

# The Courier

May 18, 2022 Volume 22 Number 34



## National Safe Boating Week

May 21 - 27, 2022



# Jelly maker preserves tradition

Dora Kovacic's award-winning jams and jellies have been a fixture of the Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market for more than a decade, but her story goes back several genera-

of course, eating them too," Kovacic said. "Our business was born when my sister, Lisa, realized that her love for making jam from local fruits was providing her family and friends with more jam than they could possibly eat. So, mama suggested that she could sell it at the flea market."

Kovacic, with her mother and sisters, became a regular vendor at farmers markets in Chincoteague and Onancock in Virginia.

"Our dad, Danny, got in the act too," Kovacic said. "When he played his trumpet at the markets, mama would say with a wink and a smile, 'He's got his way of jammin' and I've got mine.'"

Kovacic also brought the family business to the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market, putting her own creative spin on homemade jams, while preserving the tradition and authenticity of three generations.

In addition to single fruit flavors like blackberry jam and tangerine

marmalade, Kovacic creates unique flavor combinations like black forest and French apple.

In May, when strawberries are abundant in the fields of local farms, Kovacic's home kitchen is filled with the scent of those berries being cooked into sweet jam.

We Jam 4U also offers marmalades, fruit butters, and fruit and pepper jellies.

The small batch fruit and pepper jellies are made from ingredients sourced from local growers. Sweet, with just the right amount of heat, the pepper jellies add an element of surprise to a cheese plate, a main dish, or even a cocktail.

Kovacic and her family are proud to have won many ribbons at local fairs, including first prize for their blueberry jam, but she said the best reward is returning customers.

"Our best prize ever is the sight of our loyal and super-satisfied customers who seek us out year after year at the farmers market," she said.

Market Manager David Bean said the proof of We Jam 4U's success is in

the quality of their products.

"Dora's jams and jellies will make your PB&Js or morning toast better than you ever thought they could be," he said.

We Jam 4U can be found at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market year-round on Saturday mornings.

The market is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in White Horse Park.

For more information, visit [www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market](http://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market).



tions.

The inspiration for We Jam 4U started with Kovacic's grandmother, Molly, who made her own jams and jellies. Her mother, Joanne, and sisters, Lisa and Debbie, also took up the trade.

"As kids, we enjoyed picking local fruits and making jam with mama and,

## Pollinator garden tour scheduled

The second annual Pollinator Garden Tour will take place Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25. This self-guided tour covers nine Pollinator-Friendly gardens across Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore. Visit beautiful gardens landscaped with native plants, watch artists painting 'en plein air', and gain inspiration for your own gardening projects. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door, available at [www.lowershorelandtrust.org](http://www.lowershorelandtrust.org) on the News and Events page.

An added attraction this year is the Preview Party Cocktail Reception, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jenkins at Newport Farms in Berlin.

To learn more about this intimate preview and cocktail reception and how you can support the pollinator and habitat work of the Lower Shore Land Trust, contact Kate Patton at [kpatton@lowershorelandtrust.org](mailto:kpatton@lowershorelandtrust.org) or go to [lowershorelandtrust.org/blog](http://lowershorelandtrust.org/blog).

## Rummage sale this Saturday

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*art matters art matters art matters art matters*

# Photographers share the beauty of the coast with others

By **Elaine Bean**

A wave breaks under a mountain of sunset clouds. A lone heron stands reflected in perfectly calm waters. The motion of the ocean is stilled in a moment captured.

Susan Koster and Brandon Martin of Ocean Pines are the artists behind Silver Sun Photography. Their shared love for photography, the outdoors, and travel led them to collaborate on art and life.

Martin was born in Baltimore and moved to Ocean City as an infant. He studied photography starting in his early teens and went to college in Virginia. Koster was born in North Carolina, grew up on Fort Meade, moved to the Shore as a teenager, and attended Salisbury University. They connected through their love and passion for photography, decided they wanted to create a business together, and started Silver Sun Photography during Covid.

“We started out with an online gallery and social media pages where we shared the beauty of the coast with others,” Koster said. “Now we create custom artwork from the images we capture on camera for people to enjoy in their homes, condos, businesses, and chosen spaces.”

Koster chose photography as a teenager after seeing her first National Geographic Magazine and falling in love with the art form in a high school darkroom class. “Having the ability to capture a moment in time, whether documenting the wonders of nature, or the intricacies of a family event, has stuck with me all these years,” she said.

Martin became interested in photography as a teenager after watching his Uncle Brian take pictures with “all of his cool camera equipment,” Martin said. “I thought it was mysterious and exciting and wanted to experience it for myself.” He then spent years traveling with his 35mm camera and studying long exposure photography, used in his work today to soften the flow of water.

They are both inspired by the ever-changing weather that unfolds at the beach.

“I am passionate about capturing those moments in time that unfold and sharing them with others to experience,” Koster said. “Having the opportunity to photograph the sunrises, sunsets, snowstorms, nor’easters, hurricanes, blizzards, moments of peace and tranquility, moments of awe, weather at its calmest and most intense inspires me every day. I feel honored to live



in an area like this and hope that people see it shine through in my work.”

“I’m inspired by both the many great artists that created their own unique visual language and were able to give other people a glimpse into how they personally experience life through their art, and the beautiful area we live in,” Martin said. “The weather and light can change minute to minute. It’s still a thrill to see the sea and sky do something you haven’t seen before.”

The pair show and sell their work at many regional festivals including SpringFest, ArtX, and the Berlin Jazz & Blues Festival, and also through June at The Coffee Beanery on 94th St. and Coastal Hwy., a satellite gallery of the Art League of

*please see art matters on page 22*



# Commentary

## South Fire Station work needed

Commentary by **Joe Reynolds**  
*OceanPinesForum.com*

Thanks to Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department President David Van-Gasbeck, this correspondent had an opportunity to take a tour of the existing southside fire station on Ocean Parkway.

The original structure was built in 1981, with additions in 1985, and then a small office space addition in 1987. There is mold in the building. Sleeping quarters for full-time firefighters/EMTs are absolutely inadequate with three mattresses in a small open room for both male and female staff. Water backs up out of an open floor drain in wet weather. The list of problems and needed improvements is long.

There is no question the proposed rehabilitation and health/safety items for the existing vehicle bays are sorely needed, as well as the demolition and replacement of the existing structure to the left of the vehicle bays, the area containing staff offices, sleeping area, training rooms, etc.

Preliminary estimates put the total

cost of the project at \$7 million. After the use of perhaps \$1.35 million from the State of Maryland and existing OPVFD reserves, the project, as currently priced, would require another \$4.5 million or so from Ocean Pines Association members.

Assuming the OPVFD obtains a bank loan for the \$4.5 million, the yearly principal and interest on a 30-year loan would be about \$300,000 - or roughly an assessment increase of about \$35 per year for the loan term.

Presently, there are no construction plans and specifications and no actual bids to do the work. There is only a proposed layout and some sketches of the proposed finished product, and what might be called an educated guess for the \$7 million construction cost from Manns Woodward Studios of Baltimore, a firm specializing in "public safety architecture and planning."

Seven million dollars seems like a very high price tag on the proposed work, just based on some comparisons of relatively recent projects. For example, the Ocean Pines Yacht Club struc-

ture was approved via referendum in 2014 for \$4.3 million. That was almost eight years ago, but the Yacht Club may be more than three times the size of the proposed fire station.

With regard to OPA's financial support of the OPVFD, any and all funds from OPA require the approval of the OPA Board of Directors. Typically, the board votes on the contribution as a part of the yearly OPA budget process, but the OPVFD is an independent corporation and not a part of OPA.

sociation acknowledges its commitment, in partnership with the Department, to ensure the necessary funding."

At this point, there has been no public discussion of any community-wide Capital Campaign. There should be.

Regardless, the work proposed by the OPVFD is needed. If current construction costs dictate an expenditure of \$7 million for the needed work, it means spending the money or possi-



This is how association member Norm Katz (now deceased) described the relationship between OPA and the OPVFD back in 2011:

"The heart of the contract pertains to the funding of the OPVFD. In essence, the contract states that the OPVFD formulates its budget, calculating all of its needs, which are not limited to payroll, maintenance, equipment, apparatus, reserves, etc., and all of its income, which is not limited to grants, endowments, fundraising, and investments. If there is a demonstrated shortfall in funding the OPA is contractually, as well as morally, obligated to make up that shortfall. It's pretty simple and equitable to both parties and it has served us well for 37 years."

A July 24, 2013 agreement addressed the South Station specifically:

"6. The South Station shall not be included in the calculation of the annual Capital Cost to be allocated to the Association. It is the intent of the Parties to utilize fundraising efforts, including a possible community-wide Capital Campaign, to provide the funding necessary to renovate, refurbish, or replace, this facility. The As-

bly taking a less than adequate approach. Hopefully, the project will end up costing less. Time will tell.

A joint OPA/OPVFD Town Hall meeting to discuss the project will be announced in the near future.

Nearby is the designer's sketch of how the proposed southside fire station would look after project completion. The three central vehicle bays are existing. There is a proposed new vehicle bay on the right along with a work area extension. The two-story area on the left would replace the demolished one-story area currently used for training, sleeping quarters, kitchen, offices, etc.

## Courier Almanac

Some six weeks after the United States formally entered the First World War, the U.S Congress passes the Selective Service Act on May 18, 1917, giving the U.S. president the power to draft soldiers.



The Electrical Safety Foundation International reports that home electrical fires account for an estimated 51,000 fires each year. Those fires exact a significant human and financial toll, causing roughly 500 deaths and more than 1,400 injuries while leading to \$1.3 billion in property damage. Smoke detectors are an important safety feature that may not prevent fires, but they can prevent deaths caused by home fires. In fact, the ESFI reports that 65 percent of home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no working smoke detectors.

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# For the love of boats

From the time I was young, boats have been a fascination and passion of mine. Whether playing with toy boats in the bath tub as a child, pulling behind me a plastic boat on a string along the beach or

being on the water in my current boat, I am the most at peace when I'm near, on or playing with a boat.

I was sad *Jo-Lin* was leaving, not quite understanding why she was going. My boating memories start with that boat which was white, trimmed in red with a heavily shellacked mahogany engine compartment cover. I caught my first fish on her, well it wasn't a fish really. It was a baby sand shark.

But it still counted.

That blustery afternoon I stood at her bow, expressing my sadness that she was leaving but assuring her that I would remember her forever and that I would not like the new boat. I think she understood, at least I hope she did.



## ***It's All About. . .***

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

I've always felt that boats, all boats, have a soul, a personality, an identity all their own. A boat is not an inanimate object, at least not to me. Such a sentiment origi-

nated when I was young. Let me take you back for a moment to a wintry afternoon. I was about six or seven and visiting my grandparents in Villas, NJ. Walking around the yard bundled in a heavy winter coat, a cold wind sweeping across the bay, I spent time talking to *Jo-Lin*, my grandfather's boat at the time. She was resting on concrete blocks and covered by a heavy, olive-green tarp tied down with lines that stretched under her hull. She was a 17-foot wooden boat powered by a 90 horsepower OMC stern drive. Built by my grandfather in 1965, she would soon be traded in for a new 19-foot Chapar-



*Gramps and the Jo-Lin*

al with a 120 horsepower Mercruiser purchased at the Philadelphia boat show.

The new boat arrived with the warm weather several months later. Despite my promises to *Jo-Lin*, I immediately fell in love with the new boat which never really had a name. She was always referred to as the Big Boat. She was roomier, cut through the water more gracefully thanks to her deep vee hull and was much faster than her predecessor. She was also a bow rider which added a new dimension to our boating experience.

My brother and I spent a lot of time fishing with our grandfather on that boat on the Delaware Bay. We relished the reality that the Big Boat was faster than all the other

boats in the area, a fact of which we liked to remind our friends. Gramps often let my brother and me take the helm. We'd love to push the throttle down as we headed toward fishing spots at Bug Light and Fourteen Foot. Gramps would normally reach over to pull the throttle up. Although truth be known, he was a speed demon too.

At least once during the summer, we'd pile on the boat, my brother and me, our mother and grandfather, with a food-and-drink-filled cooler. We'd spend the day cruising through the Cape May Canal taking in the sights of Cape May, Wildwood, Stone Harbor and Avalon. I look back on those cruises nostalgically. We ate ham and cheese sandwiches and washed them down with Shop Rite cream soda. Gramps would point out different landmarks while my mother pointed out interesting landscape designs of the "hoity toity" houses in Stone Harbor and Avalon. My brother and I would comment to each other about the boats we passed. "That one has a 55 Johnson." "Look at that cabin cruiser." "That one looks like Hap's

brother's boat."

Those were memorable cruises.

When I was 12, Gramps bought my brother and me our own boat. It was a fiberglass 15-foot, 1957 Newport that was sitting on a trailer beside the Villas Tackle Shop. It was \$200. My brother and I were ecstatic sitting in the backseat looking out the window of Gramps' '65 Barracuda as we trailered the boat home. Gramps had a 15 horsepower, '57 Johnson outboard that he put on the boat. At first the steering wasn't connected so we had to use the tiller to steer. We didn't care. We were loving life.

It's been a lot of years since those Cape May Canal cruises on the Big Boat, the freedom of plying the waters behind the house in that '57 Newport and when a little boy lamented the departure of an old wooden boat on a winter day. Through the years though, the essence of those experiences has been the primer on a canvas painted many times over by boating experiences I've enjoyed with my children and now grandchildren.



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A message from OPA President Colette Horn

# Celebrating 'Bay Day' and the Coastal Bays Watershed

The Isle of Wight Bay is part of what defines Ocean Pines as a unique and vibrant community. Our waterways give us breathtaking views, places to boat and fish, and a boost to our local economy.

But, with the presence of coastal waterways comes the responsibility to be good stewards of our environment.

The bay includes Manklin Creek, Herring Creek, Turville Creek, St. Martin River, Bishopville Prong, and Shingle Landing Prong. Drainage from Ocean Pines, along the southern half of Ocean City and west Ocean City, all flows to the Isle of Wight Bay.

A 2021 Maryland Coastal Bays Program report card showed that local water quality is in decline, based on four water quality indicators and two biotic indicators. The coastal bays had an overall score of C+ for the combined 2019 and 2020 reporting cycle, which was a slight decline from 2018.

Our coastal bays face continuing challenges because of multiple sources of pollution.

According to MCBP, "The Isle of

Wight watershed contains extensive urban development both in Delaware and in Maryland. Impervious surfaces (pavement, rooftop and compacted soils) degrade stormwater quality and impact water quality in the bay. The watershed also contains nearly half of the septic systems in the entire Maryland Coastal Bays Watershed, which contribute to nutrient pollution."

More than 53% of "dead end canals" in the Coastal Bays Watershed are in the Isle of Wight watershed. Dead-end canals are problematic because most are dug through wetlands that cause canal waters to stagnate, the canals receive pollutants from stormwater runoff, and because they can accumulate trash and contain excessive nutrients and algae.

Applying manure, poultry litter, and chemical fertilizers and pesticides can also pollute our waterways.

Stormwater management can help enhance water quality and reduce flooding. Ocean Pines, in cooperation with MCPB and Worcester County, have been exploring ways to enhance

stormwater management and improve overall water quality.

The State of Maryland has put an emphasis on coastal resiliency, funding projects like the recent Bainbridge Park Project through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Ocean Pines residents can also do their part:

- Plant native trees and other plants on your property
- Reduce or eliminate use of fertilizer
- Clean up after your pet
- Reduce travel by vehicle by combining trips or walking/biking
- Learn about the watershed you live in and its natural resources — volunteer, visit a park, or attend informational events about the coastal bays
- Install a rain barrel or a rain garden to treat stormwater
- Get your septic system pumped regularly and ensure it is working optimally
- Enhance your shoreline with native species and eliminate invasive non-native species such as Phragmites

Another way we can help preserve our Coastal Bays Watershed is through oyster restoration, which was the subject of a recent article about the Environment and Natural Assets Advisory Committee.

According to committee member Donna McElroy, oysters can be grown from Ocean Pines piers, and they take about a year to grow to where they can be harvested.

"Each three-inch oyster will filter 50 gallons of water every day, so we can clean our canals," she said.

For more information about oyster restoration, contact Protectors of the St. Martin River at protectorstmartinriver@yahoo.com.

The annual Bay Day event, this year held on May 15, is a wonderful way for the community to come together and celebrate our Coastal Bays Watershed.

A partnership of Ocean Pines and the MCPB, Bay Day renews the commitment of both organizations to work

*please see watershed on page 22*

## Bill Gibbs Memorial Golf Tournament

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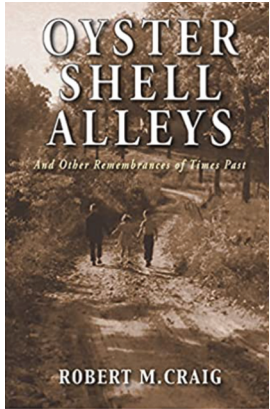
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# Old Ocean City writer to speak at library

Do you remember strolling the Boardwalk to the sounds of The Drifters and Johnny Mathis? Or do you wonder what Ocean City was like



during a simpler time? Local author Dr. Robert M. Craig will share his coming-of-age stories of summers in Ocean City during the 1950s and '60s at the Ocean Pines Branch of the

Worcester County Library on Wednesday, May 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Craig's collection of semi-autobiographical short stories, "Oyster Shell Alleys: Remembrances of Times

Past," features Ocean City's landmarks and characters, from the historic Lankford Hotel to Boardwalk Elvis. His book of poetry, *Irma's Seed*, recalls memories of feeding seagulls on the beach, buying ice cream from Alaska Stand, riding Trimper's merry-go-round, and laments the passing of the resort town's historic cottages.

Dr. Robert M. Craig is the son of Robert S. Craig, who served as captain of the Ocean City Beach Patrol from 1946 to 1987. Dr. Craig, who served on the Beach Patrol in his youth, has written two illustrated books on the subject, *Maryland's Ocean City Beach Patrol* and *Saving Lives: A History of the Ocean City Beach Patrol*.

The prolific author, whose other works range from Vietnam War memoirs to architecture, will also discuss his writing process—from concept to printed page—and all questions and reminiscences are welcome.

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**Stuck** - Ocean City Elementary School's Principal Julie Smith gave all students the challenge to read over their Spring Break. And they did. Because of their hard work, they were able to tape Mrs. Smith to the wall.

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# Pickleball tourney scheduled

Registration is now open for the 2022 Summer Classic Pickleball Tournament, scheduled June 11-12 at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

Pickleball Club Secretary Julie Woulfe said the event is a double elimination tournament set across several skill levels. The event this year is exclusive to Ocean Pines Pickleball Club members.

Men's and women's doubles matches are scheduled on Saturday, June 11, and mixed doubles matches are scheduled on Sunday, June 12. Play starts at 8 a.m.

"Medals will be awarded to winners at every level of play, and an engraved plaque will also be hung in the clubhouse showing all the 2022 winners," Woulfe said.

Entry is \$10 per player for one event or \$15 for two events, and the registration deadline is June 1.

To sign up, download the registration form at <https://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/OPPC+Tournament+2022+Registration+form+and+Self+Rating+Guide.pdf> and follow the instructions.

Make checks payable to OPPC, and mail the check and completed form to Patty Felix, 323 Piedmont Court, Ocean Pines, Maryland 21811.

Woulfe encouraged the public to come out and watch the competition. "Pickleball has been such a hit in Ocean Pines, with thousands of players coming to our courts each year – it's just exploding," she said. "This is the fastest growing sport in the county and, if you want to see what it's all about and how much fun it is, please stop by and check out the courts."

The Ocean Pines Racquet Center is on 11443 Manklin Creek Road in Ocean Pines.

For questions about the 2022 Summer Classic Pickleball Tournament, email tournament co-director Frank Creamer at [frkcream@aol.com](mailto:frkcream@aol.com).

For more information, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/pickleball>.

## Blood emergency declared

Blood Bank of Delmarva announced a blood emergency last week, as school spring breaks and holiday travel have caused an alarming drop in donations over the past month. The blood supply currently stands at a 2-to-3-day level, with type O negative and O positive at just a 0.5-day to 2-day level. This is well below the ideal, 7-day inventory.

Hospitals and patients rely upon a steady flow of volunteer donors to receive life-saving blood donations, but the recent spring break and holiday travel has caused uncertainty.

In addition, according to the latest figures put out by America's Blood Centers, only 3 percent of the U.S. population donates blood. Blood Bank of Delmarva is a member of ABC.

"This time of year can always be difficult for the blood supply," said Patricia Killeen, Senior Executive Director at Blood Bank of Delmarva. "One blood donation has the ability to save up to three lives. We highly encourage all who are able to donate today to help Delaware and Eastern Shore residents who need it most."

It only takes one hour to donate, and a single donation can save multiple lives. Roughly one in seven hospi-

tal admissions require a blood transfusion. Those in need include: cancer patients, accident, burn, or trauma victims, transplant recipients, surgery patients, chronically transfused patients suffering from sickle cell disease or thalassemia, and many more.

To make an appointment, donors can call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit [www.DelmarvaBlood.org](http://www.DelmarvaBlood.org).

## Rummage sale this Saturday

A church rummage sale will be held Saturday, May 21 between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Ocean City Presbyterian Church located at 1301 Philadelphia Ave. in Ocean City.

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## Annual Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 30, 2022 11 a.m.



*Dedication ceremony for  
The Wall That Heals  
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*Honoring Those Who Made the  
Ultimate Sacrifice and their Families*

*In the event of inclement weather the ceremony  
will move to the Ocean Pines Community Center.*

*Check [Oceanpines.org](http://Oceanpines.org), [OPVets.org](http://OPVets.org) or FB for weather related changes.*

*All are welcome - please bring your lawn chairs.*





# Bluefish are fun to catch

**Fishing Report:** Fishing was hot before the weekend storm. Quite a few limits of flounder. Most were caught in five to 10 feet of water. The South Bay and flats at the Thorofare seem to provide the most action. Best rigs are the Deadly Double in Char- treuse or Red dressed with Gulp. Most of the flounder are full of grass shrimp so pink is also good. Tog, rockfish and bluefish action has also been good.

Remember the flounder minimum size is now 16" with a daily creel limit of 4 fish. Also, sea bass which opened May 15, the Minimum size is now 13" with a daily creel limit of 15 fish.

**Bluefish Regulations:** Minimum size to keep is 8". Daily creel limit fishing from shore or private boat is three fish per day. Season: Open year-round.

**What is a bluefish?** A bluefish can grow 40 to 45 inches in length and can weigh up to 30 lbs. It has a large mouth and strong jaws with sharp teeth. The bluefish eats squid and small schooling fish such as men- haden. It will attack and feed on prey with its sharp teeth and will kill another fish just for the sake of killing it.

**Will they attack humans?** Bluefish have been known to bite humans who wander too close to a school of fish being hunted. I had a personal experience in 1962 while fishing at Patuxent River Maryland. We were fishing in the bay at night off a lighted sea wall when a large school of bluefish came in attacking a school of Bunker. A fisherman about 20 ft. from us fell into the school and was bitten so bad he had to be taken to the dispensary at the naval base.

**Where should I fish for blue- fish?** Bluefish can show up anywhere in the bays or surf. I've caught them at Harbor Island, Rt. 50 Bridge, South Bay and North Bay. Watch for schooling fish and birds as they like to feed on debris from the feeding frenzy.

**What should I use?** I recom- mend a medium action rod and reel with 15 to 20lb. test line and a wire leader with an Anglers clip. The wire leader is to keep the blues from biting your line off. With regard to bait, al- most anything will work such as squid strips, cut mullet, live minnows, plugs, bucktails, etc.

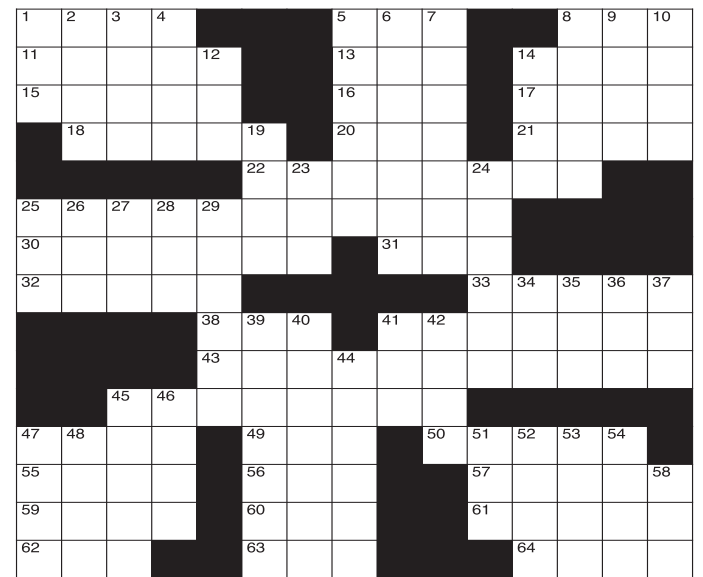
**Are bluefish good to eat?** They have a reputation for being a very strong fish although many people eat them. Some smoke them while others marinade and grill them. Here is a great recipe from the Cape Cod Com- mercial Fishermen's Alliance.

**Triple Citrus Grill Bluefish Ingredients:** 1 cup orange juice, 1/4 cup fresh lime juice, 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice, 1/4 cup olive oil, 1 table- spoon dry white wine (or white wine vinegar), salt and ground black pep- per to taste, 1/4 cup lemon pepper sea- soning, 2 bluefish fillets.

**Directions:** Pour orange juice, lime juice, lemon juice, olive oil and white wine into a large glass bowl. Add salt, pepper and lemon pepper seasoning. Stir to blend. Submerge the fish fillets into the bowl of mari- nade. Cover and marinate in the re- frigerator for at least two hours. Preheat grill or grill pan for high heat. When the grill is hot, oil the grate with canola oil. Place fish fillets on the grill. Baste with marinade during the first half of cooking and discard remaining marinade. Cook for ap- proximately four minutes on each side or until fish flakes with a fork. Transfer to a serving platter and enjoy.

**Note:** Think about joining the Ocean Pines Angler's Club which pro- vides great fishing education pro- grams and fellowship with other anglers in the local area. The Club meets the second Saturday of the month at the Ocean Pines Country Club.

*Remember to take a kid fishing,  
Capt. Ron*

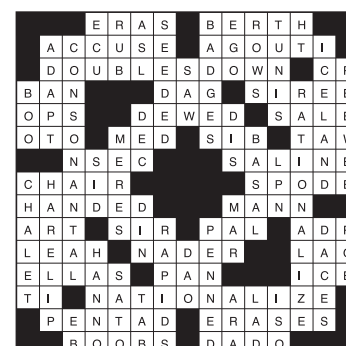


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Scream loudly
- 5. Antidepressant (abbr.)
- 8. The bill in a restaurant
- 11. Oblong pulpits
- 13. Adult female chicken
- 14. Abnormal breathing
- 15. Financial obligations
- 16. Belonging to a thing
- 17. Winged
- 18. Peoples
- 20. College hoops tournament
- 21. An informal body of friends
- 22. Region of the world
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Connected by kinship
- 31. Type of tree
- 32. Official order
- 33. Foundation for an idea
- 38. Small, faint constellation
- 41. Book lovers
- 43. Vegetable
- 45. Cabbage variety
- 47. A way to heal
- 49. Illuminated
- 50. Dish that features a stick
- 55. Insurance-related costs (abbr.)
- 56. Solid water
- 57. Soldier's gear
- 59. "Uncle Buck" actress Hoffmann
- 60. Former measure of length
- 61. Arabic name meaning "spring"
- 62. Doctors' group
- 63. Actress Susan
- 64. Appropriate

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cool!
- 2. Hebrew unit of measure
- 3. Swedish rock group
- 4. College army
- 5. Black eye
- 6. One who stopped working
- 7. Teach a value
- 8. Rhythmic patterns
- 9. "MASH" actor Alda
- 10. "Friday Night Lights" director
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Indian musical pattern
- 19. Fulfill a desire
- 23. Water soaked soil
- 24. Brass instrument
- 25. Before
- 26. Popular color
- 27. Peyton's little brother
- 28. Partner to cheese
- 29. Put onto
- 34. "Much \_\_\_ about nothing"
- 35. A way to mend
- 36. Anger
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Mobilized
- 40. Resembles an earlobe
- 41. Cut of meat
- 42. Nigerian people
- 44. Recently
- 45. Square stone building at Mecca
- 46. Adhere to orders
- 47. Adventure story
- 48. Marine bivalve mollusk
- 51. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- 52. Actor Pitt
- 53. Tibetan village
- 54. A way to change by heating
- 58. A beam of sunshine



Answers for May 11



# AGH earns accreditation extension

Atlantic General Hospital has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for Hospital Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

Atlantic General Hospital underwent a rigorous, unannounced four-day onsite review, starting February 8. During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with hospital standards spanning several areas including environment of care, emergency management, infection prevention and control, performance improvement and medication management.

The Joint Commission's standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts and patients. They are informed by scientific literature and expert consensus to help health care organizations measure, assess and improve performance. The surveyors also conducted onsite observations and

interviews.

"As a private accretor, The Joint Commission surveys health care organizations to protect the public by identifying deficiencies in care and working with those organizations to correct them as quickly and sustainably as possible," says Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, The Joint Commission. "We commend Atlantic General Hospital for its continuous quality improvement efforts in patient safety and quality of care."

"We can't thank our medical staff and associates enough for their continued support, dedication and commitment to high quality patient care," said Ann Bergey, vice president, quality and medical staff services. "The four surveyors scrutinized over 250 Joint Commission Standards, which contain 1,514 elements of performance, including 11 National Patient Safety Goals. In addition, there were 35 tracers conducted during the survey. Despite the strain and worry of the pandemic, we achieved a 99% compliance rate. We are extremely proud of our associates and the medical staff."



## Surfers donation

The WPS Surf Club and Volunteer Club recently presented Surfers Healing of Ocean City with a donation raised by "Wear Blue Worcester Wednesday."

On April 27 Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) held a "Wear Blue Worcester Wednesday" in support of Autism Awareness Day. In addition to wearing blue, the Upper School Surf Club collected donations to support the Surfers Healing foundation, who works to enrich lives of people living with autism by exposing them to the unique experience of surfing. Just over \$850 was raised.

Surfers Healing is the original surf camp for children with autism. Serving communities since 1996, volunteers with the nonprofit travel across the country – from San Diego to Rhode Island – to catch the waves with camp participants. Locally, a camp is held in Ocean City, MD each summer providing nearly 200 children with autism, and their families the opportunity to go surfing.

For more information, or to find out how to get involved, visit their website at [www.surfershealing.org](http://www.surfershealing.org).

Above from the left, Surfers Healing organizer **Dave Leiderman** accepts the donation from WPS Surf Club members **Drew McCormick**, president **Dillon Scopp** and **Brock Brushmiller**. As well as, WPS Volunteer Club president **Bennett Tinkler** and members **Anders Taylor**, **Vanessa Hall** and **Elaina Elrick** and Assistant Head of School/Head of Upper School **Mike Grosso**.

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June 15-Aug 24  
Ages 5-17 | Wed | 6:30-7:30pm | \$10/session

**Adult Beginner Tennis Class**  
June 13-16, June 27-30, July 11-14, July 25-28, Aug 8-11  
9-10am | \$120/session

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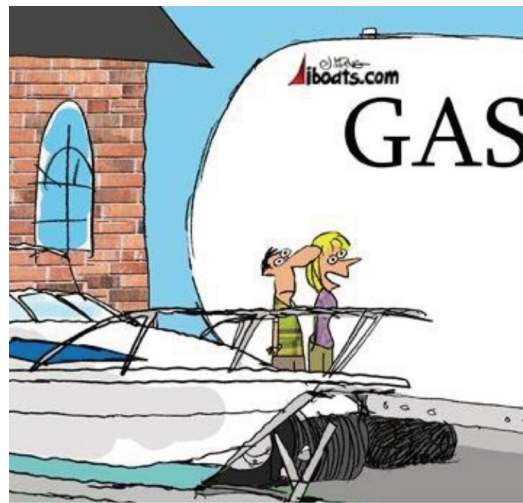


# Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**



"I know you're new to boating, so I'll give you some friendly advice...the boat goes in the water, not your SUV."



"If we plan on spending a lot of time on our boat, I thought it be cheaper to buy gas in bulk."



"Yes, this is my yacht. I was in a simplistic mood when I designed it"





# The different ways to repair a driveway

Asphalt driveways do not last forever. Over time, weather and general usage can degrade the driveway surface, resulting in cracks, pitting and more. Ultraviolet rays, salt and automotive fluids also can affect the appearance and functionality of a driveway. An unsightly driveway can adversely affect curb appeal and resale potential.

Homeowners have to consider various factors when it comes to repairing driveways. They may have the option of getting the driveway resurfaced, resealed or repaved, and each

project is unique.

**Resurfacing.** According to the home improvement price comparison site Kompare It, resurfacing is simpler and faster than installing a new asphalt driveway. With resurfacing, any cracks are filled in to create an even base. Then a new layer of asphalt is applied over the existing one. That new layer can range in thickness from 1.5 to 3 inches. A heavy rolling machine will then smooth and flatten the layers together. If the driveway has minor pitting or cracking, then resurfacing can be a cost-effective strategy, as it may be a \$3,000 to \$6,000 job as opposed to \$5,000 to \$10,000 with repaving.

**Resealing.** Resealing a driveway, also called sealcoating, is another repair strategy. HGTV says resealing can be a do-it-yourself project. Resealing helps the driveway last longer.

The driveway needs to be clean and dry, with holes and cracks filled prior to sealcoating. Start at the far edge of the driveway and seal that area by “cutting-in” by hand for a neat edge. Afterward the rest of the driveway can be sealed using a squeegee or broom. This project can be completed within two or three days if no precipitation is forecast.



**Repaving.** A project best left to professionals, repaving typically involves the removal of an existing driveway and the installation of a new one. The sub-grade layer is essential in the process for a smooth look. Contractors also will assess soil and grading when doing work. The construction blog Main Infrastructure says the new asphalt driveway can vary in thickness between two and six inches, depending on budget and need. The contractor also can advise if full-depth asphalt application or an aggregate base is practical.

Assessing the condition of driveway can give homeowners a better idea about which type of repair project best suits their property.



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**Tides for Ocean City Inlet**

Day	High /Low	Tide Time
Th 19	Low	5:14 AM
19	High	11:19 AM
19	Low	5:06 PM
19	High	11:49 PM
F 20	Low	6:13 AM
20	High	12:15 PM
20	Low	6:07 PM
Sa 21	High	12:47 AM
21	Low	7:13 AM
21	High	1:16 PM
21	Low	7:11 PM
Su 22	High	1:48 AM
22	Low	8:14 AM
22	High	2:23 PM
22	Low	8:18 PM
M 23	High	2:53 AM
23	Low	9:12 AM
23	High	3:32 PM
23	Low	9:26 PM
Tu 24	High	3:58 AM
24	Low	10:07 AM
24	High	4:37 PM
24	Low	10:32 PM
W 25	High	4:57 AM
25	Low	10:58 AM
25	High	5:31 PM
25	Low	11:35 PM

# Safety tips for water sports enthusiasts

Bodies of water like lakes, rivers and oceans often elicit fond memories of fun times spent under the sun. Safety should always be a priority when spending time on the water, especially when participating in water



sports, including swimming and water skiing.

According to the World Health Organization, more than 40 people die by drowning every hour of every day, which equates to around 372,000 deaths each year. Many of those deaths, the vast majority of which

occur in low- or middle-income countries, are preventable, and safety is at the core of drowning prevention. Though drowning incidents are not as prevalent in the United States and Canada as they are elsewhere in the world, the popularity of water sports in both countries underscores the importance of revisiting the various ways to stay safe when out on the water.

Take water sports lessons. The carefree nature of spring and summer can make it easy for water sports enthusiasts to forgo lessons before trying their hands at water skiing and wakeboarding. But such lessons can teach people techniques that can keep them safe on the water. Courses teach everything from how to get up and out of the water to how to properly handle a tow rope. They also can teach boaters how to navigate waters while towing

skiers, tubers and wakeboarders.

Learn hand signals and go over them before getting in the water. The National Safety Council emphasizes the importance of basic hand signals, which can be used to help boaters communicate with the people they're towing. Hand signals are vital because water sports tend to be noisy, so non-verbal communication may be the only way boaters can communicate with the people they're towing. Signals can be used to communicate anything from directions of turns to speed requests to the condition of the person being towed. A list of hand signals can be found at [www.boaterexam.com/safety/safety-common-hand-signals.aspx](http://www.boaterexam.com/safety/safety-common-hand-signals.aspx).

Inspect tow lines. The NSC advises inspecting tow lines prior to beginning. Such inspections can confirm that tow lines are not caught in the propeller or wrapped around anyone before the activity begins.

Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat. People being towed should always wait for

*please see **safety** on page 16*



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# Remember the *Andrea Doria*

May 21 to 27 is National Safe Boating Week (NSBW). It's an annual event that is typically scheduled for the week just before the Memorial Day to re-instill a conscientious awareness of

Off Switch (ECOS). Manufacturers of new boats and personal water crafts (jet skis) have been required to install an ECOS for some time but last year a law was passed that the helmsperson

Natural Resource's patrol boat knowing that you are displaying this year's safe boating decal.

We need to be very concerned about boat safety in 2022. Over one million new recreational boats have been sold in the last three years during the pandemic. This is a huge increase in the number of boaters but we have not seen a commensurate uptick in the attendance at the Safe Boating Classes (SBC). Maryland, and in fact every state, requires boat operators to take a SBC, pass a test and carry a certificate to operate a boat. Systemically, this is not much different than an automobile driver's license.

The surge in new boaters will be a challenge to everyone. It's a little bit unnerving to realize that every boat and 90% of the PWCs at the Ocean City Seaside Boat Show in February were sold but only a handful of folks signed up for a SBC. Where data was known, the USCG indicates that only 12% percent of fatal accidents on recreational boats occurred on vessels where the operator had received a na-

tionally-approved boating safety education certificate.

Probably the biggest threat to recreational safe boating is presented by inexperienced operators who do not understand nor can apply the 'rules-of-the-road' in real time conditions. What do you do when you come upon another vessel? Behaving like a deer in the headlights is not an acceptable answer although I've seen an occasional boat operator over the years that look like he was auditioning to pull Santa's sleigh.

In the spirit of NSBW and clearing the winter cobwebs, let me review the 'rules-of-the-road' for recreational boats that are less than 20 meters (65') in length.

Never contribute to an accident. If the other boat is doing something wrong, you are obliged to compensate for his/her error and avoid a collision even if it requires you to momentarily violate some other rule.

Since motorized recreational boats under 20 meters are considered the

*please see remember page 16*



good safety practices amongst the nearly 12,000,000 recreational boats in the US.


Good practices include getting a free vessel safety inspection from either the USCG Auxiliary or the US Power Squadron. Not only will these volunteers check things like the navigation lights and flares and life jackets and registration, the inspector will usually provide you with a couple seamanship tips, a free tide chart and an update on what's new.

For example, one of the relatively new laws involves the Emergency Cut

of open cockpit boats less than 26' in length must be attached by a lanyard to the ECOS when making way on plane.


The tips may include gentle reminders to drink plenty of water, use sunscreen, and make sure the bitter end of your anchor rode is secured to the boat before you gently drop the anchor over the side.


The complementary inspection and informal chit-chat with the inspector is worth the 10-15 minutes it takes and you'll feel a lot more confident waving at a passing Maryland Department of



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remember  
from page 15

most maneuverable vessels on the water, we have the responsibility to yield to everything that floats and that is not in our class – everything from battleships to paddle boarders. We must avoid sailboats, row boats, trawlers, dredges, towing boats, kayaks, canoes and boats with flashing blue lights.

Now within our class (mechanical propulsion and less than 20 meters long) there are three possible scenarios where we can encounter a fellow classmate – head-on, overtaking, and crossing paths – left to right or right to left.

**Head-on:** Both boats must always turn to the right. If you don't, you will experience a re-enactment of the 1956 *MS Stockholm/SS Andrea Doria* collision where the *Stockholm* turned to the right but the Italian liner turned to the left as it emerged from a fog bank off Nantucket. The *Stockholm* tee-boned the 697-foot Italian cruise ship and provided the scuba diving community a fantastic wreck site to explore.

**Overtaking from astern:** The boat that is coming up from behind always has the responsibility to maneuver around the slower boat. The boat that is being overtaken is referred to as the 'stand-on' vessel and is required to maintain course and speed through the encounter. The overtaking boat is called the 'give way' boat and is required to obtain agreement with the slower boat of intention to pass and on which side.

**Crossing:** The rule is surprisingly simple. The boat on the right has the right of way. The 'right' side is defined as the area from directly ahead of the bow (relative bearing 000°), clockwise to 112.5°. Using an analog clock face as a reference, that would be from 12 to about 4 o'clock. You must 'give way' to any vessel approaching from this direction by altering course and/or speed. If a boat is approaching on your left (port) side, you will appear to him/her as being on their starboard

side and in their 12 to 4 o'clock area making them the 'give way' boat. They will have to maneuver around you while you maintain course and speed as the 'stand-on' boat.

Taking each encounter individually, one can usually make good decisions and operate safely but it gets hairy when there's lots of boat traffic. It takes practice to develop the skills to process the 'rules-of-the-road' for simultaneous, multiple boat encounters. That's why it is so critical to maintain

lookouts and move slowly

when the bays are crowded with nascent, unknowledgeable, inexperienced, inattentive weekend boaters who may be preoccupied with looking for restaurants and gas stations oblivious to buoys, sandbars, and boat traffic. Remember Rule 1: Never contribute to an accident.

The 2022 boating season is shaping up to be a record breaker. Let's hope the records are for fun times and not for mishaps.

Stay safe. Stay dry.

Dan Collins can be reached for comment at [dancollins.oceanpines@gmail.com](mailto:dancollins.oceanpines@gmail.com)

**safety**  
from page 14

propellers to stop before climbing back into the boat. It doesn't take long for propellers to stop, and those extra few seconds can dramatically reduce risks for accidents or injuries.

Avoid water sports at night. Visibility is compromised once the sun goes down. That can make it hard for boaters to see any obstacles that might appear in the water, and it also makes it very difficult for them to communicate with the people they're towing. As a result of such difficulties, the NSC urges water sports enthusiasts to only engage in such activities during daylight hours.

Water sports make summer even more fun. Safety should always be the utmost priority for anyone involved in such activities.



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# Practice safe boating at all times

Boating is a recreational activity enjoyed by thousands of people. Spring and summer are prime times of year for boating, though people

boating safety guidelines. In fact, it is a good idea to take a boating safety course prior to boating for the first time or as a refresher if it has been a while since reviewing the rules of the water.

Boating safety goes beyond learning basic operation and navigation. Safety guidelines also involve getting a vessel safety check. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offers complimentary boating examinations. They can verify the presence and condition of safety equipment required by federal and state organizations. Boaters also may be able to conduct virtual vessel exams. This means boat owners can perform a self-inspection of the



who live in temperate climates may be able to enjoy boating all year long.

Everyone who takes to the water, novices and experienced boaters included, should be familiar with

boats based on digital prompts. People who reside in Canada can contact the Office of Boating Safety to confirm whether vessel checks are required and how to get one.

Licensure and registration of

boats are part of responsible boat ownership both in the U.S. and Canada.

Along with boating inspections and water rules, some other ways to stay safe involve educating oneself of the larger dangers on the water. These generally involve risky boater behavior, such as failing to wear a life jacket or having an inadequate number of life jackets for passengers. Alcohol use while boating also can be problematic. Being under the influence can adversely affect boaters' reaction times and decision-making abilities. According to the 2018 U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics Report, alcohol continued to be the leading known contributing factor in fatal

boating accidents in 2018, accounting for 100 deaths (19 percent) of total fatalities. Curbing alcohol use while boating can help avoid accidents and deaths.

Excessive speeds also can derail nice days on the water. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department says that, although there are no numerical speed limits on the water, excessive speed can cause accidents in crowded areas. Speeding makes it difficult to react to obstacles, including underwater wildlife, and bring the boat to a stop within a safe distance of others.

Boating season is heating up, and that means making safety a big part of operating and enjoying a vessel.

## Boating course offered

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering the Maryland Basic Boating Safety Course at the Ocean Pines library located at 11107 Cathell Rd. in Ocean Pines on June 8, 9, and 10. The classes are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The cost is \$20 for all three evenings. Register or get more information by calling Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807 or Email: CGAUXOC@Gmail.com.

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# The U.S. Coast Guard serves a unique role

The United States Coast Guard is one of the nation's oldest and most respected federal agencies. It was established in 1790 and continues to serve a dual role both domestically and internationally.



The U.S. Coast Guard is comprised of roughly 42,000 men and women. Unlike other branches of the government, the Coast Guard has distinct roles during times of peace and war. In times of peace, the Coast Guard is part of the Department of Homeland Security, which also oversees the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency. The Coast Guard protects marine environments, enforces laws at sea, helps guard the coastline, and engages in life-saving missions at sea. During conflicts and time of war, the United States President can direct the Coast

Guard to serve as part of the U.S. Navy, defending the nation against terrorism and foreign threats at sea. The Coast Guard technically is both a federal law enforcement agency and a branch of the military.

The Coast Guard is often the first responder on the ocean or other waterways. The Coast Guard protects the water and coastline through 11 official missions. These include:

1. Search and rescue
2. Marine environmental protection
3. Drug interdiction
4. Aids to navigation
5. Living marine resources
6. Defense readiness
7. Port and waterway security
8. Migrant interdiction
9. Marine safety
10. Ice operations
11. Law enforcement

The service motto of the Coast Guard is "Semper Paratus (Always Ready)," and members of the USCG are on duty in many different capacities every day of the year.

The U.S. Coast Guard is always looking for new recruits. A person can enlist in the Coast Guard right out of high school or apply to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Graduates earn a bachelor's degree as well as an officer's commission. That can result in higher pay and greater responsibility over time. Learn more about the United States Coast Guard at



## OPA, BJ's raise funds for the Veterans Memorial

BJ's Wholesale Club, in partnership with the Ocean Pines Association, recently donated \$920 to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines as a part of its 2021 spring and fall membership offers.

BJ's donated \$5 of each Inner Circle membership fee and \$10 of each Perks Rewards membership fee to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines Foundation.

"The Veterans Memorial Foundation is grateful for the continuing support of our community and business partners. These donations from BJ's Wholesale Club directly support our Educational Outreach program," said Worcester County Veterans Memorial President Marie Gilmore.

The Educational Outreach program enables all Worcester County fifth-graders to visit the site and learn about the branches of service, flag history and etiquette, and stories about some of the veterans represented at the memorial.

"The Veterans Memorial Foundation 100% supports these trips, paying for school buses and a student activity guide for each student to take home to continue the discussion at home," Gilmore said. "We are so very grateful to this community for their support."

Although this year's spring BJ's promotion in Ocean Pines recently ended, another membership offer will be available in October.

Above: Ocean Pines Marketing Coordinator **Julie Malinowski** (left) presented a check to **Marie Gilmore** on May 6.

## Locally-produced dance film interprets the inlet creation

The date was August 22, 1933, a day that would change the history of Ocean City forever. On that date Hurricane 6 — popularly known as the Storm of 1933 — devastated the Eastern Shore, with the Atlantic Ocean engulfing businesses, homes, and entire landscapes. But the storm also had a massive economic impact, cutting a much-needed inlet between the ocean and the back bay.

A new film, *Hurricane 6*, produced and directed by Fiona O'Brien of Bishopville, and starring the cast of the Saltare in Elementis Dance Collective (SIEDC), unpacks the dynamic created by the inlet through dance.

The 15-minute short film premieres on Saturday, May 21 at 7 p.m. at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94<sup>th</sup> St. bayside. Admission is \$5 and supports the Ocean City Film Festival. The film was made possible in part by a grant from the Ocean City Film Festival with support from the Worcester County Arts Council.

Director and SIEDC co-founder O'Brien, an Ocean City native, said her inspiration for the film came from her desire to reconcile the natural beauty of the Eastern Shore with the industrious identity of Ocean City.

"Ocean City and Assateague are vastly different landscapes," she said. "As a kid, I would go surf fishing on Assateague with my dad ... As I grew older, I began working in Ocean City and got caught in the fast-paced swing of summer ... When filming on Assateague for *Hurricane 6*, I found

myself circling back to the character in the story, longing for the past and connecting with nature again."

While the dynamic between these two lands is a key theme to O'Brien, she also wanted the film to broadly focus on the relationship between woman and nature. *Hurricane 6* concentrates on women's historic role in Ocean City's economic boom. The main character in the film, danced by Daria Gilbert, represents both the land and the generations of working-class women who helped build Ocean City.

Zoe Couloumbis, rehearsal director and co-founder of SIEDC, states that the relationship between woman, work, and water is central to the film.

"*Hurricane 6*'s narrative, production, and execution were all solely created, facilitated, and performed by women," she said. "This storm both

brought in and wiped out life around the Eastern Shore, and that is not mere coincidence. *Hurricane 6* personifies the event, giving a tangible character to the earth's elements. This way, as the audience, we can physically see the relationship between woman and water."

The structure of *Hurricane 6* also advocates for women in dance and dance as an artform. "Compared with other art industries and their workforces, dance is often seen as a secondary artform, and its women workforce is often underpaid," Couloumbis said. "SIEDC wants to challenge these industry norms and champion the female-dominated artform first."

The film's production fostered inter-art collaboration. Will Rothermel of Ocean City, Md., resident com-

please see *film* on page 22



# Harness the power of budgeting

Submitted by **John Bennish**  
Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

When you hear the word “budgeting,” your first thought might be that it’s mostly for young people starting out in their careers and adult lives. Yet, budgeting can be important for everyone, no matter their age. And even if you feel that you’re in pretty good financial shape, with a reasonable amount of savings and investments, you can still benefit by establishing a budget or improving your current one.

Here’s what budgeting can do for you:

- *Give you feelings of control* – Not knowing where your money is going can be bewildering. But when you follow a budget, you’ll get a clear picture of your money movements. Consequently, you’ll feel more in control of your finances – and possibly your life, too.

- *Help you identify your priorities* – A budget is, first of all, a practical tool that can help you manage your finances by showing what you must spend on your needs – mortgage, utilities, car payment and so on. But a good budget should also have space for your wants – which can range from mundane things, such as new clothes and entertainment, to more aspirational items, such as gifts to charitable organizations you strongly support. By having your needs and your wants in front of you, on a piece of paper or a computer screen, you can determine if you’re spending too much on things

that aren’t important to you and not enough on those that are. Consequently, you may be able to adjust your budget in a way that allows you to put more financial weight behind your priorities.

- *Save for emergencies* – You never know when you’ll need a major car repair or a new furnace or face a large medical bill – all of which can be true budget busters. That’s why, within your monthly budget, you should designate a certain amount to an emergency fund, with the money held in a liquid, accessible account. To make it easier to contribute to this fund, you can set up automatic transfers from your checking or savings account into a separate, liquid, low-risk account. It’s a good idea to keep at least three to six months’ worth of living expenses in your emergency fund.

- *Help you pay down debt* – By sticking to a budget, you can determine how much money you can devote to paying down your debts. And if you find opportunities within your budget to cut back on your spending, you can use the savings to reduce your debts further.

- *Save for your future* – Here’s another important category for your monthly budget: the future. You should always try to put away some money, even if it’s only a relatively small amount, to a retirement account such as an IRA. As your salary goes up, you can increase these amounts. Of course, you may already be contributing to a 401(k) or similar account where you work, but you could spend

decades in retirement, so you’ll want to accumulate as many resources as you can for those years.

A budget is a humble-appearing document. But, as we’ve seen, it can play a far more meaningful role in your life than you might have thought

– so use it wisely.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor John Bennish, Ocean Pines. He can be reached at 410-208-9083. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.*



John Bennish



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# Wor-Wic commencement ceremonies held

During Wor-Wic Community College commencement ceremonies at the Wicomico Youth and Civic Center in Salisbury, Dr. James D. Fielder, Maryland's secretary of Higher Education, encouraged the graduates to take on the challenges of leadership in a changing world.

"When I think of what's been invested in higher education during the last eight years, it's billions of dollars," Fielder said. "In scholarships, it's \$1.1 billion, and hopefully some of you, if not many, took advantage of the Promise Scholarship which was enacted three years ago, providing up to \$5,000 for students to go to community colleges. And that's the effort of saying, we need to invest in you, to invest in the future of the state of Maryland."

"I think about the 440 graduates in this class, it's phenomenal what you've achieved," he said. "The pandemic ... has changed the world as we know it. It's radically changed the access to Maryland higher education. The emphasis is on increasing access, success through innovation, and we expect to see that as a continuing change."

Fielder said that leadership and change are intertwined, as change is led, not managed. He said that optimism and inspiration are key elements of leadership.

"Your first job will most likely be tied to your degree, tied to what you studied. But if you think out five years and 10 years with a goal, it's going to be your skills in communication and leadership," Fielder said. "People talk about how we need to manage change — no we don't. We need to lead change."

Fielder encouraged graduates to always retain their integrity and to be bold.

"Remember that when you're trying to effect change, it's how you make people feel. It's not the numbers, it's the passion."

Kimberly C. Gillis of Salisbury, chairperson of Wor-Wic's board of trustees, introduced Fielder and others on the stage, including Dr. Ray Hoy, president; Dr. Kristin L. Mallory, vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Bryan Newton, vice president for en-

rollment management and student services; the Rev. Dr. Helen Lockwood of St. John United Methodist Church and Calvary United Methodist Church; board of trustees members Russell W. Blake of Pocomoke City, Anna G. Newton of Berlin, and Morgan Hazel, vice chairperson, Andrew Booth and Martin T. Neat of Salisbury. Gillis also introduced other dignitaries in attendance, including Acting Wicomico County Executive John D. Psota of Salisbury, and Wicomico County Council members John Cannon, president, also of Salisbury, and Joe Holloway of Parsonsburg.

After the commencement address by Fielder, Hoy presented him with a plaque on behalf of the 2022 graduating class.

Newton introduced the student speaker, Stacy Commissaris of Salis-



**Salina Kc** of Ocean Pines graduated with an associate degree in education from Wor-Wic Community College. Kc works for Chesapeake Martial Arts in Ocean City and went back to school to help its afterschool program earn state accreditation.

bury. Addressing her fellow graduates, Commissaris, a dean's list student and member of the Phi Theta Kappa international honor society, shared her personal experiences of how she overcame personal challenges to reach her goal of graduating.

"The first time I attended Wor-Wic, I was fresh out of high school. I was very unsure of what I wanted in life," said Commissaris, who took time out and attended cosmetology school. "I became a single mother, making my

*please see commencement page 22*



**Learning** - Students in Leona Lavin's first grade class at Ocean City Elementary School celebrated Earth Day by picking up trash around the school grounds. Throughout the day, students learned how to respect their environment by discussing ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. Pictured are **Kennedy Riley, Blake Riley, Rachel Wall, Austin Starkey and Penelope Buta.**

## Local authors to speak at library event

The Friends of the Ocean Pines Library announced they will present a Delmarva Authors Panel during the Ocean Pines Library semi-annual meeting on June 6. This event is open to the public and refreshments will be served. The meeting begins at 10 a.m., followed by the Author's Panel at 11 a.m. All are welcome and there is no charge.

The four authors have all written and published books that feature Delmarva as the setting or the historical backdrop for their books. Their books will be available for purchase at this event.

The author panelists are:

Stephanie Fowler, author of "*Chasing Alice: How the Life, Murder, and Legacy of an English Teacher Changed a Delmarva Community.*"

Barbara Lockhart, author of "Elizabeth's Field."

Brent Lewis, author of "Stardust by the Bushel: Hollywood on the Chesapeake Bay's Eastern Shore."

Don Parks, author of "Islander's War."

## Kiwanis Car Show returns

Kiwanis will hold its second annual car show on Saturday, May 28 at the Veterans Memorial Park in Ocean Pines. Registration begins 9 a.m. with a noon deadline. The event will be held between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. There will be judged classes, trophies and awards as well as food for sale. Proceeds will be used to support Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City youth and scholarship programs. Open to all. The rain date is June 4.

## Wellness walk scheduled

Join Worcester County Recreation & Parks for the first Worcester Wellness Walk and Health Fair on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free, public event will take place at Sturgis Park, which is located on River Street in Snow Hill.

Connect with local mental, physical, and spiritual health professionals, meet with various vendors, take part in health screenings, and enjoy a walk around downtown Snow Hill.

For questions, contact Derek Jarmon at 410-632-2144 x2509 or [djarmon@marylandscoast.org](mailto:djarmon@marylandscoast.org). To view other special events visit [www.playmarylandscoast.org](http://www.playmarylandscoast.org).



## Pine'eer Craft Club to host 'Meet the Artisan' event

Ocean Pines very own Artisan Gift Shop will host a series of events this year to be known as "Meet the Artisan." This special program featuring a local artist or crafter will start on May 21st. Come out from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and watch Sharon Puser as she works her magic on custom handmade pillows for home décor.

You can Meet the Artisan this Saturday on the side of the craft shop, facing the Farmer's market. If you are planning to visit the market that day for fresh goodies, please stop by. Also look for announcements featuring additional artists throughout the year. Always the third Saturday of the month, we have at least two more interested crafters, Charlie and Amy's dates will be announced soon. Charlie Davis is a woodworker who creates amazing art with a scroll saw and lathe; his work is intricate and very popular in the shop. Amy Timmons is an artisan who makes handmade soap and other items from goat's milk. She is even supposed to bring a few goats with her for her event. Keep reading "This Week in Ocean Pines" to mark the dates for these artists and others.

"We have so many unique crafters in our community, and people do tend to ask questions about our creations," said Sharon Puser, president of the Pine'eer Craft Club. "We thought this may be a fun way to answer some of those questions and allow the community a chance to examine the work of a crafter a bit more carefully".

Sharon joined the craft club in 2009 and has been sewing and crafting for many years. Although she started as a part-time resident, Ocean Pines is Sharon's home. She first got the idea to make pillows when she saw a cute flip-

flop fabric. She came up with a design and started selling them in the shop. Requests for additional shapes soon followed. Come to the Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop to view more of Sharon's creations on display—and the variety of other locally handmade merchandise that is unique and ever-changing.

The Pine'eer Artisan Craft and Gift Shop is always seeking new crafters. If you are an artisan who would like to be featured in an upcoming Meet the Artisan day or sell your creations at the shop, contact Sharon or email [opcraftclub@aol.com](mailto:opcraftclub@aol.com) for more information. All new crafters must go through the juried process, and when items sell, 15% commission goes back to the community.

## Fishing Derby scheduled

Join Worcester County Recreation and Parks (WCRP) for a Fishing Derby at Newtown Park pond on Saturday, May 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants ages 15 and under are invited to grab their bait and fishing rods and join WCRP for a morning of fun at the pond.

This event is free to all participants. Families are asked to pre-register online at [www.playmarylandscoast.org](http://www.playmarylandscoast.org). After the event, winners will receive trophies and awards. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m.

A parent or guardian should be present to help their children with a fun day of fishing.

For more information, contact Trudy Gebhardt at 410-632-2144 x2514 or [tgebhardt@marylandscoast.org](mailto:tgebhardt@marylandscoast.org).



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## Pitch, hit and run event set

Boys and girls ages seven to 14 are invited to participate in Pitch, Hit, and Run with Worcester County Recreation and Parks. Players will participate in this one-day skills competition at the Northern Worcester Athletic Complex, Senior Field on Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Participants may stop in at any time for their skills assessment on pitching, hitting, and running. The assessment will take approximately five minutes per individual.

Event winners will be required to provide a birth certificate to verify age before moving on to sectionals, with hopes to move on to partake at a big league ball park. Pre-registration is recommended at [www.pitchhitrun.com](http://www.pitchhitrun.com).

For more information, contact Tyler Keiser at 410-632-2144 x2505 or [tkeiser@marylandscoast.org](mailto:tkeiser@marylandscoast.org). To view more upcoming free youth programs visit [www.playmarylandscoast.org](http://www.playmarylandscoast.org).

**commencement**  
from page 20

living as a cocktail waitress working overnight shifts at a casino. I was a recovering intimate partner violence survivor and battling immense health complications as a result.”

However, she said her experiences provided her with determination.

“When I returned to Wor-Wic for the second time I was in a much different phase of my life journey, but I knew that I wanted to finish my education. I took the first step to come back again to work on my general education degree,” Commissaris said. “After I returned, I heard about a major in chemical dependency counseling. As I was planning my next semester, another life challenge halted my journey once again when I lost my father to cancer in January of 2020. It was only after his death that I realized his battle with chemical dependency had been far more challenging for him than I ever imagined. His death drove it home

for me — I wanted to help people, so I came back to school once more. With that motivation, I enrolled in chemical dependency classes and today I will graduate with my associate degree. I made it through the struggles, and I can now proceed into my double bachelor’s program at Salisbury University.”

Commissaris said she plans to earn a master’s degree and provide counseling for survivors of intimate partner violence. She encouraged her fellow graduates to keep in mind their success at Wor-Wic when they face challenges later in life.

General studies was the most popular major among members of the graduating class, and is the degree Commissaris received; she will finish a second associate degree in chemical dependency counseling next year.

Nursing was the second most popular major, drawing students new to the workforce as well as career changers. Jim Reich of Salisbury was among the latter. Military experience and a decade as a correctional officer gave him the ability to work under pressure and communicate well. These skills, and his Wor-Wic education, have made Reich into the ideal

emergency department nurse.

Reich said he’s been supported along the way by Wor-Wic’s veterans services. “I will always speak highly of the excellent support and services,” he said. Reich was able to be a full-time correctional officer and full-time student — in addition to being a father of three and a devoted spouse. He plans to work in the TidalHealth Peninsula Regional emergency department after he receives his nursing license.

Reich says that having been a student at Wor-Wic more than once, as well as a career changer, he has advice: “Anybody who has ever thought of taking a chance, jump on it now. In the post-COVID world, it is the right time. Even though it can be scary changing careers, it’s worth taking a leap. And Wor-Wic is a great place to help you do that.”

Other graduates received degrees or certificates in business, chemical dependency counseling, computer studies, criminal justice, education, emergency medical services, hotel-motel-restaurant management, occupational therapy assistant, office technology, physical therapist assistant, radiologic technology and STEM.

**art matters**  
from page 3

Ocean City. Martin recently won an award in the current juried “Shadows” photography show hanging in The Sisson Galleria of the Ocean City Center for the Arts through May 28, and Koster also exhibits in the show. In addition, they have an online gallery taking orders at [www.silversunphotography.com](http://www.silversunphotography.com).

“We are definitely involved in the community,” Koster said. “We share almost daily online the ever-changing moods the seas and skies have to offer. We post in local groups like Ocean City Cool, so others can experience our shores too, even if they’re not here all the time.”

“The Eastern Shore is a unique place, and being surrounded by water and nature is pretty special,” she said. “We love to head out to the beach in storms, like nor’easters. The waves get so wild and unruly, it’s really quite remarkable to witness. We were lucky enough to photograph the blizzard this winter at the beach. The inlet and jetty were covered with at least a foot of snow. We woke up at sunrise and created a piece of art from the blizzard-covered coastline — pinks and purples and orange hues mixed with the sea and the snow. It was remarkable.”

The Eastern Shore isn’t the only locale to inspire the photographers. They travel to other scenic areas to capture and share special moments.

“We work at it every day, running an art business that’s based on our photography,” Koster said. “We just got back from Acadia National Park in Maine where we worked in a variety of weather, down at the beach line and at the top of mountains, shooting photos and videos from the plane as the sun was rising.”

Koster and Martin are involved community members and enter juried photography art shows that keep them dedicated to the craft and improving their skills.

“Expressing oneself through their chosen art medium is something truly wonderful to get to experience in this life,” Koster said. “Whether you’re a photographer, painter, woodworker, graphic designer, or you just like to draw, keeping art in the community and in schools allows us all to tap into that creative side of ourselves and create whatever our soul desires.”

**film**  
from page 18

poser at SIEDC, worked with O’Brien to create the score which guides the film, and he looked towards the natural and social landscape for inspiration.

**watershed**  
from page 6

with community members, surrounding business, and other watershed residents to improve the health of our waterways.

According to MCBP, “It is crucial for all residents to understand that what happens on the land directly impacts the health of the waters. Every action we take as individual homeowners may seem small, but when you combine everyone’s actions, there can be large impacts on a community level.

“At Bay Day, MCBP and the OPA want to bring residents together for a fun-filled day of educational activities and information on how we can all act as one towards positive change and improvements to the water and watershed.”

For more information, visit [www.mdcoastalbays.org](http://www.mdcoastalbays.org).

“*Stirring Tides* featured ocean waves sampled straight from Assateague,” Rothermel said. “*Ocean Commotion* just screams commercialism and a lighthearted attitude. I sampled a few sounds from the Town of Ocean City including the bumper car bell used at Trimper’s Rides. Taking inspiration from timeless surf rock classics, I tried to recreate that sunny, warm feeling.”

For William Strang, director of photography, who is also the creative director of the Ocean City Film Festival, *Hurricane 6* is a work that protects, preserves, and promotes Ocean City’s history, identity, and artwork.

“I do consider this film to have a heavy documentary influence,” he said. “We were fortunate to use primary source material and place images of the town’s past alongside images of the town’s present. Projects like *Hurricane 6* are perfect demonstrations of how easy it is to make a fairly impressive film in our town. Without the support from local businesses, the Art League of Ocean City, and our team of local talent, this film would not be possible.”



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