

June 23, 2021
Volume 21 Number 39

The Courier

Republican Women of
Worcester County



Our Mission

Republican Women to
Active in the Republic

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n the Understanding
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r Loyalty to and Prom
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Welcome home - The *Republican Women of Worcester County (RWWC)* held their general meeting at *The Coral Reef Restaurant* in *Ocean City* on *May 27*. RWWC welcomed home from *Annapolis* local legislators. Above are from left to right are Delegate **Charles Otto**, Senator **Mary Beth Carozza**, and Delegate **Wayne Hartman**. They each highlighted the *Maryland General Assembly* key issues during the recent session.

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Tournament to honor Freeman

The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Club will host its third annual benefit tournament on September 25, at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

This year, the club has dedicated the tournament to Jim Freeman, an active platform tennis member who passed away on March 15 after a battle with cancer.

Freeman served the U.S. Marines with honor and later worked for 31 years as a seventh-grade science teacher at Keith Valley Middle School in Horsham, Pennsylvania. He retired to Ocean Pines with his wife, June, and became an active member of the

platform tennis community.

The Platform Tennis Club will donate all tournament proceeds to Semper Fi & America's Fund, a nonprofit "dedicated to providing immediate financial assistance and lifetime support to combat wounded, critically ill and catastrophically injured members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families."

"Our friend Jim was a proud Marine, and a multi-term president and passionate advocate for our Platform Tennis Club," tournament co-organizer Karen Kaplan said. "He is sorely missed. We respectfully request that

all entry fees, donations, and sponsorships be donated in honor of Jim to the Semper Fi & America's Fund Charity, which provides many vital layers of services to members of all service branches and their families."

All platform tennis clubs in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania may compete. Individual players may also enter.

The entry deadline is September 11, and the entry fee is a \$50 donation, per player.

Checks may be made payable to Semper Fi/America's Fund, "in Memory of Jim Freeman," mailed with an entry form to Michael Petito, 4 Long Court, Ocean Pines, Maryland, 21811.

To download an entry form, visit <https://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/SemperFi.9.25.21.3.pdf>.

The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Club is also seeking sponsors for the event.

For questions or more information, email oppaddle2020@gmail.com.

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Send cover letter and resume to Chip Bertino at chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

EOE

Rusko memorial unveiled

A sizable crowd last Saturday gathered at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center to remember Paul Rusko as a teacher, mentor, and a dedicated family man who affected countless people

It was there that he met Tim McMullen, the current Ocean Pines Racquet Sports program coordinator and a former athletic director at Broadneck High School in Anne Arundel County.

McMullen said it was fitting that no one called him on that overcast morning to ask if the remembrance event was still on. Rusko rarely – if ever – postponed the chance to play tennis.

"My first winter down here was 2015-2016 and Paul texted me on a morning in which it was 32 degrees with a 20-mile-an-hour wind. He

said, "Tim, I'll see you on the court," McMullen said.

Before they were close friends, McMullen knew "Mr. Rusko," the prolific coach and athletic director who would attend four different football games on



both locally and throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

Rusko, a Pennsylvania native who later retired to Ocean Pines, passed away in December. He was the coordinator of physical education and athletics in Anne Arundel County for more than three decades.

please see memorial on page 14

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Obituary



Judith O. Boggs, 81

Judith O'Hara Boggs of Ocean Pines, Maryland, passed away peacefully in her home on June 12, 2021.

Judith, or Judy as she was known, was born on January 26, 1940, to James T. & Neva (Gerber) O'Hara. She was married for 60 years to her husband William "Bill" Boggs who preceded her in death.

She is also preceded in death by her father and sister Veronica O'Hara Robinson. She is survived by 3 children, 4 grandchildren, son-in-law Jeffery Gary, daughter-in-law Donna Marinelli and a host of extended family and friends.

Dedicating decades of her life to public service, Judy was elected to represent the newly established Ocean Pines District in 2002 and served as a member of the Board of County Commissioners from December 2002 to December 2014.

Throughout her long public service career Judy was a member of the Board of Directors of the MD Association of Counties, Past President, Board of Directors of the Ocean Pines Association, and established and served as first President of the Worcester County Commission for Women in 2005. Judy was named Worcester County Commission for Women's "Woman of the Year" in 2020 and in 2005, the Maryland Daily Record named Judy one of the 100 most powerful and influential women in the state.

She also served on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, Worcester County Board of Health, Worcester County Health Planning Advisory Council, Worcester County Social Services Board, legislative committee for the Maryland Association of Counties, board of the Worcester County Developmental Center, and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines/Ocean City. Prior to moving to Ocean Pines full-time in 1992, Judy retired from her position as healthcare administrator for Church Home and Hospital Health Centers in Baltimore.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date in the early fall.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the Community Church of Ocean Pines. Arrangements are in the care of The Burbage Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent to the family via www.burbagefuneralhome.com.

OPA announces federal PPP funding forgiven

General Manager John Viola announced last Wednesday night that the \$1.143 million in federal assistance received through the Paycheck Protection Program tied to COVID-19 relief has officially been forgiven.

Ocean Pines first announced it had received the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding in April 2020.

Viola said Ocean Pines submitted paperwork through Bank of Ocean City in March of 2021 to have the loan converted to a grant. That paperwork was then sent to the Small Business Administration, which had 90 days to respond.

"Bank of Ocean City contacted me the other day [and] told me that they had received in their system that we had received forgiveness," Viola said.

He added that Finance Director Steve Phillips also received an official letter of forgiveness from the Small Business Administration.

"So, the PPP has been forgiven," Viola said.

Viola said the Association accounted for the funds as revenue, which was then applied to payroll as required.

"All the PPP money was used for payroll," he said. "Obviously, [the Small Business Administration] checked it. They asked us for information [and] we gave them everything. Every dollar of the PPP money was

used for payroll, which was the whole idea of the program. We adhered to that 100%."

Unaudited results for fiscal year 2020-2021, also announced by Viola on Wednesday, show a net operating profit of about \$1.275 million.

Viola said the overage would "roll over" into retained earnings, with some of that wiping out prior operating deficits. He said additional funds could be put into reserve accounts including roads, but added "that's for us to discuss" with the Board of Directors and Budget and Finance Committee.

"We do have a surplus, but the surplus was because we cut costs," Viola said. "There were cutbacks, we couldn't do certain things because of COVID ... those are the reasons why we had the surplus."

Letters sent to The Courier for publication consideration must be signed and include



a telephone number where the author can be reached to verify authenticity, if necessary. Letters

are not corrected for spelling or grammar and priority will be given to letters of 300 words or less. Letters must be received by Friday at 5 p.m. They can be e-mailed to:

thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Hundreds of rivers and tributaries crisscross 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.



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Courier Almanac

On June 23, 1992 Mafia boss John Gotti, who was nicknamed the "Teflon Don" after escaping unscathed from several trials during the 1980s, is sentenced to life in prison after being found guilty on 14 counts of conspiracy to commit murder and racketeering. Moments after his sentence was read in a federal courthouse in Brooklyn, hundreds of Gotti's supporters stormed the building and overturned and smashed cars before being forced back by police reinforcements.

The
Courier

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Judy Boggs

It was a little past three in the afternoon when I learned the news. Josh Davis texted to let me know that former Commissioner Judy Boggs had passed away. I stared at the message. I hadn't

comfortable talking with her about issues of importance to them. Judy loved these meetings, often bringing in guest speakers and always sharing the latest County news that would be of interest. A running joke at these gatherings was predicting when a new Cracker Barrel restaurant would be built nearby. Many times, her meetings were standing room only.

Through the years I attended several of her meetings, covering them for this paper. However, I wasn't in

attendance when in 2014 she announced, at what would become her second to last meeting, that she would not seek reelection for a fourth term. Her decision sent murmurs of disbelief through the community, which I think she sort of knew would happen. She felt it was time to step down so she could spend time with her husband and care for her mother.

Her last town meeting, held about a month prior to the election when her successor would be elevated, was a fitting finale for a selfless public servant. The large meeting room of the library was packed, if memory serves, even overflowing. She handled the meeting as she had the dozens that went before, professionally. But there was no denying the air of sentimentality that hung in the room. At the conclusion of her final remarks in which she introduced her mother and paid tribute to her husband's unswerving support and love through many years of marriage, she received a sustained standing ovation. It was an expression of sincere appreciation to a woman who served with honor, integrity and a great deal of humility.

Several weeks after Judy announced she would not seek reelection, I met with her to discuss my interest in succeeding her. We sat in her living room and spoke for hours on a range of county issues. I was impressed by her breadth of knowledge and passion on so many topics, both large and small. One thing has stuck with me from that first conversation. She advised me more than once that if elected I should always be myself. People will know if you're not being genuine with them, she counseled, so just be yourself. I took that to heart. And now, during this time of reflection of who Judy was as a person and who she was as a public servant, and what she accomplished for our community, it's very clear that above all, she was always being herself.



It's All About...

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

seen Judy since the service held at the Community Church at Ocean Pines for her late husband Bill.

For so many years, Judy was an engaged, active member of our community. My first encounter with Judy was very shortly after I launched this newspaper in 2000 when she sent me a handwritten note congratulating me on the endeavor and wishing me and my family good luck. Her note was very thoughtful and much appreciated. She had been a reporter for her local newspaper in Dundalk, MD and I believe had an affinity for newspapers and journalists. She was president of the Ocean Pines Board of Directors at the time. It wasn't long after when she ran to fill the newly created County Commissioner seat for the Ocean Pines District. In 2002, the board of Commissioners was expanded from five districts to seven. As a result of the expansion, Ocean Pines was represented by two Commissioners, one for the Ocean Pines district and the other for the Northern district which also included parts of Bishopville. Judy won her race and in December of that year was sworn in along with the other Ocean Pines representative, Tom Cetola.

Judy wasted no time distinguishing herself as an advocate of our community. Among her many accomplishments, she secured annual county grant funding for our Ocean Pines police and fire departments. She was a passionate public servant who acted in the best interests of Ocean Pines and the County as a whole. The archival pages of this newspaper testify to her determination during Commissioner meetings of getting as much information as possible before casting a vote.

Not long after coming into office, she initiated three-times-a-year town meetings which she hosted at the Ocean Pines library. These meetings ensured she stayed in-sync with her constituents and just as importantly, her constituents felt



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Fourth of July fireworks celebration to return

The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department will once again host a Fourth of July fireworks celebration at Veterans Memorial Park on Route 589 and Cathell Road.

The event this year is scheduled from 5 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.,

with carnival games, dry slides and bounce houses for children, plus live music and food and drink vendors.

Children's wristbands are \$7 and are good for all slides and bounce houses. Wristbands will be required for those attractions only.

General admission is free and open to the public.

Fireworks are scheduled to start at 9:15 p.m. and go until roughly 9:45 p.m.

The fireworks will launch from the north side of the pond, by Cathell Road. A new viewing zone will be fenced off from Manklin Creek Road to the Veterans Memorial. There will be no viewing along Ocean Parkway, from Cathell Road to Manklin Creek Road.

There will also be a "safe zone" marked by an orange fence, from the pond to the firehouse. No one may enter the marked area.

Guests may bring lawn chairs and blankets.

Parking will be available in the area near the Ocean Pines Library and Tay-

lor Bank. Parking will not be allowed along Ocean Parkway. Limited handicapped parking will be available in a marked area just south of the Sports Core Pool.

Police will close Ocean Parkway from Manklin Creek Road to Offshore Lane about 20 minutes before the fireworks begin. That area will remain closed until the Fire Marshal deems it safe.

Additionally, police will close Cathell Road from Ocean Parkway to the entrance of the Sports Core Pool at around noon, when

the fireworks company is scheduled to arrive. The area will remain closed until the fireworks equipment is loaded back up.

Police and fire department personnel will help direct traffic throughout the day, and it is strongly encouraged that motorists follow their directions. Pedestrian traffic, if at all possible, is highly encouraged.

At the conclusion of the fireworks, pedestrians will be given preference over motorists. Residents and guests should expect delays throughout the day.

In case of inclement weather, the fireworks display will move to Monday, July 5.

For more information, contact Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks at 410-641-7052, or visit www.oceanpines.org.

Patriotic Freedom 5K race returns

Local and regional runners are invited to join the fun this Fourth of July during the 10th annual Freedom 5K, sponsored by the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department.

This patriotic trot is scheduled to start at 8 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in Ocean Pines.

Runners will dash through scenic areas of the Pines and may show off their best U.S.A.-inspired outfits. Timing for the event will be provided courtesy of Overland Timing.

Awards will be given to male and female first- through third-place

finishers in nine different age groups, from 10 and under to 70 and over. An award will also be given to the best dressed runner.

Preregistration, \$25, is open through July 2. Visit www.raceentry.com/races/ocean-pines-association-freedom-5k/2021/register for more information.

Day-of registration is \$35 and starts at 7:15 a.m.

For more information or questions, contact the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052 or visit www.oceanpines.org.



Recognition - On June 15, the Worcester County Commissioners joined with Ivory Smith, president of the Worcester County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and other NAACP members to recognize June 19 as Juneteenth in Worcester County. On June 19, 1865, two-and-one-half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, enslaved people in Texas and other remote slave states were finally informed that they were free people. This date, which has come to be recognized as Juneteenth, is representative of similar struggles for freedom and equality that are taking place throughout our nation and the world. Juneteenth both signifies a formal end of slavery in the United States and serves as a call to action for each of us to elevate civility, to replace injustice with justice and equality, and to work together to end human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Use 'info@oceanpines.org' for general information

The Ocean Pines General Manager's Office continues to promote the use of one central email, info@oceanpines.org, for all general information questions and concerns.

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

Additionally, the Association is asking that general phone questions go to 410-641-7717 during business hours, or 410-641-7747 to reach Ocean Pines Police after business hours and on weekends.

The Ocean Pines website, www.oceanpines.org, also now has an "Questions, Concerns & General Info" banner with contact information.

General Manager John Viola implemented the new policy in February, and he said the results so far have been promising.

"We feel this has improved our overall customer service and helped

people to get their questions answered in a timely and professional manner," Viola said. "Please continue to use info@oceanpines.org for all general inquiries."

Parke garage sale announced

The Parke at Ocean Pines is holding its community sale on Saturday, June 26 (rain date is Sunday, June 27) from 7 a.m. to noon in the driveways of its residents. The Parke is an active 55+ Adult community of 503 homes. Parke residents are selling their treasures for others to enjoy. There are clothes, lamps, artwork, household items, electronics, furniture and more.

On June 26, maps will be available at the main entrance of the

Parke located at Central Parke West, located off of Ocean Parkway at the south entrance of Ocean Pines.

For additional information, contact the Parke Clubhouse Staff at 410-208-4994.

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LSLT to raffle off painting during garden tour

On Friday, June 25, and Saturday, June 26, the Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT) will hold their first-ever Garden Tour. The tour will be self-guided and cover nine Pollinator-Friendly gardens across Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore. During this time, they will also be selling raffle tickets for "Beehives and Butterflies" an original oil painting by local artist Laura Jenkins. The painting conveys the artist's eye for color and love for nature and is valued at \$750.



"I was very fortunate to be born into a family that loved art in all forms; from the written word, to dance to painting. I paint in oils and my work embraces the beauty of the landscape that I am so fortunate to be surrounded by. I am drawn to the dramatic light that illuminates the fields and marshland. I was so honored

to be asked by the Lower Shore Land Trust to create the artwork for this incredible event that will highlight and educate the participants on the importance of pollinator gardens. The work that Kate Patton and her team do is so very important. My hopes are that everyone will support this wonderful event." Said Jenkins.

This inaugural event will support efforts to increase pollinator habitat, promote the use of native landscaping, raise awareness for the benefits of pollinators and promote the LSLT Pollinator Certification Program. Featured gardens reflect a variety of garden styles beneficial to butterflies, pollinating insects and birds.

Raffle tickets are \$20 for one or three for \$50, 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.



Commemoration - The Worcester County NAACP commemorated Negro League Baseball Player, Hall of Famer Judy Johnson, a Snow Hill native, on Saturday, June 19. He was recognized in front of the Judy Johnson Memorial at the Snow Hill Library. Last year was the 100th year of the Negro National League. Many people were in attendance, including Judy Johnson's good friend, James Knott, his niece, Sylvia White and chair of the Judy Johnson Foundation Andrea McCoy-Carty. Ivory Smith, Worcester County NAACP President, Ivory Smith, chaired this event. Pictured are those present at the program.

Patient visitation rules expanded

As TidalHealth works to balance patient safety and support and the desire to reunite loved ones with family members who are hospitalized, starting on Monday, June 21, they have increased visitation opportunities at both TidalHealth Peninsula Regional in Salisbury, Maryland and TidalHealth Nanticoke in Seaford, Delaware.

Two designated visitors, over the age of 18, per patient will be allowed during a patient's stay, except for patients suspected of having or confirmed to have COVID-19. While these two designated people, appointed by the patient, will be the only two permitted to visit, they may do so at the same time.

Visitation hours will be extended to 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. Visitation on weekends and holidays will remain 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Although Maryland and Delaware will soon be lifting masking restrictions, visitors at all TidalHealth locations, including our hospitals, are required to wear a face covering or mask that covers both their nose and mouth. 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. We know it has been very difficult for many of our patients to go through medical procedures and recovery without the limited 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. "While our bedside care team has gone above and beyond to provide extra support, we are happy to be able to expand 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 Hanna Main Entrance (adjacent to the Emergency Department), located near the Visitor Parking Garage off Vine Street.

At TidalHealth Nanticoke, visitors should use the main entrance or your designated entrance.

Two support persons are allowed to accompany a patient in the Emergency Department (ED). If that patient is later admitted to a medical floor, the support persons must be the designated visitors to continue staying with the patient.

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AGH integrates mental health services

Atlantic General Hospital has launched an integrated behavioral health program designed to reduce barriers to needed counseling and treatment for its health system's primary care patients.

The medical community has come to recognize the strong link between mental wellbeing and physical health and has begun to correct a decades-old inclination to treat behavioral health – or the emotions, biology and behaviors that affect one's wellbeing – as an afterthought.

Yet, significant gaps in care remain. According to the American Hospital Association, more than 40% of the roughly 44.7 million Americans living with mental illness receive behavioral health care each year.

Through the use of telehealth technology, the integrated behavioral health program at Atlantic General allows patients to receive the care they need right in their primary care provider's office. Embedding this service in the primary care office allows providers to refer patients with an acute behavioral health concern for care same-day. It also makes it easier for individuals who live in southern Worcester County or in Sussex County, Del., to get the care they need without additional travel to Berlin, where the behavioral health center is located.

Any patient of an Atlantic General Health System primary care provider is eligible to receive behavioral health services via video visit.

"We want to make it as easy as possible for patients to receive the behavioral health care they need," said Diane Skolka, who is a board certified

psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner with Atlantic General and the dedicated provider for this service. "Patients can speak to their primary care provider for a referral, or simply call Atlantic General Behavioral Health Center to set up their first appointment."

Counseling services and medication management are available. Patients can call 410-641-3340 to schedule an initial consultation by video. The service is covered by most insurance, just like in-person visits with a behavioral health provider. For more information, visit www.agh.care.

OPA candidate questions sought

The Ocean Pines Elections Committee is seeking questions for a planned second candidate forum for the 2021 Board of Directors election.

The official date of the forum is yet to be announced, but committee Chairman Steve Habeger said it would likely be a virtual forum held before the end of June.

To submit questions for the forum, email elections@oceanpines.org.

The first forum was held on June 9 and is now viewable on the Ocean Pines YouTube channel, <https://youtu.be/x71qsDXIBYI>.

Candidates this year are, in ballot order, Frank Daly, Stuart Lakernick, David C. Hardy and Richard Farr.

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



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Screening tests. Scheduling screening tests for common cancers, even if there are no symptoms present, is an effective way to detect cancer in its early stages. The American Cancer Society recommends the following tests.



Breast cancer: Women between the ages of 40 and 44 can begin to schedule annual breast cancer screenings if they so choose. The ACS recommends women between the ages of 45 and 54 schedule annual screenings, after which mammograms can occur every two years.

Colorectal cancer: Regular screenings for colorectal cancers can begin at age 45 with stool-based or visual exams that look for signs of cancer.

Cervical cancer: This cancer screening should begin at age 25 and continue until women are 65. Pap tests and human papillomavirus tests are recommended at various intervals, typically between three and five years for healthy women.

Skin cancer: All people regardless of age are advised to check their skin regularly for any changes that may indicate the presence of skin cancer.

Screenings for prostate cancer, lung cancer, endometrial cancer, and some others may be important for those with a family history of these cancers or those who are at higher risk due to various behaviors. People are urged to speak with their physicians

about cancer screenings and any additional steps they can take to lower their risk for cancer.

Looking for microvesicles. To detect cancers earlier, doctors may employ blood tests that examine the presence of microvesicles in the blood. Harvard Medical School says cells shed microvesicles, but the amount shed by tumors is substantial. However, finding these very small particles requires a powerful device and complicated lab process. Newer innovations at the

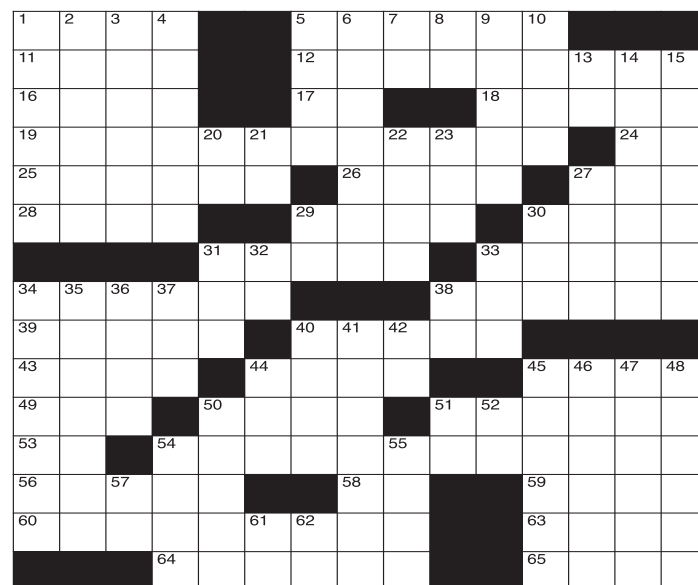
Center for Systems Biology at Massachusetts General Hospital have led to the development of a handheld device that uses a nanotechnology sensor to detect tumor microvesicles in a drop of blood in roughly two hours. This technology has

the potential to diagnose cancer much earlier, according to Dr. Ralph Weissleder, director of the center and developer of the technology.

Feeling “off.” Individuals are their best advocates for early cancer detection. Any symptom that is out of the ordinary and persists should be treated as a red flag. Lumps, pains, the presence of blood in stool or urine, persistent coughs, fatigue, abnormal vaginal discharge, sores that do not heal, and a loss of appetite all could be early signs of cancer. People are urged to schedule appointments with their primary care doctors to discuss any abnormalities.

As cancer spreads, it can affect the effectiveness of treatment. This also may affect chances of survival. The earlier one detects cancer, the greater his or her chances of surviving the disease.

Among local providers The John H. “Jack” Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center, which is affiliated with Atlantic General Hospital, provides prevention education and screening services. To learn more, call 410-629-6888 or visit agh.care/cancer.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. College group
- 5. Small morsels of food
- 11. Actress Dunham
- 12. Puts a limit on
- 16. Used for baking or drying
- 17. Commercial
- 18. Zookeeper Bindi
- 19. Walk in one's sleep
- 24. The Great Lakes State
- 25. Winter sport
- 26. A thin layer on something
- 27. Peacock network
- 28. Give birth to a lamb or kid
- 29. “Too Scared to Cry” author
- 30. Nose
- 31. Friend
- 33. Country music legend Haggard
- 34. Curved
- 38. More deformed
- 39. Bleated
- 40. Set on its end
- 43. An aspect of Ra
- 44. Releasing hormone (abbr.)
- 45. Harsh, grating noise
- 49. ___ Francisco
- 50. Common Japanese surname
- 51. Punish with an arbitrary penalty
- 53. Football position (abbr.)
- 54. Not in the know
- 56. African antelope
- 58. Popular tech (abbr.)
- 59. Baseball teams get three of them
- 60. Make up one's mind
- 63. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 64. Martens
- 65. Susan and Tom are two

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Excessively showy
- 2. Put an end to
- 3. Blood disorder
- 4. Ingredient in wine
- 5. Shellfish
- 6. Made smaller
- 7. We
- 8. The Treasure State
- 9. ___ Ekland, actress
- 10. Male parent
- 13. One hundredth of a watt (abbr.)
- 14. Dish of minced meat
- 15. Smothered laugh
- 20. Article
- 21. Atomic #12
- 22. Small parrot
- 23. Fictional “Star Wars” planet
- 27. French wine grape
- 29. Football stat (abbr.)
- 30. Sound unit
- 31. Where you sleep
- 32. University of Dayton
- 33. Miller beer offering
- 34. Feel embarrassed
- 35. Able to be estimated
- 36. Commune in NW France
- 37. Adult female chicken
- 38. Intergovernmental organization
- 40. Archaic term for until
- 41. That which is not sacred
- 42. Sound made in speech
- 44. Handgun (slang)
- 45. Fill up again
- 46. Evoke or awaken
- 47. Beam Me Up, ___!
- 48. Spider wasp genus
- 50. Headdress
- 51. Exclamation of surprise
- 52. Of I
- 54. Figures
- 55. Men's fashion accessories
- 57. Indicates position
- 61. Megabyte
- 62. The Prairie State



Answers for June 16

Statement by Senator Carozza regarding the OC Police Department

As the State Senator representing Ocean City and as a long-time resident of Ocean City, I have had countless opportunities to see and interact first-hand with the members of the Ocean City Police Department over the years. I personally walk the Boardwalk from end to end along with walking in neighborhoods throughout Ocean City and other areas of my District which includes all of Worcester, Somerset and half of Wicomico.



Mary Beth Carozza

On Sunday, June 13, I participated in a seven-and-a-half hour night ride along with the OCPD which included witnessing several incidences, violations, and arrests. Throughout the entire night, it was clear to me the public safety of visitors and residents was the top priority as I watched members of the OCPD (including foot, bike and vehicle patrol) enforce the laws and ordinances of my home community. In all six of the incidences that I observed, the officers and public safety aides approached the individuals regardless of race, age or gender to inform them in a factual and courteous manner of the ordinance or law and their violation of it. In these incidences, the initial officers on the scene were backed up by additional OCPD officers or public safety aides to ensure the safety of all involved. In one of these incidences, a female officer was assaulted by a female detained for disorderly conduct

and public drinking. In another incident, a handgun was found in a car initially pulled over for a traffic violation. In ALL of these incidences, I personally observed the OCPD officers and public safety aides handled themselves with professionalism as they worked to diffuse and resolve the situation at hand.

When I asked OCPD about the June 12th Boardwalk arrests being shared on social media BEFORE making a public comment, I was shown the entire OCPD video of the event (not just snippets) and given the FACTS of the violations. The facts are that the four individuals detained in this incident were arrested for multiple violations including disorderly conduct, failure to obey a reasonable and lawful order, obstructing and hindering, ASSAULT second degree, and resisting/interfering with the arrest. The individuals were informed of the smoking and vaping prohibition on the Boardwalk, and their follow up violent actions led to their arrest. These are the facts.

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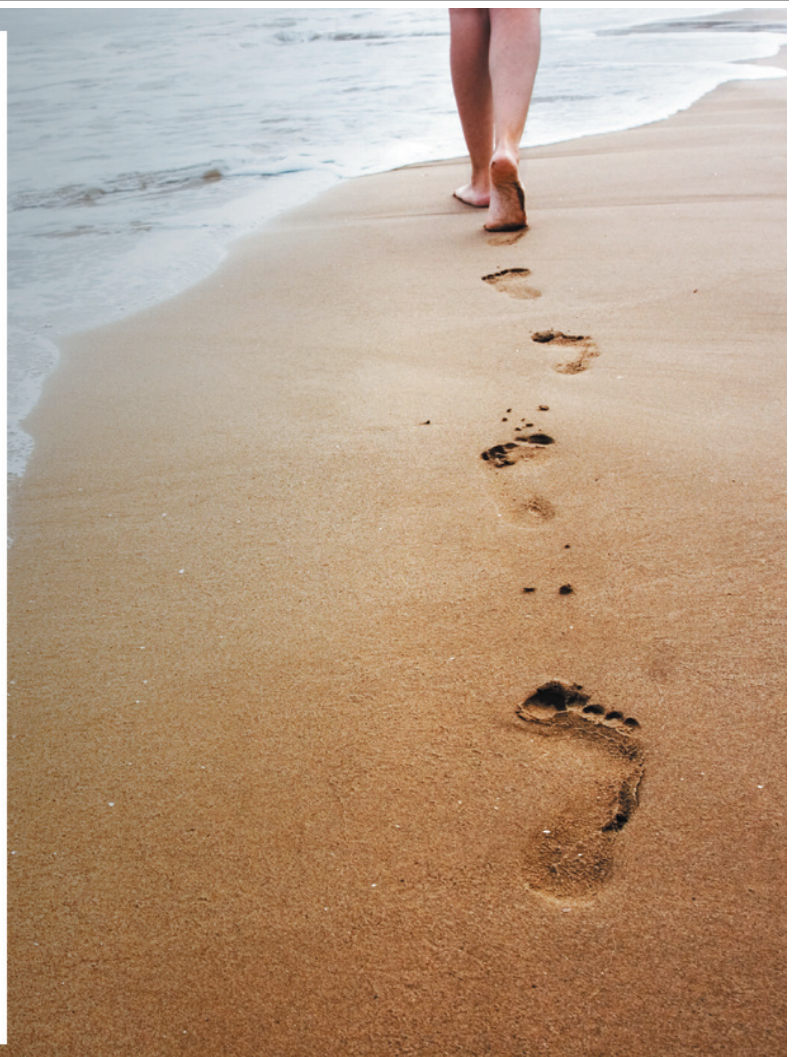
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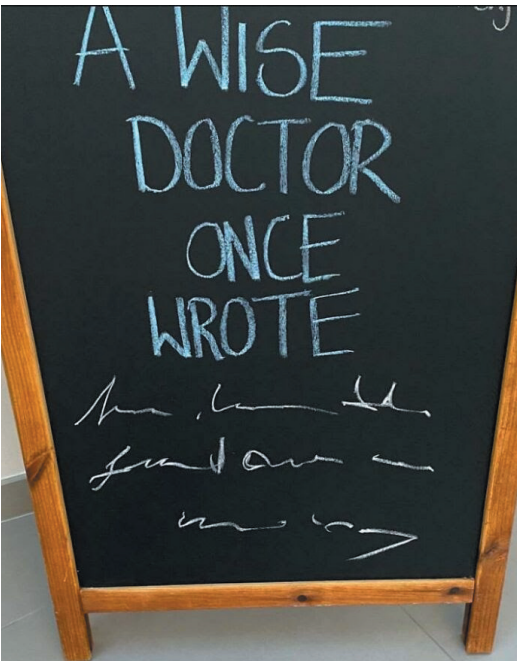
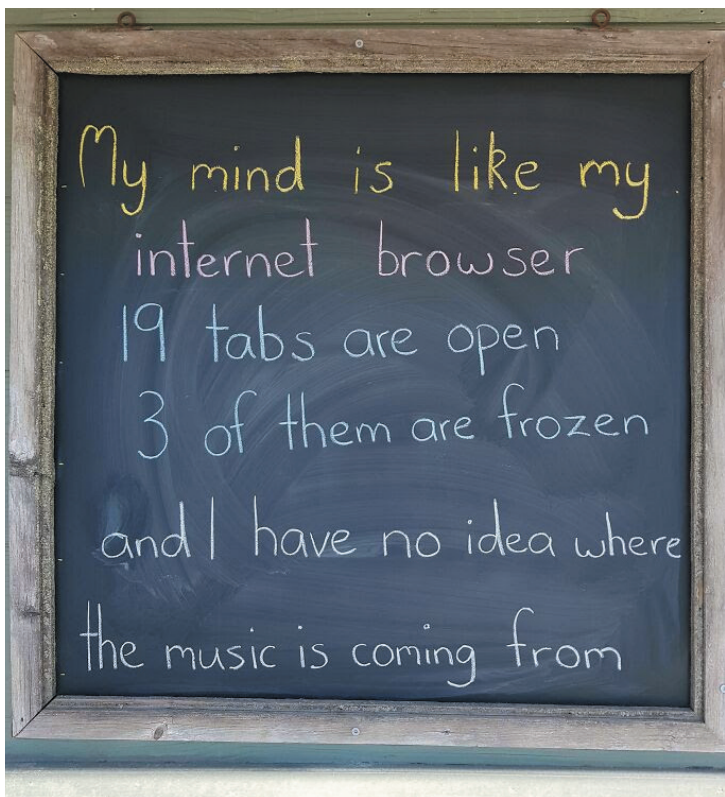


YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN A RECLINER AND A HEATING PAD IS YOUR IDEA OF A HOT DATE



Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**





Teaching moments
 The Ocean Pines Anglers Club hosted kids of all ages along with parents and grandparents at the annual Teach A Kid to Fish event on Saturday at the South Pond in Ocean Pines. Angler members manned stations where the aspiring young anglers could learn lure identification, knot tying, fish identification, casting instruction and basic fishing rules. Bait was provided so the youth could try out their newly learned skills in the pond with several fish caught. The event concluded with a drawing for a free rod and reel. The Anglers Club thank the Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club and Ocean Pines Park and Recs for their support of the event.
 Left: **Melanie Wilckens** from Ocean Pines at the fish ID station holds fish as sister **Stacy** looks on.
 Right: **Erin McKee** shows off fish caught by son **Jordan**.



Film challenge announced

The Ocean City Film Festival presents the 4th Annual Ocean City Film Challenge to filmmakers and aspiring filmmakers across Delmarva and beyond. Deadline to register for the challenge is July 9.

The challenge is for filmmakers to shoot a film in or about Ocean City over the month of July 2021 and enter for a chance to win an Ocean City hotel stay, swag, cash prizes, and screenings of the winning film.

The challenge is open to any artist who wishes to make a short film that takes place in Ocean City and tells a story about the resort, preferably suitable for viewing by all ages. The film must be made July 1-31, 2021 and be no longer than 10 minutes. Complete rules and entry details are available at <http://www.ocmofilm-festival.com/ocean-city-film-challenge.html>

Filmmakers must register for the challenge by July 9 at [https://forms.gle/pKGGeo\(sbPwD-BYa7](https://forms.gle/pKGGeo(sbPwD-BYa7).

Final cuts are due on July 31, and

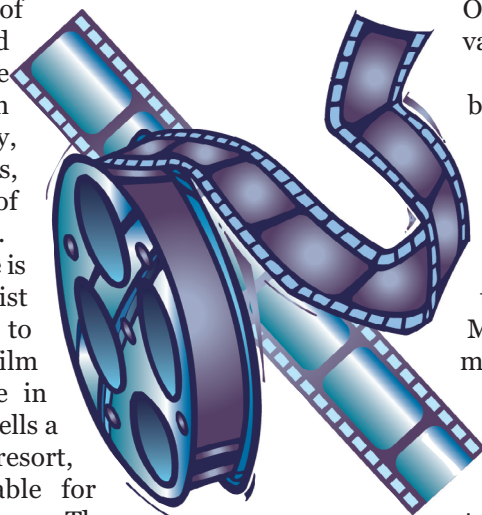
sent via online transfer to OceanCityFilmFest@gmail.com or delivered on flash drive to the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., Ocean City, Md. 21842.

Entries will be screened on Saturday, August 21 at the ArtX Festival in Northside Park and at the 6th Annual Ocean City Film Festival in March 2022.

“Ocean City is a beautiful landscape, and there’s so much that artists can take advantage of right here in town,” said Film Festival Director B.L. Strang-Moya. “There are many ways to tell a story through motion picture, and the challenge pushes filmmakers to explore these boundaries.”

First prize includes all-access passes for the 2022 Film Festival complete with a hotel package and \$150 cash prize. Second prize receives \$100 cash prize, passes, and swag. Third prize receives \$50 cash prize and passes.

Contact Strang-Moya at OceanCityFilmFest@gmail.com with questions.



BOE names technology leader

The Worcester County Board of Education has named Dr. Stephen Agyei-Mensah as the school system’s new Coordinator of Technology at its meeting today.



Dr. Stephen Agyei-Mensah

Over the past year, leadership of Worcester County Public Schools (WCPS) has dedicated significant time and resources to update its technology infrastructure as well as instructional practices to engage and immerse students in high quality, cutting edge instruction.

“From developing a forward-thinking, sustainable partnership with Apple for devices and professional development to realigning instructional technology (IT) staff to better support our iPad deployment,” Superintendent Lou Taylor said, “we sought a leader in the IT field that would build upon this momentum and keep WCPS ahead of the instructional technology curve. I believe we found that leader in Dr. Mensah.”

A native of western Africa, Mensah holds a bachelor’s degree, two master’s degrees, a doctoral degree in education, and several certifications in technology. He brings over 30 years of experience in both the education and technology fields.

Mensah began his teaching career in Nigeria and Cameroon, Africa before relocating to the Eastern Shore. A lifelong learner himself, Mensah continues to teach computer science at the college level as well as IT certification courses alongside his full-time work, which most recently was serving the Chief Information Officer for Baltimore-based Kumi Construction Management Corporation.

Mensah currently resides in Ocean City with his wife and two children, both of whom attend Worcester County schools. He will begin his tenure as Coordinator of Technology on July 1.



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memorial
from page 3

a Friday night, starting at South River High School in Edgewater, then visiting Annapolis and Severna Park high schools, and finally finishing at Old Mill High School in Millersville.

McMullen said Rusko helped open seven different schools in Anne Arundel County. He also played a crucial role during integration.

"We were a deeply segregated society," McMullen said, with black students prior to 1970 attending a single, segregated school. "Paul is the gentleman that had to go ahead and lead us, athletically ... through the integration ... and I think our minority coaches were very comfortable with Paul, because they knew they were going to get their [fair] shake."

McMullen said Rusko preached equity through all sports, no matter how big or small. He also increased academic standards for student athletes, while making sure there was help for those with difficulties.

That also applied to students who struggled with alcohol and drugs.

"We make a mistake telling kids who have had an alcohol and drug offense [that it's] a death sentence – you can't play any more athletics at all. That may be the only [outlet] that that kid has. If Paul was alive, he'd be working to make sure those kids are still involved," McMullen said.

He'll remember Rusko, he said, as a husband, father and grandfather, and a good friend.

Ocean Pines Tennis Director Terry Underkoffler credited Rusko with encouraging him to coach tennis professionally. Underkoffler had been a soccer coach since the 1970s.

Both he and McMullen were part of the "Early Bird" group of tennis players that Rusko put together. The group met weekly, started very early in the morning, played tennis, and fostered many friendships.

"Playing tennis in Ocean Pines is more than just a racquet sport ... you make lifelong friends," Underkoffler said. "Paul, even in the times of the pandemic, encouraged us to continue to play, but play safely."

Underkoffler was the first of many who symbolically placed tennis balls and other tokens on a new memorial bench dedicated to Rusko.

Another "Early Bird," Rhett Parsons played tennis in high school but didn't pick up a racquet for three decades while working and raising a family. Then, one morning, a member of the group spotted Parsons practicing alone and invited him over.

"They welcomed me and took me under their tutelage and helped me," he said. "I've gotten great friends as a result of that."

That included Rusko and his widow, Barbara, who became close and even joined the family during Thanksgiving dinners.

"It's quality people like Paul that cross your path in life and make an impression," Parsons said. "We miss him out on the courts, that's for sure."

Hal Cramer remembers Rusko first as his physical education teacher in the 1960s.

"It opened up a whole new world for me and, I know for a lot of those kids back then," he said. "It started us on a lifetime of activity and fitness."

The next year, he said Rusko moved to the administrative side and helped make Anne Arundel County "a real leader in the state and beyond" in terms of its sports programs. Cramer said Rusko hired hundreds of new teachers and planned dozens of new facilities.

"When he retired ... I asked him what he was most proud of, and he said that he got central funding going in the county," Cramer said. "That paved the way so all schools were funded the same ... the impact that he had as an administrator is still going today."

Cramer, like many others, went on to a career as an educator because of Rusko's mentoring.

"It was a fortunate time in my life, that I met him," he said, becoming emotional.

Jason Werner, the assistant athletic director at the Indian River School in Crownsville, Maryland, spoke on behalf of seven grandchildren who knew Rusko simply as "Pop."

"It's a little bit overwhelming ... seeing his impact in front of me," Werner said, motioning to the large crowd around him. "I think everyone here has [a story about] that moment of when he inspired you."

Werner said Rusko had a rare gift of speaking to people in a way that was both motivational and showed he cared.

"He inspired that confidence in people to just go and be who you want to be [and] be who you are," he said. "I would challenge myself and challenge you to please keep that going."

Rusko's daughter, Elizabeth Werner, talked about her father's upbringing. She said he was raised in Uniontown, Pennsylvania in a big Italian family. He worked in a coal mine during high school and later hitchhiked to college.

His strong work ethic would inspire the family for generations.

She also recalled growing up thinking it was perfectly normal to root for the referee at sporting events.

"I just thought that's what everybody did. Who's rooting for the official? Who does that?" she said with a laugh. "Now, I'm married to an official and my son is an official and my daughter is an official, so we always have to root for the official."

"I think that's a pretty special thing ... I'm definitely proud that my kids and my husband and our family have fol-

lowed in his path," she added.

Rusko's other daughter, Paula Navratil, said her father's absence could be felt everywhere.

"I think it's clear today that my dad has affected so many lives," she said.

Navratil described her father as a man of integrity, a storyteller, and a devoted husband.

"I've been married 32 years and we all know it's no walk in the park, but we have the gold standard model [as parents]," she said. "And we all look to them ... none of what happened with my parents got lost on any of us."

Rusko's son, Peter, said he and his sisters were always learning from their father.

"He taught me to throw a ball, shoot a basket ... drive a stick shift [and] drive a nail ... but it's the things that he did that are harder to put into words. My dad was a high-character guy," Peter Rusko said. "He was a hard worker, and he was family man without question – all things that I respect and try to take from him."

Rusko was a Baltimore Ravens season ticket holder since the franchise was established in 1996, and Peter Rusko remembers spending quality time at the stadium with friends and family – even though his father often wanted to leave after the third quarter.

"The thing I'll take away ... is the emphasis that he put on family," he said. "I'll never not miss him."

Barbara Rusko spoke last, and she thanked everyone for traveling from as far away as Annapolis and Pennsylvania for the occasion.

"I feel like Paul is here someplace. I feel like he's with us today. He might be somewhere here among us on the ground, or he may be up there in the beautiful, blue sky that's coming through the clouds," she said, just as the day's first few strands of sunlight peeked through.

"Wherever he is, he is so pleased and so proud ... of all the wonderful things you said about him," she continued. "Let's all take all that ... and remember him as you remember him."

Through 63 years of marriage, three children and seven grandchildren, Barbara Rusko said, "we were blessed, and we knew it every day."

"We didn't take anything for granted," she said. "We ... made a wonderful life, a lot of good friends, and a marvelous family."

"I love you, Paul. You're my heart," she added.

To view a video of the dedication, visit <https://youtu.be/RSn87qCSxxk>.

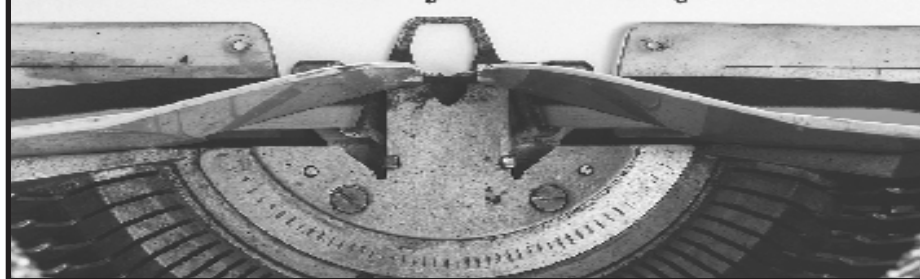
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What's your story?



Fishing should be fun, not painful

By **William Hamilton Jr., DPT, CHT**

Living near the water makes fishing a popular hobby and maybe even a career. While many of us fish for fun and a way to relax, it can still be a physically strenuous activity. If you aren't careful and prepared, you can find yourself coming home with an injury instead of dinner.



Billy Hamilton

There are several ways you could suffer an injury while fishing. These injuries could be caused by slipping or falling, equipment, overuse, or sprain/strains. There are things you can do to prevent many of these unfortunate injuries. Whether you are fishing from a dock or a boat you will still need to be aware of the wet surfaces you are moving around on. A simple slip can wind up ending your day with a fracture or tear in a ligament and/or muscle. These injuries can take months to a year to rehab. Equipment injuries can come in many forms.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics found that 33% of fishing related in-

juries come from the equipment used. The most common is a minor wound from being stuck by a hook. Overuse injuries occur due to the repetitive motions that occur when fishing. Think about the number of times you cast the fishing rod and then reel it back in. Because they are caused by overuse, these injuries occur more in an avid fisherman rather than someone that may not go as often. Another 30% of injuries among fishermen can be classified as strains or sprains. These can be caused from a fall, like mentioned previously, or simply not having the strength and muscular endurance from the shoulder to hand in order to tolerate the rigors of fishing.

There are ways to prevent these various injuries that I'd like to share with you. Let's start with having the proper gear. Wearing non-slip shoes can help prevent falls on the wet surfaces you encounter when fishing. To prevent more serious laceration type injuries, you should be sure to put away knives and hooks when not using them. Also wearing a life preserver in the event you accidentally fall into the water is always a good idea, especially when fishing alone. Fishing alone is typically not fun or safe, but if you find

yourself in this situation be sure to have your cell phone. Overuse injuries such as strains and sprains can also be prevented. The most common overuse injuries include rotator cuff strains and golfer/tennis elbow. There are very specific rotator cuff, elbow, and wrist strengthening and/or stretching exercises that you can easily do at home to prevent these injuries. Many of these exercises can be found online. But I would urge you to contact your physical therapist and ask which exercises would be appropriate for you.

William "Billy" Hamilton Jr., DPT, CHT is owner of Hamilton Physical Therapy (Ocean Pines).

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

Call 410-629-5906

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High /Low	Tide Time
Th 24	Low	2:04 AM
24	High	8:03 AM
24	Low	1:55 PM
24	High	8:36 PM
F 25	Low	2:57 AM
25	High	8:58 AM
25	Low	2:47 PM
25	High	9:30 PM
Sa 26	Low	3:49 AM
26	High	9:52 AM
26	Low	3:40 PM
26	High	10:23 PM
Su 27	Low	4:41 AM
27	High	10:45 AM
27	Low	4:33 PM
27	High	11:14 PM
M 28	Low	5:32 AM
28	High	11:37 AM
28	Low	5:28 PM
Tu 29	High	12:04 AM
29	Low	6:24 AM
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29	Low	6:25 PM
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