

The Courier

July 7, 2021 Volume 21 Number 41



Kiwanis selling raffle tickets

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City each week is selling their "Lottery Raffle" tickets at the Saturday Ocean Pines Farmers Market between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. One thousand tickets, at \$20 each will be sold. Purchaser will have 365 chances to win during 2022 based on the Maryland "Pick 3" daily evening drawing. Funds raised benefit local youth. See www.kiwanisofopoc.org for more information or their Facebook Page.

Above are **Tom** and **Barbara Southwell**.

Flounder Tournament

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August 7, 2021

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Support - The Ocean City Knights of Columbus Council #9053 continues to support the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health located in Berlin through some creative ways. During the month of March, the Life Program of the Knights combined two worthwhile efforts into one special program. Covid 19 impacted traditional observances of the Easter Egg Party for Kids and Mother's Day Recognition. The Council Program Director, Tom Pergola, and the Life Program Director, Kevin Hughes, came up with an alternate plan and spearheaded the collection of Gift Cards or Cash from their membership and friends. Gift cards were donated from local food stores as well as gas stations. Between March 1st and 31st a total of \$645 was collected in the form of gift cards, checks or cash. This proved to be a significant way to remember the kids as well as their mothers at the same time as providing support to the non-profit Grace Center. This donation will be used to support local families at the Center.

Above are **Jackie Failla**, Nurse Manager at Grace, **Kevin Hughes**, Life Program director for Council #9053, and **Jasmine Dennis**, executive director at Grace.

Pines Players to hold auditions

The Ocean Pines Players are holding general auditions for actors, prospective actors, and singers for the upcoming season by appointment between July 5 and July 17. Locations may vary by day, but will all be in Ocean Pines. These auditions are open to everyone and are designed to be casual and fun. Depending on availability, up to four people may be scheduled to audition simultaneously, which often creates a more relaxed, creative, and informal dynamic.

There is no need to prepare anything in advance. Monologs, resumes, and head shots are welcome, but not required. Everyone will be asked to participate in an acting audition. Actors may also audition as singers, if desired. Casting decisions always focus as much on attitude, potential, and willingness to take direction as on experience, so beginners are encouraged to try out.

To schedule an audition, contact Karen McClure at 703-727-0528. The Ocean Pines Players is a local all-

volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit organization. More information about the upcoming season and the Players can be found at www.oceanpinesplayers.com or by following the Ocean Pines Players on Facebook.

Second candidate forum scheduled

The Ocean Pines Elections Committee will host a second candidate forum, on Tuesday, July 13, for candidates for the 2021 Board of Directors election.

The forum is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse on 100 Clubhouse Drive.

Candidates this year are, in ballot order, Frank Daly, Stuart Laker-nick, 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.

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>.

The second forum will be recorded and posted to the Ocean Pines YouTube channel and website, www.oceanpines.org.

Important upcoming election dates include:

Thursday, July 8 - Eligibility deadline to receive a ballot

Week of July 12 - Ballots mailed to all Association members in good standing

Wednesday, Aug. 11 - Ballot deadline (by 4 p.m.)

Friday, Aug. 13 - Ballots counted and totals announced - 10 a.m. (Board Room, Ocean Pines Administration Building)

Saturday, Aug. 14 - Election results validated at 9 a.m. during the Annual Meeting of Membership (Assateague Room, Ocean Pines Community Center).

Anglers to meet Saturday

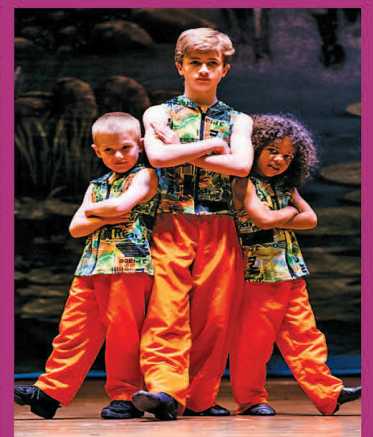
The Ocean Pines Anglers Club will meet on Saturday, July 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ocean Pines library. The speakers will be Cpl. Gina Tyler of the DNR Police and Dr. Roman Jesien, Science Coordinator for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. The speakers will provide a heads up on current projects including bay dredging and water quality among others. Questions will be welcomed during the presentations. Angler members will provide updates on current fishing issues. All welcome.

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Remembering Gerald Ford

America's 38th president, Gerald Ford took office on August 9, 1974, following the resignation of President Richard Nixon who left the White House in disgrace over the Watergate scandal. Ford became the first unelected president in the nation's history. A longtime Republican congressman from Michigan, Ford had been appointed vice president less than a year earlier by President Nixon. He is credited with helping to restore public confidence in government after the disillusionment of the Watergate era.

Gerald Rudolph Ford Jr. was born in Omaha, Nebraska, on July 14, 1913. His name at birth was Leslie Lynch King Jr., after his biological father. His mother, Dorothy, divorced King when her son was a baby and moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan. She then married Gerald R. Ford, a successful paint salesman who adopted her young son. Ford recalled in his memoirs that he learned about his biological father at the age of 12 and only met the man a couple of times.

Although Gerald Ford had a reputation for being clumsy, he was one of the most accomplished athletes ever to grace the Oval Office. He was a gridiron star who won college football national championships in 1932 and 1933 with the University of Michigan, and was also an expert downhill skier.

A high-school football star in Grand Rapids, Ford attended the

University of Michigan on an athletic scholarship. After earning a degree in economics in 1935, he later went on to study law at Yale University. Shortly after he graduated from law school in 1941, America entered World War II. Ford enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served aboard an aircraft carrier. In 1948, he married Elizabeth (Betty) Bloomer Warren, a former professional dancer and department store fashion coordinator. They eventually had four children: Michael, John, Steven and Susan.

Ford also launched his career in politics in 1948, when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He served in the House for the next 25 years, earning a reputation as a friendly, honest, loyal and hardworking Republican. In 1964, he served on the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The following year, Ford became House Minority Leader.

The unusual chain of events that lifted Ford to the Oval Office began in 1972 when operatives connected to President Richard Nixon's re-election campaign broke into the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate Complex in Washington, D.C. A number of high-ranking Nixon administration officials knew about the break-in, and the president himself took part in efforts to cover up the illegal activities that became known as

the Watergate scandal. As the scandal came to light, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew resigned from office in October 1973 over unrelated charges of accepting bribes and evading taxes. Nixon used his power under the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to appoint Ford as his new vice president. The well-liked and respected Ford was easily confirmed by Congress and took office on December 6, 1973. For the next eight months, as the Watergate investigation heated up, Ford defended Nixon and represented the administration. On August 9, 1974, however, Nixon chose to resign from office rather than face an impeachment trial over his role in the scandal. Ford assumed the presidency and immediately took up the task of reassuring a shaken and demoralized American public. "Our long national nightmare is over," he declared in his inaugural address. "Our Constitution works. Our great republic is a government of laws and not men."



criminal charges over his involvement in the Watergate scandal. Ford's decision generated a swirl of controversy. Millions of Americans wanted to see the disgraced former

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Courier Almanac

According to Donate Life America, 39,700 organ transplants from 19,300 donors brought new life to patients and their families in 2019. Nearly 60 percent of the more than 100,000 men, women and children awaiting lifesaving organ transplants are from multicultural communities. Potential transplant recipients who identify as African American or Black make up the largest percentage from such communities, accounting for 29 percent of the people from multicultural communities currently waiting for an organ transplant. Hispanics/Latinos (20 percent), Asian Pacific Islanders (9 percent), and American Indians/Alaska Natives (1 percent) are other groups with significant amounts of people currently awaiting a transplant.



On July 7, 1930, construction of the Hoover Dam began. Over the next five years, a total of 21,000 men would work ceaselessly to produce what would be the largest dam of its time, as well as one of the largest manmade structures in the world. Although the dam would take only five years to build, its construction was nearly 30 years in the making. Arthur Powell Davis, an engineer from the Bureau of Reclamation, originally had his vision for the Hoover Dam back in 1902, and his engineering report on the topic became the guiding document when plans were finally made to begin the dam in 1922.

The
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Nostalgic?

Flipping through the Netflix online catalog I came across a heading entitled, "Nostalgic '90s" which caught my attention. Not so much for the movies that were included in this category but

the years and it's now imbued with many family memories.

Shortly after we moved in to our new home, our third child was born. Our family was complete: a daughter and two sons. Who could ask for more?

I changed jobs several times during the decade, advancing along the way. There was a lot of travel. Sometimes too much.

My wife became active in our children's activities that included Little League base-

ball, soccer, swimming and after school events. She began to teach Sunday School, something she would continue to do for 18 years.

During this decade I enjoyed playing a fair amount of golf with my father-in-law at what had been Pine Shore Golf on Beauchamp Road. I enjoyed that time with him. Neither one of us was a great golfer. We walked much of the course if you know what I mean. Sadly, the course and my father-in-law are no longer with us.

During the latter part of the decade I bought a small 15-foot boat. It was nice to once again have a boat. I had sold my previous boat shortly before we moved to the Eastern Shore. The enjoyable aspect of boating is that it fosters family togetherness. And we "togethored" the heck out of that boat. During the season my wife and I often gathered up the kids, dropped the boat in the water and cruised the local waters, spending many of those days anchored behind Assateague picnicking and frolicking in the water. These were enjoyable times that gave us all many memories.

During the decade we experienced loss. My wife lost a grandmother, a grandfather and great-aunt. I lost my grandmother and my gall bladder.

By the time December 31, 1999 arrived, our lives were moving along at such a pace that we didn't have time to give any thought to how our lives had changed during the decade. We were looking forward. There was no time for reflection. Our oldest child would soon be a teenager and we were discussing starting a local newspaper.

I guess the 1990s could be considered nostalgic. But it's still hard for me to believe that it's been 25 years since I saw "Lion King" in the theater.

Thank goodness for Netflix, which wasn't even around in the 90s.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

for the heading. When did the '90s become nostalgic? It was only last year wasn't it?

I don't consider myself having aged during the nearly 30 years since the 1990s started. When I look in the mirror and look past the silver hair, the heavy jowls and creases around my eyes (which I regard as laugh lines), I see the same person I've always seen, just a little wiser.

At 12:01 January 1, 1990, we had one child, our daughter. Our second child arrived 10 months later. Our third child arrived six years into the decade.

We lived in New Jersey. We had only one car, a Subaru Legacy wagon. We struggled to make ends meet, living in a house we couldn't afford. We were learning the ropes of being adults and being parents, at times struggling to convince ourselves and others that we knew what we were doing. Sometimes we did. Sometimes we didn't. Fake it 'til you make it.

It was during year one of the decade that my wife and I prepared to move to the Eastern Shore, following a job that had been offered to me. We looked upon it as an adventure. The reality was that when we put our house on the market there was a recession. Our house remained on the market for 18 months. We were eventually forced to sell it for less than what we paid for it. The realtor made money on the transaction. We did not. We had just enough for the ferry fare to get to Delmarva. It was a difficult time for us but we made it through, realizing that Maryland's Eastern Shore was where we wanted to call home.

Eventually we scraped together enough money to build a very modest home in Ocean Pines. It wasn't big by any stretch of the imagination but it was ours and we loved it. We still do. We've added on to it a couple times through

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Familiar faces at Marina boost customer service

By **Josh Davis**

The Ocean Pines Marina was among the first amenities built in Ocean Pines, opened in 1975 along with the original Yacht Club.

Today, the marina is a dependable moneymaker for the Association, helping to boost the bottom line by more

there – we weren't associated with the Yacht Club at all," she said. "But now we've all become friends."

Figgs said marina business dropped off slightly in 2013, when the old Yacht Club was torn down and the new one was being built. Staff, at the time, often worked out of temporary quarters.

"We were having to take our money and walk all the way over to the [Mumford's Landing]

Ron Fisher
Dockmaster



pool house," she said. "There was no air conditioning, it was 100 degrees, and it was just exhausting."

She said former General Manager Bob Thompson brought in a construction trailer as a temporary workspace. When that went away,

than \$180,000 in each of the last six years.

Dockmaster and Pennsylvania native Ron Fisher is the mastermind of the operation. The former executive director of the Peninsula Regional Medical Group in Salisbury, Fisher is known for developing benchmarks with other marinas to help set competitive fuel prices.

But credit must also go to several long-time marina employees, who have been a model for consistency and great customer service over the years.

Shift Manager Shirley Figgs

Shirley Figgs grew up in Laurel, DE and still lives in the farmhouse she was born in. She remembers boating to Assateague with her dad at a young age, which helped foster a lifetime love of boating and being on the water.

Figgs previously worked for DuPont and later managed restaurants and bartended in Florida. Her daughter, Teresa Travatello, was the public relations director in Ocean Pines for almost nine years and Figgs has now been a mainstay at the marina for 13 years.

Each day, Figgs runs the register, ties up boats, handles scheduling, and keeps the office in good order. However, that office has undergone plenty of changes during her tenure.

Before the new Yacht Club opened in 2014, marina staff worked out of a "shack" by the docks, Figgs said.

"We had our own little business



Figgs used the trunk of her old Ford Mercury as a makeshift office.

It wasn't until Fisher came on in 2016 that the marina staff finally got a permanent space.

"When Ron came on board he asked, 'Where's all your stuff?' And I said, 'Some of it's in the administration building and the rest is in my trunk,'" Figgs said with a laugh.

Thanks to Fisher, the Association converted the extra bar area on the back corner of the new Yacht Club into the new marina office.

"Ron said, 'This isn't going to work – we've got to work something out,'" Figgs said. "He fought for us, and finally we got to use this space."

Today, the marina is busy and bus-

ting again, with an annual boat slip waitlist of around 70 names, and many new and returning customers visiting the fuel docks each day. But even during the leaner times, Figgs said she never thought about leaving.

"I just like the people," she said. "There's not a mean person out there. They're all happy boaters."

Among Figgs' many customer service contributions, perhaps her most well-known are the dog biscuits she keeps at the marina for hungry pups to snack on. She stocks extras in that same Ford Mercury trunk, and it's become a signature of the business.

"I've got a 15-pound box of dog biscuits and they're all lined up," she said. She keeps certain treats in stock for regular customers, from the "teeny, teeny" ones to the larger dogs like labs and golden retrievers.

"There's a couple of dogs that jump right off the boats and come down the dock before the boat's even tied up," she said. "By the time I get in there with my paperwork, they're just sitting in there and waiting. You can't turn that down!"

In return for her friendliness, Figgs said many boaters bring her already fileted fresh fish

Shirley Figgs
Shift Manager

– a definite benefit of the job.

"I'm in fish all year," she said. "They filet it and bring it to me in a Ziploc bag. I don't even have to leave the dock!"

Figgs said business wasn't much different last year, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The marina was profit-

able, and the only changes were some of the safety protocols.

"We sold a lot of gas, and the numbers were great," she said. "We just do really good business here."

She expects another strong season in 2021, with a lot of new boats already coming in.

"Fifty percent of the boats I've seen [this year] are brand new," she said, something she attributes to federal stimulus spending. "They weren't cheap, but what are you going to do? You can't go out to dinner, you can't do this, you can't do that, so let's go out on a boat."

With all the new drivers, Figgs said the first week or so that the marina was open this year was interesting.

"The wind was so bad, and they were still learning how to drive, so I went home a couple of nights and couldn't walk the next day," she said with a laugh. "But the people were happy."

Fuel Dock Attendant Mike Toth

Originally from the Lehigh Valley area of Pennsylvania, Toth first moved to the area in 1999 when he bought a condo in Ocean City. He also lived in Marina Village and Wood Duck, in Ocean Pines. Two and a half years ago, he moved to Selbyville.

Toth said the job in Ocean Pines came not long after he retired about 14 years ago.

"I sat around the house for a couple of days and my wife said, 'You need something to do!'" he said.

Not long after, he went to the Ocean Pines administration building, filled out an application, and received a call the next day.

Toth said the old Yacht Club "had a character of its own." He said the marina had a shack with a weigh station and various items for sale, and the Yacht Club had a bigger swimming pool and an outdoor bar.

"I liked it a lot, but I

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Mike Toth
Dock Attendant



OPA board candidates state positions

Editor's Note: These statements have been provided to The Courier by the Ocean Pines Association. The candidates' statements have not been edited.

Frank Daly Introductory Statement

My wife Irene and I moved to Ocean Pines in 2013 and are involved in a number of community organizations. I was elected to the Board in August 2018.



Frank Daly

My 40+ Year career includes Senior Management & Board Level Assignments. I have a MS Degree in Engineering, a MBA (Finance/Marketing) and attended the Wharton Executive Development Program.

I have served on the Executive Committees of four companies, the Board of Directors of a HOA and two major university consortiums (Cal-Berkeley & Arizona State). I am Presi-

dent of Jordan Frank Associates, an executive recruiting firm.

I have used my experience and conservative financial approach with the specific objective of improving management and keeping your assessment low and stable. During my tenure your assessment has increased ten dollars. In the same time period, we have rebuilt aging facilities, repaid 2.1 million in losses from the Hill/Bailey era, strengthened homeowner protections and value, improved our amenities, and introduced Comcast to the community.

My core values of honesty, integrity and independence focus my efforts not on special political interests, only yours, the homeowner.

I am asking for your vote to continue my work to improve the community, our infrastructure and its management

Thank You.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

1. To ensure that the gains made over the past three years are sustain-

able into the future.

Over the past three years assessments have been low and stable. Our facilities are in good working order. The amenities provide good service and quality. And significant progress has been made in making sure all amenities are running at a break even or better and contributing to assessment reductions, not increases. That progress needs to be locked into our operating mentality so that it continues in the future. We need to make sure that processes are in place to continue this progress from Board to Board and GM to GM. Regressing to past performance levels is not an option.

2. Drainage. 2818 homes in OP have some type of drainage problem. Addressing these problems while maintaining a stable, low assessment is a major challenge. Our budgeting and operational improvements have enabled management to increase the budget for drainage programs from \$31,500 in 2019 to the current \$900,000 level. Successfully executing priority 1 would make an addi-

tional \$473,000 available for drainage without increasing the base assessment. This needs to be a major focus over the next three years.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

Our Budgeting and Finance processes are strong. During my tenure on the Board, I have worked with management to improve these processes. As a result, we have been able to repay a \$2.1 million loss from the Hill/Bailey era while rebuilding aging facilities, maintaining bulkheads and increasing spending on drainage projects. While doing this the base assessment has increased only \$10 over the last three years.

Our financial position is excellent. At the end of the fiscal year, we had \$15,502,307 in cash and investments.

We can do better. As most realize the current pandemic significantly impacted amenities last season.

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Three amenities showed a net operating loss of \$472,844. Eliminating these losses would reduce the base assessment by \$56. That needs to be a major focus in the upcoming year.

We also need to continue to strengthen our budgeting and internal controls. Accuracy and timeliness are paramount. The forensic audit conducted in 2019 showed no crime but weak financial controls within the organization. The GM and Board aggressively addressed these issues and strong controls have been implemented. We need continual focus on making sure they are followed to prevent any possibility of criminal infiltration resulting in fraud, theft or corruption.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA director.

I bring Proven Performance. Candidates run on promises. Incumbents run on their record.

My commitment has been on improving our amenities, finances, infrastructure and keeping our assessments low and stable.

The results have been base assessments of \$986, \$986 and \$996. A \$10 increase over three years.

An inherited operating deficit of \$2,100,000 (\$248 assessment impact per lot owner) from the Hill/Bailey years has been eliminated.

Old, delapidated facilities have been replaced. All facilities are now in good operating order.

Our amenities provide quality service and value. F&B operations have moved from Hill/Bailey losses approaching \$1,000,000 to profitability.

Our infrastructure programs for bulkheads and roads are now on schedule.

Budgets for drainage programs have increased from \$32,000 to \$900,000.

My education, experience, drive and commitment to work with fellow Board members and the GM have made this possible.

As a Board member confronted with a problem you have three choices—address, ignore or kick it down the road. When a homeowner raises a problem, I engage them and address their problem. I have en-

gaged homeowners that have approached me with problems and have addressed these issues in a consistent, professional manner. And will continue to do so if re-elected.

Stuart Lakernick Introductory Statement

I have been a chiropractor and functional neurologist for the past 30 years and owning my own practice enabled me to develop essential business skills.



Stuart Lakernick

During my successful career I had the opportunity to provide professional services to people of all economic and ethnic backgrounds.

This diverse environment enabled me to develop strong listening and communication skills and to treat everyone with respect and kindness. If elected, as your new member of the board I will bring proven leadership, experience in financial management, customer care and problem solving.

During the past year we witnessed some troubling events unfold. For example a member had to take legal action against the board and the court ruled in his favor. Our star employee resigned because of how she was treated in the workplace. Do you want this to stop? This year, perhaps more than ever before, who you elect will determine the long-term success of Ocean Pines! I will represent full and part-time homeowners equally and work hard to make necessary improvements to our board.

I wish to thank the 1050 members who voted for me last year and I ask for your vote again. And to other members please vote for me this time.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

My top two priorities are to continue to work on the community's drainage issues and to improve our employees' morale. On drainage we should continue to look for grant money from the state and the county, just like what was done successfully for the Bainbridge pond project. This was a great start and an important step to improving the

appearance of our community. My other priority is to focus on the employees' morale by improving the work environment where necessary. We need to make sure we retain our best employees by making required changes. Whatever priorities the board adopts should be done with full transparency between the members and the board. Ultimately we all work for you, the Ocean Pines homeowner.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

Let me start by saying that we as association members are shareholders in our company. I know that we are an HOA, not a stock company, but our investment makes us pseudo shareholders. We all bought in when we moved here. A couple years ago under our previous GM we utilized an assessment driven top down model for our budgeting needs. That approach got us in some financial difficulty. We did not do the due diligence with our building and infrastructure maintenance which resulted in us having to spend more on replacement. We abandoned this with our current GM to a bottom up approach utilizing our department heads to come up with the budget. This way they are accountable for their individual budgets. This present model has been successful. The only way that I see that we can improve this is to maintain this approach. I voted yes and was glad to see the referendum pass. Any spending controls that we can put in place are positive. This way we, the community, can keep our board accountable.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA director.

Proven leadership, problem solving talent, and excellent management skills. I have been in practice and have successfully managed my business for 30 years. An entrepreneur stays in business this long by knowing what to do well, how to manage risks and by recruiting and investing in the best employees. I know how to deal with different personalities, be fiscally responsible, how to balance a budget, how to communicate well, and search for

the right talent. One of my great strengths is the ability to see the gifts other people possess and put them to their best use. I am a natural leader. My leadership style revolves around giving people autonomy to make decisions and holding them accountable when necessary.

David C. Hardy Introductory Statement

I am a qualified materials engineer, systems engineer and physical scientist. Reviewing my background, one



David Hardy

will find I have proven to be an extremely versatile individual, being able to acquire skill-sets quickly in order to successfully address all assigned responsibilities. I have worked in the electronic-ceramics industry,

metals industry, petro-chemical industry, US military and federal government. In total, I have worked in private industry, for near 30 years, where I was part of a number of small start-up businesses and even started my own business at one time. I am a retired US Army Officer. My military service included near seven years on active-service and over 14 years as an active reservist. I need add, that I served in command positions for over 11 of these years in a number of US and overseas locations. Currently, I am a civilian Federal employee working in Engineer and Program Management, credited for over 18 years of service. I always try to participate in my community. I served at town level as a Framingham, MA Town Meeting Council member. I volunteer to support my community. I have been a volunteer Firefighter, volunteer emergency medical responder and most recently serving as Fire Police.

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

Recently two issues have been discussed by residents and occupied much of the agenda of OPA board meetings. These are the Federal Payroll Protection Funds loan and issues concerning short-term rentals. The former issues relate to the relative independence that the board has in spending funds without first involving

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and receiving concurrence of all Ocean Pines residents. My issue is that all budget items must be fully transparent and have acceptance through the ballot prior to any major budget action. My action will be to work towards policy where any budget is fully approved by the residents before any commitments are made by the board.

The second priority involving short-term rentals needs to be resolved. The County has zoning rules which apparently are not always followed by a very small minority of Ocean Pines residents. My intent will not be to create another set of rules and oversight boards, but instead to find a working balance to assist the County in ensuring that existing policies are being followed.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

It seems that budget activities occur in such manner which are not fully transparent to residents. There needs to be a balance between first getting resident approval and expeditiously moving forward with capital endeavors. It's all too easy to lose sight of the fact that monies collected from residents from fees, etc. is not the property of the OCA. Instead, it remains the resident's money. Policies need to be established that insure that all residents feel that they have a meaningful say in how their money is spent in support of our community.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA director.

I am highly educated in technology, personnel management and contracts and acquisition. I believe that these and my life experiences bring

additional diversity in approach and thought to the board.

Personally, I have learned how to listen, make the decisions which need to be made, while respecting those with different opinions.

**Richard Farr
Introductory Statement**

I am Rick Farr, and I would be honored to serve the Ocean Pines community as your next Director.



Richard Farr

As a property owner since 1999, the Ocean Pines community is dear to my heart and is where I plan to retire. I am a father and grandfather that grew up in Bowie,

Maryland before deciding to serve this great country. I am a retired USAF combat veteran serving this great country for close to 25 years; currently a human resource executive for an IT/Cyber firm in DC working remote. With over 35 years' experience as a human resource executive and serving on many executive boards in both military and corporate environments, I know the value of people, their talents,

and their voices. While there will be disagreements, having a high level of integrity, I value the importance of open communication and being respectful to others to achieve common goals which is at the best interest of ALL the people we serve. If elected to serve our community, I pledge to listen to ALL our residents (PT & FT) with respect and take forward recommendations that are at the best interest of our community not individuals. Proud to service you!

If elected, what would be your top two priorities?

Ensure that all the infighting among our current OPA Directors stops immediately. The infighting has cost our Ocean Pines residents thousands of dollars in legal fees which could have gone to much needed projects such as beautification of our neighborhoods and/or upgrading some of our amenities and services. It is OK to disagree with each other's position on specific agenda items, but the best boards have a clear sense of shared purpose, communicate effectively even when they have healthy disagreements about the best course of action. Knowing that board members have the best interests of the Ocean

Pines residents at heart leads to great team spirit among the board team. I will propose to analyze the board's composition, skills, leadership, and diversity and openly assess the need to recruit directors that have the best interest of our community first and be prepared to have frank conversations about succession planning, so our board remains effective in serving our community. As part of this analysis, the board will evaluate its own composition, including how it communicates effectively to the residents, its leadership, and effectiveness, to determine whether it aligns with the OPA objectives.

What do you think about Ocean Pines Association budgeting and finances? Do you have suggestions on improvements?

The OPA Budget and Finances are now operating efficiently and effectively. Transitioning a few years back from the "Top Down" to a "Bottom Up" approach has been most effective in reviewing the budget and needs to be sustained. This gives all directors clear review on any proposed budgets and to provide recommendations on

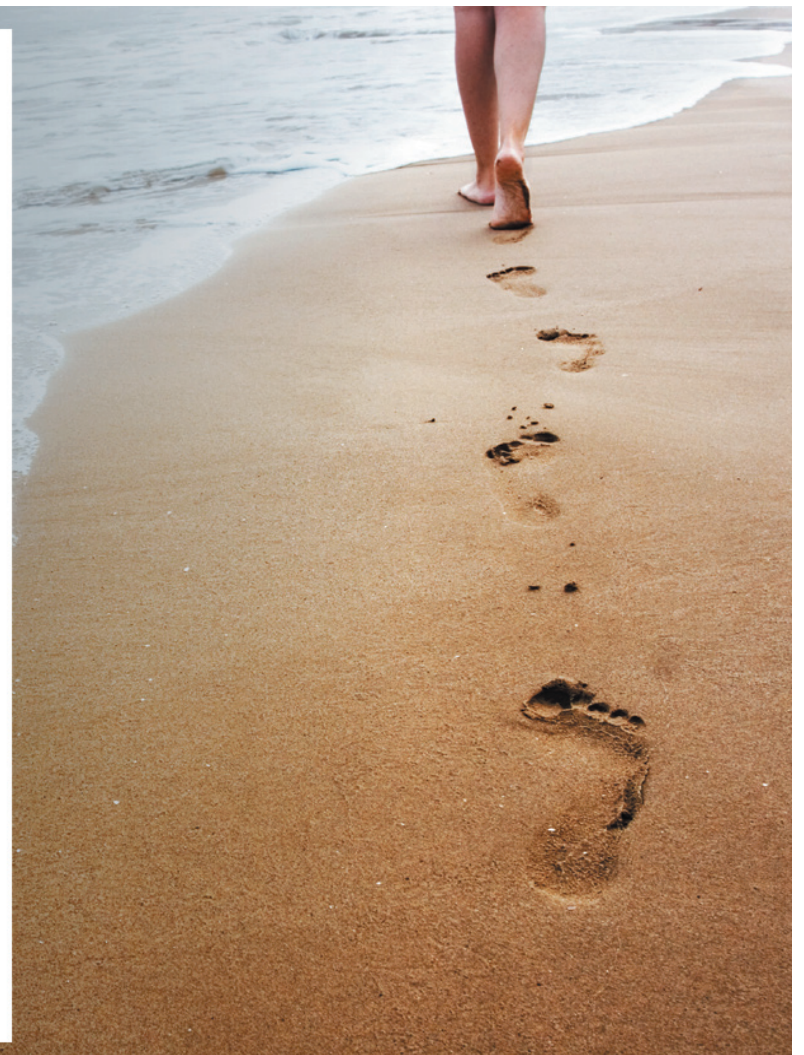
please see **candidates** on page 14

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My Backyard... sponsored by Maureen Kennedy

Bird bathing

What does science tell us about the importance of a good bath to a bird?

The answer: *surprisingly little!*

A study published in 2009 stated it plainly: “Birds of most species regularly bathe in water, but the function of this behavior is unknown.”

Despite the lack of knowledge about the function and importance of baths to birds, we all know that birds (like the rest of us) love having water around for bathing and drinking.

So, what’s so important about a bath?

The number of relevant scientific articles can be counted on one hand. There are very basic descriptions of the mechanics of bird bathing in North American.

Although the functions of bird bathing aren’t clearly known at this point, studies suggest that bathing plays an important role in feather maintenance.

Feathers are a bird’s lifeline: they insulate, waterproof and, of course, provide the power of flight.

Feathers get replaced once or twice a year. In the interim, they need to be kept in good condition. The sun, feather-munching mites, bacteria and gradual wear take a toll on feathers. A set of year-old flight feathers look like they’ve been through the ringer: they are frayed and dull.

A good bath may keep those precious feathers in the best condition possible for as long as possible.

How does it make these birds better fliers? Does it help realign the tiny barbs that hold feathers together? Does it help distribute protective oils? Does it improve feather performance in some other way?

Maybe we were ignoring another important aspect of habitat quality – access to bathing water.

Many of us with bird feeders also have a bird bath to go along with it. Even in the coldest months of the year,



birds are eager to take baths.

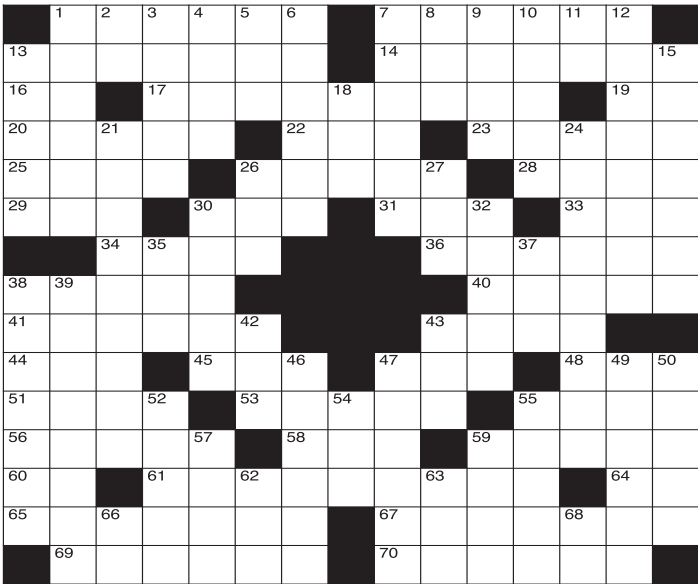
A more sophisticated approach to maintaining a bird bath in winter is to use a bird bath heater.

When warmer times come around, a water mister can enhance the backyard bird bathing experience.

Misters keep water fresh and brings a lot more attention to the bird bath. They are a great bird attractor during the spring and summer when people typically aren’t feeding birds.

Although it would be nice to know the exact functions of bird bathing, a lack of scientific knowledge won’t ever get in the way of a good bath.

-Cool Green Science, Smarter by Nature, Joe Smith.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Plant of the mint family

7. Hand tool

13. Made of the color of gold

14. A volume of several novels

16. Type of degree

17. Good job!

19. Seventh tone in major scale

20. Fevers

22. One’s mother

23. Fertile desert spots

25. Large integers

26. Plate for Eucharist

28. Tennis matches have them

29. Peyton’s little brother

30. Monetary unit of N. Korea

31. Head movement

33. Twelve

34. Renaissance musical instrument

36. Behavior showing high moral standards

38. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet
40. Notes to be sung

41. Women’s garment

43. Coarsely ground corn

44. One point south of due east

45. A way to deplete

47. Rough, prickly covering of a seed

48. LA hoopster, but not a Laker

51. Hindquarters

53. Franz van __, German diplomat

55. Liquid body substances

56. Rhythmic patterns

58. A beaver might build one

59. Police officer’s tool

60. Indicates who you are

61. Pinwheel

64. Exist

65. Ornamental molding

67. Closes again

69. Verses

70. Come into view

CLUES DOWN

1. Short stick used as a weapon

2. An alternative

3. Laws

4. Sense organs

5. One from Utah

6. Mariner

7. People in charge of cattle

8. Health insurance organization

9. Ornamental box

10. Forest-dwelling deer

11. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

12. Atomic #71

13. Become less intense

15. Cowards

18. Body ornament (slang)

21. Applicable to all cases

24. Multiplied by 6

26. Afghanistan monetary unit

27. Calendar month

30. Cena and Lennon are two
32. Monetary unit of Serbia

35. First time on the market

37. Georgia rockers

38. Free from contamination

39. Coastal region of Canada

42. Clothing retailer

43. It rises and sets

46. Fathers

47. Stain with mud

49. Suitable for crops

50. Feels concern for

52. Orange-brown

54. Buddy

55. Late sportscaster Craig

57. Used to align parts

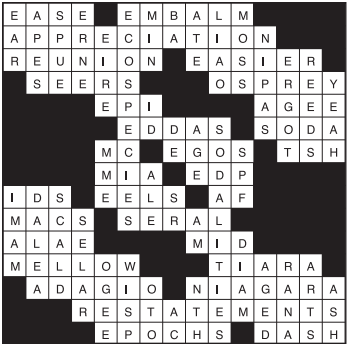
59. Wake up

62. Solid water

63. Semiprecious stone

66. Atomic #45

68. Ton lawyer



Answers for June 30



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Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Voyagers going beyond the solar system

Ordinarily, the explorations of NASA have aimed at the moon, and the planets. However, space fans may be aware that the two "Voyager" spacecraft have already ventured beyond the solar system and are collecting scientific data at the

passing. Also a strange pattern of "spokes" appeared in the rings of Saturn, as well as the unexpected presence of very thin planetary rings around Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune. The mission to capture close up observations of the four outer planets was completed in 1989. The Voyagers have left astronomers a rich legacy of scientific data and images.

The Voyager probes were designed with planetary explorations in mind, and few expected further discoveries. Yet NASA scientists have been delighted as the twin probes continue flying to more distant horizons, still sending data back to Earth. These probes have now become the first functioning spacecraft to fly beyond the edge of the solar system, passing



Upper – Artist's Depiction of Voyager 1
Lower – Volcanic Eruption on Jupiter's Moon IO

edge of "interstellar space."

Amazingly, the twin Voyager craft were launched back in August and September, 1977, and are now approaching their 44-year anniversaries. The longevity of these crafts has been remarkable and represents more than two-thirds of the life of NASA itself.

Exciting discoveries were made by the Voyagers during their intrepid adventures. Initial observations of Jupiter occurred in March and July of 1979. Unexpected revelations included active volcanoes on Jupiter's moon "IO" (eye-oh), one erupting just as a Voyager craft was

ing through the "heliosphere" and entering into "interstellar space." Voyager-1 and Voyager-2 crossed the boundary between these regions in 2012 and 2018, respectively.

A number of scientific papers have been produced describing conditions encountered by the Voyagers during their crossing of the heliosphere.

Within the heliosphere, the sun produces not just brilliant light, but also a continuous, dense stream of charged particles known as the "solar wind." The heliosphere extends about 11 billion miles from the sun, much beyond Neptune's 4.8

billion miles, and serves as a protective barrier from the full impacts of cosmic radiation. Instruments aboard the Voyager craft noted that solar wind particles are considerably slowing, and "piling up" at the boundary. Some scientists describe this as a magnetic barrier or shield.

In interstellar space, beyond the heliosphere barrier, the Voyagers observed a higher density of cosmic ray particles. In addition, lower temperatures were seen there.

The most recent Voyager-1 discovery was announced on May 10 in "Nature Astronomy" journal. A team at Cornell University has detected the so-called "faint plasma hum" - a signal produced by the ionized gas in interstellar space. Cornell Professor of Astronomy, James Cordes, said: "the interstellar medium is like a quiet or gentle rain," Voyager-1's instruments are capable of making repeated samplings of this gas, and offering something like a constantly updated "weather report" on the plasma gas.

Voyager-1 is traveling at about 38,000 mph and Voyager-2, at 34,400 mph. Voyager-1 is now about 14.1 billion miles away from the sun, and Voyager-2 at 11.7 billion miles. Engineers are predicting that their plutonium power sources may last only another four years before these spacecraft will likely go silent.

Despite the eventual failure of the Voyagers' power sources, NASA's research into interstellar space is likely to continue. At the

Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, a research team is investigating a proposed new mission designed especially for such interstellar research. The project is simply titled "Interstellar Probe" and is intended to expand scientific understanding of the heliosphere and of interstellar space, ultimately traveling about 10 times farther than the current position of the Voyager probes. Astronomers measure that as 1,000 times the Earth-sun distance.

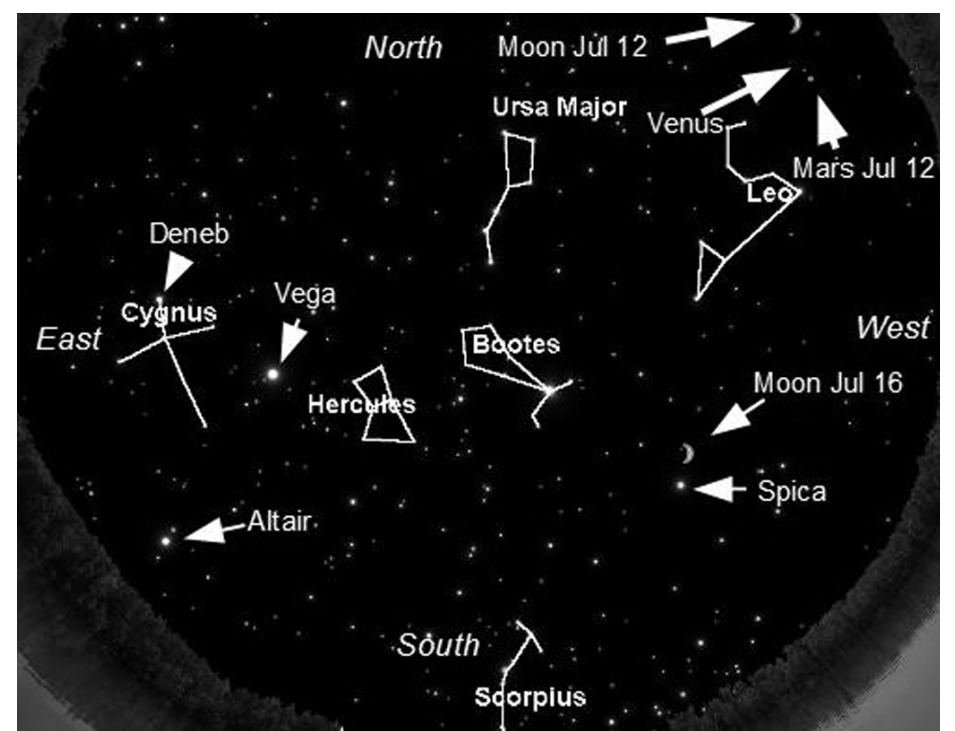
The Hopkins team will present a "pragmatic concept study" later this year.

Stargazing in July begins at about 8:30 p.m. with the bright planet Venus hanging over the northwest horizon, in the early evening. On July 12, Venus and Mars will rendezvous a half a degree apart, while the waxing crescent moon grazes within 3 degrees of the pair.

At about 9:45 p.m., the full stellar vista arrives, and the constellation Scorpius the Scorpion appears near the southern horizon. High overhead flies the familiar kite-shaped Bootes (Boh OH teeZ) the Herdsman. On July 16 the crescent moon passes about six degrees from the bright star Spica.

Many stargazers are aware of the asterism formation called the "Summer Triangle" featuring three prominent stars: Deneb, Vega and Altair.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.



Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**



Hollywood Squares

*Those were the days.
Hard to believe they did not know the questions beforehand.
The responses were spontaneous, not scripted.*



Q. Paul, what is a good reason for pounding meat?

A. Paul Lynde: Loneliness! (The audience laughed so long and hard it took up almost 15 minutes of the show!)

Q. Do female frogs croak?

A. Paul Lynde: If you hold their little heads under water long enough.

Q. If you're going to make a parachute jump, at least how high should you be?

A. Charley Weaver: Three days of steady drinking should do it.



Q. True or False, a pea can last as long as 5,000 years...

A. George Gobel: Boy, it sure seems that way sometimes.

Q. You've been having trouble going to sleep. Are you probably a man or a woman?

A. Don Knotts: That's what's been keeping me awake.

Q. According to *Cosmopolitan*, if you meet a stranger at a party and you think that he is attractive, is it okay to ask him if he's married.

A. Rose Marie: No. Wait until morning.

Q. Which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?

A. Charley Weaver: My sense of decency.

Q. What are: 'Do It,' 'I Can Help,' and 'I Can't Get Enough'?

A. George Gobel: I don't know, but it's coming from the apartment next door.

Q. As you grow older, do you tend to gesture more or less with your hands while talking?

A. Rose Marie: You ask me one more growing old question, Peter, and I'll give you a gesture you'll never forget.

Q. Paul, why do Hell's Angels wear leather?

A. Paul Lynde: Because chiffon wrinkles too easily.

Q. Charley, you've just decided to grow strawberries. Are you going to get any during the first year?

A. Charley Weaver: Of course not, I'm too busy growing strawberries.

Q. In bowling, what's a perfect score?

A. Rose Marie: Ralph, the pin boy.

Q. During a tornado, are you safer in the bedroom or in the closet?

A. Rose Marie: Unfortunately Peter, I'm always safe in the bedroom

Q. Can boys join the Camp Fire Girls?

A. Marty Allen: Only after lights out.

Q. When you pat a dog on its head he will wag his tail. What will a goose do?

A. Paul Lynde: Make him bark?

Q. If you were pregnant for two years, what would you give birth to?

A. Paul Lynde: Whatever it is, it would never be afraid of the dark.

Q. According to Ann Landers, is there anything wrong with getting into the habit of kissing a lot of people?

A. Charley Weaver: It got me out of the army.

Q. Back in the old days, when Great Grandpa put horseradish on his head, what was he trying to do?

A. George Gobel: Get it in his mouth.

Q. Who stays pregnant for a longer period of time, your wife or your elephant?

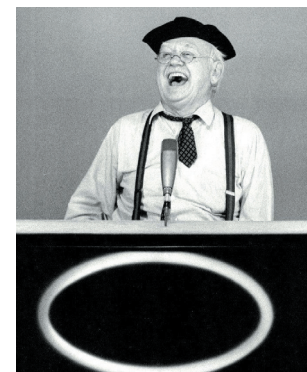
A. Paul Lynde: Who told you about my elephant?

Q. Jackie Gleason recently revealed that he firmly believes in them and has actually seen them on at least two occasions. What are they?

A. Charley Weaver: His feet.

Q. According to Ann Landers, what are two things you should never do in bed?

A. Paul Lynde: Point and laugh.



We do not stop laughing because we grow old.
We grow old because we stop laughing.



Visit - Maryland First Lady Yumi Hogan recently visited the Worcester County Developmental Center (WCDC) to interact with clients as they worked on art projects.

WCDC has been transitioning into a center for the arts to allow its clients to communicate in different media, gain self confidence and become more independent in the community.

Above are **Pat Schrawder**, Senator Mary Beth Carozza's District representative; **Mark Cerbo** WCDC board president; **Yumi Hogan**; **Jack Ferry**, WCDC executive director; **Cathy Gallagher** Friends of WCDC President; **Senator Mary Beth Carozza**.

Coastal Bays to celebrate 25 years

This year marks the 25 Anniversary for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP). Established in 1996 to address environmental problems associated with intensified development and an ever-increasing population, MCBP formed a coalition of partners focused on preserving and protecting Maryland's Coastal Bays.

As an EPA supported National Estuary Program, MCBP and its' partners were able to bring resources and expertise to help characterize current environmental conditions and chart a path for the future.

Twenty-five years of planning, influencing policy, monitoring and restoration projects, MCBP along with its' partners and community can point to a host of accomplishments and actions that have had a positive effect on the place many of us call home.

But there is still much to be done to protect the five bays behind Ocean City and Assateague Island. Algal blooms and poor water quality continue to be problematic in some areas. And over the last 15 years there has been a precipitous decline in some of our iconic coastal bay waterbirds. Nesting populations of black skimmers and common terns have declined by over 90%.

This anniversary year, MCBP is focusing on coastal bay waterbirds and is implementing actions and strategies with partners to make sure that these iconic species continue to live and nest in the coastal bays.

Mark your calendars to help MCBP celebrate by attending an Anniversary Celebration and Movie Night, Thursday, September 30 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Windmill Creek Vineyards and Winery (Rain Date: October 7). This will be a family-friendly event with music, exhibits, and silent auction. Movie feature will be "The Biggest Little Farm" which chronicles the journey of John and Molly Chester, local natives, and their 200-acre farm located 40 miles outside of Los Angeles. This beautifully filmed and captivating movie brilliantly illustrates the challenges of farming and working to do it in harmony with nature.

John Chester will provide a virtual welcoming message prior to the showing of the movie. Tickets are not available yet; but, can be found on the website once the platform is launched. Adult admission \$20, children free.

Visit www.mdcoastalbays.org to find other special events and programs introduced to celebrate 25 years protecting today's treasures for tomorrows' future.

Summer cessation classes offered

The Worcester County Health Department's free summer smoking cessation classes are scheduled to begin in July. Classes are available in-person and through distance learning. Worcester Health is committed to helping smokers establish new behavior patterns that lead to a tobacco-free lifestyle. With the smoking cessation class, Chantix, gum, patch, lozenges and other aids to help individuals quit tobacco are available through a voucher program for individuals meeting specific requirements.

Join one of the smoking cessation classes available throughout Worcester County starting next month:

-Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., (July 13-September 7) at the Snow Hill Health Center, 6040 Public Landing Rd.

-Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., (July 14-September 8) at the Pocomoke Health Center, 400 Walnut St. -

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., (July 14-September 8) Distance Learning

-Thursdays, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., (July 15-September 9) at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway

"No matter how long you've smoked, there are health benefits to quitting. Summer is the perfect time to quit smok-

ing or vaping. If a person is thinking about quitting, we want them to set themselves up for success by enrolling in our free smoking cessation program. We want residents to know we are here to help them through their quit journey," said Crystal Bell, Chronic Disease and Tobacco Supervisor at Worcester County Health Department.

Professionally trained instructors can help participants break the smoking addiction. The smoking cessation course consists of eight core sessions utilizing the American Lung Associations Freedom from Smoking curriculum, which is proven to help smokers quit. Key topics of discussion will include stress management, weight control, assertive communication, how to develop a quit plan, relapse prevention, and physical activity. Participants will receive weekly educational support, incentives, curriculum handbooks and materials; quit kit resources, a stress relaxation technique CD and more.

Space is limited. For more information or to register, please contact Alyssa Rink by email at Alyssa.Rink@maryland.gov or by calling 410-632-1100 ext. 1102. Pre-registration is encouraged.

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TidalHealth unveils new electronic record system

TidalHealth Nanticoke and affiliated medical offices upgraded their electronic medical record to Epic Systems starting July 1. The transition to the new system will mean that all TidalHealth locations in Maryland and Delaware will share one medical record, making it easier for patients to see their medical instructions and test results, contact their providers and pay bills, no matter which location they visit. It will also provide a more seamless way for patients' care teams to work together on care plans and share important results.

"The system has been in place at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional since November 2016; having one medical record will be simpler and more efficient for patients and for our staff," said Steffan Williams, MBA, CHCIO, Epic Project Director at TidalHealth Nanticoke. "When TidalHealth became one healthcare system, many patients assumed we would already be on the same electronic medical record system, but the transition is a very complex task, one that we have managed very carefully for our patients' safety."

As the Epic system goes live, visitors and patients may find Tidal-

Health's Epic experts on hand coaching staff who are new to the system, so that recordkeeping is timely and accurate from the start. Patience is appreciated in early July as staff becomes accustomed to the new system.

"Everyone will be on the same page, literally, with every patient," said Mark Weisman, MD, TidalHealth's Chief Medical Informatics Officer. "It's one patient, one chart – communication will be greatly improved."

TidalHealth Nanticoke was previously on the Cerner electronic medical record. Patients who used the CernerHealth patient portal may still access their records there for a limited amount of time, but that record will no longer be updated. Those patients are encouraged to sign up for MyChart, the Epic-powered online patient record. MyChart will be used in every TidalHealth hospital, lab, radiology and doctor's office. In MyChart, patients can see their medical record, their test results, pay their bills online, message providers and even request prescription refills. To sign up, visit mychart.tidalhealth.org.

candidates
from page 5

how we need to allocate our finances for current and future expenses to include earmarking future capital expense projects. My recommendation is to continue the way the budget and finances are currently being reviewed and approved by the directors for proper oversight.

Describe what talents and skills you would bring as an OPA director.

Currently I am an executive in human capital management with over 30+ years of progressive leadership in human resource management and organizational development in the military and corporate environments. I partner with the senior executive team and board of directors to develop and

marina
from page 6

understand that it was in a state of disrepair and needed to be replaced," he said.

Now, with the new Yacht Club running a successful restaurant business, he said the marina can be "chaotic and entertaining at the same time," averaging more than 100 boats at the fuel docks. On a hectic holiday weekend, he said the marina can see close to 500 boats over four days.

"You're hustling through the whole weekend. There will be a boat at either end [of the fuel dock], two out front, and six or eight just circling and waiting to come in," he said, comparing it to a McDonald's drive-through.

"For a small operation, you'd be amazed at how much gas comes out of here," he continued. "People are just coming in and out, all day. We're running down here, but it makes the time go by."

During the summer, Toth said it's not unusual to see boaters put almost \$1,000 into their gas tanks.

"It's all relative – if you can afford the boat, you can afford the gas," he said. "Once the season starts, you'll see people come in and put in that kind of money, and they don't blink an eye."

Like Figgs, he said the marina was virtually "pandemic proof," with plenty of customers coming in last year despite all the restrictions.

"We probably had a record-breaking year, plus we had good weather," he said. "The price of our gas is right, it's non-ethanol gas, and it's easy to

build out multiple key initiatives and programs that are aligned with the company's business plans and strategic objectives. It is my responsibility to promote transparent communication and to work with and alongside executives, senior staff, and line operations staff to implement strategic business solutions to mitigate risk and improve productivity to increase revenue. I currently manage staff and multiple projects to foster cross-functional communication and collaboration with high levels of integrity and deliver to a vast variety of internal and external audiences. My board position with my current employer is co-chair for the compensation committee, IT steering committee (voting member), and board search committee (voting member). Previous experience - board member for United Way and YMCA, Allegany County.

get in and out of here. People come down from Delaware, because that state doesn't allow the sale of non-ethanol."

Toth said a noticeable effect of the pandemic was the increase of new boats and new boaters. However, he said because of that boom there's now a shortage of new supply.

"These boat dealers, they have no new boats to sell," he said. "One dealer told me that they won't be getting new boats in for a month – that's how far behind they are. But, at the marina, that just means we're going to be busy and we're going to sell a lot of gas."

Weather allowing, Toth expects another huge year at the Ocean Pines Marina.

"We make a lot of money for the Association, and we'll probably contribute about \$200,000 [profit] year in and year out," he said.

As a retirement job, Toth said the fuel dock attendant position "is all I ever want to be."

"I just like meeting all the new people. That's the nice thing about it – it's new every day," he said. "And it's a killer view."



Job fair scheduled

view. Training and transportation resources will be available onsite.

This event is being hosted by the Town of Pocomoke, Worcester County Chambers of Commerce, Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, and Worcester County Tourism and Economic Development (WCTED).

Space is also available at no cost for employers who would like to participate.

This event will take place rain or shine. For more information, contact WCTED Workforce Engagement Specialist Jackie Trieu at jtrieu@co.worcester.md.us or at (410) 632-3110.

Calling all job seekers. Meet prospective employers from across Worcester County and choose from hundreds of seasonal and year-round jobs at the Open Air Job Fair Wednesday, July 14, at Elks Lodge #1624 in Pocomoke from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. Employers offering competitive wages and signing bonuses will be accepting applications and hiring onsite.

No registration is required. Come prepared to apply and inter-



TheCourierofOceanPines

ford
from page 4

president brought to justice. Some critics charged that Ford issued the pardon as part of a pre-arranged deal to reach the Oval Office. But Ford insisted that the nation's future hinged on ending the ordeal of Watergate and beginning the process of healing.

During the remaining two years of his presidency, Ford faced a domestic energy crisis and a weak economy marked by high inflation and unemployment. He also struggled to work effectively with a heavily Democratic Congress. In fact, Ford vetoed 66 pieces of legislation that conflicted with his basic philosophy of fiscal conservatism.

Ford's foreign policy generated both successes and failures. Unable to convince Congress to approve further military aid to South Vietnam, he could only watch as the country fell to North Vietnamese Communist forces in 1975. Later that year, however, Ford helped reduce tensions with the Soviet Union by signing the Helsinki Accords, which were meant to strengthen the relationship between Western nations and the communist countries of Europe.

Ford understood that his decision to pardon Nixon could have political consequences, and it probably cost him the presidency in 1976. That year, he lost a close election to Democrat Jimmy Carter. Ford took the loss in stride, however, telling friends that he had planned to retire from Congress that year anyway. He viewed his brief tenure in the Oval Office as an unexpected bonus at the end of a long career in politics. Ford often said that he was pleased to have had the opportunity to help the nation emerge from the shadow of Watergate.

The former president remained active in his retirement. He gave speeches, served on the boards of major corporations and indulged his passions for golf and downhill skiing. He and his wife, who battled alcoholism at a time when the disease was not publicly discussed, also opened the Betty Ford Clinic in Cal-



ifornia to support research, treatment and rehabilitation for alcohol addiction. In 1999, Ford received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor "awarded to individuals who make an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant

public or private endeavors." Ford died on December 26, 2006, at his home in Rancho Mirage, California, at the age of 93. At the time of his death, he was America's oldest ex-president.

-history.com

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day		High /Low	Tide Time
Th	8	Low	1:35 AM
	8	High	7:30 AM
	8	Low	1:16 PM
	8	High	7:58 PM
F	9	Low	2:15 AM
	9	High	8:14 AM
	9	Low	1:59 PM
	9	High	8:41 PM
Sa	10	Low	2:55 AM
	10	High	8:57 AM
	10	Low	2:40 PM
	10	High	9:23 PM
Su	11	Low	3:34 AM
	11	High	9:40 AM
	11	Low	3:22 PM
	11	High	10:05 PM
M	12	Low	4:15 AM
	12	High	10:23 AM
	12	Low	4:06 PM
	12	High	10:46 PM
Tu	13	Low	4:57 AM
	13	High	11:07 AM
	13	Low	4:53 PM
	13	High	11:29 PM
W	14	Low	5:41 AM
	14	High	11:53 AM
	14	Low	5:43 PM

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