard L. Montgomery until the foothold was secured and Eisenhower would move to the continent of Europe. British troops were assigned the northern three landing sites, Juno, Gold and Sword, while the American units would go ashore at Utah and Omaha. These landing sites were well south of the most likely place

The Navy had to collect hundreds of landing craft from the other theaters of war. They had to be able to deliver 175,000 combat troops, 20,000 vehicles and all

to launch an assault of this type. The Germans expected the attack in the area of the Pas de Calais, the closest point of the European continent to Britain and a good port for re-supply operations. The actual sites used took advantage of surprise and caused confusion within the enemy forces. The story of all the deception and misinformation used to cover the actual strength and intention of OVERLORD is a subject in itself.

If this article has given the reader just an inkling of the scope and magnitude of D-Day then the mission was successful. Hundreds of volumes have been written to cover every aspect and detail of the campaign. Sometime in dissecting something into its individual parts, the vastness of the whole is lost. So, as you go to bed tonight, remember, 77 years ago half the invasion forces were fighting their way off the beaches and the other half were waiting aboard ship for their run to the beach. They were the beginning of the end of Hitler, and he knew if the Allies were successful in getting ashore only a miracle would prevent the collapse of the Axis.

Publisher's Note: COL Robert Adair was a career Army officer. He was editor of The Courier between 2000 and 2006.

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