

The Courier

September 1, 2021 Volume 22 Number 1



New Eagle Scouts

Before Covid, two local young men achieved the coveted Eagle Scout rank of the Boy Scouts of America. Then, in early 2020 when Covid hit, **Kurt Leinemann** (right) of Ocean City, and **Gabriel Bradley** (left) of Ocean Pines, could not be installed as Eagle Scouts during a formal ceremony that normally is held for the occasion.

That changed August 22 when Leinemann, 19 and Bradley, 20, of Boy Scout Troop 261, were invested during a two-hour Eagle Scout Court of Honor at American Legion Post 166, in Ocean City. The Post is a sponsor of the troop and supports it with monetary donations and the use of its facilities for programs such as the Eagle Scout ceremony.

Leinemann is a graduate of Worcester Prep in Berlin and is now attending the University of Maryland, College Park. Bradley is a Stephen Decatur alumnus who is taking classes at Wor-Wic Community College. Both have been a member of Troop 261 since 2012.

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Amenities boost budget favorability

The Ocean Pines General Manager's Office recently announced significant budget favorability for the first three months of the new fiscal year.

Based on the July financial report, Ocean Pines was favorable to budget for the month by about \$231,000, and favorable roughly \$970,000 in total for the first three months of fiscal year 2021-2022.

General Manager John Viola said approximately 80% of the year-to-date favorability was because of successes at Ocean Pines' amenities, led by Golf, the Yacht Club, Aquatics, and Racquet Sports. The other 20% is timing and will offset during the remainder of the fiscal period, he said.

"Also, please keep in mind we still have nine months to go, and we appear to still be operating in uncertain times," he said.

Year to date, the combined Racquet Sports amenity is favorable to budget by almost \$35,000. Aquatics is favorable by roughly \$150,000, Golf is favorable about \$210,000 and the Clubhouse Grille is favorable by about \$46,000. Additionally, the Yacht Club

is favorable approximately \$208,000 and the Beach Club is favorable just over \$70,000.

"All of that is organic in the sense that we're building revenue, and that's huge," Viola said. "The numbers are up across the board. Compliments to everybody on what has been a true team effort."

"We, the Association, have invested in our amenities and it is beginning to show. We've also increased our programs and our spend over the last three years in roads, drainage and bulkheads, with positive results," he continued. "We're clearly operating on all cylinders right now."

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue, who oversees Racquet Sports, said the drop-in play numbers are up for all three sports: Tennis, Pickleball and Platform Tennis. Memberships have also increased this year, she said.

"Management implemented new procedures and daily processing, along with a midday attendant," she said. "The members and guests have been great at signing in, and the staff

has collected and processed drop-in fees regularly."

Donahue said more people are booking lessons this season, thanks to the work of instructors like Racquet Sports Manager and Tennis Pro Terry Underkoffler, and Linda Horst.

"All these things combined have helped the Racquet Center have a very successful season so far," she said.

Year to date, Aquatics revenues are more than \$87,000 favorable to budget, while expenses are more than \$61,000 favorable to budget.

"The Aquatics leadership team adjusted several things that helped contribute to the year-to-date performance," Aquatics Director Kathleen Cook said.

That included deferring some expenditures, and not filling some full-time positions because of the inability to train during the peak season.

"We also reduced hours at the indoor pool on non-peak times, to help fully staff the outdoor pools," Cook said. "And, instructional classes stayed indoors, so we didn't have to duplicate staffing resources."

She also credited strong customer service with helping to boost the numbers at the pools.

"This team has dealt with some of the most adverse situations we've had in a long time, but no matter where I've sent them, they've gone with a smile and they've greeted the customers warmly," Cook said. "My team has worked tirelessly, and the most important thing is that they've kept everyone safe."

PGA General Manager of Golf John Malinowski said rounds were up during the last three months, and the weather has been conducive to good course conditions.

"Although it's been hot, it hasn't been hot and wet, as in years past," he said. "The addition of Justin Hartshorne as superintendent and the work his team has been doing is paying off. The course is in great shape and the reviews are great. People are coming out to play."

"We're looking forward to the rest of the season and hopefully a good fall,

*please see **budget** on page 14*

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Masks required at public schools

Worcester County Schools Superintendent Lou Taylor released a video message to parents last Friday about mask requirements for the new school year following a decision by the Maryland State Board of Education requiring masks throughout the state. What follows is a transcript of Taylor's remarks.

Good evening, Worcester families,

Since the very beginning of this pandemic, our leaders here in Worcester County Public Schools have been dedicated to making sure our students have the best educational opportunities we can provide. Because of this commitment, we have made every effort to make safe, consistent, in person learning a reality for our students.

Through hard work and meticulous planning, Worcester was one of very few school systems throughout the State last year, who relentlessly pursued keeping our classrooms open for our students, and we were largely successful. We learned a lot from this past year's success, and we are still learning as this pandemic continues to evolve.

Now, last week we released our Responsible Return 2.0 plan, a comprehensive document that details our plans to safely welcome

students back into our buildings in September. Within that document, we reaffirmed our adoption of the CDC's guidance as it is currently written, with highly recommending universal masking in our schools, and per a federal order, everyone on our school buses wearing a face covering.

Yesterday, the Maryland State Board of Education held a special meeting, where they voted to pass an emergency regulation requiring universal masking in all Maryland schools. In light of this vote, beginning on Monday, August 30, all students and staff – regardless of vaccination status, will be required to wear face coverings in our school buildings.

I want to take a moment tonight to explain exactly why universal masking is a critical piece to keeping in-person learning available to all students.

Last year, the rules for quarantining meant that if a student was within six-feet of a student who tested positive for a cumulative period of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, regardless of whether they were wearing a mask or not, that student was sent home for 10-14 days. As we saw last year, these rules had a significant impact on in-person learning for many

students.

While these same rules remain in place for adults, the CDC has now issued an exception for school-aged students that is designed to protect our in-person learning environments. Under this exception, if students are masked, any student who is 3 feet or more from a student with COVID-19 will not be required to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.

As you can imagine, this is great news for our students, for us as educators, and for our families, who certainly don't want to experience a disruption to their child's education and attendance, but also to those carefully crafted schedules that so many of our families rely on.

So, now I am asking for your partnership. Please make sure that your child comes to school properly wearing a well-fitted face covering. I also ask for your patience and understanding. We know that the wearing of masks is a polarizing issue in our community; we have seen it the passionate letters, emails, social media comments, and more that we have received over these past months. I also know that we are all hoping to see a decline in the transmission levels in our community soon, so we can revisit this decision, but in the meantime, we need to protect every

student's ability to attend school in-person, and it will take all of us working together to make that happen.

So, as I close tonight, I want to once again thank you for teamwork with Worcester County Public Schools. We live, work, and learn in the greatest place in America because of you. And may God bless you, your family, and may God bless Worcester County Public Schools.

A suggestion to bike riders

Editor:

I walk my dog two times a day on Ocean Parkway and there are many people walking by themselves. I am making a strong suggestion to everyone riding their bikes and are passing a walker, please ring your bell or just yell out something so we know you're passing us. Also, if you are a fast walker and are passing one us, just cough loud or just say something.

A little friendly gesture on your part would save us walkers a little grief and shock from your silent passing.

Robert Riordan
Ocean Pines



Courier Almanac

On September 1, 1972, in what's billed as the "Match of the Century," American chess grandmaster Bobby Fischer defeated Russian Boris Spassky during the World Chess Championship in Reykjavik, Iceland.

In the world's most publicized title match ever played, Fischer, a 29-year-old Brooklynite, became the first American to win the competition since its inception in 1866. The victory also marked the first time a non-Russian had won the event in 24 years.

- 11% of people are left handed
- August has the highest percentage of births
- Unless food is mixed with saliva you can't taste it
- The average person falls asleep in 7 minutes
- A bear has 42 teeth
- A an ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain
- Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries
- 8% of people have an extra rib
- 85% of plant life is found in the ocean
- Ralph Lauren's original name was Ralph Lifshitz
- Rabbits like licorice
- The Hawaiian alphabet has 13 letters
- 'Topolino' is the name for Mickey Mouse Italy
- Lobster blood is colorless but when exposed to oxygen it turns blue.



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Courier**

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The first days of school

The start of the school year reminds me of those bygone, sepia tone years when summer pursuits of reckless abandon gave way to early morn-

from the kids whose name was called by a preferred teacher. Solemn, muffled utterances of profanity could be heard when a kid's name was called by a less popular teacher.

Once the classes were identified, we lined up like little soldiers waiting to be led through the church doors within sight of the crucified Savior, and then to the right into the school.

Grades one through four were on the first floor; grades five through eight on the second. It was a rite of passage to be guided to the second floor. The hallway floors gleamed on the first day of school. They actually gleamed throughout the year. Walt the janitor made it his life's work to polish those floors to a sparkle. Some kids thought it amusing to scuff their heels on the floor leaving a mark. The laughter subsided quickly when they found themselves after school removing their scuff marks with a tooth brush.

The hallway floor was comprised of big square tiles with lines down the middle. To ensure tidy formations, we had to walk on the lines. There was little tolerance for kids who didn't walk the straight and narrow. It wasn't unusual for Sister Rosemary to walk the halls inspecting our lines. That woman was everywhere. She had no compunction about yanking a wayward kid from the line and directing him, or on those rare occasions her, to walk beside the teacher. Oh, the embarrassment and shame reflected on the kid's face. Truth be told, I was never pulled from the line. As I look back so many years later, I realize I was too much of a goodie two-shoes. But in my defense, I didn't want wayward line walking indelibly scrawled on my permanent record.

Once inside our classrooms, we stood in the back of the room as our new homeroom teacher called our names in alphabetical order to take our seats in alphabetical order. There was a rigidity in Catholic school that unless experienced, it's hard to explain. I usually sat in the second or third seat in the first row behind Paul Aceto and Dominic Anzideo. What I would have given to have had my last name start with a "Z."

Those were the days.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

ing wake-up calls, school bus rides, warm lunches in warm lunch boxes and adjusting to the yoke of conformity that could only be found in a Catholic grade school under the watchful eyes of humorless nuns, those creatures of habit.

Back in my day, Catholic school education for me was more a pursuit of survival than academic endeavor. From the time I entered first grade until the evening I walked in tight formation down the aisle at eighth grade graduation, the first day of school was pretty much the same.

The yellow bus would come to a stop in the large playground in the shadow of St. Albert the Great Church. We kids would disembark in a riotous mass despite warnings from the bus driver. Once on the playground we'd seek out our friends, many of whom we hadn't seen since the last day of school. Very quickly the boys would be sitting on their knees flipping baseball cards: *"Flip you colors last, wins on first, everything in it but tops!"* The girls would be jumping rope or playing hopscotch. There'd be all sorts of yelling and screaming. And then, just as quickly, the noise would halt when Sister Rosemary, our principal, would clang the brass bell, the sound echoing off the church and rectory. We froze in place. God help anyone who kept yelling or running around after Sister clanged the bell. When satisfied that all the kids were quiet and motionless, Sister would then ring the bell a second time and we would make a mad dash for our grade lines.

Each grade had its own lines at the head of which were the teachers for that grade. We would be assembled in groups by grade. Then each homeroom teacher would read from a roster, calling out the names of the kids in her class. Cheers could be heard

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Longtime residents to share Ocean Pines history

As part of Worcester County History Week, Ocean Pines will host a live "History Panel" discussion about the early days of the community, on Sunday, Oct. 10 from 2-4 p.m. at the Community Center.

Guest speakers are scheduled to include longtime Ocean Pines residents Sue Adkins, Jack Barnes, Sharyn O'Hare, Gloria Richards, Alta Weiss, and Ed Moran.

The event, organized by the Ocean Pines Public Relations Department, will expand upon the history section of the Ocean Pines Academy, a virtual, self-paced civic education course about the Association.

Jenny Cropper Rines, who previously chaired the 50th Anniversary Committee, will moderate the panel discussion.

"We hosted a similar panel as

part of the yearlong 50th anniversary celebration and it was very well received. However, there was no video of that event and several of our key speakers have since passed away," she said. "With this new History Panel, we hope to give the live audience a fun and informative view of the early history of Ocean Pines, where they can hear from our guest speakers, but also interact and ask questions."

For those who cannot attend, the History Panel will be recorded and will become a permanent part of the Ocean Pines Academy.

The Public Relations Department also recently produced a new Academy video, "Early History of Ocean Pines, with Marlene Ott and John Talbott."

Ott and Talbott were involved in the real estate business when the community was first developed by Boise Cascade in the late 1960s. To view the video, visit <https://youtu.be/IyFQ3jfoL8o>.

For more information on the Ocean Pines Academy, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/ocean-pines-academy.

For more information on Worcester County History Week, visit www.facebook.com/WorcesterCountyHistoryWeek.



Guest - Jennifer Keener, director of Worcester County Development, Review and Permitting was the guest speaker at the August 25th weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City.

Pictured (L-R) President **Steve Cohen** and **Jennifer Keener**.

Sidewalk sale to benefit Ocean Pines community

The Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop will offer top-quality handmade items at bargain prices during the second annual Sidewalk Sale, Sept. 3-5.

Gift Shop Co-Manager Kimberly Perrone said the event is made possible through the generosity of local crafters, who willingly reduce their regular prices for the sale.

"Shoppers will find unique, quality handmade items at discount prices," she said. "That includes everything from crocheted items, unique wood crafts, pottery, children's clothes and accessories, to ladies' hand-crocheted and beaded trimmed socks, nautical items, Christmas items, pillows, and jewelry."

The Craft Club regularly donates sale proceeds back to the Ocean Pines Association and local community groups. Perrone said donations from the Sidewalk Sale will go to the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department, Police Department, Neighborhood Watch, and recreation programs including children's activities and Concerts in the Park.

"The upcoming Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop Sidewalk Sale is just another way for the Pine'er Crafters to add to our donations," Perrone said. "To date, our organization has donated over \$170,000 to the Ocean Pines community."

The Pine'er Artisan Sidewalk Sale will be held outside, in front of the Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park. The shop will also be open during the event.

The Sidewalk Sale is scheduled to run Friday, September 3 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, September 4 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday, September 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"This is the only sale the Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop has during the year," Perrone said. "We hope everyone will come and buy some of our wonderful handmade items, and help us continue our charitable giving to support this community."

For more information on the Artisan Gift Shop, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-craft-shop>.



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Worcester County History Week events announced

From Pocomoke to Ocean City, Berlin to Ocean Pines, there's something happening at every corner of the region during Worcester County History Week, scheduled October 10-16.

History Week evolved from an annual tour of historic homes presented by the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum and begun in 2017.

This year, along with the continuation of the home tour, events are planned at the Sturgis One Room Schoolhouse Museum and the Delmarva Discovery Museum in Pocomoke, the Julia A. Purnell Museum in Snow Hill, the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum in Berlin, the Ocean Pines Association, and the Worcester County Libraries and Worcester County Tourism.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum Curator Christine Okerblom is among the organizers of the expanded event this year.

"History week opens the door to our region's past, allowing residents and visitors alike to learn more about Worcester County's rich history," she said. "Our local libraries, museums, and historic sites have come together

to create Worcester County History Week. We hope that this weeklong event becomes a fall tradition for all who attend."

Among the scheduled events, Alec Staley, the local history librarian for Worcester County Libraries, will host educational sessions both in Snow Hill and Ocean Pines.

"Worcester County Library is excited to join History Week, and to show our commitment to preserving local history," he said. "The first libraries in Worcester County were the Friendly Library in Berlin, the Snow Hill Library, and the Pocomoke City Library, all operating in the early 1900s. These libraries were all independently operated by donations or through a subscription service."

Later, Staley said, Ocean City formed a small, independent library around 1950.

"It was not until December 8, 1959, that Worcester County Library was formed into a publicly funded system that now includes the Snow Hill, Pocomoke City, Berlin, Ocean City, and the relatively new Ocean Pines library," Staley said. "During History

Week, we will be showing old photographs, documents, and newspaper clippings to celebrate Worcester County Library's history, and our deep connection with the community."

The full lineup of events, as of Aug. 23, are:

• Delmarva Discovery Museum (2 Market Street, Pocomoke City)

Ocean Pines Players Theater Company Brings History to Life

Oct. 12, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Cost: Regular admission (Free for members and those with a military ID; \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 children 4 and up)

Experience an interactive play, featuring a historical Marylander and hosted by the Delmarva Discovery Museum.

• Delmarva Discovery Museum

Storytelling by Cheryl Doughty of the Pocomoke Indian Nation

Oct. 13, 11 a.m.

Cost: Regular admission (Free for members and those with a military ID; \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 children 4 and up)

More info: www.delmarvadiscoverycenter.org.

• Sturgis One Room Schoolhouse Museum (209 Willow Street, Pocomoke City)

Sturgis Celebrates Worcester History Week

Oct. 10-16

Cost: Donations accepted

The Sturgis Museum will offer discounted annual memberships and tours. The Sturgis Museum, retaining its original integrity, speaks of life and

education in a rural, African American community.

More info: www.sturgisschoolmuseum.com

• Julia A. Purnell Museum (208 West Market Street, Snow Hill)

FiberFest! Traditional Arts and History Festival

Oct. 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: Free

Discover local fiber and traditional arts, history, and culture at the annual festival held at the museum grounds in Snow Hill. The event will include food trucks, craft vendors, live music, craft demonstrations, animals, and more.

More info: www.purnellmuseum.org

• Calvin B. Taylor House Museum (208 North Main Street, Berlin)

Homecoming Harvest

Oct. 10, 2-5 p.m.

Cost: Free

A community outreach event celebrating past, present, and future generations of Berlin families. Genealogy records and census records for research will be available, and oral histories will be collected. The event will also include performances by local musical groups.

• Calvin B. Taylor House Museum

Ocean Pines Players present: Clara Barton

Oct. 16, 2-4 p.m.

Cost: Free for members, \$10 for nonmembers

The Ocean Pines Players will perform an original play about the life of Clara Barton, to coincide with a newly displayed artifact of a letter written by her. An exhibit by the NABB Research Center will be on display.

More info: www.taylorhousemuseum.org

*The museum will also offer free admission to all Eastern Shore locals during History Week.

• Ocean Pines Association (Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines)

History Panel

Oct. 10, 2-4 p.m.

Cost: Free

please see **events** on page 14

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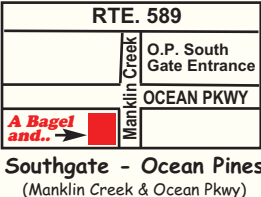
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Kiwanis donates backpacks, school supplies

Every year, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines, - Ocean City donates to the Worcester G.O.L.D. School Supplies for Students program. Pictured (L-R) GOLD's Program Coordinator **Taylor Cardy**, GOLD Executive Director **Nicholas Cranford** and **Jim Spicknall** holding some of the supplies and backpacks. G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) is still looking for donations. Call Nicholas at 410-677-6830 or visit www.WorcesterGOLD.org or email WorcesterGOLD@gmail.org for more information or to arrange dropping off donations.

Pickleball tournament with cash prizes scheduled

Oktoberfest is coming to the Ocean Pines Racquet Center, with a three-day tournament scheduled Oct. 22-24, including a money bracket with a \$1,250 prize purse.

Tournament Co-Director Darryl Noble said the event is likely the first pickleball tournament with cash prizes ever held on the Delmarva Peninsula.

Noble is the former chairman and treasurer of the Board of USA Pickleball, which is the national governing

body of the sport of pickleball.

"Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the United States, and possibly the world," Noble said. "We encourage everyone to come out and participate in this exciting new tournament, or just come and watch. Don't miss your chance to participate or spectate on some incredible matches."

Noble said the Ocean Pines Rac-

please see **tourney** page 12

Jesse's Paddle returns

After a year's hiatus, friends of the Jesse Klump Memorial Fund will gather for the 13th annual Jesse's Paddle on Saturday September 18, at the Pocomoke River Canoe Company in Snow Hill. Registration begins at 4 p.m. and boats will hit the water by 5 p.m. Support raised at the Paddle funds the nonprofit's suicide prevention outreach mission, mental health education programs, and grants for community needs.

"There will be free canoes and kayaks for those who raise more than \$30 to participate in Jesse's Poker Paddle," said JKMF President Kim Klump. "While our missions are very serious, this is a day of fun and celebration, and we expect to put dozens of boats on the Pocomoke River. We will observe all CDC and State of Maryland COVID-19 guidance. Masks will be required except while our guests are in boats, and we'll be asking our guests to observe social distancing guidelines. There will be masks for those who don't have them and plenty of hand sanitizing stations"

Top fundraisers will be rewarded

with prizes. There are also prizes for those holding the best hands in the Jesse's Poker Paddle, plus live music, free hot dogs and beverages. A surfboard-style standup paddleboard is the Paddle's raffle boat, and there will be a silent auction. Raffle tickets are already available at www.jessespaddle.org/paddle, and the silent auction is receiving bids at the same website address.

The Jesse Klump Suicide Awareness & Prevention Program travels across the lower Eastern Shore teaching the recognition of suicide's risk factors and warning signs, with the goal of reducing the historically-high suicide rates in local communities. "A successful *Paddle* enables us to offer all training, and all our educational material at absolutely no cost," Fund officer Ron Pilling said. "Every penny raised at the *Paddle* is devoted to ending the risk of suicide, making our school programs possible to save young lives, and enabling folks with great ideas to address unmet community needs."

please see **paddle** page 12



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Caring for hummingbirds

While native flowering plants are the best source of nectar for hummingbirds, supplementing with a well-tended sugar-water feeder can provide additional sustenance during nesting season and migration. Here are some frequently asked questions.

Q: Are there any downsides to supplying a hummingbird feeder to the birds in my yard?

A: No. Your hummingbird feeder will be a supplemental source of nectar for your local hummingbirds, and can help them through times when there aren't as many blooming flowers available nearby.

Q: Do I need to buy special food for my hummingbirds?

A: No. The best (and least expensive) solution for your feeder is a 1:4 solution of refined white sugar to tap water. That's ¼ cup of sugar in 1 cup of water. Bring the solution to a boil, then let it cool before filling the feeder. You can make a larger batch and refrigerate the extra solution, just remember to bring it up to room temperature before you re-fill the feeder.

Q: Should I put red coloring in the nectar solution?

A: No, red coloring is not necessary and the reddening chemicals could prove to be harmful to the birds. Natural nectar itself is a clear solution.

Q: Are hummingbirds attracted to red-colored things?

A: Yes, hummingbirds are attracted to red, as well as other brightly colored objects, because they have learned to associate high-quality nectar with red flowers.

Q: How often should I empty and clean the feeder?

A: In hot weather, the feeder should be emptied and cleaned twice per week. In cooler weather, once per

week is enough. If your hummingbirds empty the feeder with greater frequency, clean it every time it's empty. Cleaning with hot tap water works fine, or use a weak vinegar solution. Avoid using dish soaps, as this can leave harmful residue in the feeder.

Q: When should I put out my hummingbird feeder?

A: In most areas of North America where hummingbirds leave during the winter, it's best to put the feeder out about a week before they normally arrive in your yard. This date varies regionally. If you don't know when your birds usually arrive check with your local Audubon center, chapter, or local bird club.

Q: When should I take down my feeders in the fall?

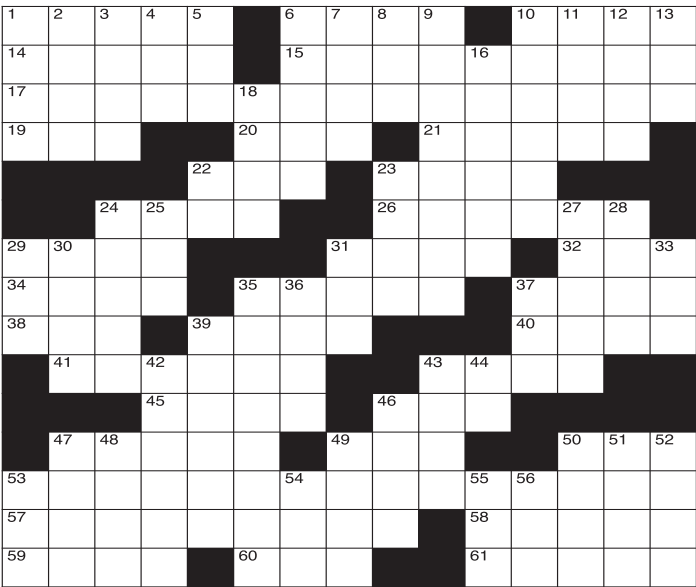
A: You can leave your feeders out for as long as you have hummingbirds around. You can even continue to provide the feeder after your

hummingbirds disappear—late migrants or out-of-range species can show up into early winter. Follow the guidelines for keeping the feeders clean, even if the nectar goes untouched. Always discard any unused nectar in the feeder when you take it down for cleaning.

Q: Won't it make my hummingbirds stay too late if I continue to leave the feeder out for them?

A: No, hummingbirds are migratory species and are genetically programmed to head south in the fall. It's not a lack of nectar source or colder weather that makes them leave—they know it's time based on changes in the length of the day and the angle of the sun.

-audubon.com



CLUES ACROSS

1. Secret clique

6. Earliest in and out

10. Ancient Egyptian symbol of life

14. Olfactory property

15. Kidnapping

17. Golf prize

19. Helps little firms

20. Cast a spell on

21. Panama is one

22. Dishonorable man

23. Sea eagle

24. Part of the healing process

26. Vin's last name

29. Wings

31. Made older

32. Political device

34. Looks like a rabbit
35. Gurus

37. Philippine Island

38. Not or

39. Hindu model of ideal man

40. Exam

41. Making less difficult

43. Without

45. Dravidian ethnic group

46. A baglike structure

47. Buenos Aires capital La ____

49. Dab

50. Singers who perform together

53. Pirates' saying

57. OK to allude to

58. Somaliland diplomat

59. Has to pay back

60. Felix is one

61. Intestinal pouches

CLUES DOWN

1. Harsh cries of a crow

2. Type of horse

3. ____ fide: authentic

4. Doctors' group

5. Fugitives are on it

6. Forged

7. Wild goat

8. Influential American president

9. Calls for help

10. Repents

11. Palm tree with creeping roots

12. Black powder used in makeup

13. Happy New Year

16. Stretched out one's neck

18. Whale ship captain

22. Atomic #20

23. Border

24. River that borders India and Nepal

25. After B

27. Fencing swords

28. Where researchers work

29. Expression of satisfaction
30. Broadway actor Nathan

31. Heavy, heat-retaining stove

33. A way to eliminate

35. Type of tree resin

36. Russian river

37. Children's TV network

39. Troublemaker

42. Averts or delays

43. Self-immolation by fire ritual

44. It cools your home

46. Satisfy to the fullest

47. Stinks!

48. Popular board game

49. Attack by hurling

50. A vale

51. Type of acid

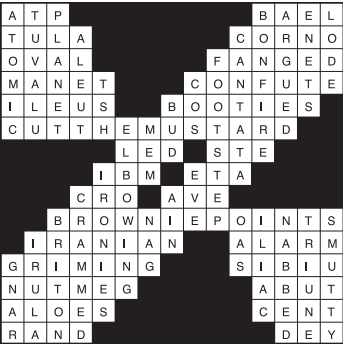
52. Tasmania's highest mountain

53. No seats available

54. Licensed for Wall Street

55. Family of genes

56. Constrictor snake



Answers for August 25



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Could Earth be known to aliens?

Many astronomy hobbyists are familiar with the “exoplanets,” located beyond our solar system and orbiting other stars. In the twenty-six years following their first discovery, more than 4,400 such worlds have been found. Two Swiss astronomers,

A fascinating variety of exoplanet properties relating to habitability can now be measured. Exoplanet sizes can be determined, and distances from their host star as well as their gaseous or rocky composition. Details can be deduced including whether their tem-

perature ranges allow liquid water. Even the exoplanet’s atmospheric chemicals can be measured, for example detection of oxygen and other life sustaining components.

perature ranges allow liquid water. Even the exoplanet’s atmospheric chemicals can be measured, for example detection of oxygen and other life sustaining components.

It is amazing to think that if aliens lived on these seven worlds, they might have a chance to detect Earth, as well as life-supporting molecules in our planet’s atmosphere.

Once again, the bright planet

*please see **aliens** on page 14*

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

| Day | | High /Low | Tide Time |
|-----|---|-----------|-----------|
| Th | 2 | High | 4:53 AM |
| | 2 | Low | 10:37 AM |
| | 2 | High | 5:29 PM |
| | 2 | Low | 11:44 PM |
| F | 3 | High | 5:45 AM |
| | 3 | Low | 11:32 AM |
| | 3 | High | 6:18 PM |
| Sa | 4 | Low | 12:31 AM |
| | 4 | High | 6:33 AM |
| | 4 | Low | 12:23 PM |
| | 4 | High | 7:03 PM |
| Su | 5 | Low | 1:14 AM |
| | 5 | High | 7:19 AM |
| | 5 | Low | 1:11 PM |
| | 5 | High | 7:47 PM |
| M | 6 | Low | 1:54 AM |
| | 6 | High | 8:03 AM |
| | 6 | Low | 1:57 PM |
| | 6 | High | 8:30 PM |
| Tu | 7 | Low | 2:34 AM |
| | 7 | High | 8:48 AM |
| | 7 | Low | 2:43 PM |
| | 7 | High | 9:13 PM |
| W | 8 | Low | 3:14 AM |
| | 8 | High | 9:33 AM |
| | 8 | Low | 3:30 PM |
| | 8 | High | 9:57 PM |

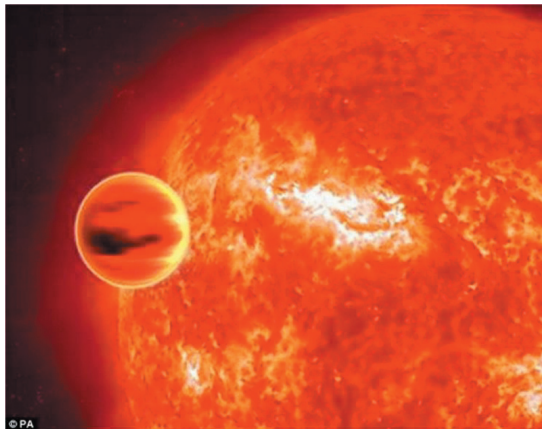
Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Queloz and Mayor made the initial discovery on October 6, 1995, and in 2019 the team was awarded the Nobel prize.

The first exoplanet discovery is named “51 Pegasi b,” located in the



51 Pegasi-b, the first exoplanet, discovered by two Nobel prize winners
Artist's rendition.

constellation Pegasus the Winged Horse. 51 Pegasi b has a large, gaseous structure, and represents a new class of exoplanets, known as “hot Jupiters.”

In the early days of exoplanet studies, the radial velocity method was used. This technique involved observing the subtle movements of the host star as it responds to its exoplanet.

A newer technology has been deployed using space telescopes, and is known as the transit method. This technique uses the subtle but detectable dimming in the star’s brightness occurring when an exoplanet planet transits across its surface blocking some small fraction of starlight. About 70% of exoplanets have been found using the transit method.

Kaltenegger said: “From the exoplanets’ point of view, we are the aliens.” Describing the transit process she added, “We want to know which stars have the right vantage point to see Earth, as it blocks the Sun’s light.” The study involved determining the lines-of-sight of various stars and finding which ones are positioned in the right way, so that the orbiting Earth would periodically block off light from the sun.

Since the stars are not really stationary, but are moving within the Milky Way, the lines-of-sight program must account for these motions. Data from the Gaia space telescope,



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Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

Getting Older

I'm on two diets. I wasn't getting enough food on one.

Apparently RSVP'ing to a wedding invitation "Maybe next time," isn't the correct response.

Don't irritate old people. The older we get, the less "Life in prison" is a deterrent.

Have you ever listened to someone for a minute and thought "Their cornbread isn't done in the middle?"

Aliens probably fly by earth and lock their doors.

I asked my wife if I was the only one she had ever been with. She said yes, all the others were nines and tens. Give it a minute...

I really don't mind getting older, but my body is taking it badly.

It turns out that being an adult now is mostly just googling how to do stuff.



I miss the 90s when bread was still good for you and no one knew what kale was.

Do you ever get up in the morning, look in the mirror and think, "That can't be accurate?"

I want to be 14 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

As I watch this new generation try to rewrite our history, one thing I'm sure of....it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.

I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made me an appointment for Tuesday.

Confuse your doctor by putting on rubber gloves at the same time he does.



My wife asked me to take her to one of those restaurants where they make food right in front of you. I took her to Subway. That's when the fight started.

Picked up a hitchhiker. He asked if I wasn't afraid, he might be a serial killer? I told him the odds of two serial killers being in the same car were extremely unlikely.

I went line dancing last night. OK, it was a roadside sobriety test... same thing.



tourney
from page 9

quet Center is open to the public. Anyone can sign up to play a game, or just come out and watch to get a feel for the sport.

"Anyone is welcome to play at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center pickleball courts, and we encourage everyone to try it for themselves. It's fun to get out and get some exercise, and the facility is top notch," he said.

For the tournament, singles and age 60-plus mixed doubles matches are scheduled Oct. 22, men's and women's doubles are scheduled Oct. 23, and mixed doubles are scheduled Oct. 24.

The money bracket for players under 50 is scheduled Oct. 23, and the money bracket for those 50 and older is set for Oct. 24.

The prize purse is \$375 for gold (first place), \$160 for silver (second place) and \$90 for bronze (third place). The money bracket is open to any combination of genders and skill levels.

For general play, each grouping category – men's, women's and mixed – will include four skill-level brackets: 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5/5.0. The minimum skill level for the tournament is 3.0, and tournament directors will set age and skill-level brackets about three weeks prior to the tournament.

The registration fee, due by Oct. 1, is \$35, plus \$10 per event. Money brackets are \$30 per event.

Tournament organizers will post the full tournament schedule, including match start times, two weeks prior to the tournament.

Food, beer and cold beverages, ice cream and snowballs, and other vendors will be onsite during the tournament.

The tournament is outdoors only, and no rain date is scheduled. No refunds or credits will be given in case of a cancela-

paddle
from page 9

Supporters can make donations for by visiting www.jessespaddle.org/paddle and clicking "Our Donor Form." Generous donors can create their own fundraising teams, support an existing team, or make a general donation. Donations will be welcome at the Paddle, and all gifts count towards the \$30 minimum for a free boat for the Poker Paddle.

Canoes, and solo or two-person kayaks can be reserved in advance for Jesse's Poker Paddle. To reserve your boat, call the Pocomoke River Canoe Company at 410-632-3971.

tion.

To register online, visit <https://app.pickleballden.com/external-tournament/8732201>.

Organizers are also seeking sponsors for the event.

Gold level sponsors, \$500, will receive large banner advertising for one year at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center, an onsite advertising location during the event, public appreciation announcements during the tournament weekend, press exposure in news releases and social media posts, and five complimentary giveaways.

Silver level sponsors, \$250, will receive banner advertising at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center, public appreciation announcements during the tournament weekend, press exposure in news releases and social media posts, and two complimentary giveaways.

For more information, contact Tournament Co-Director Darryl Noble at 717-873-4743 or DANoble54@gmail.com, or Tournament Co-Director Cathy Noble at 410-302-9320 or CMZNoble@gmail.com.

Annual Car Show returns

The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce will host its seventh Annual Car Show on Saturday, September 4. The Car Show will be held at Veterans Memorial Park located on the corner of Cathell and Racetrack Roads. There will be food provided by the Ocean Pines Kiwanis Club and business vendors as well as music and a live radio remote.

For more information on registering for the car show or becoming a vendor please call the Ocean Pines Chamber at 410-641-5306 or stop in the office at 11047 Racetrack Road Berlin, MD 21811.

The Car Show will begin at approximately 10 a.m. and trophies will be awarded at 1 p.m.

There will be trophies awarded in these categories; Classic, Antique, Hot Rod, Modern, Customs, Jeep and People's Choice.

Pre-registration is available on line for just \$15 or \$20 the day of the show. Registration will be at Veterans Memorial Park beginning at 8:30 a.m. All cars must be registered by 10 a.m. to participate in the car show. Register on line at: www.OceanPinesChamber.org.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Ocean Pines Chamber office:

Phone: 410-641-5306 or E-Mail: info@OceanPinesChamber.org.

New animal control legislation goes into effect

Worcester County Animal Control (WCAC) officers launched a campaign to educate the public about legislation adopted earlier this summer that strengthens local laws protecting domestic animals. The new legislation increases the level of accountability for commercial kennel operators and pet owners, and it allows abandoned and stray dogs and cats to enter the adoption process more quickly.

“The new regulations prevent breeders from making a profit by mistreating or inhumanely housing animals,” Chief Animal Control Officer Glen Grandstaff said. “We are working to bring commercial breeders and private pet owners into compliance with the new regulations. We are providing them with the information and the tools to be more responsible pet owners.”

Bill 21-3 revises the kennel license code and adds regulations that require record keeping for vaccinations and healthcare for breeders involved in the sale of kittens or puppies. It also increases the enforcement authority of WCAC related to those involved in commercial operations, defines suitable shelter, and establishes certain conditions in which tethering an animal is not acceptable.

This legislation also lowers the stray hold period for cats and dogs from 10 days to the industry standard of three business days. However, it does not reduce the 10-day observation period for stray cats and dogs that may not be immediately adoptable or able to be placed with a rescue agency.

“Thanks to the new bill, we can now place animals into the adoption program or with a suitable rescue program within three days of coming to WCAC instead of remaining on hold for 10 days. This alleviates a lot of stress for the animals and significantly improves their adoptability. So, we want to get them out of the cages as quickly as possible and into the adoption process.”

Staff closely evaluates all shelter animals and partners with multiple agencies and nonprofits to rehome friendly, approachable animals that are not adopted during their time at WCAC.

WCAC, Development Review and Permitting, the Worcester County State’s Attorney’s Office, and County Attorney Roscoe Leslie drafted the new legislation, which the commissioners unanimously adopted on June 15 as Bill 21-3 (Public Safety – Animal Control). A copy of Bill 21-3 is available at <https://www.co.worcester.md.us>. To learn more about the many loving animals available for adoption through WCAC, call 410-632-1340.

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events

from page 8

The History Panel will feature guest speakers with a long history in the Ocean Pines community. Attendees at the event, which will be free and open to the public, will hear first-hand accounts of the speakers' experiences as Ocean Pines evolved from a small resort community to a thriving, year-round home and vacation destination.

More info: www.oceanpines.org

Worcester County Libraries

History of Libraries in Worcester County

Oct. 13, 5 p.m. (Snow Hill Branch) and Oct. 14, 2 p.m. (Ocean Pines Branch)
Cost: Free

Some of the libraries in Worcester County date to the early 1900s. Join Local History Librarian Alec Staley in learning about the history of the local libraries.

More info: www.worcesterlibrary.org

Worcester County Tourism

Harbor Day at the Docks

Oct. 16

Cost: Free

This waterfront festival celebrates the county's rich history and maritime heritage, as well as the exciting sport fishing and commercial fishing industries. Event highlights will include seafood cooking demonstrations, crab-picking contests, fish-cleaning demonstrations, local angler displays, nautical artisans, educational exhibits, entertainment, food, and fun children's activities.

More info: www.visitmaryland-scoast.org

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum (813 South Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City)

History of our Surfmén

Oct. 11-15, 1 p.m.

Cost: Free

The museum will take a close look at equipment that was used by the United States Life-Saving Service to conduct a rescue. This program will be held inside the museum's boat room.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Annual Spirit Award

The museum invites locals to submit nominations for the Spirit Award, honoring those who have helped preserve local history. Both individuals and organizations are eligible. Visit www.ocmuseum.org for nomination requirements.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Lou Parsons III Memorial Photo

Contest

Lou Parsons was a beloved member of the Ocean City Museum Board for many years. In honor of Parsons, the museum will host a photo contest. Visit www.ocmuseum.org for requirements. Online entries will be accepted from Aug. 3 to Oct. 1. A winner in each category will be announced on Oct. 16, along with a grand prize winner.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Historic House Tour

Oct. 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: Tickets, \$25 for members and \$30 for nonmembers, are available at www.ocmuseum.org

The Ocean City Museum Society will host its third annual Historic House Tour. Spend the day discovering the history of everyone's favorite beach town! This event will allow guests to step into the past and tour some of Ocean City's oldest homes, churches, and establishments. At each location, an educator will be on-site to discuss the unique history of the building.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Fall Photo Opportunity

Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost: Free

Stop by the museum for a unique, fall photo opportunity. Pose with a display of fall flowers, pumpkins, and hay located on the boardwalk in front of the museum's shark display. A staff member will be onsite to take each family photo.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Book Signing and Reading with Local Author

Oct. 12

Cost: Free admission; book purchases are an added charge

Local author Maria Grosskettler will sign copies of her newest book, "Tracks." In addition to reading a selection from her book, she will share her experience of researching Berlin history.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Preserving of the Past

Oct. 13

Cost: Free. Limited space is available, and registration is required. Visit www.ocmuseum.org.

Join Assistant Curator Cara Downey and Local History Librarian Alec Staley in learning how to preserve old photographs and paper.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

Paranormal Event

Oct. 15

Cost: Tickets are available at www.ocmuseum.org. Space is limited.

Follow along with the Dead of Night Paranormal team and experience the spirits that occupy the Ocean City Life-Saving Station during evening hours.

Ocean City Life-Saving Station

Museum

History comes to Life

Oct. 16, 1-4 p.m.

Cost: Free

Actors from Ocean Pines Players will portray figures from Ocean City's storied past. Meet Zippy Lewis, who made a liv-

ing selling shipwreck remains. Ocean City's first doctor, from 1900, will share what it was like being the only physician in town. Last but not least, meet Laughing Sal, known as the Laughing Lady!

More info: www.ocmuseum.org

*The museum will also offer free admission to all Eastern Shore locals during History Week.

For more information on Worcester County History Week, visit www.facebook.com/WorcesterCountyHistoryWeek.



aliens

from page 10

Venus appears early at about 7:30 p.m. This time of year, as the glow of evening dusk declines a bit, Venus will appear brighter. Look early, before about 8:15 p.m., as the planet will soon be setting.

The full celestial vista arrives after about 8:30 p.m., with the constellation Cygnus the Swan (Northern Cross), almost directly overhead. Hercules the Hero is also flying high.

After 9:30 p.m. the constellation Pegasus the Winged Horse with its fa-

mous Great Square has emerged in the eastern sky.

Two favorite targets, Saturn and Jupiter, are readily visible in the southeast quadrant. Look east from the southern constellation, Sagittarius the Archer (teapot.)

This month the Moon "does a dance" with the planets. On September 9 the crescent moon appears 4 degrees north of Venus. On the 16th, the waxing gibbous moon is 4 degrees southwest of Saturn, and on the 17th, 5 degrees southwest of Jupiter.

Wishing clear skies and good luck to all stargazers.

budget

from page 3

and hopefully Mother Nature continues to help us out," he added.

Finance Director Steve Phillips said several factors contributed to the Food and Beverage success.

"More often than not we've had good weather on the weekends, which can be a big driver for the Beach Club numbers, as an example," he said. "Weekend banquets have also been fully booked at the Yacht Club, so that was approximately \$200,000 of gross revenue that we didn't have last year, due to COVID."

Phillips added that gross margins overall had improved, and he credited the Matt Ortt Companies for keeping a year-

round staff in place.

"Most places have struggled with staffing this year, as the pandemic limited the number of J-1 students available to work," he said. "Because Matt Ortt and Ralph DeAngelus were able to keep their core staff in place all year, they really didn't have those issues."

Viola also said the use of info@oceanpines.org for general information questions and concerns has created efficiencies, and that has translated to further cost savings.

"This has definitely improved our overall customer service and helped people to get their questions answered in a timely and professional manner," he said. "Please continue to use info@oceanpines.org for all general inquiries."

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