

The Courier

August 17, 2022
Volume 22 Number 47



Joe Weiner
Artist
SCIENTIST

Story on page 3

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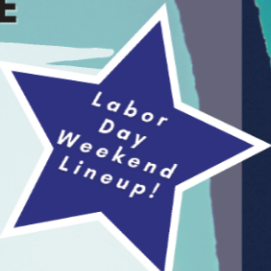
SAT, AUG 27 **JADED LOVE**

SUN, AUG 28 **SCORPION ROSE**

FRI, SEP 2 THE FUNSTERS

SAT, SEP 3 TRANZFUSION

SUN, SEP 4 GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY



FRI, SEP 9 **OVER TIME**

SAT, SEP 10 **ECLIPSE JOURNEY TRIBUTE**

FRI, SEP 16 **SONS OF PIRATES**

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art matters

'Playing' with art and science



By **Elaine Bean**

Albert Einstein famously proclaimed, "The greatest scientists are artists as well." And Joe Weiner of Ocean Pines embodies that statement. Aerospace engineer, physicist, filmmaker, actor, writer, teacher, volunteer, and gardener, Weiner — whose day job is at NASA Wallops Flight Facility — does them all. And has a lot of fun while he's at it.

"We're taught at a very young age that 'play' makes everything better," Weiner said. "Eventually, we lose that narrative in favor of hard work all the time. Art empowers the 'play' aspects of life for everyone of all ages. It's so easy for us to get lost in our jobs, chores, and responsibilities. But art is a way to heal from our stressful days."

Born in Brooklyn, New York, "an island off the coast of America," Weiner jokes, he studied anthropology and photography at Brooklyn College, received a bachelor's degree in physics from City College of New York, and earned a master's degree in aerospace engineering from Syracuse University.

He was inspired to study physics after finding a treasure on the sidewalk in Bedford-Stuyvesant, a backpack filled with books. "I didn't want to be selfish, so I took only two books, and one of them was *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* by Milan Kundera. It inspired me to find out what I needed to do in my life, so I went to community college for physics. That's

where I met my first mentor in the sciences, who's a more famous poet than a physicist."

Weiner originally moved to Chincoteague when he came to the Shore from New York City. "That was such a culture shock to me," Weiner said. "When I first moved to Chincoteague, I was very active in their arts community. They had a monthly story swap that I loved attending and telling stories. And then I got to act in their annual murder mystery play the community theater group puts together every year. These opportunities didn't exist for me in New York City."

"The Eastern Shore is so interesting in that it has more opportunity for learning and creativity than anywhere else," he continued. "Cities may have a lot of opportunity to view art, but they don't always have accessible opportunities to participate the way the Shore does. I've acted and directed for the first time in my life on the Shore. I've introduced my coworkers to the Art League of Ocean City, and a few have even started exhibiting their artwork in the gallery spaces. I'm so inspired by all the nature and incredible people out here."

Weiner recently bought a home in Ocean Pines and is settling in. "The easiest ways to meet your neighbors in the Pines is to 1) go for a walk and ask anyone hanging outside their house about the plants in the garden, and 2) start raking your lawn. Because you are guaranteed to get at least one neighbor to come out and offer you their leaf blower to help you out," Weiner shared.

While working full time monitoring launches at Wallops, Weiner is also dedicated to his art and quickly became involved in the local arts scene.

"I've been coming to the Art League of Ocean City for two years now. And what I've found is an extremely accessible art community here. Every artist has been so approachable and inviting to talk to you about their process and their tools. Coming from New York City, this was such an alien idea to me. Extremely talented and established artists just giving you all of their trade secrets over a free cup of wine? Never. But that's the reality here," Weiner said.

Weiner's short film, *Besties*, won

first place last year in the Ocean City Film Challenge and debuted at the ArtX event at Northside Park in August 2021. The film was included in the 2022 Ocean City Film Festival and screened at the Fox Gold Coast Theater. For his first film, Weiner talked his friends over at NASA into being his actors.

"Neither of them had ever acted before and I had never directed before," Weiner said. "We barely had a script when we sat down and filmed everything together. The theme of that movie was just the desire to be creative. Because that was true for me. I was blown away when we took first place."

Weiner has a new entry into the 2022 Ocean City Film Challenge, an annual contest for filmmakers to create an original short film about Ocean City no longer than ten minutes and made entirely in July 2022. "This year's theme is commitment and family planning. I play all of the roles. And it follows this guy as he watches TV and thinks about his future with his girlfriend and what it means to be a husband and maybe even a father someday. You can see how this idea turns out at ArtX this year, August 20-21, and you can also see last year's award-winning film being screened there, too."

The artist/scientist blends his time living artistically at the ocean with the adventure of looking into the endless

ocean of outer space.

"An amazing aspect about space is that there is no better visual interpretation of infinity than space, this endless ocean without borders that

The easiest ways to meet your neighbors in the Pines is to 1) go for a walk and ask anyone hanging outside their house about the plants in the garden, and 2) start raking your lawn. Because you are guaranteed to get at least one neighbor to come out and offer you their leaf blower to help you out.

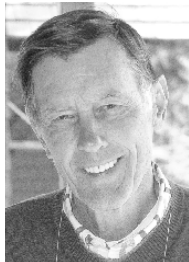
humans have only been able to physically touch for a blip of our species' existence," Weiner stated. "It all started with Leonardo da Vinci, an artist. His designs of the flying machine were Western philosophy's first attempts at understanding the physics of flight. And this comes back to the idea of 'play,' because you need creativity and imagination to figure out how to ask the questions that have never been asked before. It's the scientists (and artists) who always have more questions that remain the Peter Pans of the world: forever young at heart and always playing. Taking one slice out of infinity."



Commentary

Jacobs, Lakernick, Rakowski win seats on OPA Board

Commentary by **Joe Reynolds**
OceanPinesForum.com



The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors election for 2022 is complete. Steve Jacobs, Stuart Lakernick, and Monica Rakowski are elected to fill the three open seats.

Voting totals were as follows:

- Paula Gray: 1027
- Amy Peck: 1451
- Stuart Lakernick: 1802 (#2 Winner)
- Monica Rakowski: 1603 (#3 Winner)
- Josette Wheatley: 1303
- Steve Jacobs: 1867 (#1 Winner)

Some stats — actually not good stats.

7725 ballots were mailed to eligible association members.

700 or so members were not eligible to vote

Only 2809 association members voted. About 36% of mailed ballots.

Of the 2809 voters, only 804 ballots were cast via internet voting.

This was again a very poor re-

sponse for a Board of Directors election. Internet voting was supposed to increase turnout. I like paper.

Election Committee chair Carol Ludwig refused to announce the election results at the conclusion of the counting process in the clubhouse, in violation of OPA board resolution M-06.

M-06 states:

“Two original copies of the final vote count shall be prepared and certified (signed and dated) by the Chairperson. The final vote count will be attested to by the Elections Committee members present. Upon attestation of the final vote count, the results will be announced, emailed to the Board of Directors, emailed to all candidates, and posted on the Ocean Pines Association website.”

As has been fairly common in past elections, the *OceanPinesForum.com* poll reflected the results of the actual election. This time even down to the order of the winners.

Poll Results:

- Paula Gray - 10% (96)
- Amy Peck - 11% (111)
- Stuart Lakernick - 23% (228)
- Monica Rakowski - 22% (221)
- Josette Wheatley - 7% (68)
- Steve Jacobs - 27% (264)

Good luck to the newly elected board members. Many thanks to members of the Election Committee for their hard work.

Email scam targeting Ocean Pines community

Several people in Ocean Pines have recently reported receiving scam emails.

In many of the emails, the sender asks the recipient for help buying gift cards to donate to a local charity. Some of the emails appear to come from Ocean Pines staff or Board members.

Police Chief Leo Ehrisman said it's important to stay vigilant. Look at the sender's email address. If the address is unfamiliar, call the person to verify they sent the email.

If the email is fraudulent, report it to local authorities.

“Anyone on the internet can create a fake email and claim to be somebody else,” Ehrisman said. “Never send money or gift cards without first speaking to an actual person and verifying their identity. And if something

seems strange, report it.”

For the last two years, Worcester County's Vulnerable Adult Task Force has promoted a “No-Scam November” initiative based on continued efforts to educate and raise awareness about common fraud schemes.

The campaign has targeted similar scams.

According to a release, “In Worcester County, the most common types of fraud currently experienced are gift card scams. Scammers have been targeting victims either by phone or by email, often claiming that there is an emergency situation the victim must buy gift cards to resolve. The scammer typically then requests the code on the back of the gift card so they can use it

please see scam on page 6

Courier Almanac

On August 17, 1969, one of the all-time grooviest events in music history—the Woodstock Music & Art Fair—drew to a close after three days of peace, love and rock ‘n’ roll in upstate New York.

Conceived as “Three Days of Peace and Music,” Woodstock was a product of a partnership between John Roberts, Joel Rosenman, Artie Kornfield and Michael Lang. Their idea was to make enough money from the event to build a recording studio near the arty New York town of Woodstock. When they couldn't find an appropriate venue in the town itself, the promoters decided to hold the festival on a 600-acre dairy farm in Bethel, New York—some 50 miles from Woodstock—owned by Max Yasgur.



According to the American Cancer Society, the average age a man is diagnosed with prostate cancer is about 66. In fact, six out of every 10 prostate cancer diagnoses are in men who are 65 and older. Though prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among American men, most men diagnosed with the disease do not die from it. Screening could play a role in that, and the ACS recommends that men thinking about getting tested for prostate cancer learn as much as they can about screening so they can make the most informed decisions possible. Speaking with a personal physician about screening is recommended, as the effects of screening continue to be studied by researchers.

The Courier

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It's All About. . .

No, no, not again

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

Not for the gold of Midas would I relive the teenage years. Awkward experiences. Growth spurts. Uncontrollable moodiness. Raging hormones. Scattered thoughts. Romantic awakenings. Puberty. It's a wonder the human species endures. Entering teen-hood is akin to learning to drive by speeding down a desolate road on a moonless night without a roadmap, headlights or compass. Life is both fa-

telethon. No wonder the girls stayed away from me.

As if puberty didn't come with enough challenges, there was an ultimate scourge for teenagers with crooked and uneven teeth — the orthodontist. That's right. Braces.

It happened to other kids in eighth grade before it happened to me. My friend Marc got them. So did Karen and Marianne. Frank (not Other Frank) too. Then it was my turn to take a trip to Feasterville to visit Dr. Seiders' office. The first visit wasn't bad, just



The author's eighth grade picture - braces, nose, unibrow and acne. A complete package.

He's also wearing a vest handmade by his grandmother.

miliar and unfamiliar. Why is it the blonde hair girl sitting at the next desk in Sr. Mary Elizabeth's math class looks the same yet I feel differently when I look at her? She's sat in the desk next to mine since first grade so why do I keep looking at her? Is she looking back at me? Is she?

It was a time when polyester suits and platform shoes moved to the rhythm of disco; when Farrah was *the* pin-up girl; and, Starsky and Hutch were cool. That's when I stumbled pocket-protector first into my teenage years as a nerd in appearance, esteem and outlook. I had a honking nose that hadn't yet complemented my face, a bushy unibrow, zits and acne and an overbite. I was worthy of a Jerry Lewis

some conversation. Things got more real during the second visit when molds were taken by biting down on plates filled with goop which had to stay in place until the goop set. Yuck!

During the next visit hardware installation commenced. This was an era before invisible braces. These were the days before behind-the-teeth or colored braces. These were still early times when each tooth was fitted with a sleeve that encircled each tooth. Wires were installed which, during the course of treatment, were tightened to close the gaps. Looking back, my opinion at that time is unchanged. The process was barbaric.

Getting used to what felt like 20 pounds of sharp and abrasive mouth gear took time. I was given wax to apply at the back of my mouth so the wire ends would not lacerate my inner

cheek. The wax offered little protection. Brushing my teeth became more of a chore because each brace-covered tooth had to be brushed carefully to ensure food particles did not embed in the hardware.

The barbaric treatment intensified with the dreaded night head gear, a Medieval looking apparatus with stainless steel prongs that slid into sleeves attached to the top molars on either side of my mouth. A rubber band stretched across my front teeth which was expected to apply more pressure to close the gaps. All this was held in place by a wide, adjustable elastic band that enveloped my head. I could only sleep on my back, learning soon enough that rolling on my side would release the head gear, ejecting the prongs into my jowls.

Each morning, with considerable difficulty, I stretched tiny rubber bands from a back molar brace fitting to an eye tooth fitting. I carried a bag of these bands with me so a broken one could be replaced during the day. These bands were also suitable for makeshift slingshots fashioned with two pencils that could hurl paper footballs a respectable distance during third period Algebra.

Like so many kids before and since, I endured this treatment for several years, not able to eat corn on the cob or an apple from its core. Not once did I lock braces with a girl.

Liberty came on a bright afternoon in spring when the hardware was permanently removed. The gaps and overbite were gone. Bring on the corn! Bring on the apples! Bring on the girls! Bring on the retainer! Wait. What? Retainer? So, I wasn't really, completely, totally, one hundred percent free. I had to wear a retainer for a couple more years to ensure my teeth stayed in place. The fear of God and worse — the fear of Mom — was put into me not to lose the retainer.

Time blurs unpleasant memories, but I do have tattered recollections of a missing retainer or two or three. I also remember biting into my first ear of corn. And it was sweet. So, I had another.

The braces may have been gone but more time was needed for the acne to fade, for my face to catch up with my nose and for the unibrow to be plucked. As for the girls, well that took a little more time still.

No, I wouldn't want to relive my teenage years.

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Perrone resignation fallout

Commentary by **Joe Reynolds**
OceanPinesForum.com

As most association members should know by now, OPA corporate Treasurer Larry Perrone resigned from that corporate office.

Perrone resigned, per his public statement, after what he perceived as improper interference from OPA President Colette Horn in his attempt to answer a financial question from an association member. I was the association member who asked Perrone some questions related to OPA finances. Surely, any association member should feel comfortable ask-

ing the corporate Treasurer financial questions.

Leaving aside any dispute between Perrone and Horn, some association members have made accusations about me and about Perrone that are, as is all too typical in Ocean Pines, made with no knowledge of what actually transpired. For example, an association member wrote, "I am very disappointed in your response to Larry Perrone's resignation from the office of Treasurer. You accepted at face value that Mr. Perrone was not given the information he requested. I found it interesting that he as Treasurer did

eventually be sent by the scammer."

To combat these card scams, law enforcement is conducting community outreach efforts and providing local businesses with free signage, provided by the Office of the State's Attorney, that can be attached to any gift-card display case.

Anyone who receives a suspicious email is asked to report the matter to Ocean Pines Police at 410-641-7747 or lehrisman@oceanpines.org.

not already know the answer to your question. If you had not accepted the reason for Mr. Perrone's resignation but investigated further, you would have found that Mr. Perrone is provided that information on a monthly basis."

She then adds, "Since Mr. Perrone was not living up to his fiduciary responsibilities it is appropriate that he resigned. I am however very disappointed in what appears to be a spreading of misinformation. It is my opinion that you owe the Board, staff, and homeowners a retraction of your misguided comments regarding Mr. Perrone's resignation. He also owes an apology and admission that he had the information all along. Please don't sow seeds of discontent. It is unbecoming of you."

Absolutely amazing comments from someone who has no idea what information I sought to obtain from Perrone.

Allow me to try and add some light in an attempt to limit the outrage level, and return to a discussion of the actual relevant issue.

On October 1, 2022, a change in the Maryland HOA Act, passed by the Maryland legislature, will take effect.

You can look it up online. However, the website for OPA's attorneys states:

"Each community association will also be required to budget for reserves in accordance with the annual reserve funding amounts recommended in their current reserve study. The board of directors has the power to increase assessments to cover the reserve study funding recommendations regardless of any provision of the governing documents restricting or capping assessment increases in a fiscal year."

The fundamental question is whether or not current OPA reserve funding levels will comply with the new law. The answer cannot be found in OPA's monthly financial reports, as has been incorrectly represented, or in the bylaws or other governing documents.

A November 18, 2021 *Dispatch* article by Bethany Hooper provides some perspective. The article covers a meeting of the OPA Budget & Finance Committee with Doug Greene of Design Management Associates (DMA). DMA has been doing OPA's reserve studies since 2015.

please see commentary on page 13

scam

from page 4

online. The scammer may claim to be the IRS, or claim that a family member of the victim has been arrested and needs bail money. In another common scam, the victim is told that they have won a contest or prize money, but in order to collect their winnings, they must buy gift cards totaling a small portion of the total prize they will

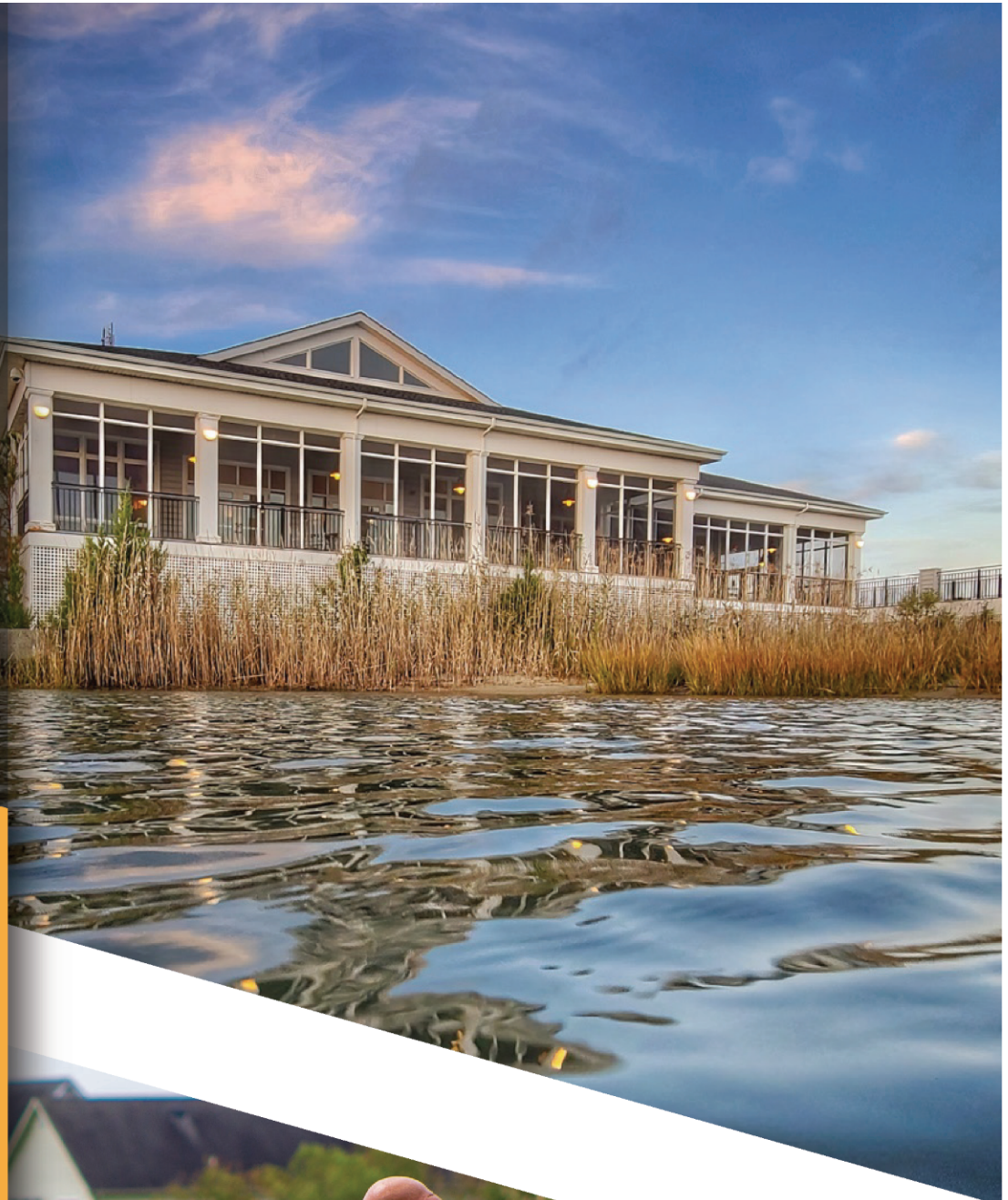


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Wor-Wic earns military spouse friendly designation

For the fifth year in a row, Wor-Wic Community College was named a Military Spouse Friendly School by VIQTORY, a veteran-owned company whose mission is to assist military personnel transitioning to a civilian life. Earlier this year, Wor-Wic also received gold-level recognition as an overall Military Friendly School.

“Wor-Wic understands and appreciates the unique role which military spouses contribute when serving our nation. Military spouses face many of the same challenges as their active-duty service member. So it’s important to provide the family members with the same level of academic support

services while they attend Wor-Wic,” said Fred Howard, director of veterans services at Wor-Wic.

An average of 300 students from veterans, active-duty members, National Guard, reservists and their eligible family members – including spouses – are enrolled at Wor-Wic every year. The college has been named a Military Friendly School for the past 11 years.

Institutions earning the 2022-2023 Military Spouse Friendly School designation were evaluated using public data sources and responses from a

please see military on page 14



Kiwanian of the Month

Recognition well deserved for longtime member, **Pat Winkelmayer**, pictured with Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President **Tim Lund**, as she received her Appreciation Award for Kiwanian of the Month of July 2022.

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Home tour sponsors sought

For the past 17 years, the Sand Castle Home Tour has helped sustain the nonprofit Art League of Ocean City and helped build and keep free the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St. The Art League and Arts Center have contributed significantly to the culture of the resort. To continue the 18th annual tour in 2022, the Art League is seeking private and corporate sponsors from the community.

The tour takes place September 29 and 30 this year and will feature ten of the greater Ocean City area’s most captivating residences. Five or more of the homes will offer in-person tours, with all of the homes available virtually throughout October. Tour goers will enjoy the opportunity to hear the vision and inspiration behind the homes directly from the homeowners, builders, architects, and designers.

“Our sponsors allow us to keep the tour going and be successful, year after year,” Rina Thaler, executive director of the Art League, said. “We thank our past sponsors and encourage new ones to support the tour and the arts in Ocean City.”

Sponsorship levels are available beginning at \$250 and can offer benefits such as ads in the printed tour guidebook, custom-produced videos, complimentary tour tickets, permanent recognition on the Wall of Honor at the Arts Center, and much more.

please see sponsors on page 14



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Captain Ron's Fish Tales

By Ron Fisher



It's that time of year to think fall flounder fishing

Fall is rapidly approaching and flounder will begin to seek the deeper water before starting their migration. Hopefully this column will help you catch some nice keepers.

Fishing report: Flounder fishing has been hit or miss because of cloudy water particularly on the outgoing tide. When you can find clear water, some nice fish are being caught in the Thorofare and the East and West channels on live bunker, spot and Gulp. Bluefish are hot in the inlet and king fish, spot and croaker in the surf on bloodworms. There was also a nice cobia caught in the surf. Off-shore, on the party boats, they have been having some great fishing for sea bass, flounder, tilefish and mahi. I also want to mention the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce ran an excellent flounder tournament again this year with over 260 registered for the tournament. I didn't win but will fish again next year as it's a fun tournament!

Water clarity: If at all possible, find clean water as flounder are ambush fish and need to see the bait. Move around and you can usually find some clear water depending on the tide and weather conditions.

Location: In the fall I prefer the deeper water of the East Channel, West Channel, Thorofare and finally the inlet. However, I don't overlook the shallows if the weather has been warm and will at least try Harbor Island, Bird Island or behind the airport...

Bait: From mid-August on I prefer live spot in the 3"-4" size, live finger mullet, but also don't overlook frozen shiners if you don't want the hassle of caring for live bait and Berkley Gulp 4" Swimming Mullet in white, pink and chartreuse. I usually catch spot with hook and line and use a cast net for finger mullet. To catch spot on hook and line I prefer using an ultra light spinning rod with 4lb. test line to which I attach a Sabiki rig Model # MSB-3G-8 IRIDESCENT/GREEN GLO size #8. I prefer the three-hook model as you have fewer tangles. To each hook I attach either a piece of cut night crawler, bloodworm, or bloodworm fishbite and a

small split shot just enough to get you to the bottom and wait for the bite. Jig it occasionally and you should be able to pick up 10 spot in less than an hour but again this depends on water clarity and if we have had recent heavy rain that could change the salinity of the water in the canals and impact the bite. If you live in the Pines a good location for spot and finger mullet are Pintail Park along the bulkhead. Both are easy to keep alive. Spot or mullet I'll catch the night before and keep them alive in a bait bucket secured to the dock, live bait well on a boat or a Styrofoam bucket with a bubbler overnight. Other good bait is strip bait. If you happen to catch one a fillet strip cut off a sea robin or lizard fish is prime food for flounder.

Presentation: When fishing live bait, I prefer to use a long leader of 30lb. test mono material approximately 48 inches in length. This is a double rig that I make with a straight shank #2 hook on top, sinker clip down 22 inches and a kale #1 hook at the bottom. You can also use a circle hook which I have had good luck with. I will hook the live spot or mullet on the bottom hook through the upper lip and out the hard cartilage in the nasal area. They live longer and I feel are more effective hooked in this fashion. On the top hook a Gulp dressed with a strip of squid with a split tail which gives the squid strip more action. For weight use either a two or three oz sinker depending on how fast the tide is moving.

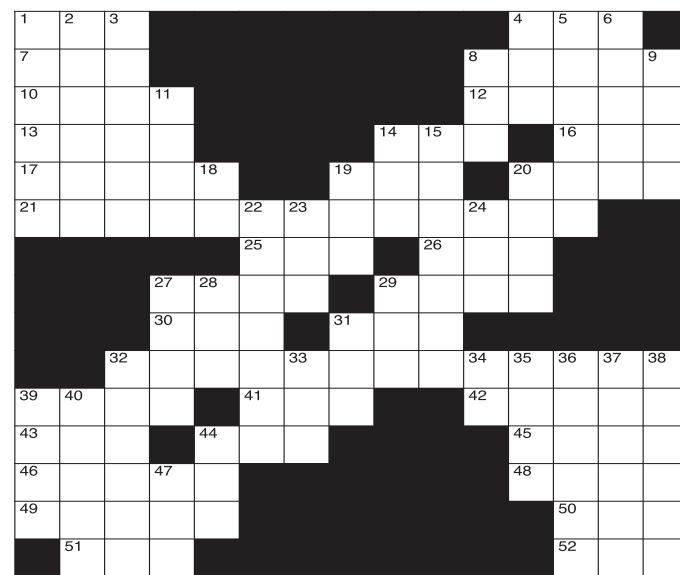
The pink Gulp is usually best in the spring when the grass shrimp are very active, white anytime and the chartreuse is usually best in the fall or when there is slightly cloudy water.

Now let's go fall flounder fishing and good luck.

Question of the week: What are anadromous fish?

Answer: They are fish who live in saltwater but go to freshwater to spawn. Maryland fish that are anadromous are striped bass, shad and herring.

Remember to take a kid fishing,
Capt. Ron

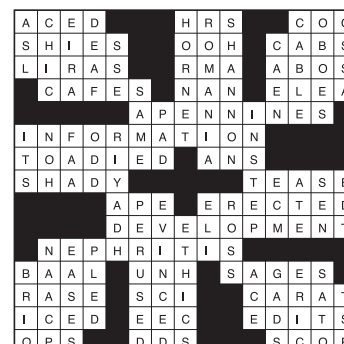


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Taxi
- 4. Cattle disease (abbr.)
- 7. Before the present
- 8. They burn in a grill
- 10. Enough (archaic)
- 12. "A Doll's House" playwright
- 13. Long loop of cloth worn around the waist
- 14. Napoleonic Wars battle
- 16. Chinese surname
- 17. Fragrant essential oil
- 19. Follows sigma
- 20. Model
- 21. A place with many dining options
- 25. BBQ dish
- 26. Corn comes on it
- 27. A sheep in its second year
- 29. Triad
- 30. They ___
- 31. Actor DiCaprio
- 32. TV's "Edith Bunker"
- 39. Sustenance
- 41. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 42. Cause a loud, harsh sound
- 43. A way to take in liquids
- 44. Gene type
- 45. The Miami mascot is one
- 46. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- 48. Casino machine
- 49. Contains cerium
- 50. Something with a letter-like shape
- 51. Handwoven Scandinavian rug
- 52. Legendary actress Ruby

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Conqueror
- 2. Kin relation
- 3. Increases the value of
- 4. Pack
- 5. Popular nut
- 6. Dogs' enemies
- 8. Former OSS
- 9. Unpleasant person
- 11. Come again?
- 14. Beverage container
- 15. Rock formation
- 18. Dorm official
- 19. The bill in a restaurant
- 20. Type of jug
- 22. Importance requiring swift action
- 23. Outfit
- 24. Small Eurasian deer
- 27. Weight used in China
- 28. A major division of geological time
- 29. Popular beverage
- 31. Confined condition (abbr.)
- 32. Practical joking
- 33. Pouchlike structure
- 34. Pound
- 35. Lilly and Manning are two
- 36. Stopped discussing
- 37. Baltimore ballplayer
- 38. Candymaker
- 39. One thousandth of a second (abbr.)
- 40. Northern sea duck
- 44. Partner to cheese
- 47. Cannot be found



Answers for August 10

Garden club to donate books

Members of the Worcester County Garden Club will present a copy of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. book, *Network with Nature*, to each branch of the Worcester County Library and will read the book to local children during Story Time at the Berlin, Ocean City, and Ocean Pines branches on Tuesday, August 23, at 10:30 a.m. and at the Pocomoke and Snow Hill branches on Thursday, August 25, at 10:30 a.m. In keeping with the "Plant America – Play Outdoors" national theme, the book tells the story of a child whose eyes are opened to the wonders of the great outdoors when electronic devices are put aside while

visiting grandparents. Written by Brenda Moore and beautifully illustrated by Emily Lackey Anderson, the book's suggested age level is Kindergarten through Grade five. The books are being presented in honor of honorary lifetime member Sue Hommel for her many years of dedicated service to the Worcester County Garden Club.

In addition to reading the book, club members will engage the children in a butterfly art activity. Butterflies are great contributors to our gardens and environment, providing pollination at a time when bees and insects are in a major decline.

NOTICE

Church Summer Yard Sale Postponed

The Church of the Holy Spirit in Ocean City, due to circumstances beyond their control, is postponing their annual yard sale, originally scheduled for Aug. 20. No future date has yet been scheduled, but will be announced as soon as one has been determined.



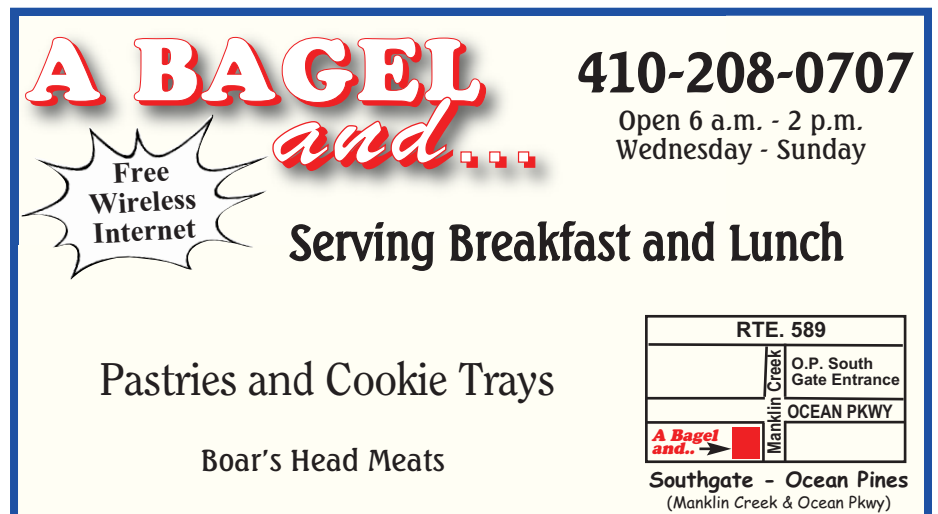
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Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

Last Will and Testament

His nurse, his wife, his daughter and two sons, are with him. He asks for two witnesses to be present and a camcorder be in place to record his last wishes. When all is ready, he begins to speak.

“My son, Sam, I want you to take the Ocean Reef houses.”

“My daughter Sybil, you take the apartments between mile markers 100 and Tavernier.”

“My son, Jamie, I want you to take the offices over in the Marathon Government Center.

“Sarah, my dear wife, please take all the residential buildings on the bay side on Blackwater Sound.

The nurse and witnesses are blown away as they did not realize his extensive holdings, and as Doug slips away, the nurse says:

“Mrs. Boone, your husband must have been such a hard-working man to have accumulated all this property.

The wife replies, “He has a paper route.”



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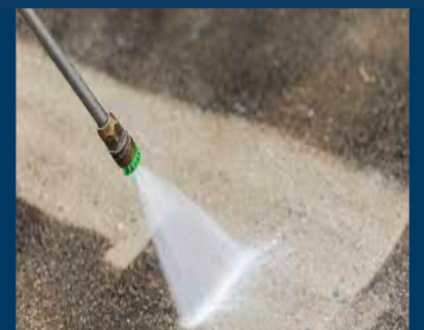
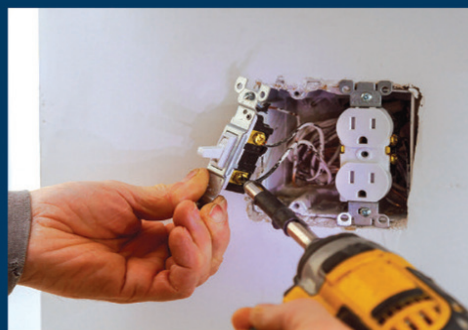
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commentary
from page 6

During the meeting, as covered by Hooper, Green recommended increasing reserve contributions by 3.8% a year - the then inflation rate.

In 2021 Greene said replacing each of the association's components would cost \$20 million. At that time he said OPA held \$3.9 million in its reserve accounts.

From the Hooper article — "You have just under a \$4 million reserve account, so the deficit is \$17 million," he said. "That sounds pretty extreme, but when you do a cash flow study it doesn't mean you have to come up with all kinds of money ... We don't ever recommend that you be 100% funded. You'd actually be putting too much money in that account, letting it sit there. This makes more efficient use of your money."

Finance Director Steve Phillips added OPA was then looking to have a reserve fund of 22% to 28%. Say 25%.

The most recent audited financial report contains some required supplementary information on the cost of future repairs and replacements, based on the DMA reserve study. The audited re-

port contains a disclaimer on the numbers provided: "We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance."

The audited financial report says the "Estimated Future Replacement Cost for all of OPA's "components" is \$93 million.

Of that about \$23 million is for bulkhead replacement on private lots. Deduct that from OPA's responsibility and the future replacement costs drop to about \$70 million.

This number includes the cost of replacing the commonly owned bulkheads, \$16.5 million for "other improvements," \$16 million for roads, \$14.5 million for buildings and pools, \$4.5 million for "mobile outdoor equipment," and \$3 million for furniture and technology.

Let's get back to the "questions." Does or will OPA comply with the new Maryland law regarding required reserves?

Quite possibly it does. However, under the new law, it will not be up to OPA to decide if 22% to 28% of the fully funded reserve amount meets the re-

quirements. The reserve amount under the new law must be the amount recommended by the qualified reserve study expert - DMA.

Assuming the fully funded reserve amount is \$20 million, as stated by Greene of DMA, even a 5% increase to 30% in the reserve funding could amount to possibly an additional \$1 million assessment increase.

However, another question is how \$20 million is set as the "fully funded reserve amount" when the audited financial report might lead one to believe the fully funded amount is closer to \$70 million.

I do not know the answers to these questions, and admittedly no reserve expert. That is why I asked the obvious person who should be able to provide or investigate and come up with answers — OPA's corporate Treasurer.

At least one OPA Board of Directors candidate raised a red flag about this new law and any financial impact on OPA. Perhaps all is well. Perhaps there are no concerns.

What is troubling is the over-the-top reaction from some individuals because an association member merely asked appropriate, important questions of OPA's Treasurer regarding any impact

of the new law on OPA finances. Not to mention Horn telling Perrone he should not be answering questions of association members. Some individuals think board members should not even ask questions directly of staff. Former OPA Director Marty Clarke wrote, "The board not only has the right to ask questions they have the duty."

If the OPA Treasurer cannot ask staff for some financial information or respond to member questions about financial issues then we have truly entered the Twilight Zone. Horn apparently would prefer a "Berlin Wall" between board members and association members.

I called DMA, attempting to speak with Doug Greene. He was not in the office. A person answering the phone gave me the third degree about why I wanted to speak with him. I left it at, "If he wants to return my call, fine. If not, no problem."

The questions remain unanswered. And FINALLY — none of this has a thing to do with the excellent overall management of OPA by the board and the General Manager.... regardless of those attempting to suggest otherwise for purely political purposes. The questions are not political questions.

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High /Low	Tide Time
Th 18	High	1:10 AM
18	Low	7:14 AM
18	High	1:45 PM
18	Low	8:04 PM
F 19	High	2:01 AM
19	Low	8:03 AM
19	High	2:42 PM
19	Low	9:05 PM
Sa 20	High	2:59 AM
20	Low	8:54 AM
20	High	3:43 PM
20	Low	10:08 PM
Su 21	High	4:00 AM
21	Low	9:47 AM
21	High	4:43 PM
21	Low	11:10 PM
M 22	High	4:58 AM
22	Low	10:42 AM
22	High	5:37 PM
Tu 23	Low	12:03 AM
23	High	5:50 AM
23	Low	11:36 AM
23	High	6:25 PM
W 24	Low	12:47 AM
24	High	6:36 AM
24	Low	12:25 PM
24	High	7:08 PM



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Area waterline flushing schedule announced

This October the Water and Wastewater Division of Public Works will conduct its semi-annual program for flushing waterlines in the Assateague Pointe, Edgewater/Nantucket Point, Deer Point, Landings, Mystic Harbour, Newark, Ocean Reef, and West Ocean City Service Areas between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The following proposed dates for the flushing of the waterlines are subject to change.

-Week of October 3 - Assateague Pointe, Deer Point, Mystic Harbour, Ocean Reef, West Ocean City

-October 18 through 20 - Newark

-October 18 - Edgewater Acres / Nantucket Pointe

Routine flushing of the water system helps to reduce the frequency of discolored water. Public Works crews open and close the hydrants, flushing out the built-up iron deposits. Sometimes, this can lead to temporary increases in suspended iron, which should settle out within a few hours of the flushing.

Please be aware that, even on dates

the water lines in your section are not being flushed, it is still possible to experience discolored water. If area residents notice that their water becomes cloudy during these times, please allow the water to run for a few minutes until it becomes clear. For more information, please call the Water and Wastewater Division at (410) 641-5251.

sponsors
from page 8

“We have a sponsorship level to meet your needs and budget,” Ginny Outten, Art League board member and co-chair of the 2022 Home Tour Committee, said. “If you have any kind of business involved with home building, remodeling or designing, this is an ideal way to get your message out to a very targeted audience.”

More information is available at www.SandCastleHomeTour.com/2022-sponsorship-levels/ or by contacting Nancy Dofflemyer at nancyd@artleague-ooceanacity.org or by calling 410-524-9433.



Ward Museum visits Kiwanis

On August 10, the Ward Museum’s Executive Director Dr. Kristin Sullivan was the guest speaker at the weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City. Pictured (L-R) are Dr. Kristin Sullivan and Kiwanis Club President Tim Lund after her presentation.

military
from page 8

proprietary survey. Methodology, criteria and weightings were determined by VIQTORY, the publisher of Military Spouse magazine, with input from the Military Friendly Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community.

Final ratings were determined by combining the institution’s survey scores with the assessment of the institution’s ability to meet thresholds

for retention, graduation, job placement, loan repayment, persistence and loan default rates for all students and specifically for student veterans.

“Schools that achieve this designation show true commitment and dedication in their efforts. Our standards assist schools by providing a benchmark that promotes positive educational outcomes, resources and support services,” said Kayla Lopez, national director of military partnerships for the Military Friendly organization.

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