

# The Courier

March 8, 2023 Volume 23 Number 22



**New members** - At the March 2 dinner meeting of the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club the organization welcomed four new members including William Outten, Em Hench, Ron Hamm and Vicki Shrier. Photographed are **Christina Dolomount-Brown**, president with new member **Em Hench**.

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**Birthday wishes** — *Barbara Purnell*, president of Germantown School Community Heritage Center, receives a commendation on her eightieth birthday from *Diana Purnell*, on behalf of the Worcester County Commissioners.

## Public hearing scheduled for Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation plan

The Worcester County Planning Commission will host a public hearing on the draft Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) April 6 at 1:05 p.m. The hearing will take place in the Board Room on the first floor of the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill.

The State of Maryland requires counties to update their LPPRP every six years, one year prior to the revision of the statewide Maryland Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. The LPPRPs qualify local governments for State Program Open Space grants and other programs related to three land resource elements: Recreation and Parks; Agricultural Land Preservation; and Natural Resource Conservation.

The draft Worcester County LPPRP was developed in accordance with guidelines provided by the Maryland Departments of Planning and Natural Resources. The LPPRP contains key information, goals, and recommendations to guide the county's management and enhancement of its parks and recreation facilities, and conservation of natural and agricultural lands for the next five years.

Visit <http://www.co.worcester.md.us/de->

partments/commissioners/hearings to view the draft LPPRP. Written and oral comments will be accepted at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted to [kmunson@co.worcester.md.us](mailto:kmunson@co.worcester.md.us) or mailed to Worcester County Environmental Programs, 1 West Market St, Suite 1306, Snow Hill, MD 21863.

### Kennedy to speak to Garden Club

The next meeting of the Ocean Pines Garden Club (OPGC) will be Thursday, March 9 at 10 a.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. The speaker will be Maureen Kennedy from My Backyard. Maureen will speak about hummingbirds and other invited backyard birds. She will discuss how to draw the hummers and others to our yards, what foods for them are special treats, and how to keep them around until their next migration. The OPGC meets the second Thursday of each month and guests/new members are welcome. Contact co-presidents Ann Shockley 410-688-1975 or Patti Lookner 410-973-1243 for more information about the club.

# Now Available



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.

To purchase a copy call **410-629-5906** or email [chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com](mailto:chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com)

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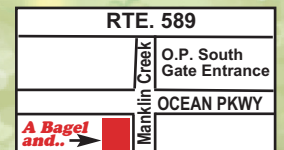
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## Arts Council features new exhibits

During the month of March, the Worcester County Arts Council presents an exhibit featuring artwork by two gallery co-op artists: Jim Coltellino, mixed media, and Mary Fishel, photography.

The opening reception of this exhibit will be held on Friday, March 10, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Come meet the artists and enjoy complimentary refreshments. Exhibit on display through March 31.

Selected pieces of artwork, donated by featured artists, are available for bidding during the silent auction to benefit the Arts Council's Arts Schol-

arship program.

Visit the Arts Council's Gallery, located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin, Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to view the exhibits and place your bid.

In addition to the featured artists' exhibit, artworks created by thirty artists and members of the Co-Op Gallery are on display and available for purchase.

For more information about featured artists and Arts Council's programs and services, please visit: [www.worcestercountyartsCouncil.org](http://www.worcestercountyartsCouncil.org).

## OPA to host job fair

The Ocean Pines Association will hold a job fair on Saturday, March 11 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 239 Ocean Parkway.

Seasonal and year-round positions across multiple Ocean Pines departments and amenities are available.

"Ocean Pines has vacancies in a variety of fields and for all ages. Whether you're a 15-year-old looking for your first job, a retiree looking for part-time work or someone interested in a full-time, year-round career, we'd like to meet you," said Ocean Pines Human Resources Manager Lisa Carson.

Individuals interested in serving as Police officers, lifeguards, Public Works laborers, junior and senior

camp counselors, Racquet Center attendants, Golf cart attendants or seasonal front desk clerks are encouraged to attend.

Representatives from departments including Police, Aquatics, Public Works, Racquet Sports, Recreation and Parks, Golf and Administration will be on site to meet with potential candidates and discuss available job opportunities.

Job fair attendees are asked to bring a completed employment application, available at [oceanpines.org/we/pages/work-here](http://oceanpines.org/we/pages/work-here). Applications will also be available at the event.

For more information, contact [hr@oceanpines.org](mailto:hr@oceanpines.org) or call 410-641-7717 ext. 3007.

## Registration open, volunteer coaches needed for youth leagues

Worcester County Recreation and Parks officials invite area youth to get up, get out, and get active this spring with outdoor soccer and flag football leagues.

The soccer session will run from March 26 through June 11 on Sundays at John Walter Smith Park in Snow Hill. Players will practice basic soccer skills and compete against teams from other local towns. Open to youth ages 3 to grade 8, participants will be split into competing age divisions (ages 3-4, grades k-1, grades 2-4, and grades 5-8).

The flag football season will run from March 29 through May 31 on Wednesdays at John Walter Smith Park in Snow Hill. Youth of all skill levels are welcome to lace up their

cleats and show off their skills. Open to youth in grades 1-8, participants will be split into age divisions (grades 1-3, grades 4-5, and grades 6-8). Participants will complete drills, learn route running, and work as part of a team.

For each league the cost is \$35 per person to play and \$30 for each additional child. Registrations may be completed online at [www.playmarylandscoast.org](http://www.playmarylandscoast.org).

Volunteers are needed to run both leagues. Interested volunteers are urged to call the WCRC at 410-632-2144.

For more information on the soccer or flag football program, contact Derek Jarmon at 410-632-2144 x2509 or [djarmon@marylandscoast.org](mailto:djarmon@marylandscoast.org).

# Taking photos

“Kodak moments.” At one time that was the Kodak camera slogan. That was a long time ago when Kodak cameras reigned supreme. But even though the cameras are history, the sentiment of capturing a picture “moment” remains.



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

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

Cell phone cameras have replaced the once ubiquitous Kodak Instamatics. We are free to capture more special moments than ever especially because there's no film to process.

I can't remember which Christmas it was when I received a Kodak Instamatic camera that used 110 film and had a disposable vertical flash bar. I was an excited 10 or 11-year-old snapping pictures of everything – my brother making funny faces or the dog barking. The functions of the camera were simple: point and shoot. There was no zoom feature nor could I take rapid pictures. Snap the shutter. Advance the film. Repeat. That was it. Matthew Brady I was not.

I learned I could quickly take a dozen pictures, using up all the film in the camera. And then? Well, I had to save my allowance so I could pay for developing the pictures and to pay for another roll of film. By the second roll of film, I concluded that my brother's faces weren't all that funny. How many pictures did I need of him crossing his eyes and sticking his tongue out?

The Fotomat was in the parking lot of Krewstown Shopping Center where we dropped off used rolls of film. We'd wait about a week for the pictures to be ready. It was exciting ripping open the envelope and pulling out the picture sleeve. Then there was disappointment when I realized some of the pictures were too dark while others weren't centered, some were taken from too far away and still others were just black. I must have inadvertently snapped the shutter while the camera was in my pocket. Out of 12 pictures, there may have been six or seven that were okay.

As time went on, I became more discriminating in taking pictures. I didn't need a photo of every blooming flower in the garden. Eventually, I just took pictures at family gatherings, group shots

mostly. All these pictures were saved in photo albums that had sticky pages on which I placed the photos and then overlaid a thin, clear vinyl-like cover. They were ensconced forevermore.

It's been a lot of years since those albums have been pulled out and looked through. I think they're in the attic.

Through the years I transitioned from the Instamatic to a Polaroid camera. Then came a 35-mm camera. Then there were several different digital cameras, a couple of which are sitting in the closet collecting dust. Now, all I use is my phone to take pictures. It has more features and offers better quality than any of my earlier equipment. And the best part of all is, I don't have to pay for film processing and it's always with me so I can capture spontaneous moments.



*A spontaneous photo of my grandson waking up from a nap.*

There's really no limit to the number of pictures I can take which has absolutely no relationship to the number of good pictures I snap. There must be hundreds, maybe even thousands, of pictures stored on my phone. I hardly ever look through them, except maybe when I sitting waiting to be seen by the doctor. That's when I'll go through and delete the really awful pictures.

Sharing photos immediately with family is a nice feature that my phone has that my Instamatic did not. Why shouldn't everyone have a touching snapshot of Chooch and Pyper sitting together?

Looking back to when my Instamatic was new, the rotary telephone was mounted on the kitchen wall and a postage stamp was 10-cents, there is no way I could have envisioned a future when I would be taking pictures with a personal phone I kept in my pocket and sending them instantaneously to family across the country. Nope. No way.



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# Pending legislation could be a concern

**Editor:**

I am writing again to inform your readers of some pending legislation in Maryland which may be of concern. Over 1,200 bills have been filed in MD this year, most of which are at best questionable.

I wrote previously about HB119/SB199 - "Primary and Secondary Education - Health Education Framework - Established" which would require all counties in Maryland to create an "age-appropriate" curriculum that is consistent with the Comprehensive Health Education Framework. Our county commissioners and school board, thankfully, are in unanimous opposition to this legislation, but Delegates and Senators in other parts of the state need to hear from their constituents also. Perhaps your readers might reach out to friends and family in central and southern Maryland to make sure they are aware of the legislation and ask them to let their legislators know how they feel about requiring 7th grade students to "identify solo,

vaginal, anal, and oral sex along with possible outcomes of each". In addition, the Framework requires that students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade "recognize" and "identify a range of ways people identify and express their gender".

Another bill of concern is SBO460/HBO283 "Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Gender Affirming Treatment (Trans Health Equity Act)". This legislation would require that all recipients of the program be provided gender-affirming treatment if medically necessary, including transgender, non-binary, intersex, two-spirit and other gender diverse individuals. The bill does not exclude children or teens under 21 years of age from puberty blockers, cross sex hormones or surgery to remove breasts or reproductive organs for Sexual Dysphoria or Sexual Identity. I have to ask - on what planet would people consider a 16 or 17-year-old qualified to make a life-altering, permanent decision to amputate

breasts or organs or take puberty blockers, which would permanently alter their bodies? I can't believe that a majority of Maryland voters would agree with this, but, of course, they have to know about it. So, again, perhaps your readers can make sure family and friends in other parts of the state are aware of this legislation.

Legislation to support (in light of recent laws and proposed bills as above restricting parents' knowledge, guidance or consent for minor children to make decisions for their mental or physical care of their identity) would be SBO566/HBO666-"Family Law - Fundamental Parental Rights", This legislation would establish that a parent has the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, care and welfare of the parent's child, and prohibit the State or a political subdivision from infringing on these fundamental parental rights unless the State or political subdivision can demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that this infringement is necessary to achieve a compelling government interest and is narrowly tailored. Wasn't it just a few years ago that we had a nationwide problem with young people eating laundry detergent pods, i.e. the "Tide Pod Challenge"?

Finally, there is SBO803 "Labor and Employment - Payment of Minimum Wage - Tipped Employees" which would completely change the restaurant industry and which has been shown, in states where similar legislation has been enacted, the drastically reduce the income of tipped employees.

The full text and status of these bills can be read at [mgaleg.maryland.gov](http://mgaleg.maryland.gov). You can also get the contact information for the sponsoring Delegates and Senators.

**Carol Frazier**  
Ocean Pines



Allison Pusey

## Pusey joins AGH

Allison Pusey, FNP, has joined Atlantic General Health System to provide primary care services to the Ocean Pines community. Pusey was born and raised in Worcester County and began providing patient care in 2014, when she joined Atlantic General Hospital as a nurse technician and began working on her nursing education. She is a recipient of Atlantic General's Barrett Nursing Scholarship and earned her associate's degree in nursing from Wor-Wic Community College and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wilmington University while working at the hospital.

Pusey has been active in the Showell Volunteer Fire Department since 2010, most recently serving as vice president of their auxiliary. In May of 2022, she completed her Master of Science in family nurse practitioner studies at Wilmington University and is certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

She lives in Bishopville, Md., with her husband and daughter. She is currently providing care at Atlantic General Primary Care in Ocean Pines and will transition her practice to the Gudelsky Family Medical Center on Racetrack Road when construction is complete. She is currently accepting new patients. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 410-208-9761.

## Courier Almanac

Volkswagen, maker of the Beetle automobile, expands its product offerings to include a microbus, which went into production on March 8, 1950. Known officially as the Volkswagen Type 2 (the Beetle was the Type 1) or the Transporter, the bus was a favorite mode of transportation for hippies in the U.S. during the 1960s and became an icon of the American counterculture movement.



A good joke can liven up any social engagement, but the value of humor goes well beyond breaking the ice at parties and other get-togethers. According to the Cleveland Clinic, laughter can activate the parasympathetic nervous system, which helps to lower heart rate and help people breathe more easily. Given such benefits, it's no surprise that laughter has been linked to a host of medical benefits, including stress relief and improved heart health.

The Courier

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## Mini golf fundraiser scheduled

Women Supporting Women, a local non-profit organization that has dedicated the last 30 years to providing awareness, education and support to individuals who are affected by breast cancer, announced its first "Putt the Night Away" miniature golf fundraiser.

The event is scheduled for Friday, April 21, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Old Pro Golf – Under the Sea indoor course on 68<sup>th</sup> Street in Ocean City. Family and friends are invited to an evening of unlimited mini golf play that includes a Hole in One Contest, basket raffle and a meet and greet photo op with Mermaid Tasha, the Marlin Mermaid. Entry for adults is \$15 and \$10 for children 12 and under which includes unlimited mini golf play, one slice of pizza and a bottle of water.

"We wanted to plan something fun for the whole family to enjoy," said Cindy Feist, executive director for Women Supporting Women. "We are looking forward to reconnecting with our survivors, volunteers and supporters at the event and welcome anyone from the community to join us

for a good time, friendly competition and the opportunity to win some great prizes."

Stop by the WSW office at 1320 Belmont Ave. Suite 402 in Salisbury to reserve your spot or call 410-548-7880. Sign up is available at the event.

## Wor-Wic to host egg hunt

Wor-Wic Community College is inviting the public to an egg hunt and family fun day on Saturday, April 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The free event features rides, carnival games, music, food and fun for all ages, with an egg hunt for children ages 12 and under. The egg hunt starts promptly at 11 a.m. The event will be held rain or shine.

Visit the events section of [www.worwic.edu](http://www.worwic.edu) for more information.



WPS Director of College Counseling **Vickie Garner** (left) and WPS Head of School **Dr. John McDonald** (right) stand with 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists **Christopher Todorov** and **Parker Tingle**.

## WPS seniors named scholarship finalists

Two Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) seniors are one step closer to earning a Merit Scholar title by being named Finalists.

In September, Parker Tingle and Christopher Todorov were named 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists, and this month they have now been named Finalists. The two seniors qualified for the accolade by taking the 2021 PSAT. They are among 16,000 students selected as semifinalists, representing less than one percent of all U.S. high school seniors.

As Finalists, Parker and Christopher have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,250 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be offered in spring. Approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholarship title. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 340 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nations scholastic champions and

encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence. For more information visit [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).

## MCBP to host trivia night

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) is hosting a fun and challenging evening of trivia at Seacrets' Morley Hall on March 9, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The event will feature trivia questions focused on Maryland and the Coastal Bays, with teams of singles, couples, and multiple people welcome to participate. Doors open at 5:30 pm and trivia will begin promptly at 6:00 pm. To prepare for the event, participants can check out MCBP's social media posts, publications, and creature features.

Attendees can also participate in a bucket raffle by purchasing raffle tickets for a chance to win gift baskets and gift cards from local businesses. The raffle winners will be announced at 7:45 pm, and participants do not need to be present to win. Local businesses who want to donate to the raffle can reach out to MCBP at [cjoiner@mdcoastalbays.org](mailto:cjoiner@mdcoastalbays.org).

Participants must be 21 years or over to attend the event, and no pre-registration is required. MCBP looks forward to seeing everyone there for a night of fun, knowledge, and support for the Coastal Bays.

Please visit the MCBP website or contact [lwist@mdcoastalbays.org](mailto:lwist@mdcoastalbays.org).

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## Chincoteague effort hopes to save ranch

Chincoteague is fortunate to have visitors come from around the world to enjoy the untampered seashore, amazing wildlife, and quaint historical downtown. Many of those visitors also come because of “Misty of Chincoteague,” a book published in 1947 by Marguerite Henry that inspired millions. “Misty of Chincoteague” tells the against the odds story of siblings Paul and Maureen Beebe. Two children that lived on the ranch with their grandparents, Grandma and Grandpa Beebe. The charming story centers on the children’s desire to buy the wild pony of their dreams and the challenges they faced to make that dream a reality. It is a heartwarming tale that made the Beebe family, Misty and the Beebe Ranch a beloved part of the literary world.

After 100 years, the Beebe family needs to move on and sell the famous Beebe Ranch. What faces our community now are two choices; sell the property or save the property!

The mission of the Museum of Chincoteague Island is to preserve, collect and protect the history of Chin-

coteague and Assateague. It is with this mission in mind that the organization would like to ask the public to help save the Beebe Ranch. If the funds can be raised in what can only be called a colossal, grassroots effort, the organization can preserve the ranch for future generations, keep a treasured part of Chincoteague intact and support the mission of the museum to protect the area’s history, making the Beebe Ranch officially an extension of the museum. The group has been given one month to make this happen.

We are asking you to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Museum of Chincoteague (noting that your donation is to help “Save the Beebe Ranch”). The goal is \$625,000. If the effort is not successful in raising its goal, donors will be able to decide if they would like their donation returned.

The Museum of Chincoteague Island’s mailing address is: PO Box 352 Chincoteague VA, 23336. For further information, please feel free to call the museum directly at 757-336-6117

## Health excellence award nominations sought

The Debbie Goeller Public Health Excellence Award was created to recognize exceptional performance by individuals identified by their peers for having excelled in public health with integrity and a strong commitment to the community and population health of Worcester County.

Debbie Goeller was Worcester County’s Health Officer and trusted public health leader for over 25 years. Her vision and what she accomplished over her years of service, continue to shape the future of the Worcester County Health Department. Her persistent and focused leadership paved the way for new programs and specialty services that continue to be offered by the health department. She was a champion for public health services and her dedication to the citizens of Worcester County was unwavering.

Any current member of the Worcester County Health Department staff or community member can submit nominations. Self-nominations will be accepted and all nominations will be

confidential. Nominations will be forwarded to the Office of the Health Officer and will be reviewed by the Excellence Award Review Committee.

The Excellence in Public Health Award recipient will have made a significant impact on public health in Worcester County through outstanding dedication, competence, exceptional performance, and excellent service. The nominee will have made important and/or significant contributions in public health, contributes and/or demonstrates a commitment to public health, demonstrates exceptional ability to foster collaboration, communication, and cooperation between the public/private sector, and/or consistently seeks to improve the quality of public health services.

Nominations will be accepted from March 3-March 17. All nominations must be submitted to worcester.health@maryland.gov. The Debbie Goeller Excellence in Public Health Award will be presented to one recipient during National Public Health Week, April 3-9.



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## Knots & Knots by Dan Collins

# Vessel inspections

It's March. It won't be long now until we once again move our clocks forward and pull the winter cover off the boat to ready her for another season.

You tell yourself that re-installing the battery, changing the oil, affixing the new Maryland license stickers, cleaning the accumulated dirt and gook off the seats, re-stowing the gear, etc. is a work of love. I always considered that a lame excuse. For most of us, it's work, period. Realistically, it's the required work to get to the real love, being underway.

Once you get shipshape, you really ought to avail yourself of a free vessel inspection by either the USCG Auxiliary or the US Power Squadron. Even if you think you got everything right, it's good to have someone else check, especially the safety requirements. This is not a novel concept. It's a tenet of the quality control community to have a "second independent review" of your work.

Not only will the courtesy inspector check vital safety equipment like navigation lights, fire extinguishers, distress signals, and personal floatation devices, the inspector will typically offer a few boating tips and give you an update on any changes in the law.

Free safety inspections are not limited to recreational craft. Marine safety is a top priority for the Coast Guard and free courtesy vessel inspections are also performed on commercial vessels as well. However, those inspections are complex and more intense because the stakes are higher. There is more boat to inspect with more required safety systems and mandatory crew training. It can take a team of several Coast Guardsmen and Auxiliarists hours to inspect.

Some boats, depending on their age and recent structural changes, need to have a stability report indicating their seaworthiness, both design and water tight integrity. Other things like deck fixtures, working radios and navigation instruments, bilge pumps,

and ballast tanks are also checked. Likewise the Emergency Positioning Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) that will begin to automatically broadcast its alarm and GPS coordinates once it has been under water by a couple feet



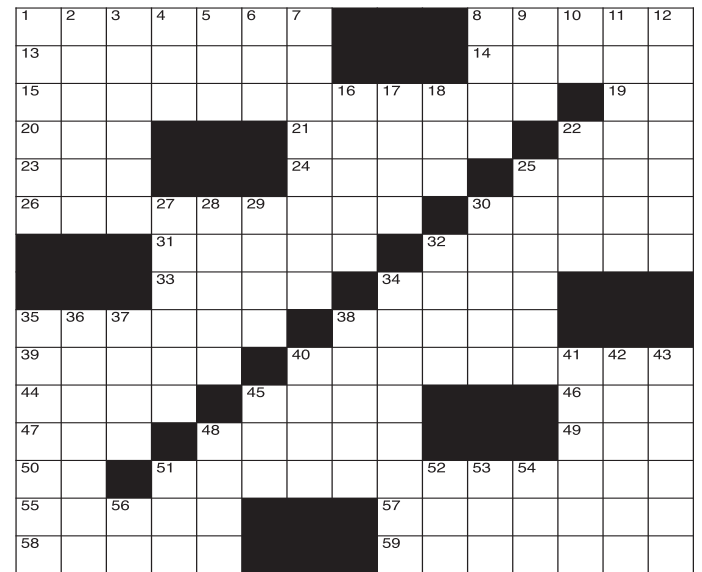
Ocean City is home port to a massive commercial fishing fleet that is moored in the West Ocean City Commercial Channel.

needs to be tested.

In the area of crew safety, monthly safety drills must be documented and survival (or Gumbo) suits are required for every crew member and must be "immediately available." Survival suits are absolutely necessary in cold water emersions where hypothermia is imminent. Unlike our recreational boating requirements, commercial crewmen's personal floatation device must also have a light; and inflatable life boats must undergo hydrostatic inflation tests per Safety Of Life At Sea (SOLAS) guidelines.

Like recreational boats, the inspection is both free and optional for commercial vessels but it's not really optional for commercial fishing boats. The fishing industry has an additional requirement to have a National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) representative on board to inspect the catch depending on the species being caught. NOAA, in turn, has the requirement that their people cannot go out on a fishing boat that does not have a current safety certification. Since a successful fishing trip can bring home upwards of a

please see *inspection* page 13

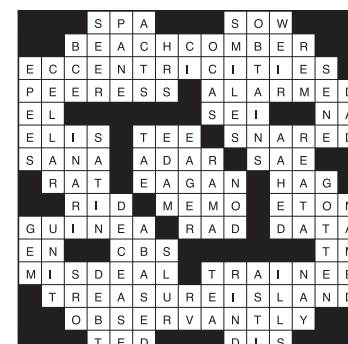


### CLUES ACROSS

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Half-conscious states         | 34. Soluble ribonucleic acid       |
| 8. Unnatural                     | 35. Distinguishing sound           |
| 13. Deep regret                  | 38. French realist painter         |
| 14. Rogue                        | 39. Popular beer brand             |
| 15. Taken without permission     | 40. Views                          |
| 19. An alternative               | 44. God depicted as a bull         |
| 20. After B                      | 45. Relieve                        |
| 21. Partner to flowed            | 46. Residue after burning          |
| 22. Weekday                      | 47. Habitation                     |
| 23. Body part                    | 48. Poe's middle name              |
| 24. World's longest river        | 49. Japanese title                 |
| 25. One of the Greats            | 50. TV series installation (abbr.) |
| 26. Make clean                   | 51. Beloved country singer         |
| 30. C. Canada indigenous peoples | 55. Single unit                    |
| 31. Japanese seaport             | 57. Genuine                        |
| 32. Most unclothed               | 58. Develop                        |
| 33. Small grouper fish           | 59. Traveled through the snow      |

### CLUES DOWN

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Clues                        | 32. Czech city                            |
| 2. Do again                     | 34. Normal or sound powers of mind        |
| 3. Current unit                 | 35. The academic world                    |
| 4. Neither                      | 36. Crustacean                            |
| 5. Corporate exec (abbr.)       | 37. Currency                              |
| 6. Second sight                 | 38. Pastoral people of Tanzania or Kenya  |
| 7. The absence of mental stress | 40. Cloth spread over a coffin            |
| 8. Supplemented with difficulty | 41. Grouped together                      |
| 9. Stop for good                | 42. On land                               |
| 10. College dorm worker         | 43. Glistened                             |
| 11. Bones                       | 45. A type of extension                   |
| 12. Most supernatural           | 48. One who assists                       |
| 16. Spanish island              | 51. College sports conference             |
| 17. Unlimited                   | 52. Zero                                  |
| 18. Where golfers begin         | 53. Midway between northeast and east     |
| 22. No charge                   | 54. Type of screen                        |
| 25. Print errors                | 56. The 13th letter of the Greek alphabet |
| 27. Professional drivers        |   |
| 28. Kiss box set                |   |
| 29. Short, fine fibers          |   |
| 30. Administers punishment      |   |



Answers for March 1

## Wor-Wic offers summer courses for gifted and talented students

Parents of gifted and talented children entering the third through 12th grades in the fall of 2023 can now register their children for Summer Scholars at Wor-Wic Community College.

New courses being offered this summer include “Board Game Designers,” where students will create their own imaginative games, and “Korean Culture and K-Pop Dance,” which will include learning Korean language, dance and traditions. New career-focused courses for students in grades 9 and 10 include “Business Builders,” for future entrepreneurs and “Learning to Lead,” for student leaders. Other courses open to a variety of ages focus on 3D printing, acting, animals, cooking, crime scene investigation, music, rockets and robots, photography and “Star Wars.”

A UAS (drone) remote pilot certificate prep course will be offered for students in grades 9-12. The course prepares students for the Federal Aviation Administration exam to become a certified remote pilot. Students must be 16 to take the exam.

One-week courses are offered on campus Monday through Friday, beginning July 10 and ending Aug. 4. Students can take full- or half-day courses. Full-day courses are held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch. Half-day courses, which are offered from 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m., can also be taken back-to-back to create a full-day schedule. Before and

after care will be offered as well.

The courses are designed for public, private and home-schooled gifted and talented students. A student’s gifted and talented status is determined by the school they attend, based on the student’s abilities in the areas of general intellectual capabilities, specific academic aptitudes, or the creative, visual or performing arts.

Space is limited and financial assistance is available.

“This year Wor-Wic is once again pleased to offer full scholarships to those who qualify,” said Dr. Bryan Newton, vice president for enrollment management and student services. “The scholarships are provided by the Donnie Williams Foundation, which has graciously agreed to support summer scholars students for several years.” The Donnie Williams Foundation challenges students and school systems to dream big and work together.

For more information, visit [www.worwic.edu/SummerScholars](http://www.worwic.edu/SummerScholars) or call 410-334-2815,



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## Shamrock Slam Pickleball tourney set

Join Worcester County Recreation and Parks for the two-day Shamrock Slam Pickleball Tournament at the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill from March 18-19.

Saturday will be men’s and women’s doubles, and Sunday will be mixed doubles. Doors will open and check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m. Gameplay will start at 8 a.m. The tournament is open to ages 18 and older. The cost per person is \$40, which includes a t-shirt. The price per event is \$15.

The Shamrock Slam will be the fourth event in this six-part, stand-alone Eastern Shore Pickleball Addicts Tournament series, which will pit the



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From Senator Mary Beth Carozza

# Maryland General Assembly Update

The Joint Republican Caucus held a March 1 press conference to highlight legislation aimed to combat Maryland's violent crime crisis, including legislation to make theft of a handgun a more serious crime.



Senator  
Mary Beth  
Carozza

Currently, Maryland's theft statute is based on the value of the stolen item, meaning that the theft of an item valued at less than \$1,500 is a misdemeanor. Senate Bill 564, which Senator Carozza has cosponsored, would classify the theft of a handgun as a felony offense regardless of the value of the handgun.

Senator Carozza also has cosponsored Senate Bill 744, which would raise the penalty for using a firearm in a violent crime to a felony; removes the drug dealer loophole where drug dealers receive a lighter sentence than someone else convicted of the same offense; increases penalties for illegally possessing a firearm to 5 years or \$10,000 fine on first offense, and then to 10 years or a \$10,000 fine thereafter; and makes knowingly selling a firearm to someone who plans to use it to commit a crime a felony.

"As the violent crime crisis continues to plague our State, we must continue to push for legislation that increases penalties against repeat, violent offenders," said Senator Mary Beth Carozza. "We still have several weeks to go with this year's session, and we on both sides of the political aisle should make it a priority to pass these crime bills now."

Senator Carozza also is cosponsoring Senate Bill 18, which would establish a Police Retention and Recruitment Workgroup to identify and examine issues and factors potentially contributing to the decline in police officer retention statewide and to make recommendations that would boost law enforcement retention and recruitment.

## Boost Education Funding

The Joint Republican Caucus also has been taking the lead in increasing the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today budget, also

known as the BOOST Program, which provides scholarships to low-income and at-risk youth to attend a non-public school. According to the January BOOST report, 3,268 students received scholarships during the 2021-2022 school year. Over half were students of color, 247 were special education students, and 1,030 were English language learners.

"This program provides low-income families the same choice that high-income families have in deciding how their children should be educated," said Senator Carozza. "Every child has a unique learning style, and while we need good public schools, we also need to give every child the chance to learn in their optimal environment, and the BOOST Program has been an effective option for many Maryland students."

Maryland Governor Wes Moore reduced the BOOST Program by 20 percent in his FY24 Budget and the General Assembly has started phasing out the BOOST Program through the budget process rather than the legislative process, meaning there will be no public hearing where impacted families can voice their concerns. Several students who participate in the BOOST Program visited Annapolis on Thursday to protest Governor Moore's BOOST cuts.

Even though the \$10 million BOOST Program is only 0.11% of Maryland's \$8.8 billion public schools' budget, the Maryland State Education Association has lobbied heavily against the BOOST Program, claiming that this meager fraction puts existing public schools in danger.

Republicans have introduced House Bill 737 – The Right to Learn Act, which officially would codify, fully-fund, and stop the phase-out of the BOOST Program. The Right to Learn Act also allows students trapped in failing schools, meaning a school that received two stars or less on their Maryland School Report Card for two consecutive years, to seek other education options.

Families who elect to seek alternative options would receive the per-pupil spending equivalent in an Education Savings Account from which they could fund qualified education expenses such as tuition for a public school in another jurisdiction, a

private or parochial school, or a home-schooling curriculum.

## Two tourism bill and financial literacy

The Senate Finance Committee voted unanimously in favor of Senate Bill 135 on Wednesday, which would establish an Ocean City promoter's license in Worcester County. The bill also authorizes the Worcester County Board of License Commissioners to issue the license to a for-profit organization to sell beer, wine, and liquor at entertainment events within the town limits of Ocean City.

"We want to attract first-class performances and festivals while maintaining the safest possible service and sale of alcohol at these events," said Senator Carozza. "This bill would encourage a longer tourism season, leading to more full-time jobs, more investment, and more economic growth."

Senator Carozza also testified in strong support of Senate Bill 642 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on Thursday. As amended, this local bill would allow out-of-state recreational vehicle dealers to participate in vehicle shows for motor homes or recreational trailers that take place within Worcester County. These out-of-state dealers would not be allowed to take deposits or point-of-sales but would be allowed to display their products. The closest in-state dealer is 74 miles away from Ocean City and therefore, many out-of-state dealers from Delaware and Virginia are physically closer and more accessible.

"By allowing out-of-state RV dealers to display at Ocean City's first RV show in the fall, more people would be interested in attending the show, which boosts tourism overall, and also boosts sales for those Maryland RV dealers who can sell RVs at the show," said Carozza.

The Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee on Wednesday heard Senate Bill 316, which requires that financial literacy courses be available in public schools while giving local flexibility and with free teacher training provided by the Maryland Council on Economic Education. Senator Carozza has cosponsored a similar financial literacy bill.

## Minimum wage and tipping credit bill hearings

The Senate Finance Committee held a hearing on Thursday for Senate Bill 803 which would prohibit the use of a tip credit for tipped employees beginning July 1, 2027, and would instead require former tipped employees to receive the State minimum wage.

Currently, restaurants pay tipped employees a base hourly wage in addition to the tips earned by the server. If this combined wage is not equal to the minimum wage, the employer is already required by law to make up the difference.

"This would be detrimental to restaurant operators, which already run on razor-thin margins, who are still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, and hurts restaurant employees, including food runners, bussers, servers, and bartenders. With tips, their hourly range is \$17-50 an hour. If Maryland is moving away from a tipping industry as this bill suggests, these employees would have far less earning potential," said Carozza.

In conjunction with Senate Bill 803, Governor Moore introduced Senate Bill 555, known as the Fair Wage Act of 2023, which would establish a state minimum wage rate of \$15 per hour beginning October 1, 2023, and would require future wage increases to be tied to inflation. This is the third time in the past decade that lawmakers have debated the State minimum wage and would move up the current timetable negotiated during Governor Hogan's administration by two years.

"The current timetable has been well established and businesses all over Maryland are preparing for 2025," said Carozza. "We already are dealing with skyrocketing costs due to supply chain issues and unprecedented inflation. Moving the minimum wage timetable up simply is unfair to our small business operators who still are working through the economic recovery from the pandemic."

## Teachers of the Year honored in the State House

The full Senate honored the 2023 Teachers of the Year from across the State on Friday, including Jennifer Carey of Carter G. Woodson Elemen-

*tourney*  
from page 11

best against the best in the final championship in June 2023. Players will earn points for every event they enter based on their finishing places.

The registration deadline is Sunday, March 12. To register online, visit [pickleballbrackets.com?Shamrock-Slam](http://pickleballbrackets.com?Shamrock-Slam).

For more information, contact Tyler Keiser at 410-632-2144 x2505 or [tkeiser@marylandscoast.org](mailto:tkeiser@marylandscoast.org). To view a full list of upcoming special events, visit [www.playmarylandscoast.org](http://www.playmarylandscoast.org).

*update*  
from page 12

tary, Somerset County; Rebecca Matthews of Wicomico High School, Wicomico County; and Kristin Cashman of Pocomoke High School, Worcester County.

Elmo also paid a visit to the Maryland Senate on Friday to celebrate Read Across America Day when the United States recognizes and celebrates the value of literacy. Teachers encourage students to participate year-round in the Read Across America program through events, partnerships, and reading resources in order to expand their knowledge of the world around them. 2023 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Read Across America.

*inspection*  
from page 10

quarter of a million dollars of bounty, missing even one trip can severely impact the profitability of the whole season. Therefore, commercial fishermen proactively solicit safety inspections as part of doing business.

No citation is ever issued for deficiencies while the vessel is moored; however, unlike a recreational boat inspection, identified deficiencies of commercial vessels are documented in a data base so that if the ship is later stopped and inspected at sea, a boarding officer can review the ship's history to make sure those known problems have been corrected.

When a commercial vessel is inspected at its berth and is considered in an extremely hazardous condition, the Coast Guard will not penalize the vessel, per se. Rather, the Captain-of-the-Port can issue an order to keep the vessel moored until the safety concerns are mitigated. If the vessel violates the Captain of Port Order, the vessel is subject to severe penalties.

## Get screened this Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. According to the American Cancer Society, colorectal cancer is expected to cause about 52,550 deaths during 2023. Even though colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths, it is also one of the most preventable cancers. There are many ways residents can lower their risk of developing colorectal cancer, but the most powerful is screening.

The Worcester County Health Department offers the *Colorectal Cancer Screening Program* to ensure residents

detect and prevent colorectal cancer. The program assists with covering the cost of screening procedures for eligible residents who are uninsured or underinsured. Services also include assistance with scheduling follow-up appointments, transportation, and understanding exam results.

“Colorectal cancer screening is key in the prevention of colorectal cancer, along with a healthy diet and regular exercise. Anyone who is a Worcester County resident, 45 and older or 18 and older with gastrointestinal symptoms

suggestive of colorectal cancer is highly encouraged to contact our Colorectal Cancer Screening Program,” said Kelly Shockley, Supervisor of the Worcester Colorectal Cancer Screening Program.

Worcester Health encourages residents to live an active, healthy, and tobacco-free lifestyle in order to lower their risk of developing colorectal cancer.

For more information about Worcester Health's Colorectal Cancer Screening Program, call 410-632-1100 ext. 1103.

“Americans have always been avid readers since the American Revolution,” said Carozza. “When Ben Franklin was Postmaster General, he set up a system of overnight mailing, allowing Americans to be informed faster than their British counterparts. It's exciting to see that students continue to learn that knowledge is power.”

### Chicken Day/Locals in Annapolis

The Delmarva Chicken Association in partnership with Farm Credit hosted Chicken Day in Annapolis on Tuesday for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. Delmarva has been growing meat chicken for 100 years and the chicken industry has a \$5 billion annual economic impact on Delmarva. Newton

Bui of Worcester County, a grower with Mountaire Farms, provided the chicken that was served on Chicken Day.

Several locals visited Annapolis this week including Mayor Meehan of Ocean City; Jen Evans with Ocean City Tourism; Rich Hutchins, OC RV Show; Holly Porter, Zach Evans and Bill Massey with Mountaire Farms; Eddie Lee, Realtor from Salisbury; Alishia Potter, realtor and former Delmar resident; students attending Towson University including Jayden Johnstone, Jisela Ramos, Steven Baker, Stephany Zetterstrom, and Lezah Gannon; and members of the Oyster Alliance including Dan Worrell of Worcester County.

### Preview

The Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee will hold hearings on Senate Bills 796 and 824, which would authorize the Department of Natural Resources to allow an individual in Wicomico and Worcester County, respectively, to hunt on each Sunday of game bird and game mammal season.

“Given that the Maryland General Assembly has approved Sunday hunting for several other Maryland counties, it's only fair that Worcester and Wicom-

ico have the same rights,” said Carozza. “This legislation would give Worcester and Wicomico County families more time to hunt during a limited season for game bird and game mammals.”

The House Health and Government Operations will hold hearings on House Bills 727 and 722, known as the Physician Assistant Modernization and Parity Acts, which would update the laws regarding the working relationship between Physicians and Physician Assistants to better reflect current practices in the post COVID-19 pandemic world. Senator Carozza is the Senate sponsor of these bills.

### Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	
Th 9	Low	2:39 AM	
	High	9:07 AM	
	Low	2:59 PM	
	High	9:22 PM	
F 10	Low	3:20 AM	
	High	9:44 AM	
	Low	3:34 PM	
	High	10:00 PM	
Sa 11	Low	4:04 AM	
	High	10:21 AM	
	Low	4:12 PM	
	High	10:42 PM	
Su 12	Low	5:52 AM	
	High	12:02 PM	
	Low	5:55 PM	
M 13	High	12:28 AM	
	Low	6:46 AM	
	High	12:48 PM	
	Low	6:45 PM	
Tu 14	High	1:22 AM	2.4
	Low	7:46 AM	0.4
	High	1:44 PM	1.7
	Low	7:43 PM	0.3
W 15	High	2:26 AM	2.4
	Low	8:50 AM	0.5
	High	2:49 PM	1.7
	Low	8:47 PM	0.2

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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.

To purchase a copy call **410-629-5906** or email [chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com](mailto:chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com)

# Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

I used to be able to do cart-wheels. Now I tip over putting on my underwear.

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes... so she hugged me.

My wife says I only have two faults. I don't listen and something else....

At my funeral, take the bouquet off my coffin and throw it into the crowd to see who is next.

I thought growing old would take longer.

I came, I saw, I forgot what I was doing. Retraced my steps, got lost on the way back. Now I have no idea what's going on.

The officer said, "You drinking?" I said, "You buying?" We just laughed and laughed. I need bail money.

I think the reason we are born with two hands is so we can pet two dogs at once.

Day 12 without chocolate: Lost hearing in my left eye.

Scientists say the universe is made up of protons, neutrons and electrons. They forgot to mention morons.

The adult version of "head, shoulders, knees and toes" is "wallet, glasses, keys and phone."

A dog accepts you as the boss. A cat wants to see your resume.

Oops.... did I roll my eyes out loud?

Life is too short to waste time matching socks.

Wi-fi went down for five minutes, so I had to talk to my family.

They seem like nice people.

If you see me talking to myself, just move along. I'm self-employed; we're having a staff meeting.

I won't be impressed with technology until I can download food.

Some people call me crazy. I prefer happy with a twist.

My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffers from mental illness. I said, "No, we all seem to enjoy it."

I really don't mind getting old, but my body is having a major fit.

Camping: where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person.

Project Manager...because Miracle Worker isn't an official job title.

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

Measure once, cuss twice.

My dream job would be driving the karma bus.

THINK! (It's not illegal.... YET)

I don't care who dies in a movie, as long as the dog lives.

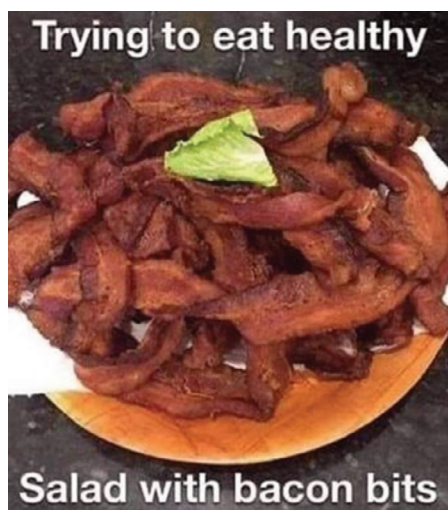
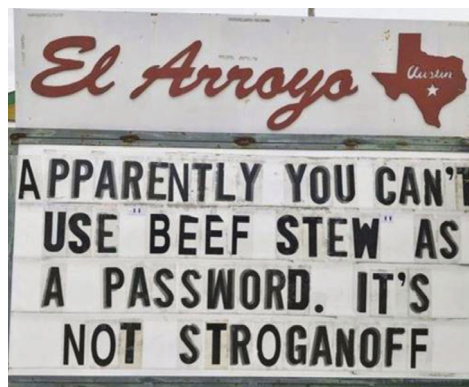
The world's best antidepressant has four legs, a wagging tail and comes with unconditional love.

Love is how excited your dog gets when you come home.

I've reached the age where my train of thought often leaves the station without me.

If you're happy and you know it, it's your meds.

Never trust an electrician with no **eyebrows**.



**SO A NEIGHBOR KNOCKED ON MY FRONT DOOR AT 3AM... 3AM!!! LUCKILY I WAS ALREADY UP PLAYING THE BAG PIPES.**

**INSTEAD OF CLEANING HOUSE I JUST WATCH AN EPISODE OF HOARDERS AND THINK WOW MY HOUSE LOOKS GREAT!!**



**At the Test Centre Nurse: Have you experienced a sudden loss of taste? Me: No, I've always dressed this way.. 🤪**

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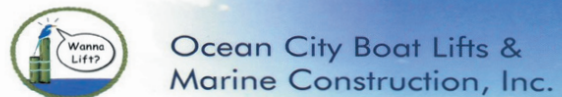


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