

The Courier

August 4 2021 Volume 21 Number 45

Eric Cropper *1972-2021*

Eric Cropper, husband, father, son, friend and President of the Worcester County Board of Education, passed away unexpectedly last Friday. He leaves behind his loving wife Bess and their three children.

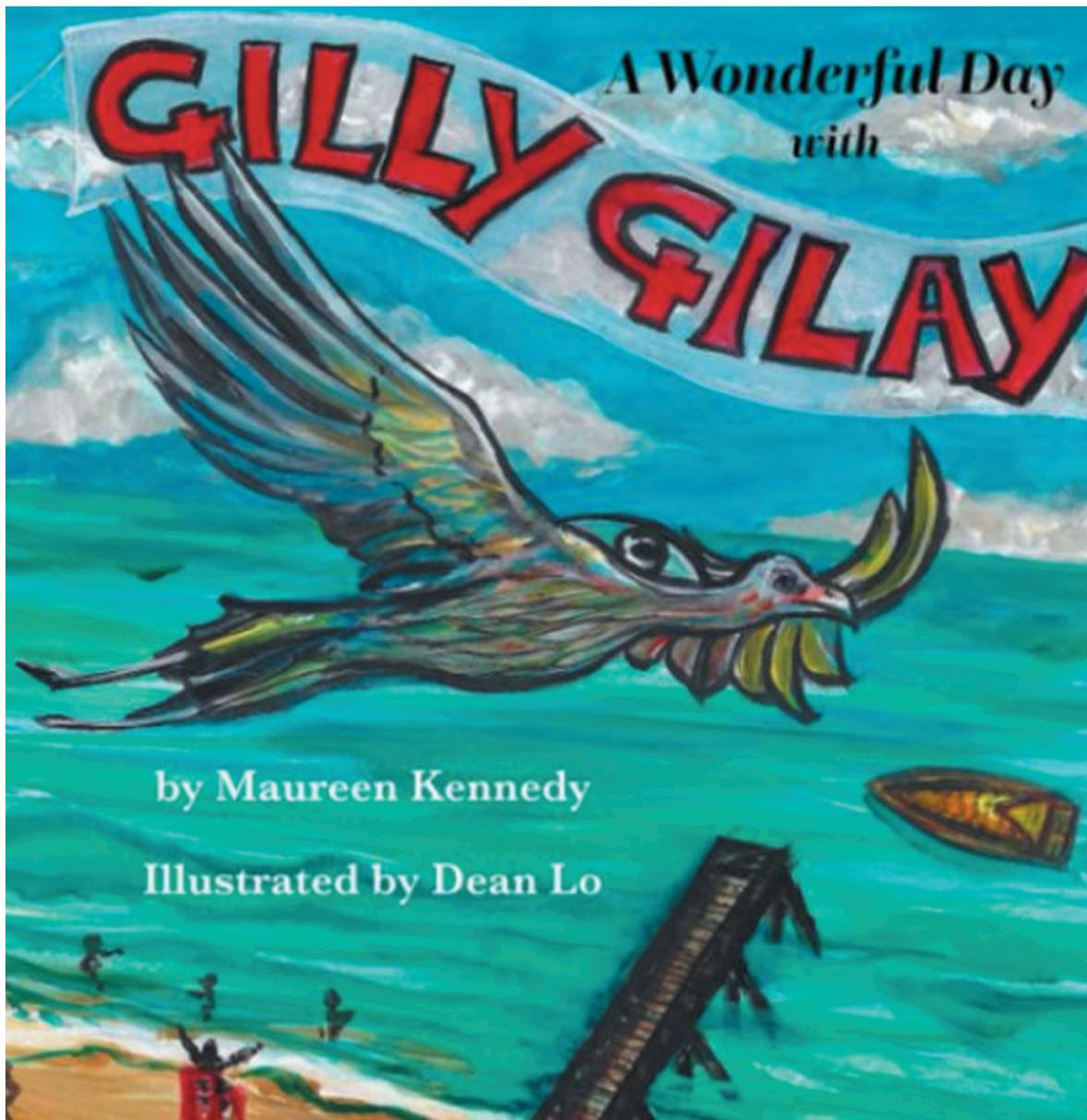
An illuminating presence, a compassionate personality and a dynamic smile were Eric's gift to those with whom he came in contact.

Our community and our schools are better off because Eric was a part of them.

Godspeed Eric.



Author Book Signing



An illustrated children's book written by local resident **Maureen Kennedy**.

Maureen honors her father who created the **Gilly Gilay** character to regale her as a child with tale after tale of Gilly's **crazy adventures** during dreamtime.

Your **children and grandchildren** can now enjoy Gilly's adventures.

Friday, August 13 3 p.m.

Light Refreshments to be served

South Gate Ocean Pines
11312 Manklin Creek Rd



Memorial seeks golf tournament sponsors

The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation will once again host its annual golf tournament at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, this year scheduled on Wednesday, September 22.

Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said the event was canceled last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but organizers are excited to get back to normal.

The annual tournament is the foundation's major fundraiser for education programs.

"Through the cooperative efforts of the Worcester County Board of Education and the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, every fifth-grade student in Worcester County participates in a field day trip to the Veterans Memorial," Gilmore said.

During the program, volunteer docents talk about the sacrifices of veterans and the founding of each branch of military service, and instruct on flag etiquette. Junior ROTC cadets from Stephen Decatur High School, Snow

Hill High School and Pocomoke High School assist in teaching the younger students proper flag handling and flag folding.

"The lessons learned are reinforced with an activity guide that each student takes home," Gilmore said. "They are encouraged to continue the conversation with their parents, and thus learn of their family's contributions and military service history.

"We are so grateful for the opportunity to raise funds for this award-winning program," she continued. "We hope you will support our event by becoming a sponsor, or providing a prize for our tournament or silent auction."

Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$2,000 and help pay for costs related to the program, including paying for the buses and drivers that bring the students to the memorial in Ocean Pines.

The foundation is also seeking gifts and gift certificates for the silent auc-

please see memorial on page 14



Stuffing going on - Several years ago, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City started a community service project called "Companion Dolls." The club has continued the program after COVID. Pictured are (L-R) **Roy Foreman, Jim Spicknall, Diane Spartzak (instructor) and Dick Clagett** showing off their work.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

BALLOTS DUE AUG 11

ANNUAL MEETING AUG 14

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Race relations forum lauded

Editor:

On July 19th, the Worcester County Branch of the NAACP hosted a "Race Relations Forum", which was held at the Duncan Showell American Legion Post 231 in Berlin. This was a very informa-

tive meeting and an important step in the ongoing process of understanding the importance of building good community relationships.

I want to thank our Moderator Rev. James Jones, and panelists; Pocomoke Councilman Todd J.

Knox, Berlin Councilwoman Shaneka Nicholas, Community Representative Dee Davis, and former Worcester County Commissioner James Purnell.

Organizations with representatives attending included Caucus of African-American Leaders, United Black Clergy, Maryland Freedom Riders and Delegate Sandy Bartlett, Honorable Carl Snowden, Maryland State Conference NAACP President Willie Flowers and Jackie Allsup, Salisbury University Chapter NAACP President Dorien Rogers, Wicomico County NAACP President Amanda Hopkins, Somerset County NAACP President Kirkland Hall, Bishop Antonio Palmer, and Darius Stanton. Thanks to all for traveling to Worcester for this historic event.

I especially want to recognize Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan for attending, listening and answering questions from the group. This effort is a great starting point to build positive working good relationships with local community leaders and other stakeholders across the state of Maryland.

Ivory Smith
President,

Worcester County NAACP

OPA adjusts budget

The Ocean Pines General Manager's Office announced last Monday a change to budget favorability for fiscal year 2020-2021.

In the April 2021 financial report, Ocean Pines announced a positive operating fund variance for the year of \$1.243 million. That number has since been revised to \$1.445 million, favorable to budget.

General Manager John Viola said more money than usual was put aside last year for a Provision for Bad Debt from assessment collections, because of situations related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the later-than-usual assessment date. When a portion of that money set aside was not needed, the provision was released.

"Obviously, with COVID, we didn't know what would happen with the economy, and this approach was discussed during Board and budget meetings," Viola said. "We provided more for bad debt than we did in the past because of what we thought might have happened, but that didn't happen."

Viola said he spoke with Finance Director Steve Phillips and auditor Chris Hall from the TGM group, who agreed with the approach of releasing an additional \$200,000 and revising the positive operating fund variance.

Book sale was a success

Editor:

Last weekend was the largest event that is held at Ocean Pines library every year. The volunteer organization Friends of the Ocean Pines Library (FOPL) prepares a book sale that encompasses over 20,000 books, DVD's, Audio Books and Music CD's divided into approximately 25 categories. They are sold for 50 cents to \$2 over a three-day period with all proceeds going to benefit the Ocean Pines library and is used for buying equipment, sponsoring programs offered at the library and supplement the budget provided by the Worcester County Commissioners.

This year was the 20th Annual Book Sale and was put together by nearly 80 volunteers donating more than 500 hours to make this sale possible. Throughout the year, people donate 95 % of the books, DVD's and CD's that

are sorted, evaluated and categorized for the sale. This year's sale was the largest ever with about 1300 people attending and garnered approximately \$14,000.00.

On behalf of the FOPL and the Ocean Pines Library, we would like to thank all those who donated books throughout the year, the volunteers who assist with the library every day and at the sale, the staff of the OP library who are so gracious with our activities and to all of you who came out to support the sale that benefits the library, its programs and everyday needs for reading, copies and information. Donations will again be accepted starting August 2. Hope to see you all next year.

**Eileen Leonhart and
Jim Meckley**
Book Sale Co-Chairs

Many drivers recognize the importance of vehicle maintenance, but a significant percentage of drivers are putting off taking timely care of their cars and trucks. IMR Inc. surveys 25,000 households each quarter, asking participants how they have serviced and maintained their vehicles. In the first quarter of 2020, much of which occurred prior to the declaration of a global pandemic, nearly 18 percent of respondents indicated they had delayed vehicle repairs or maintenance. IMR classified "delayed maintenance" as repairs and maintenance that vehicle owners intentionally put off despite knowing the vehicles needed them. That conscious decision to delay maintenance and repairs could prove costly in



the long run, as adhering to a routine maintenance schedule is a great way to ensure cars stay on the road longer. In addition, adhering to manufacturer-recommended maintenance schedules is a great way to discover minor issues before they escalate into larger, more costly concerns.



TheCourierofOceanPines

Courier Almanac

On August 4, 1936, American Jesse Owens won gold in the long jump at the Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany. It was the second of four gold medals Owens won in Berlin, as he firmly dispelled German Fuhrer Adolf Hitler's notion of the superiority of an Aryan "master race," for all the world to see.

Owens would win his third gold medal and set his second Olympic record of the games in the 200 meters the next day. On August 9, he followed that up by helping his team set a new world record, 39.8 seconds, in the 4 x 100 meter relay. Owens and another runner replaced two American Jews, Marty Glickman and Sam Stoller, originally scheduled to run the relay that day. Later, the U.S. team was criticized for the move, which was thought to be an appeasement of Hitler and the Nazi party, who would likely have been even angrier to see Jews, already a frequent target of Nazi hate and harassment, bring home a medal.

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The Courier

The Courier is published Wednesday morning by CMN Communications, Inc. Contents copyright 2021. News release items and calendar entries should reach us Friday noon prior to publication date. The advertising deadline is Friday at 5 p.m. Read The Courier online at delmarvacourier.com,

Stringing moments

Several moments strung together become a memory. And there were many such moments during a recent afternoon and evening I spent with my



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

grandchildren. It was just the three of us, my wife enjoying an evening out with a friend.

The kids and I headed out on the boat, fishing gear in hand to try our luck. It was their luck being tried. I learned a while back when my children were young that when fishing with kids, I cannot fish in peace myself so my rod stays in the holder. But in no way was my enjoyment diminished.

Once rigged and baited, I showed the kids how to cast their lines and for the next nearly two hours, they had a blast, especially when they reeled in a croaker, which they each did on multiple occasions. None of the fish were proper size to keep but it made no difference. They relished releasing the fish and watching it swim away.

I had planned to take them to De Lazy Lizard for dinner. And when it got to be about time to cruise on over there, the kids pleaded for another drift, and another after that, so they could continue to fish. What grandfather can deny the request of grandchildren who want to continue fishing?

Eventually we docked at the Lizard only to learn it would be at least an hour wait before we could be seated. The kids shared my view that waiting an hour was not going to work. So back into the boat we went and cruised to the Ocean Pines Yacht Club where we docked and took a table outside, next to friends of ours as it turned out.

Deciding what to order was amusing in that my grandson knew exactly what he wanted – chicken fingers and fries. My granddaughter on the other hand bounced between a hamburger and maybe chicken fingers but she also had a hankering for mac and cheese. Many minutes of uncertainty passed. Finally, a decision was made. A hamburger and mac and cheese as a side. Whew! Finally.

It wasn't until I got to the bar to

order the food that I learned that mac and cheese is not offered as a side to hamburgers. However, mac and cheese could be ordered by itself. As I'm being

told this information by the very nice bar attendant, I was watching the kids at the table who were watching me. What was going through my mind, I must admit, and I'm not proud of it, was not how cute the kids were but that my grand-

daughter was going to cost me an additional five bucks for mac and cheese.

While waiting for our food, we competed in a few fierce games of corn hole. Each of the kids was very studied and competitive, traits conveyed by their intent facial expressions and deliberate foot placements. In the end, each of us won one game.

When we got our drinks we toasted a good day of fishing, making sure that we clinked each other's glasses. During dinner, the kids talked about their friends at school, the fact that their Mommy is a good, or as my grandson emphasized, a "perfect" cook and that my granddaughter wants to move to Maryland when she grows up.

Logistics sometimes is a crucial, yet overlooked, component when you're a lone adult out with two kids, one boy and one girl. This is no more apparent than when one or both has to go to the bathroom. Although my granddaughter is nine, I wasn't comfortable leaving her alone at the table, nor could she go into the men's room. Fortunately, my friend sitting at the other table arrived for the assist, waiting with my granddaughter as I took my grandson to the rest room and then accompanying my granddaughter to the ladies' room. Big relief – in more ways than one.

Following dinner we climbed back in the boat, pushed off from the dock and made our way to the center of the basin where we anchored so we could enjoy cigars, the perfect way to conclude an afternoon on the water.

From my travel humidor I pulled my cigar and two bubble gum cigars which elated the kids. For the next 45 minutes we sat in the front of the boat. As the sun slid behind the Yacht Club and the kids talked about all sorts of things that were on their mind, their grandfather couldn't help but think how lucky he was, just stringing moments together.

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OPA declares Farr ineligible in board election

Commentary by **Joe Reynolds**
OceanPinesForum.com

In what can only be described as another quirky turn of events in OPA board elections this year, during a July 30 special board meeting board candidate Rick Farr found himself in the awkward position of trying to prove he was eligible to run for the board or even an association member.



An OPA news release on the following day contained this statement from Ocean Pines Association Secretary Camilla Rogers:

"In my role as OPA Secretary, based on all available documents, I have determined that Richard Farr did not meet the requirement for qualification to be a candidate for election to the Board of Directors of Ocean Pines. This means, Mr. Farr is ineligible for election to the OPA the Board of Directors."

The special meeting on July 30 was billed as a closed meeting to discuss a legal matter. OPA President Larry Perrone opened the meeting and then asked if there were any public comments.

Rick Farr was in attendance and indicated he wanted to make public comments prior to the closed meeting. Before he could say anything, Perrone said Farr could not make comments because Farr was "not an association member."

That left a bit of stunned silence, but not for long. A short conversation between Farr and OPA attorney Jeremy Tucker led to a pause in the meeting after Tucker agreed to receive some proof of ownership /eligibility from Farr via phone conversation.

When the meeting resumed, Perrone

asked Tucker if Farr could make public comments.

Tucker said that Farr, as a Trustee of some Farr family trust, was an association member as of "today" and eligible to make public comments. However, Tucker also mentioned that Farr became an association member eligible to make public comments as of May 17, 2021.

Farr then proceeded to make his public comments, referencing his ownership as a Trustee of the Trust.

The board eventually voted to go into closed session on a 5-1-1 vote, with Doug Parks abstaining and Tom Janasek voting no. Parks noted he wanted full disclosure of how much this issue was costing in legal fees. Janasek wanted to know why this is coming up now.

The public part of the meeting ended.

The key question was whether or not Farr was a legal owner of the property eligible to run for the Board of Directors on January 1, 2021, per the bylaws.

While attorney Tucker declared Farr currently eligible to make public comments during the meeting, that was not the same as saying Farr was eligible to be a board candidate based on ownership as of January 1, 2021.

Farr correctly pointed out that OPA corporate Secretary Camilla Rogers certified Farr as being an eligible candidate months ago.

The July 31 news release states:

"Mr. Farr was initially determined to be eligible based on his connection with 21 Bird Nest Drive, the address he listed on his candidate application. Based on all available documents, including county land records and SDAT, the initial determination that Mr. Farr was eligible to be elected was made in an error."

"Upon learning of this ownership

issue on July 27, 2021, I, and OPA's legal counsel immediately contacted Mr. Farr by phone to alert him of the concern and requested documentation to support he was the owner of record of 21 Bird Nest Drive as of January 1, 2021. OPA's legal counsel followed up with several emails to Mr. Farr and Mr. Farr's attorney requesting these documents. On July 30, 2021 at 3:00 PM, Mr. Farr provided a letter from his attorney confirming that he is the current Trustee of the Trust that owns 21 Bird Nest Drive. Mr. Farr later provided a copy of the Farr Living Trust. The letter and the trust document included no additional facts or opinions that would lead me to conclude that Mr. Farr was the owner of record of 21 Bird Nest

Drive as of January 1, 2021.

"The Board of Directors met on July 30, 2021 to discuss how to proceed. The Board reviewed several options. Ultimately, the Board determined that proceeding with the election but invalidating the votes for Mr. Farr was the best course of action."

Net result of all this is the next two board members will be selected from the three eligible candidates on the ballot — Frank Daly, Stuart Lakernick, and David Hardy - short of any other unexpected developments.

Had OPA properly vetted all candidates, this rather astonishing turn of events, embarrassing for all concerned, would never have happened.

Official statement on Richard (Rick) Farr candidate eligibility status

The following statement was prepared by Ocean Pines Association Secretary Camilla Rogers:

"In my role as OPA Secretary, based on all available documents, I have determined that Richard Farr did not meet the requirement for qualification to be a candidate for election to the Board of Directors of Ocean Pines. This means, Mr. Farr is ineligible for election to the OPA the Board of Directors."

"The 2021 Board election and Annual Meeting will proceed as scheduled, but the Election Committee will be instructed that any vote for Mr. Farr will be invalidated, and the Election Committee is to count the remaining votes consistent with OPA's Bylaws and Resolutions. If a Member has submitted or submits a ballot voting for Mr. Farr and another candidate, the Member's vote for Mr. Farr will be invalidated, but the vote for the other candidate will remain valid."

"Given the implications on those Members who have cast their vote for Mr. Farr or planned to cast their vote for Mr. Farr, it is appropriate to provide you with the following additional information."

"To be eligible for election to the Board of Directors, a candidate must "be one of the owners of record of real property in the Subdivision [Ocean Pines] on the first day of January of the year in which the election is to be held and eligible to vote under Section 3.01(c)." Section 5.02(a) of the Ocean Pines Bylaws."

"Mr. Farr was initially determined to be eligible based on his connection with 21 Bird Nest Drive, the address he listed on his candidate application. Based on all available documents, including county land records and SDAT, the initial determination that Mr. Farr was eligible to be elected was made in an error."

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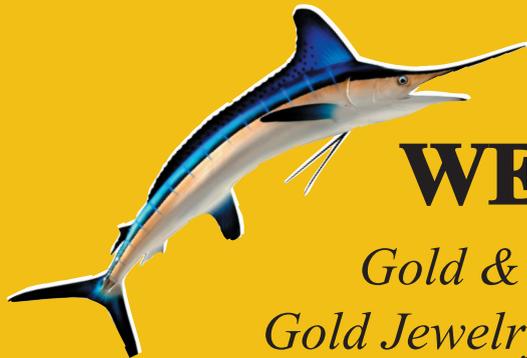
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It Happened in August

Nixon resigns

In his 1972 bid for re-election, President Richard Nixon defeated South Dakota Senator George McGovern, the Democratic candidate for president, by one of the widest electoral margins ever, winning 520 electoral college votes to McGovern's 17 and nearly 61 percent of the popular vote. Just a few months later, investigations and public controversy over the Watergate scandal had sapped Nixon's popularity. The Watergate scandal began with the June 1972 discovery of a break-in at the Democratic National Committee



offices in the Watergate office complex in Washington, D.C., but media and official investigations soon revealed a broader pattern of abuse of power by the Nixon administration, leading to his resignation.

The Watergate burglars were soon linked to officials of the Committee to Re-elect the President, the group that had run Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign. Soon thereafter, several administration officials resigned; some, including former attorney general John Mitchell, were later convicted of offenses connected with the break-in and other crimes and went to jail. Nixon denied any personal involvement with the Watergate burglary, but the courts forced him to yield tape

recordings of conversations between the president and his advisers indicating that the president had, in fact, participated in the cover-up, including an attempt to use the Central Intelligence Agency to divert the FBI's investigation into the break-in.

Investigations into Watergate also revealed other abuses of power, including numerous warrantless wiretaps on reporters and others, campaign "dirty tricks," and the creation of a "Plumbers" unit within the White House. The Plumbers, formed in response to the leaking of the Pentagon Papers to news organizations by former Pentagon official Daniel Ellsberg, broke into the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

Adding to Nixon's worries was an investigation into Vice President Agnew's ties to several campaign contributors. The Department of Justice found that Agnew had taken bribes from Maryland construction firms, leading to Agnew's resigning in Octo-

ber 1973 and his entering a plea of no contest to income tax evasion. Nixon nominated Gerald Ford, Republican leader in the House of Representatives, to succeed Agnew. Ford was confirmed by both houses of Congress and took office on December 6, 1973.

Such controversies all but overshadowed Nixon's other initiatives in his second term, such as the signing of the Paris peace accords ending American involvement in the Vietnam war in January 1973; two summit meetings with Brezhnev, in June 1973 in Washington and in June and July 1974 in Moscow; and the administration's efforts to secure a general peace in the Middle East following the Yom Kippur War of 1973.

The revelations from the Watergate tapes, combined with actions such as Nixon's firing of Watergate special

prosecutor Archibald Cox, badly eroded the president's standing with the public and Congress. Facing certain impeachment and removal from office, Nixon announced his decision to resign in a national televised address on the evening of August 8, 1974. He resigned effective at noon the next day, August 9, 1974. Vice President Ford then became president of the United States.

On September 8, 1974, Ford pardoned Nixon for "all offenses against the United States" which Nixon "has committed or may have committed or taken part in" during his presidency. In response, Nixon issued a statement in which he said he regretted "not acting more decisively and forthrightly in dealing with Watergate."

-excerpted from nixonlibrary.org

The road to V-J Day

World War II was a devastating conflict that involved countries around the globe. The deadliest war in military history, World War II claimed some 70 million civilians and military personnel.

World War II affected a demographic that is now often referred to as the "Greatest Generation," who previously had to face the Great Depression and were shaped by parents who experienced the first World War. The effects of World War II can still be felt and remembered today, well into the 21st century.

World War II began when Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939. However, it wasn't until Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 that the United States formally entered the fray.

By the beginning of 1945, Germans were largely in retreat, and by May 7, 1945, Germany surrendered to the western Allies. However, the fight against Japan raged on. Throughout the summer of 1945, Allied troops faced Japanese forces. The United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima on August 6 and another on Nagasaki three days later. On August

14, 1945, Japan unconditionally surrendered by a radio address from Emperor Hirohito, a day that has come to be called Victory Over Japan Day, or V-J Day. August 14 is widely celebrated as the effective end of World War II.

According to Hirohito, "Should we continue to fight, it would not only result in the ultimate collapse and obliteration of the Japanese nation, but would also lead to the total extinction of human civilization."

President Harry Truman indicated that V-J Day was the vindication needed after Pearl Harbor.

The formal surrender took place on September 2, 1945. As a result, V-J Day is celebrated by some in August and others in September. Commemorations take place in Europe as well as North America. In the United States, Rhode Island is the only state with a holiday specifically dedicated to V-J Day, officially called Victory Day. It is celebrated on the second Monday in August.

World War II was a long and bloody conflict that involved many world powers. It ultimately came to its end in mid-August with victory over Japan on a date that still bears deep meaning today.




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"Invest In Your Future"

Keener appointed DRP director

The Worcester County Commissioners named Jennifer Keener as the new director of Development Review and Permitting (DRP). Keener joined DRP in 2006 and served as a DRP specialist until being promoted to zoning administrator in 2009 and deputy director in



Jennifer Keener

2020.

“Growth isn’t a one and done effort, it is a process, and Keener is well-suited to lead her team, as they provide a range of services to assist the public with their planning needs,” Commission President Joe Mitrecic said. “As an expert planner, she brings the education, experience, and professional leadership skills necessary to lead her team in providing the planning support necessary to meet the challenges that come with growth throughout our diverse communities.”

Keener, a member of the Ameri-

can Planning Association and a certified planner (AICP), brings 16 years of planning and site plan review experience to this position. In her former roles, Keener oversaw the Technical Review Committee, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals. She approved commercial site plans, reviewed and issued commercial and residential permits and conducted commercial zoning and nuisance inspections. She also develops the annual DRP budget and drafts local legislation in response to changes in state and local planning and zoning laws. Most recently she drafted Bill 21-3 Public Safety - Animal Control and Bill 21-4 Zoning – Commercial Kennel, which strengthened the animal protections in commercial kennel operations.

“I want to thank the commissioners for the opportunity to step into this leadership role,” Keener said. “And, I look forward to the collaborations that will be a part of our future planning efforts, our promo-

please see **keener** page 14



Special Delivery - Recently the Grace Center for Maternal and Women’s Health in Berlin received a “Special Delivery” courtesy of the ladies of the Knifty Knitters from the Ateaze Senior Center in Baltimore. Ronnie Schuman delivered several bags loaded with handmade crocheted blankets, hats, dolls, octopi and jelly fish to restock the shelves of the Baby Boutique at the Grace Center. Mothers can select from items in the boutique by using the points they have earned by attending individual and class sessions, keeping appointments or to meet special needs. The Knifty Knitters continued to meet in safe locations throughout the pandemic in order to be able to continue supporting the Grace Center by providing handmade items as they have on a regular basis for a number of years.

Pictured are **Ronnie Schuman**, representing the Knifty Knitters, **Jackie Failla**, nurse manager at Grace and **Jasmine Dennis**, Grace’s executive director.

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My Backyard... sponsored by Maureen Kennedy

Disease among backyard birds

What diseases occur among backyard birds? There are two primary diseases that we see in our area. The first is conjunctivitis, also known as house finch eye disease, which is most common among house finches and usually appears as swollen or crusty areas primarily around the eyes. This occurs sporadically among house finches at all times of year, and can infrequently appear among other finch species. The less common avian pox has similar symptoms, affects the same birds, and should be responded to in the same way.

The second is salmonellosis, caused by salmonella bacteria. This disease is almost exclusively seen in winters when we have large numbers of pine siskins, a northern finch species that travels south in large numbers in so called "irruption years" of varying magnitude every few years. The symptoms of salmonellosis are puffed up feathers and extremely lethargic behavior—if the bird appears to be closing its eyes and does not respond to stimuli but remains perched when other birds flee, it is likely sick. It is overwhelmingly seen among pine siskins, but can spread to goldfinches and infrequently to other birds. This is the only common songbird disease that is communicable to pets and humans, so if you are seeing siskins with these symptoms make sure to keep cats and other pets away from birds and to wash your hands thoroughly after handling your feeders.

In late May, wildlife managers in Washington D.C., Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky began receiving reports of sick and dying birds with eye swelling and crusty discharge, as well as neurological signs. While the majority of affected birds are reported to be fledgling common grackles, blue jays, European starlings, and American robins, other species of songbirds have been reported as well. No definitive cause(s) of illness or death have been determined at this time. No human health or domestic livestock and poultry issues have been re-

ported. The natural resource management agencies in the affected states and the District of Columbia, along with the National Park Service, continue to work with diagnostic laboratories to investigate the cause(s) of this event.

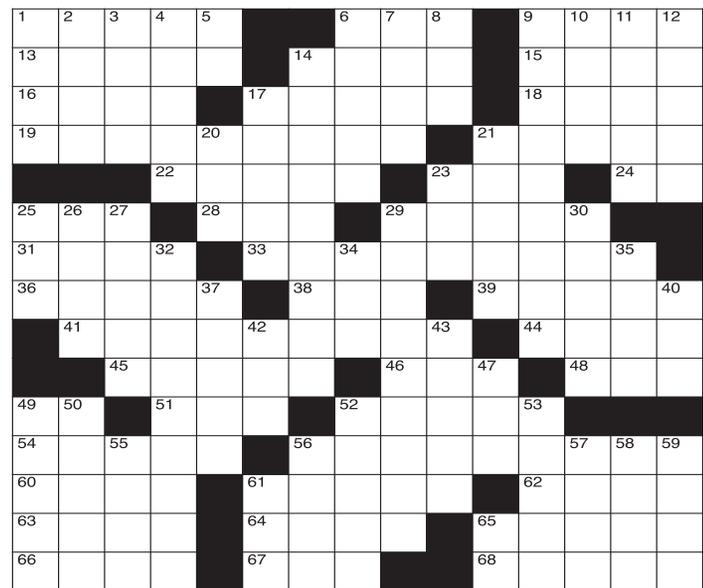
The following pathogens have not been detected in any birds tested, based on results received to date: Salmonella and Chlamydia (bacterial pathogens); avian influenza virus, West Nile virus and other flaviviruses, Newcastle disease virus and other paramyxoviruses, herpesviruses and poxviruses; and Trichomonas parasites. Transmission electron microscopy and additional diagnostic tests, including microbiology, virology, parasitology, and toxicology, are ongoing.

Birds congregating at bird feeders and bird baths can transmit diseases to one another. Therefore, the state and District agencies recommend the following standard precautions:

- Cease feeding birds until this wildlife morbidity/mortality event subsides.
- Clean feeders and bird baths with a 10% bleach solution (one part bleach mixed with nine parts water), rinse with water, and allow to air-dry.
- Avoid handling birds unless necessary. If you do handle them, wear disposable gloves.
- If picking up a dead bird, place an inverted plastic bag over your hand to avoid direct contact with the bird. To dispose of dead birds, place them in a plastic bag, seal, and discard with household trash or alternatively bury them deeply.
- Keep pets (including pet birds) away from sick or dead wild birds as a standard precaution.

If you encounter sick or dead birds, contact the DNR/ USDA Wildlife hotline at 877-463-6497.

-Adapted from Wild Birds Unlimited and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

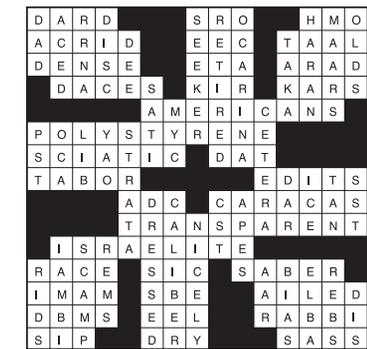


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Ponds
- 6. "Unbelievable" musicians
- 9. Invests in little enterprises
- 13. Longtime Utah Jazz coach
- 14. Small sailboat
- 15. "Luther" actor
- 16. Round Dutch cheese
- 17. Detects underwater objects
- 18. Harsh, grating noise
- 19. Steward
- 21. Fencing sword
- 22. Painful places on the body
- 23. "Sleepless in Seattle" actress Ryan
- 24. Sodium
- 25. Engineering degree (abbr.)
- 28. Small lump
- 29. African antelope
- 31. Electronic point of sale
- 33. Carefully chooses
- 36. Ringworm
- 38. Unrefined
- 39. Drenches
- 41. Type of pants
- 44. Son of Noah
- 45. Spiritual being
- 46. Upton Sinclair novel
- 48. Journalist Tarbell
- 49. Atomic #21 (abbr.)
- 51. Born of
- 52. Rich tapestry
- 54. S. China seaport
- 56. Being without clothes
- 60. Surrounded by
- 61. Remains
- 62. Away from wind
- 63. Dried-up
- 64. One who can see the future
- 65. A very large body of water
- 66. Digs up earth
- 67. Type of screen
- 68. Old Norse poet

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Millisecond
- 2. Spanish city
- 3. Sudden, very loud sound
- 4. Type of chair
- 5. Tin
- 6. Sea eagles
- 7. Broad volcanic crater
- 8. Some animals have it
- 9. Ottoman palaces
- 10. Divulge a secret
- 11. "A Doll's House" playwright
- 12. "It's a Wonderful Life" director
- 14. Poisonous perennial
- 17. Gulf in the Aegean
- 20. Clothes
- 21. Chairs
- 23. Family of regulator genes
- 25. NY ballplayer
- 26. Impressive in size or scope
- 27. Jacques __, Fr. biologist
- 29. Manhattanite
- 30. Genus of lemurs
- 32. Sings to
- 34. River in southern Italy
- 35. Supplemented with difficulty
- 37. Farewell
- 40. Senior officer
- 42. Utah resident
- 43. Begets
- 47. Boy
- 49. Violently break
- 50. Brief appearance
- 52. Expressed pleasure
- 53. A light informal meal
- 55. Fabric with smooth finish
- 56. One billionth of a second (abbr.)
- 57. Ancient Greek City
- 58. Close tightly
- 59. Commit
- 61. A way to communicate (abbr.)
- 65. Heavy metal



Answers for July 28



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Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Designs and technologies for lunar habitats

Although plans for colonizing the moon or Mars once seemed quite remote, initial steps in that direction are now being actively pursued. This month's discussion will review some efforts of NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) to design "habitats" which can accommodate astronauts living for sustained periods on the moon. The moon provides the best opportunity, being just three days away by rocket, while the trip to Mars takes about eight months.

3D Printing technology

The newly emerging, modern technology of 3D printing offers tremendous potential for building habitat structures on the moon. Significant savings in rocket transporting costs will accrue by using the lunar soil as a basic building material. Both the ESA

on Earth, scientists make use of the rock that forms from cooling lava flows, known as basalt.

In addition to building space habitats, 3D printing equipment would produce the rock-hard building materials for foundations, rocket landing pads and roads. Also, there will be communication towers and clusters of solar power panels. The target location for the base camp is near the rim of Shackleton's Crater, at the lunar south pole. Here sunlight is almost always available, a valuable resource for electric power. The strongest asset of this region is the water-ice discovered earlier.

European Projects

In 2013 the European Space Agency (ESA) engaged the London-based firm Foster + Partners to explore the possibility of building a lunar base facility. Foster's industrial team planned to use 3D printing in a process using the lunar regolith. They designed a large inflatable dome, resembling a mushroom or igloo shape, which would accommodate four astronauts.

After the dome is inflated, the next step would add a 3D printed layer over the entire dome. Foster conducted a demonstration project using volcanic rock from central Italy, resembling the lunar regolith, together with a binding agent to produce a 1.5 ton building block. Again, this project pointed out how using the lunar regolith offers the advantage of avoiding the transportation of heavy building materials to the moon.



ICON using 3D printing to construct low-cost homes

and NASA are pursuing this exciting new process.

The technology involves shaping and molding what is known as lunar regolith which is the loose, rocky surface material of the moon. The 3D printing involves heating it to high temperatures, as high as 1100 C, before cooling it and transforming it into a rock-hard material. The process has been compared to what occurs in glassmaking. To perform experiments

The Foster two-level design includes skylights built into the ceiling with closable hatches, designed to help visitors to maintain their life cycles. This facilitates sleeping in darkened quarters, throughout the moon's weeks of constant daylight.

In 2015, ESA Director General Johann 'Jan' Wörner introduced the goal of establishing a "Moon Village," with international cooperation similar to the International Space Station. Wörner said, "My intention is to build up a permanent base station on the moon, meaning that it's an open station, for different member states, around the globe."

In January 2020 ESA signed a Memorandum of Collaboration with the world-known Chicago architectural firm Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM) and partnered with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to further pursue designs for the Moon Village. SOM had been working informally with ESA and faculty at MIT since 2018. Design architect Colin Koop said, "We're thrilled to celebrate this milestone, which will take our collaboration to the next level. Together, we are creating a new kind of architecture, one that can sustain human activity in a place that was, up until now, considered uninhabitable."

This summer in Venice, Italy, the design work of the ESA/SOM collaboration is on display. The architectural conference, known as Venice Biennale, features a scale model of this latest Moon Village design, together with videos and other displays. Cutaway versions and photos show the interior features of the newest ESA individual habitat designs. The conference opened in May and will run through November.

These newest ESA habitat designs for the Moon Village have inflatable shells braced by a metal framework. They are cylindrical and four levels tall, including separated living and working areas, labs, and food growing areas. Each habitat is designed to accommodate four astronauts for up to 300 days. Future designs will add 3D printed material for extra protection.

In July 2020 a German research group LZH, sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation, announced the successful demonstration of laser beams to melt simulated moon regolith. This process, coupled with 3D printing, successfully produced a spiral, spherical shape, about the size of a small vase. The experiment, named Moonrise, was conducted under lunar

gravity and vacuum conditions, simulated by using elaborate equipment called the Einstein Elevator. The LZH team spokesman said, "The next goal is now to test the laser system on a lunar mission."

American projects

Beginning in 2015 NASA has been conducting a variety of challenges of

please see designs on page 14



ESA - SOM Lunar Village
Below: Cutaway View



"X-House" designed by SEArch+ with wrap-around stairs.
Below: Cutaway view



Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

My husband and I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God, and I didn't.

Marriage is a three-ring circus: Engagement ring, wedding ring, and suffering.

For Sale: Wedding dress, size 8. Worn once by mistake.

There are two times when a man doesn't understand a woman: Before marriage and after marriage.

Why were hurricanes usually named after women? Because when they arrive, they're wet and wild, but when they go, they take your house and car.

The woman applying for a job in a Florida lemon grove seemed way too qualified for the job.

"Look Miss," said the foreman, "have you any actual experience in picking lemons?"

"Well, as a matter of fact, yes!" she replied. "I've been divorced three times."

An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 40 years. The Wizard says, "Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you." The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."

I was in the express lane at the store quietly fuming. Completely ignoring the sign, the woman ahead of me had slipped into the check-out line pushing a cart piled high with groceries. Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward, looked into the cart and asked sweetly, "So which six items would you like to buy?"

Wouldn't it be great if that happened more often?

Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, my elderly neighbor and his wife were told there would be a 45-minute wait for a table. "Young man, we're both 90 years old," the husband said, "We may not have 45 minutes." They were seated immediately.

All eyes were on the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle. They reached the altar and the waiting groom; the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand.

The guests in the front pews responded with ripples of laughter. Even the priest smiled broadly. As her father gave her away in marriage, the bride gave him back his credit card.

Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea.

Three friends from the local congregation were asked, "When you're in your casket and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?"

Artie said: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man."

Eugene commented: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives."

Al said: "I'd like them to say, 'Look, he's moving!'"



Law enforcement class graduates

Twenty-six law enforcement officers from Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset, Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline, Queen Anne's and Garrett counties graduated in the 86th entrance-level class of the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy (ESCJA) operated by Wor-Wic Community College.

Graduation exercises, which were held in the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City, featured a commencement address by Ross Buzzuro, chief of the Ocean City Police Department.

John C. Moses, director of criminal justice at Wor-Wic, Donald Rollyson Jr., assistant director of the ESCJA, and Rob Dell'Erba, ESCJA coordinator, presided at the ceremony. Awards of certification and excellence were presented by agency representatives. Patrick M. Keller Jr. of the Ocean City Police Department was the class speaker.

Worcester County law enforcement officers who graduated are shown in the front row, from left, **Jarred W. Forsythe**, **Jon A. Laverty** and **Andrew M. Rop** of the Pocomoke City Police Department. In the second row, from left, are **Ean W. Spencer** of the Berlin Police Department and **Emma Hamilton-Blackford**, **Terrance L. Jankouskas** and **Patrick M. Keller Jr.** of the Ocean City Police Department. In the back, from left, are **Justin M. Koser**, **Benjamin E. Panitch**, **Isaiah C. Stoner**, **Ryan R. Walker** and **Jessica N. Wieber** of the Ocean City Police Department.



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EOE

Wor-Wic announces graduates

The following Worcester County students completed their program requirements to graduate with a certificate (CT), associate of applied science (AAS), associate of arts in teaching (AAT), associate of science (AS) or associate of arts (AA) degree from Wor-Wic Community College this past fall and spring.

Berlin: Alexander Roberto Apodaca, AS, Biology; Esperanza Berduo-Roblero, AAS, Radiologic Technology; Zachary David Buckley, AA, Education; Nicholas John Cargiulo, CT, Criminal Justice; Judith Carol Celozzi, AA, General Studies; Angela M. Chronister, AS, Nursing; Brooke L. Davis, AAS, Physical Therapist Assistant; Michael deLaurentis, AAS, Physical Therapist Assistant; Kasey M. Donaway, AAS, Radiologic Technology; Lesley Downes, CT, Nursing; Malorie Fager, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling; Alec B. Foote, AA, Business; Christan Gurskey, AAS, Office Technology; Robert J. Harkness, AA, General Studies; Anthony Brian Helias, CT, Criminal Justice; Kayla M. Higgins, AA, General Studies; Sarah E. Hyatt, AA, Education; Gavin R. Jarman, CT, Criminal Justice; Carrie L. Kilgore, AS, Nursing; Arkadiusz Kolacz, CT, Criminal Justice; Saphara Lambrinos, AA, General Studies; Samantha M. Lokey, AA, General Studies; Jonathan Marton-Rollins, CT, Criminal Justice; Brooke Mask, AA, General Studies; Robert N. Mitchell, AA, General Studies; William D. Mossop III, CT, Criminal Justice; Shanell Niles, AAS, Education; Candice M. Palmer, AAS, Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Management; Ty'Rese Lee Pettyjohn, CT, Criminal Justice; Lauren Purdom, AA, General Studies; Ricku Ramesh, CT, Criminal Justice; Christina G. Ramirez, AAS, Business; Steven Michael Redner, CT, Criminal Justice; Daniel J. Richardson, CT, Criminal Justice; Mallory T. Sterrett, AA, General Studies; and Ashley M. Thurmond, AAS, Office Technology.

Bishopville: Tara E. Flanagan, AS, Nursing; Hayley Malia Jones, AS, Nursing; Coleen M. LeKites, AA, General Studies; Natalie P. Shaffer, AA, General Studies; and Jenna G. Shumate, AAT, Education.

Girdletree: Ann Elizabeth Ward, AA, General Studies.

Newark: Kyle Ailstock, CT, Criminal Justice; and Zachariah S. Bowden, AA, Computer Studies.

Ocean City: Gavin W. Aquino, CT, Radiologic Technology; Sarah Nicole Babel, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling; Earl A. Buffa, CT, Criminal Justice; Joya Canfield, CT, Nursing; Madeana Edris Clark, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling; Caroline Elizabeth Herl, AAT, Education; Sam A. Jeppi, AAS, Radiologic Technology; Amberlee Leann Oertel, AAT, Education; Marisa Redden, AAS, Education; Jose M. Robles, AA, Business; Aldo Ponce Santana, AA, General Studies; Hannah M. Stolba, AAT, Education; Anna M. Tribuno, AAS, Education; Cyle M. Walker, AA, General Studies; Kevin Williams, CT, Criminal Justice; Kelly A. Wor-

ley, AS, Nursing; and Catherine Zannino, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling.

Pocomoke City: Dylan T. Barnes, CT, Criminal Justice; Bethany A. Cheeks, AAS, Physical Therapist Assistant; Dylan Michael Connor, CT, Criminal Justice; Laura A. Johnson, AAS, Occupational Therapy Assistant; Shane R. Musgrave, AAS, Criminal Justice; Emmanuelle Phillips, CT, Criminal Justice; Demond H. Selby, CT, Criminal Justice; Hunter C. Sharp, CT, Criminal Justice; Brandon M. Womer, CT, Criminal Justice; and Amanda L. Wright, AAS, Computer Studies.

Snow Hill: Kayla A. Baumgartner, AS, Nursing; Miranda Desiree Carter, CT, Criminal Justice; Benjamin Chase, AAS, Physical Therapist Assistant; Benjamin L. Coleman, AAT, Education; Haley M. Cook, AA, General Studies; Brittany Evans, AAS, Chemical Dependency Counseling; Marissa Bailey Fetters, AA, Education; Julie A. Fisher, CT, Education; Valerie F. McBride, CT, Criminal Justice; Jason G. Odegaard, CT, Criminal Justice; Angela M. Puskar, AS, Nursing; Matthew Shawn, AA, General Studies; Shari Michelle Shockley, CT, Criminal Justice; and Kennedy Wooten, AS, Nursing.

Stockton: Katherine A. Clogg, AS, Nursing; Ryshaela Donaway, AAS, Office Technology; and Jamila E. Merrill, CT, Criminal Justice.

Whaleyville: Serena Quinn Wisner, AA, General Studies.



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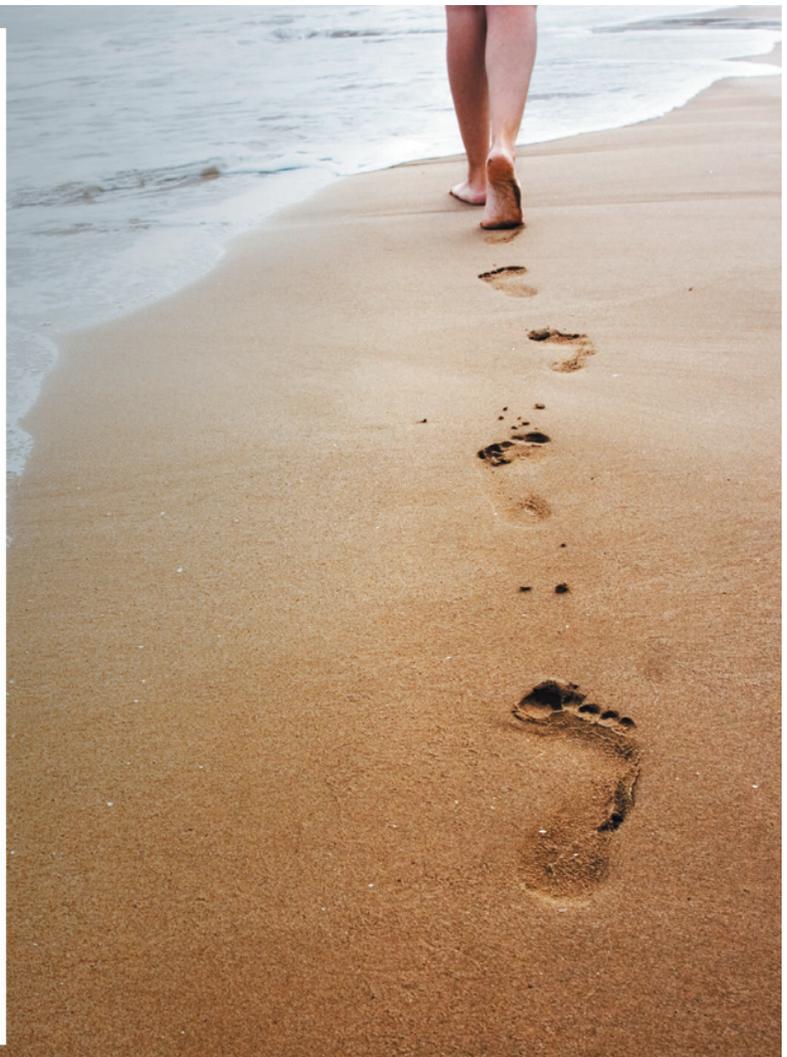
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Successful car show

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City held its first car show on Saturday July 24 at the Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines. Over 125 cars participated making it a success for raising funds to support local youth.

Pictured (L-R) are Division 5 Lt. Governor **Christine Johnson**, OP-OC Kiwanis Club President **Steven Cohen**, Capital District Governor **Dennis Baugh**, Division 5 Past Lt. Governor **Robin Marks** and Division 5 Past Lt. Governor **Charles Marks**.

designs

from page 11

fering prize money to industry and university groups creating the best habitat design concepts. Throughout this competition more than 60 teams have participated, and NASA has awarded over \$2 million in prize money under their Centennial Challenges program.

During 2019 two key phases of challenges were completed for 3D printed habitats. In April of that year, three top space design groups shared in a \$100,000 NASA prize for their habitat designs. Finishing first was a team which included a design group called Space Exploration Architecture (SEArch+), and a robotics company, ApisCor. The most distinctive aspect of this winning entry, dubbed X-House, is its hyperboloid shape, which provides structural resistance against the outward air pressure on the structure's walls. Another feature is its distinctive wrap-around spiral staircase which allows emergency exiting. The SEArch+ group describes its designs as 'human-centered,' encouraging crews not only to live, but to thrive in space environments beyond Earth.

In May 2019 two competing groups set up their own specially designed 3D printing equipment at the Caterpillar Demonstration & Learning Center in Illinois. For 30 hours over the next four days, they were constructing their individual versions of regolith shells, designed to encase habitats for protection on the moon or Mars. Spectators

and the judges watched as those pre-programmed machines, without manual guidance, performed their work. The results were several 15-foot-tall structures. (The actual habitats would be about 45 feet tall.) The winning group, AI Space Factory, was awarded the \$500,000 NASA prize, and the runner up, Penn State, received \$200,000.

In this technological field, one US company stands out, ICON, which specializes in construction of homes by 3D printing. In 2018, ICON made history by building a first of its kind home in Austin, Texas using its own special printing equipment. The company has continued building this type of home in a community designed for the homeless. ICON's home for a single person is quite attractive, costing about \$10,000.

In October 2020, ICON announced its Project Olympus, aimed at adapting and expanding the company's special building methods to the lunar regolith. About \$2 million of NASA funding will be given to the collaboration of ICON with the prize-winning architectural firm SEArch+. ICON will be testing regolith simulants with various processing and printing technologies at NASA's Huntsville location.

ICON's lunar research activities extend beyond the construction of habitats. In March 2021, the company built a 3D-printed lunar launch pad at the Texas Military location, Camp Swift, near Austin, Texas. NASA sponsored this model designed to minimize the amount of lunar dust lofted during

keener

from page 9

tion of positive growth, and our protection of the natural beauty that Worcester County has to offer." She earned a Bachelor of Science in geography and environmental studies, with a minor in sociology and geology, from Gustavus Adolphus College in 2005. In 2008, she earned a Master of Science in environmental management from the

memorial

from page 3

tion, and prizes for golfers.

To download a sponsorship form, visit <https://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/WCVMF+2021+sponsorship+form.pdf>.

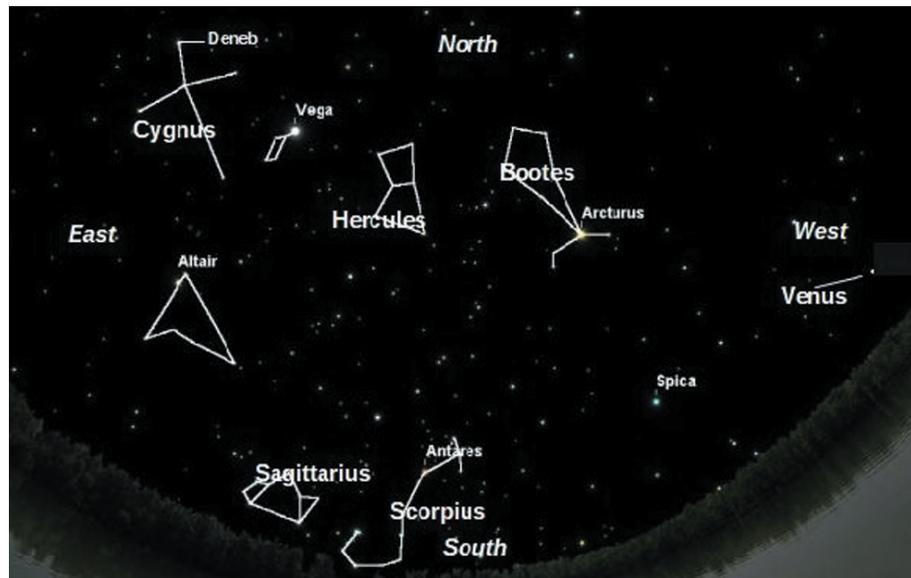
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University of Maryland University College, and in 2018 she earned AICP certification. Keener took over for former DRP Director Ed Tudor, who retired in July after 28 years of service to Worcester County. "I've worked with Jennifer for 15 years and am pleased to see her assume this position," Tudor said. "There is no one more qualified or prepared to take on the duties of this position."

WCYMF, P.O. Box 1576, Ocean Pines, MD 21811.

To download a registration form to play in the tournament, visit <https://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/WCVMF+2021+player+form.pdf>.

For more information on the foundation, visit www.opvets.org.



launch and landing. A test firing with a static rocket was performed weeks after the pad's completion.

There's growing excitement about the many new developments in 3D printing technology which should be extremely useful in building lunar and Martian base camps.

Looking at the skies

Stargazing begins about 8:15 p.m. with the bright planet Venus hovering over the western horizon. Look before 9 p.m. since Venus sets quickly. The full stellar vista arrives at about 9:15 p.m., including Scorpius the Scorpion near the southern horizon, with its bright red star Antares. To the east appears Sagittarius, the Archer with its teapot shape. High overhead are Bootes (boh OH teez) and Hercules the Hero.

Many stargazers are aware of the Summer Triangle featuring three

prominent stars Deneb, Vega and Altair.

Later evening stargazers may see Jupiter and Saturn both visible in the southeastern sky after about 11 p.m. Beginning in September the two will be visible at more convenient hours.

August features the Perseid meteor shower, with 1:30 a.m. as its earliest clear viewing time. The shower's peak activity occurs on the night of August 11 from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. (technically the morning of August 12). With a cloud-free sky, as many as a dozen meteors per hour may be seen. A few meteors might be spotted from the beginning of August until about the 17th when moonlight begins to interfere. Look halfway between the northeastern horizon and the zenith.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.

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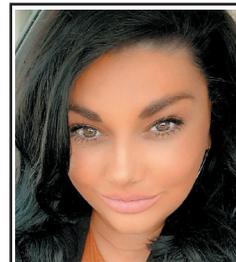
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