

The Courier

October 5, 2022 Volume 23 Number 5



Clean-up - On Saturday, September 24, Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) students and volunteers helped clean areas of Assateague Island National Seashore.

Reed and Vivi Grinestaff are ready to take on the sun with classmate Isabella Rice during the beach clean.



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GM reports on bridge, drainage, Racquet Sports, Marina and more

General Manager John Viola discussed the North Gate Bridge, drainage, Racquet Sports, the Marina, and more during his monthly report to the Board of Directors at their recent meeting on September 24.

Viola said he's received "a lot of positive feedback" on recent improvements to the North Gate Bridge. Those include new lights, the removal of old lights and light poles, aesthetic repairs, and power washing.

He said the total cost for the improvements was \$46,390.65.

"We are looking at other things as far as how we can spruce up that bridge," Viola said. "I'm working with the Garden Club, as well as some work groups [and] individuals who have some ideas."

Viola asked homeowners to send additional ideas and feedback through the info@oceanpines.org email.

The Board approved new paving work and previously approved road striping in July. Both are expected to start soon, Viola said.

Paving will include three total miles of road on Barnacle Court,

Beach Court, Birdnest Drive, Fosse Grange, Garrett Drive, Ivanhoe Court, Liberty Bell Court, Little John Court, Moonshell Drive, Rabbit Run Lane, Surfers Way, Watergreen Lane and Willow Way.

The Association started using a new process to repair drainage pipes last year, and Viola said he's now doubling those efforts, with more than \$400,000 in improvements in progress.

New cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liners being used are said to give pipes a 100-year life expectancy. The installation involves running a resin lining into a pre-existing pipe that, once the resin cures, will form a tight-fitting, jointless and corrosion-resistant lining to the pipe.

"This is a proven process. We did it last year [and] we were very successful, so we doubled it this year," Viola said.

He added the price of the CIPP liners was far less expensive than previous estimates using other materials, "And we didn't have to dig up the roads."

Work started in August on Juneway Lane, Seagrave Lane, Cannon Drive, Southwind Court, Drawbridge Road and Ocean Parkway. Phase two of the work will include Mumfords Landing Road, Fairway Lane, Whisper Court, Newport Drive and Beaumont Court.

"We have done thirty-something major pipes under major roads over the last two years. It's a big win," Viola said.

Viola said pool closures because of staff shortages were communicated throughout the summer season using posted signs, phone messages, weekly e-blasts, and the Association website and social media.

Along with the communication efforts, "We made every effort possible to hire lifeguards," Viola said, adding that included offering higher pay.

He said staff would evaluate the situation further during the next budget process, which should start this week.

"I certainly want to fully staff these pools, but please keep in mind [that] everybody around the country is going through this," Viola said.

Viola said the Racquet Sports amenity is seeing the same kind of attention the Golf Club saw several years ago, when efforts were made to address deferred maintenance and move the operation in a positive direction.

He said recent Racquet Sports improvements have included the construction of new pickleball courts and renovations of existing courts. The entire complex was power washed, and crack repairs started on September 20 and are expected to be finished in about two weeks.

"We want to get the infrastructure right, we want to get the maintenance right, [and] we want to make this a good experience for everybody. That's all on track," Viola said.

Viola said the Marina was able to meet the demand for fuel all summer, despite the shutdown of some gas lines early in the season.

"I don't believe we lost any customers [and] we had a very good year," he said.

The Board approved the installa-

please see report on page 14

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<p>AUTUMN</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">HOME</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">&</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Condo</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Show</p>	 <p style="margin: 0;">Friday & Saturday 10:30-5 Sunday 10:30-3:30</p> <p style="font-size: 3em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">ART & CRAFT FAIR</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">OC</p> <p style="font-size: 4em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">PET EXPO</p> 
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Commentary

By Joe Reynolds
OceanPinesForum.com

Vote recount an embarrassment

The Ocean Pines Election Committee cannot possibly explain the absolutely embarrassing situation created by a recount of the votes cast in the recent Board of Directors election. The manual, hand-recount of the paper ballots on Friday 9/30/2022 shows the originally reported election results were incorrect by as many as 300 or more votes for an individual candidate. The difference between the third and fourth place candidates now sits at only 15 votes, down from an originally reported 150 or so votes difference.

The Election Committee has yet to address the fundamental problem of ballots containing votes representing more than one lot. One candidate says the committee chair is trying to explain that situation away by saying owners of multiple lots could have requested a single ballot for each lot after receiving the original ballots in the mail. Not all did so. We do not know how many multiple-lot ballots were counted nor how those owners voted. Those multiple-lot owners are disenfranchised, for all but one of their lots.

Their votes, properly counted could have changed the outcome of the election.

The Election Committee still can not tell us how many LOTS voted in this election. The Election Committee still cannot tell association members how many of the paper ballots represented multiple lots.

The paper ballots can only be counted as single lots because there is no way to determine if a ballot, once removed from the return envelope, represents one or more lots.

In short, association members will NEVER know the true/accurate results of the election. Had the vote

count difference between third and fourth place been separated by substantially more than 15 votes, perhaps a reasonable person could accept the three announced winners. However, with a difference of 15 votes and no way to know how the owners of multiple lots voted, it is surely reasonable to think the third and fourth place results might switch if the votes could be counted accurately.

As one association member wrote of the recount results: "Jacobs goes up 1.5% while Wheatley drops by 24%? Holy crap."

This is truly an embarrassment for the Ocean Pines Association.

Recount Results Announced Today [Sept. 30, 2022]

Candidate - New Count - (Old Count)

Jacobs - 1894 - (1867)
Lakernick - 1682 - (1802)
Rakowski - 1363 - (1603)
Peck - 1348 - (1451)
Wheatley - 990 - (1303)
Gray - 836 - (1027)

As yet there is no official OPA news release to explain the crazy recount results.



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Courier Almanac

On October 5, 1919, a young Italian car mechanic and engineer named Enzo Ferrari took part in his first car race, a hill climb in Parma, Italy. He finished fourth. Ferrari was a good driver, but not a great one: In all, he won just 13 of the 47 races he entered. Many people say that this is because he cared too much for the sports cars he drove: He could never bring himself to ruin an engine in order to win a race.



The percentage of students with disabilities who had a specific learning disability declined by a significant margin between the 2010-11 school year and the 2020-21 school year. Data from the National Center for Education Statistics indicates that 32.7 percent of students with disabilities had a specific learning disability in 2020-21, which marks a 4 percent decrease from a decade prior. That decrease occurred despite a steadily rising student-teacher ratio in special education. In fact, the U.S. Department of Education reports that the current student-teacher ratio of 17 to 1 in special education is higher than the overall student-teacher ratio in general education.



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Roadside attraction life lesson

Ticky-tacky. That's the only way to describe what has to be considered a landmark by motorists who travels Interstate 95, crossing the border from North Carolina to South Carolina. You can't miss it. Billboards announce with varying word play how many miles are left until you reach it.



It's All About...

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

It's a visual smorgasbord. It's a glitzy, over-the-top roadside attraction accentuated by a gigantic Pedro wearing a sombrero and holding a placard with the name, South of the Border. We turned in during a recent road trip to Florida. It wasn't our first time yet each time we swear we aren't going to again visit. We do.

Pedro and I first became acquainted more than 40 years ago while travelling with my grandparents to Florida. We were cruising through Virginia when my grandmother told me to look for the South of the Border signs. I had no idea what she meant. We weren't heading to Mexico. She got excited when we passed the first sign and from then on we counted the signs and kept track of how many miles until we arrived.

With great anticipation I counted along. And then, Pedro let us know we had arrived. It was an odd place. If memory serves, there was a very large bull or cow near the entrance. After getting gas, we went into one of the gift shops. There was a lot of merchandise that I couldn't imagine anyone would want. Pottery. T shirts. Sweatshirts. Jewelry. Glassware. We walked around, my grandmother stopping occasionally to inspect something before commenting to no one in particular where she could find what she was looking at cheaper someplace else. Gramps and I hung back.

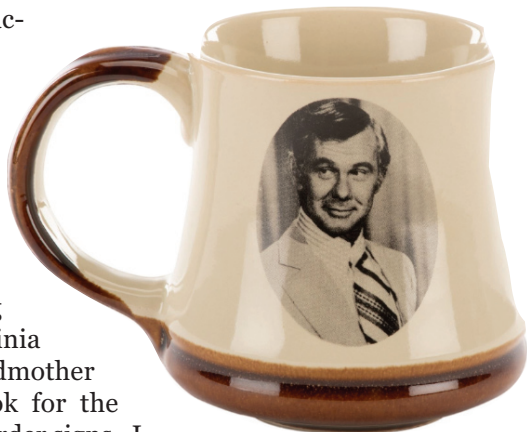
The only item I came across that interested me was, of all things, a display of coffee mugs emblazoned with a line drawing of Johnny Carson. It looked like the mug he kept on his "Tonight Show" desk. I thought long and hard about buying one. Believing it was expected that I should buy a mug with Pedro's likeness on the front and the South of the Border logo on the back, I silently consoled myself that I could get the Carson mug another time. That time never came.

Silly as it seems, that Carson mug has come to mind from through the years. I learned a life lesson during that brief stop at that tacky roadside attraction: not to let what others may think dictate what I want or how I should think. I wanted the Carson mug. I should have bought the Carson mug. Instead, I wound up standing in line to purchase a Pedro mug I didn't want. It wouldn't be the last time I stood in a line (figuratively or literally) to purchase something I didn't want.

Since that first visit, I've returned to see Pedro about a dozen times through the decades. Each time, including recently, I whimsically look to see if the Carson mug is available. It never has been. And that's the lesson. There are times when you get only one chance at something and if you let it go by it's likely it won't come your way again. So, you better be sure the action you take in that moment is your decision, not your decision based on what others may think or say. Otherwise, you could wind up with a Pedro mug stored in the attic for many years before being tossed out.

On this most recent trip, no Pedro mug was purchased. But my wife and I did leave with a cheesy, gawdawful South of the Border Christmas ornament. And it's exactly what we wanted. Well, it's exactly what I wanted. I think it's what my wife wanted too.

Each time, including recently, I whimsically look to see if the Carson mug is available. It never has been. And that's the lesson. There are times when you get only one chance at something and if you let it go by it's likely it won't come your way again. So, you better be sure the action you take in that moment is your decision, not your decision based on what others may think or say. Otherwise, you could wind up with a Pedro mug stored in the attic for many years before being tossed out.



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Each week for more than two decades, Chip Bertino has written his column, *It's All About...* which is published weekly in *The Courier*. *Some of My Favorites* is a collection of Chip's favorite columns in book form.



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Board of Elections releases voting information

The Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) announced last week that mail-in ballot packets were transmitted to requesting military and overseas voters by the federally mandated September 24 deadline and that mailing of ballot packets to other requesting voters will begin September 29. The rollout of ballot packet mailings to domestic voters will be conducted by Maryland jurisdiction as follows:

-September 29: Allegany, Caroline, Carroll, Dorchester, Somerset and Worcester counties

-September 30: Anne Arundel, Calvert, Cecil and Charles counties

-October 1: Frederick, Garrett and Montgomery counties

-October 3: Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's and Prince George's counties

-October 4: Baltimore City and St. Mary's, Talbot, Washington and Wicomico counties

-October 5: Baltimore County

Voters who have already requested a mail-in ballot should review the above mailing schedule and anticipate it will take up to five days for the U.S. Postal Service to deliver their ballots.

On September 29, SBE began sending the first round of emails with unique ballot links to U.S.-based voters who have requested their ballots electronically.

Ballot Drop Boxes

In addition, SBE began the process of delivering and installing official ballot drop boxes across the state. SBE anticipates it will take five days to deliver and install all 281 ballot drop boxes.

Voters who choose to utilize ballot drop boxes may submit their properly completed mail-in ballots at any official drop box in their county of residence. Ballots may be submitted from the time

a ballot box is installed and opened until November 8 at 8 p.m. Ballot boxes will be locked promptly at 8 p.m. on November 8.

Important Deadlines

Eligible Marylanders may register to vote in advance of the November 8 election using SBE's online application page or completing an application in-person at their local board of elections office. The advance deadline to register to vote is October 18.

Voters should also ensure their registration information is up to date by October 18. Voters can review and update their registration information online or by visiting their local board of elections office.

The deadline to request a mail-in ballot sent by the U.S. Postal Service is November 1. The deadline to request a link to a mail-in ballot is November 4.

Early Voting and Election Day Voting Locations

SBE encourages voters to review the final list of early voting centers, which is posted online. Some of the early voting center locations changed following July's Primary Election. Early voting will

be held from Thursday, October 27 through Thursday, November 3. Early voting centers will be open each day during that window from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The complete list of Election Day polling locations is posted toward the bottom of the 2022 Elections landing page under "Polling Place and Precinct Reports." The best option for individual voters to identify their polling place is to use the Voter Look-Up website. Election Day polling places will be open November 8 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SBE intends to add online maps displaying early voting centers, election day polling places and ballot drop box locations to the Voter Look-Up site soon. Voters are encouraged to check the page in coming days to take advantage of the mapping features.

Election Judges

Marylanders interested in serving as election judges can complete SBE's online interest form to be considered for this important civic role. Residents can also contact their local board of elections for more information on serving as an election judge.

Worcester County to host low-cost rabies clinic

Worcester County Animal Control (WCAC) and the Worcester County Health Department (WCHD) are partnering to offer a low-cost rabies clinic on October 12 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at

WCAC, which is located at 6207 Timmons Road in Snow Hill.

Maryland law requires all owners of dogs, cats, and ferrets over four months of age to have their pets adequately vaccinated against rabies. The cost is \$5.00 per vaccination for Worcester County residents who provide proof of residency, and \$10.00 per vaccination for non-residents. Those with unvaccinated pets, or pets whose vaccinations have lapsed and need a booster, are encouraged to take part in the clinic and to avoid contact with wild animals, particularly those acting sick or in an unusual manner.

If this is not your pet's first rabies vaccination, the previous vaccination certificate must be provided in order to receive a 3-year shot. Otherwise, a one-year shot will be given. At the clinic, all dogs must be leashed and under the control of an adult, while all cats and ferrets must be in a carrier or box with air holes.

Rabies clinic vaccinations are available by appointment only, and limited space is available. To reserve an appointment, contact the WCHD at 410-352-3234.

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The Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines 15th Annual Golf Tournament held September 21 at Ocean Pines Golf Club, was a marvelous success because of the generosity of many community individuals and businesses.

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Ocean Pines welcomes new Golf pro

Ocean Pines Association has announced the hiring of Bob Beckelman as the new Golf pro for the Ocean Pines Golf Club.



Bob Beckelman

Beckelman grew up in Annapolis, Maryland and West Chester, Pennsylvania, and studied aerospace engineering at Penn State University. He's been

a Professional Golfers' Association member for 25 years and has lived on the Eastern Shore for the last 35 years.

Beckelman started his professional golf career at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, first from 1992 to 1997, and then returning from 2000 to 2007.

"I was hired here originally as an assistant under Buddy Sass, and then left to help build the Deer Run Golf Club, and then came back as the head golf professional in Ocean Pines," he said.

Beckelman said "a phone call" brought him back to Ocean Pines for a third time.

"Honestly, when I first got into the golf business, I loved it and I enjoyed it so much," he said. "I had been around Ocean Pines for a while already. When I was in college, I was working summers at the club, and waited tables and I bartended. I just got to know the people and really loved the community, and I had a lot of friends and built a lot of relationships here.

"Once I started at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, I enjoyed the golf community so much, I planned on working my way up the ladder and eventually finishing my career here," Beckelman

continued. "There's been some changes along the way, but it's still my plan – I started here, and I want to finish here."

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said he's happy to have Beckelman back.

"I reached out to the Golf Advisory Committee and the golf community, and they all told me this was the right guy for the job," Viola said. "He obviously, knows the club and he knows the community. We're happy to welcome him back and I think he's going to be a great addition to the team."

For more information on the Ocean Pines Golf Club, visit www.oceanpinesgolf.org.



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Sing a song with the world

World Singing Day is October 15. The Delmarva Chorus of Sweet Adelines International, along with event sponsor Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks, invites singers of any age to gather at noon in the White Horse Park pavilion to just sing. World Sing-

ing Day is a joyful community experience for musicians and non-musicians alike, from shower singers to celebrities, as they gather in their communities and sing together without the pressure of performing.

World Singing Day is not a competition, and no rehearsals are required. Anyone can join in the fun. For more information and to learn the WSD theme song, visit: [World Singing Day](http://WorldSingingDay.com) | Uniting the world by singing together.

Explore the Sing tab and you learn the Chorus SATB version, in whatever voice part you choose. Lyric sheets for at least six popular and familiar songs will be provided on site. This will be a fun day to visit the outdoor Farmers Market and the inside Quilters by The Sea Show. Visit oceanpines.org to view all their events. For more information about the Delmarva Chorus, visit delmarvachorus.org.



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Crows

Crows are common, widespread birds found in a number of different continents and countries. They are commonly used as symbols in mythology, religion, and pop culture – frequently in association with death. These misunderstood birds are actually extremely intelligent.

There are a wide variety of crow species, all members of the taxonomical genus *Corvus*. For the most part, crows have black-colored feathers, commonly with an iridescent shine to them. Some crow species also have other colors, like white patches, on their feathers. Crows also have relatively thick beaks, known as “bills.”

These seemingly mundane birds are actually incredibly smart and charismatic. Crows are some of the smartest birds in the world, and can rival parrots in their intellect.

Quoth the Raven, Nevermore – The famous poem by Edgar Allen Poe wasn’t that far off of the mark. Many different crow species, including ravens, are capable of mimicking human speech quite well.

Never Forget a Face – Scientists in Seattle performed an experiment with wild crows on a college campus, and discovered something astounding. The scientists would capture and tag crows wearing masks, and in later instances the crows would dive bomb the scientists with masks while letting college students walk by peacefully. The crows were able to successfully identify different faces as a threat, and others as harmless.

Corvid Communication – In the above experiment, another phenomenon began to occur in addition to the facial recognition. Birds that were

never associated with the original captures began to also dive bomb scientists wearing masks. This means that the crows were able to successfully communicate to naïve individuals that the masks were a danger!

Problem Solving Skills – Another unrelated study of rooks (members of the crow family) found that crows are extremely capable problem solvers. Scientists took four separate birds and conducted an experiment with a tube of water, worms, and a pile of pebbles. The premise?



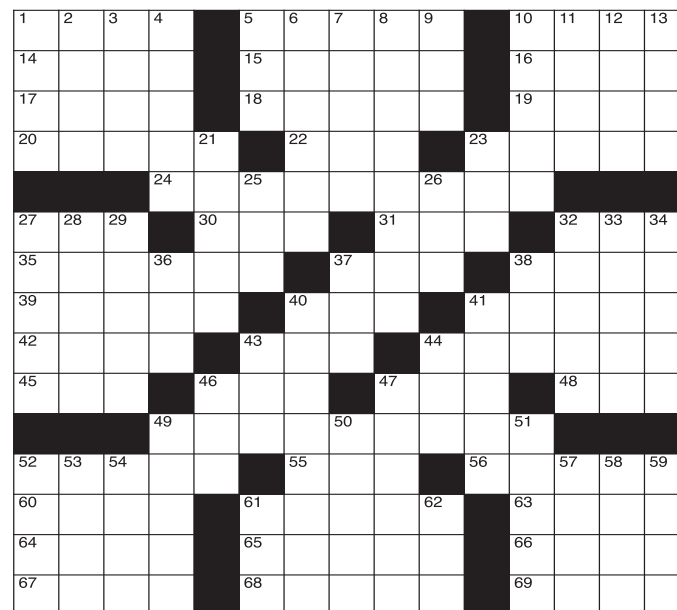
The tube of water contained worms just out of reach, but when pebbles are added to the water in enough quantity the worms be easily accessible.

All four rooks solved the problem and got the worms, and half of them did it on their first try!

Crows are distributed across the planet in virtually every environment. These extremely adaptable birds can be found in urban environments as well, utilizing every habitat possible. They can be found in forests, grasslands, agricultural areas and farmland, mountains, deserts, arctic tundra, and rocky cliffs.

Not only are there many different species that utilize these various habitats, but individual species can also adapt to a number of different environments as well.

please see **crows** on page 14



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Bay Area humorist
- 5. Hurt
- 10. Icelandic poems
- 14. A taro corm
- 15. Metaphorical use of a word
- 16. It fears the hammer
- 17. Excessively quaint (British)
- 18. Laid-back California county
- 19. Cook in a microwave oven
- 20. Not late
- 22. Go from one place to another
- 23. Peoples living in the Congo
- 24. Popular pasta
- 27. Available engine power (abbr.)
- 30. Popular musician Charles
- 31. Angry
- 32. Spelling is one type
- 35. One who makes a living
- 37. Indicates location
- 38. Imperial Chinese dynasty
- 39. Small water buffaloes
- 40. Hungarian city
- 41. Fabric
- 42. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 43. Precursor to the EU
- 44. Philly footballers
- 45. Female sibling
- 46. “When Harry Met Sally” actress
- 47. Magnetic tape of high quality
- 48. Insecticide
- 49. Apparatus to record and transmit
- 52. Some is considered “dog”
- 55. Israeli city ___ Aviv
- 56. Fencing sword
- 60. Ottoman military title
- 61. Wise people
- 63. Cold wind
- 64. Popular type of shoe
- 65. Administrative district
- 66. A way to reveal
- 67. Cooked meat cut into small pieces
- 68. Actress Zellweger
- 69. Romanian city

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Small town in Portugal
- 2. Site of famed Ethiopian battle
- 3. German river
- 4. Christmas carols
- 5. Cash machine
- 6. Rough and uneven
- 7. Rumanian round dance
- 8. Widespread occurrence of disease
- 9. A place to relax
- 10. Feeling of listlessness
- 11. Coat or smear a substance
- 12. Wild mango
- 13. Brews
- 21. Belgian city
- 23. Confined condition (abbr.)
- 25. Swiss river
- 26. Small amount
- 27. Part of buildings
- 28. Vietnamese capital
- 29. Sailboats
- 32. Shelter
- 33. Terminated
- 34. Discharge
- 36. Snag
- 37. Partner to cheese
- 38. A container for coffee
- 40. Spend time dully
- 41. Satisfies
- 43. Snakelike fish
- 44. Consume
- 46. Type of student
- 47. Erase
- 49. Instruct
- 50. Girl’s given name
- 51. Jewish spiritual leader
- 52. “To ___ his own”
- 53. North-central Indian city
- 54. Greek alphabet characters
- 57. Weapon
- 58. Amounts of time
- 59. American Nobel physicist vital to MRIs
- 61. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 62. Witness



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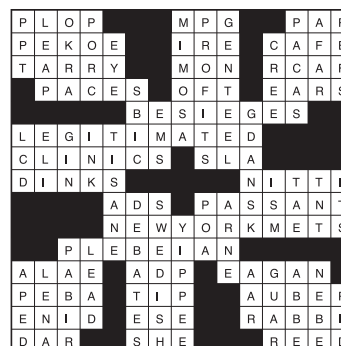
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Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office.

"Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation. As he was about to get the anesthesia, he asked to speak to his son.

"Yes, Dad, what is it?"

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High / Low	Tide Time
Th 6	High	5:34 AM
6	Low	11:26 AM
6	High	6:06 PM
F 7	Low	12:17 AM
7	High	6:29 AM
7	Low	12:26 PM
7	High	6:56 PM
Sa 8	Low	1:04 AM
8	High	7:18 AM
8	Low	1:21 PM
8	High	7:43 PM
Su 9	Low	1:46 AM
9	High	8:05 AM
9	Low	2:10 PM
9	High	8:28 PM
M 10	Low	2:26 AM
10	High	8:49 AM
10	Low	2:56 PM
10	High	9:10 PM
Tu 11	Low	3:04 AM
11	High	9:32 AM
11	Low	3:41 PM
11	High	9:52 PM
W 12	Low	3:43 AM
12	High	10:15 AM
12	Low	4:26 PM
12	High	10:34 PM

"Don't be nervous, son; do your best, and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife..."

Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age, and start bragging about it.

This is so true. I love to hear them say "You don't look that old."

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me! I want people to know why I look this way.

I've traveled a long way and

Anglers to meet

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club will meet on Saturday, October 8, 9:30 a.m. in the Ocean Pines library. Fall is the perfect time for kayak fishing. Come and hear Dean Lokey from OC Kayak who will talk about the kayak lifestyle and its endless bounties. Club members will provide updates on fishing regulations, charter trips and more. All are welcome.

Getting Older

some of the roads weren't paved.

Two guys, one old, one young, are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart when they collide. The old guy says to the young guy, "Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I was going."

The young guy says, "That's OK, it's a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too... I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate."

The old guy says, "Well, maybe I can help you find her... what does she look like?"

The young guy says, "Well, she is 27 yrs. old, tall, with red hair, blue eyes, is buxom... long legs, and is wearing short shorts. What does your wife look like?"

To which the old guy says, "Doesn't matter, -- let's look for yours."

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Astronomy & Spaceflight

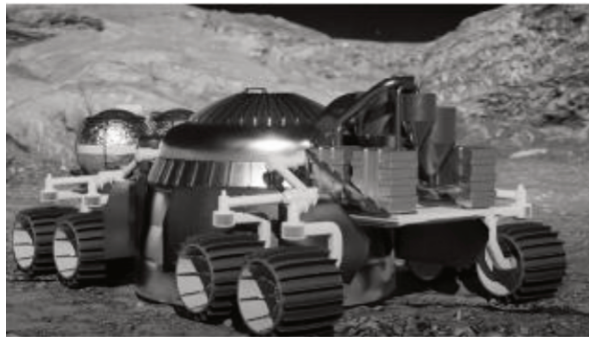
By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Why return to the Moon?

This month's column examines the topic: why should NASA undertake missions to study the moon and return astronauts there?

One of main reasons is that lunar exploration technologies will be the proving ground for future trips into deeper space, including Mars. The same skills and equipment that allow living and working on the moon will be



Water-Mining equipment for the lunar surface.

essential for missions to explore the "red planet".

Last month, the NASA administrator said "It's a future where ... astronauts will live and work in deep space and will develop the science and technology to send the first humans to Mars."

Beginning in the 1990s NASA's space probes conducted detailed studies of the lunar surface surprisingly indicating the presence of water. This startling new discovery overturned decades of thinking in which the moon was regarded as barren and bleak. The important scientific questions then became: how and where can this lunar water be found and how is it distributed on the surface?

While scientists had long regarded Mars, Jupiter and other planets as worthy of careful study, the moon was now shown to be an arena with its own scientific questions demanding attention.

The landmark discovery of lunar water is of obvious interest to NASA as well, offering an indispensable re-

source for the Artemis astronauts. In December 2020 NASA published a 188-page report defining a number of science priorities for the Artemis-3 moon landing and including goals extending to future efforts. Aiming for landing sites in the moon's south polar region will enable astronauts to explore and test new technologies using the moon's water-ice, located in its deeply shadowed craters.

Not only is water essential for human consumption, but its elements, hydrogen and oxygen, are also extremely valuable. Oxygen will re-supply the astronauts with a breathable atmosphere. In addition, the oxygen and hydrogen components can be used for rocket fuel.

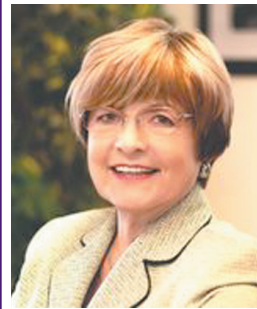
When choosing their possible landing sites, another important criterion is persistent sunlight to provide solar energy to power the base camp. For example, among the mountainous peaks surrounding the rim of the Shackleton Crater, near the moon's south pole, there are three peaks that remain sunlit for more than 90% of the year.

On August 19, NASA announced 13 potential landing regions for its Artemis-3 mission. All the candidate regions are clustered near the south pole of the moon. Each of these is located within six degrees of latitude from the pole.

The lunar water-ice with its potential for oxygen and hydrogen also make the moon an attractive site for a potential "way station." A spaceship enroute to further destinations could make a stop at the moon to resupply their tanks before continuing the space journey.

Another scientific goal is to better understand how to protect astronauts from the effects of radiation. Without

please see *moon* on page 15



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new Primary bedroom and Bath on 2nd level. Separate office room off the laundry room. 1 car detached garage. 30 x 6 dock recently resurfaced. Large Living room with vaulted beamed ceiling. Spacious kitchen with bar seating plus desk and pantry cabinets built in. Primary bedroom has 15 x 9 walk-in closet with 2 doors, bathroom with double sinks and slider to wonderful balcony so you can enjoy the sunsets or your morning coffee. 3 sided fenced rear yard with 8 x 10 shed. Septic upgraded 1 1/2 years ago. Metal roof on original part of home replaced 12 years ago and new addition done 6 years ago. Vinyl siding. Multi-zoned HVAC with H/P in 1st level and newer Mini-split for upper level Primary suite. The well is 165' deep, installed in 2006. The septic was retro-fitted with the reduced nitrogen system about 9-10 years ago. Drain field replaced in 2020. Public boat ramp just a few miles away. MLS#MDWO2008188

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crows
from page 10

Humans commonly view crows, of any species, as pests or even bad omens. We have even invented scarecrows with the intention of scaring crows away from our crops! Farmers frequently shoot and kill crows for eating their crops. While crows will take advantage of free food, they often become the victims of false accusations.

Mice and rats will nibble at or eat crops, leading crows to take the blame, and the brunt of the farmers' anger. Large congregations of crows

can also present the problem of damage in the form of poop. Large flocks of birds in and near cities can rain feces down in addition to damaging crops. Oftentimes these birds have been killed in mass numbers to solve this problem.

Individual crow behavior varies based on the species. Many different species of crows are solitary, but roost in groups. Some species will create small groups including a

mated pair and their offspring. Younger animals tend to forage and roost together in large groups.

A group of crows is called a "murder," and if a member of the murder is murdered, the crows will group around the individual. They perform this behavior to determine what killed the crow, and to mob the attacker and chase it away.

Crows are very commonly viewed as a bad omen. They are

seen as a harbinger of death, particularly around wars. This unfortunate image possibly originated as a result of crows feeding on those killed in battle during wars. They followed the troops in anticipation of further meals, and became associated with death. Unfortunately for crows this association has stuck, leading to general ill-will towards this "pest" of a bird.

-animals network

report
from page 3

tion of new gas lines and fuel dispensers, which Viola said would have been required anyway because of new environmental standards.

Viola said a work group, led by former Board member Ted Moroney, has prepared a request for proposals to hire a consultant to do a feasibility study related to the proposed new South Fire Station. The study will determine the Association's capacity for a capital campaign to raise funds for the new

station, and Viola said the group has met with several regional consultants as a preliminary step.

He said the RFP would be issued on September 26 and responses are due by October 31. If approved by the Board, work would start in November and finish by the end of February.

The workgroup also produced an FAQ on the project, which is available on the Association website at https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/news_content?announcementId=1520&backURL=/web/pa

ges/opa-news.

"I believe the team has done an excellent job responding to all the questions," Viola said, adding additional questions should be sent to info@oceanpines.org.

On the financial side, Viola said the Association was favorable to budget by more than \$160,000 in August, and favorable year-to-date by almost \$700,000.

To view slides from the GM report, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/217738/9-24-22+Meeting+Power+Point.pptx>.

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moon
from page 13

protection from the Earth's atmosphere and magnetic field, a substitute shielding becomes important for space journeys well away from Earth, for example to Mars.

Experimental lunar habitats are being designed to accommodate sustained living on the moon, and to help protect astronauts from the effects of space radiation. The first prototypes of lunar habitats have been constructed to demonstrate the use of 3D printing technology. Readers may recall that lunar habitats were previously discussed.

On September 7, NASA announced that it has selected the Houston com-

pany Axiom Space to build the lunar spacesuits for Artemis-3. The newest designs for spacesuits are expected to include built-in radiation protection.

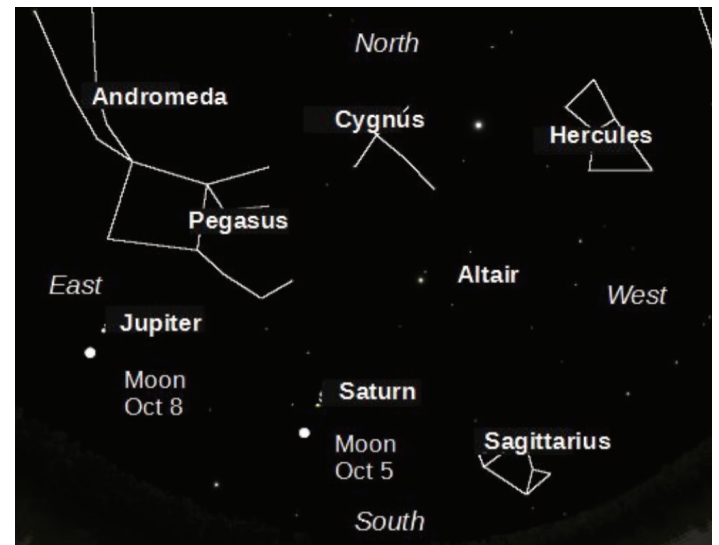
Future plans for an Artemis base camp, when fully equipped, include: a pressurized rover with living accommodations, 3D construction equipment to help build habitat units, spacecraft landing pads, communications, and energy gear.

As the October skies grow fully dark, after about 7:30 p.m., the "teapot" of Sagittarius appears near the southern horizon. Flying high overhead is Cygnus the Swan (Northern Cross).

The Great Square of Pegasus is also prominent high in the eastern sky. Sports fans may proclaim that its

square shape outlines a baseball diamond in the sky, celebrating the championship season.

Look for the planet Saturn eastwards from Sagittarius, and later joined by Jupiter, which becomes visible after about 8:30 p.m. On October 5 the moon will rendezvous with Saturn, and then on October 8, will dance with the king of planets, Jupiter.



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