

The Courier

December 6, 2023 Volume 24 Number 13



Books make great Christmas gifts

Author Bunk Mann with his grandchildren Makaila, Colton
Julia, Gavin and Ryan holding copies of his books.

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'Tinsel & Twine' coming to December holiday farmers markets

Holiday cheer, family friendly activities, fresh local produce, and handmade gift items can all be found at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market this December.

Market Manager David Bean said the marketplace, open every Saturday, will feature special "Tinsel & Twine" markets through December 23.

"The winter holiday season at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market is a wonderful time of year," he said. "Come get all the trimmings at the market for the most delicious holiday meal ever, and don't forget to get your fresh produce, floral arrangements, and goodies while you're here."

Bean said market merchants are now taking special orders for the holiday season, and the marketplace is full

of great holiday gift ideas.

"Homemade jams and jellies make a wonderful gift for a co-worker or neighbor," he said. "Guys, you'll find that one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted jewelry she'll cherish for years to come."

"Our bakers also create a bountiful selection of baked goods," he continued. "From homemade cookies to made-from-scratch pies, it's all available from the marketplace."

Fresh, local oysters are another holiday favorite. Dize Seafood will stock oysters each week, just hours out of the local waters and sold both shucked and in the shell.

On Saturday, December 9, market goers are invited to join the fun with a Candy Cane Scavenger Hunt.

"Shoppers will receive a scavenger

hunt clue board that will direct them to participating market merchants, community partners and artisans," Bean said. "When the shoppers follow the clues and arrive at the market location, they'll be rewarded with a small token, like a mini candy cane or some other small gift."

Once the scavenger hunt clue board is filled out, shoppers can return their board to special market guest Miss Ginger, the head baker from Santa's workshop at the North Pole.

"Miss Ginger will have a holiday treat for all that complete the scavenger hunt," Bean said.

Singer and keyboardist Logan Oluvic will be on the market stage performing holiday music. Oluvic is a local favorite and always draws a

crowd. Additionally, Peatl Moon Facepainting will offer special holiday facepainting.

Bean added that his office recently confirmed with the North Pole that Mrs. Claus plans to attend the scavenger hunt.

"Mrs. Claus shops at the Ocean Pines marketplace each year to gather items for her holiday dinner needs," he said. "It's a big honor for all of us."

This year, Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Mondays. Because of that, Bean said there would be no disruption to the Market's regular schedule.

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon in White Horse Park, next to the Ocean Pines Administration Building and Police Department.

For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.

OPA doubles down on holiday displays

Ocean Pines Public Works is leading an effort to make the community merry and bright this holiday season.

General Manager John Viola said spending was increased for holiday decorations this year, thanks to a reallocation and repurposing of budget funds.

That includes about 25,000 lights, seven large and illuminated Christmas trees, and live trees at both the north and south gates.

Public Works also put in more than 50 live trees at White Horse Park,

ahead of the annual Hometown Christmas tree lighting.

The community response to the increase in decorations has been overwhelmingly positive.

"I'm just so impressed with the decorations and the whole place," resident Peggy Sedor said. "I rode through yesterday and I said, 'this is the best place in the world to live!' It's just beautiful and the decorations are just exquisite. Everybody is saying it."

Public Works Director Eddie Wells credited Tony Howard and his team

for putting up decorations around the community.

"Tony is a valued employee, and he has a great eye for landscaping and decorating," Wells said. "He and his crew have done an awesome job with everything so far, and there's more to come over the next several weeks."

Viola said roughly double the holiday decorations are going up this year.

"We are getting many, many positive comments about all the new decorations, and it's a credit to Public Works," he said. "We hope everyone in the Ocean Pines community enjoys all the new displays, and we hope everyone has a very merry Christmas and holiday."

'Angel tree' to support local family

The Ocean Pines Administration team is asking the community to help support a local family in need during the holiday season.

Michelle Lane-Ross, administrative assistant to the General Manager's Office, said she worked with the Berlin Crisis Center to identify a single mother with five children.

Staff then set up an "Angel Tree" in the administration building lobby decorated with ornaments that represent items requested by the family. To participate, simply stop by, pick an ornament from the tree, and return new, wrapped items by Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Lane-Ross said it was important for staff to be able to give back.

"It's a joyous time of year with all the holiday traditions, but many people struggle, and we wanted to do our part to make this time easier for one local family," she said. "We are so happy to have this opportunity for employees and the community to come together to help those less fortunate in the area."

Requested items include:

16-year-old girl:

*please see **support** on page 4*



GM updates board on fire station, holiday events and budget

General Manager John Viola's monthly report to the Board on November 18 included updates on the South Fire Station, holiday events and decorations, and continued budget favorability.

Firehouse update

Based upon current events, Viola said he has disbanded the South Fire Station workgroup that was formed in June 2022.

He recognized Ocean Pines representatives including former Board members Ted Moroney, Frank Brown and Pete Gomsak, community volunteers Marvin Steen and Bill Stamp, and from staff Senior Executive Officer Manager Linda Martin, Finance Director Steve Phillips, Public Works Director Eddie Wells, and Public Relations Director Josh Davis.

Moroney led the workgroup for Ocean Pines.

"I thought he did a great job," Viola said, adding the Association utilized a playbook like the one used to build the new Golf Clubhouse, and, "that playbook is available."

"I thought it was a win," Viola said of the effort.

Holiday decorations, events and giving campaigns

Viola said Public Works started installing Christmas lights last week, with additional holiday decorations to include seven large trees.

In total, about 25,000 lights will go

up throughout the community.

Viola said Public Works also worked with the Recreation and Parks Department to put up 50 live trees at White Horse Park, for the Hometown Christmas tree lighting that was held November 25. The Santa House at the park was redone by Ed Miller and Jon Brown from Public Works.

We continue to roll along with favorability

-John Viola

He said staff received lots of compliments on the increase in decorations, especially at the South Gate. He said live trees would be installed and lit up at both gates.

"Public Works has done a great job," he said.

Several Ocean Pines departments are also leading holiday giving campaigns:

-Recreation and Parks are taking part in "Be a Santa to a Senior" with Home Instead. Email crystal.heiser@homeinstead.com for more information.

-Aquatics has an "Angel Tree" to help support local children and families. Call 410-641-5255 for more information.

-Administration will also set up an "Angel Tree" to support a local family, with more details to follow.

Budget and financial news

Viola said the fiscal year 2024-

2025 budget process is currently in the internal review phase, and all departments have signed off on their budgets.

Public review agendas and dates are being prepared, with the Budget and Finance Committee review slated to run January 2 and 3. Board review is tentatively scheduled January 11

ended and that part of the budget was reallocated to drainage.

Martin said leaf collection information has been posted on the Ocean Pines website and social media.

Bulkheads, roads, and drainage news

Viola said 2023/2024 bulkhead replacement has started and is on track to finish by April. The work was approved by the Board last December at a contract cost of \$977,500.

The following homes are on the 2023/2024 schedule:

-Watergreen Lane: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20

-Goldeneye Court: 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23, and 24

-Wood Duck Drive: 20, 22, 24, 26, 34, and 42

Viola said just under three miles of road maintenance is scheduled to start soon. The work was approved by the Board in October at a total contract cost of \$356,618.20.

Streets included in that phase of work will include Battersea Road, Canal Road, Deerfield Court, Driftwood Lane, Moonraker Road, Waters Edge Court, Wharf Court, and the overlay of St. Martins Lane.

Viola said the drainage program of the last several years continues to be successful. The "cured in place" (CIP) system is said to be more cost effective and less invasive than traditional pipe replacement methods.

"This has been a big win," he said.

Recent drainage improvements have focused on Teal Circle and Moonshell Drive.

Viola said the forecast for the year is for \$250,000 in drainage spending from reserves, in addition to the \$175,000 operational budget for drainage ditch maintenance.

Trash service contract

Viola said the Association is reviewing bids for trash service. He said the current trash and recycling contract ends on December 31 and an all-inclusive contract will be approved by the Board and awarded prior to that.

"We do have to look at the past experience of different contractors ... Linda [Martin] and her team is addressing that," Viola said.

and 12, with a town hall penciled in for February 7.

Viola said the proposed budget will be given to the Board and committee prior to the holiday.

"It's on track," he said.

For the current fiscal year, Viola said the Association was favorable to budget by roughly \$93,000 in October. Year-to-date favorability is approximately \$578,000.

"We continue to roll along with favorability," he said, crediting a mix of revenue increases and expense decreases.

He added the trend of "organic growth" has continued, highlighting budget favorability in Golf and at the Yacht Club.

Racquet Center update

Viola said a new fence was the last of three main items recently requested by Racquet Sports management.

Installed by Public Works at a total cost of \$2,200, he said the fence was put in to help deal with some customers who tried to avoid paying at the front entrance. Viola said staff will also look at cameras, because there are already reports of people climbing the new fence to avoid paying.

Leaf collection schedule released

Viola said up to four bags of leaves will be picked up by Republic Services during regularly scheduled trash collection days. Additionally, Public Works will pick up bagged through December 29 on days opposite of Republic Services collection.

Loose or paper bagged yard waste can be dropped off to the Public Works yard through to December 30 (except for Christmas Day and December 26) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stickers are required for drop-off and can be picked up at the Public Works front desk.

Viola said the vacuum program has

support
from page 3

- Size 8 women's shoes
- Size small shirts and pants
- Hair clips
- Camo hunting stuff
- Soft and fuzzy blankets

15-year-old boy:

- Size 15 men's shoes
- Size 2X shirts
- Size 36x32 jeans or XL sweats
- Bed set for a queen bed
- Anything for a PlayStation 5
- Music

13-year-old boy:

- Size 12 men's shoes
- Size XL shirts
- Size large pants
- Basketball stuff
- Washington Commanders foot-

ball stuff

12-year-old boy:

- Size 11 men's shoes
- Size large shirts
- Size medium pants
- Xbox stuff
- Basketball gear/stuff

8-year-old girl:

- Size 9 women's shoes
- Size medium shirts
- Size medium pants
- Arts and crafts supplies
- Fake nails set
- Baby doll clothes
- Games
- Coloring books

For more information, contact
Lane-Ross at
mross@oceanpines.org

The watch for me

What time is it? A common question we've all asked from time to time (no pun intended).

Learning the time isn't how it once was. Like so many other gadgets, timepieces have evolved. There was a time when the answer was found by looking



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

at sundials, the position of the stars, water clocks, pendulum clocks, pocket watches or wristwatches. There was a time when you could call the phone company for the exact time.

Like with so many other things for which we turn to our cell phones, learning the time is also one of them. When you consider we use our phone as a camera, map, encyclopedia, language translator, typewriter, post office, shopping assistant, travel advisor and so much more, it only stands to reason that we would turn to our phone to know the time. Although I read recently that more people, especially Millennials, are less likely to wear a wristwatch, watches aren't gone altogether. Many have morphed into something else.

More and more watches interface with cell phones alerting the wearer to who's calling, texting or emailing. Some watches function as medical assistants measuring pulse and blood pressure. That's a far cry from the mainspring driven timepieces that first appeared in the 16th century.

During a recent visit to Gettysburg, I noticed several shops selling faux-vintage pocket watches ubiquitous in the days of rail travel, Lincoln and the war between the states. The watches did no more than tell the time. Simple yet practical.

As a boy, getting a watch was a passage to growing up. If memory serves, I was about six years old when I received my first timepiece, a Snoopy watch. This was followed a couple years later with a space-themed watch depicting the lunar surface and the Apollo space capsule. Both were wind up watches inevitably overwound and destined for the bottom junk drawer of my bedroom dresser.

In seventh grade I got a Timex digi-

tal watch with push buttons on either side of the face. Depressing one button revealed the date; depressing the other activated a stop watch. For some reason, the watch stopped working within a short time. Replacing the battery was no help. I wrote Timex about the situa-

tion. They sent me another watch which also failed within a short time. I then bought a different-brand digital watch that had the same fate. Much later I was told that for whatever reason, some people cannot wear digital watches because the electrical impulses of the body negatively interfere with the electrical impulses of the watch. Whether that's true or not I can't say for sure. However, if it's a choice between scrambling the electrical impulses of my watch or the electrical impulses within me, I'm fine with the watch being rendered lifeless.

Since then, I've not worn a digital watch and have experienced no problems. In college, either because of damage or dead battery, I went through one cheap watch after another, usually a Timex that I bought from Woolworths or Two Guys department store.

For my fortieth birthday, my wife gave me a good watch. Although that was more years ago than I care to admit, I'm pleased to write that the watch is presently on my wrist keeping perfect time. During the years since, my wife has given me two more watches – one formal and one more casual. Both are still ticking fine.

When it comes to watches I have likes and dislikes. First and foremost, no Roman numerals. Regular numbers or dash marks are what I like. Also, I prefer a watch that displays the date and day. And finally, I like a simple watch face. I don't need much less want a lot of dials like those found on a diver's watch. I don't dive and with my eyesight as it is, I couldn't read the little dials anyway.

My watch does not interface with my phone or anything else. It doesn't chime or chirp to remind me of my next appointment or how many steps I've walked during the day. I can't text, email or use it to make a call, coffee or remotely start my car.

It simply tells time. As John Cameron Swayze used to say, "It takes a licking and keeps on ticking." That's the watch for me.



"Vanishing Ocean City" is the first book in Bunk Mann's three volume historical series.

With over 500 photos and images, *Vanishing Ocean City* takes you through a truly unique history of Ocean City, from its beginning in 1875 to the present. Author Bunk Mann spent 7 years compiling photos (most of which have never been published) and stories of Ocean City's colorful history, with memories of the great storms and fires, life on the Boardwalk, Ocean City's famous characters, the Ocean City Beach Patrol, deep sea fishing, and more.

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Seacrets	Caprichos Books	Mann & Gray Insurance
Crabs to Go	Kitty's Flowers	Bay Country Shop
Wockenfuss Candies	Victorian Charm	Atlantic Beverage Center
Berlin Auto Wash		Malibu's Surf Shop

Also Available Online at www.vanishingoc.com

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Commentary

By Joe Reynolds
OceanPinesForum.com

OPA/OPVFD: The Relationship

It is no secret. The relationship between the Ocean Pines Association (OPA) and the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department is extremely frayed at this time. The controversy revolves around plans to build a new southside fire station. Initially, the OPVFD proposed a structure costing about \$8.5 million. Then, through the efforts of OPA General Manager John Viola and several community volunteers, a new station plan was developed to meet the needs of OPVFD with an estimated cost of \$4.5 million.

The rub came because the OPVFD has about \$2.75 million. OPA funding of about \$2 million additional would re-

quire a referendum and also raised the legal question as to whether OPA could invest that money in a property it did not own.

Negotiations over various options broke down. Viola announced publicly that his volunteer group working on a design plan was disbanded. OPVFD may just go with a rehab of that old building.

With that as a brief background on a rather complicated dispute between the parties, let's look at the contractual relationship between OPA and OPVFD.

When Boise Cascade created Ocean Pines the Declarations of Restrictions for the HOA required OPA to provide fire protection. Interestingly, those DRs did

not require OPA to provide EMS services.

In 1973 some retired association members formed the OPVFD with a single, old firetruck. Eventually, there was some sort of agreement in 1975 between OPA and OPVFD to formalize the relationship and meet the DR requirement to provide fire protection. Soon after, in 1977 another agreement was signed and the 1975 agreement was rescinded. The primary aspects of that September 3, 1977 agreement remain in effect to this day. Few association members know what it contains.

The "whereas" part of the 1977 agreement says OPA "caused the department to be incorporated and has provided it with substantial financial and other forms of assistance."

The agreement says OPVFD agrees to provide "adequate fire protection" and to fulfill all of OPA's obligations to provide fire protection under the DRs.

Now comes the issue of funding in the 1977 Agreement. OPVFD agreed to seek funding from Worcester County. Should those funds and any other funds fall short of meeting "the reasonable needs" of the OPVFD, then the department can apply to OPA for "financial or other form of assistance."

The key wording regarding OPA financial assistance to OPVFD is: "The association (OPA) shall provide financial or other form of assistance to the Department in such form or amount as the Board of Directors of the Association may, in its sole discretion, deem reasonably necessary to meet the needs of the Department as evidenced in its request."

Over the years it is clear a number of sitting board members do not read these agreements. For example, one board member expressed concern that OPA had no access to the books and records of OPVFD. The 1977 agreement states: "Upon reasonable notice from the Association, the Department shall permit the Association to inspect all books, records, journals, and other accounts maintained by it."

Another agreement was signed in May 2008. This agreement allowed the OPVFD to build a new northside fire station in Whitehorse Park in return for giving up its space in the old Community

Center. The 2008 agreement also reaffirmed the 1977 agreement and made no changes regarding funding.

In September 2011 the parties signed a "Memorandum of Understanding." This MOU again reaffirms the 1977 agreement but does add additional services provided by OPVFD - emergency medical services and rescue services. This was needed because the 1977 Agreement said OPA funding could only be used for fire protection.

In July 2013 the parties signed a "Supplement" to the 2011 MOU addressing replacement reserves.

Over the years, OPA has not been stingy in funding OPVFD. The proposed budget for the coming fiscal year includes a \$1.3 million contribution to OPVFD. For perspective, this represents about \$150 of the assessment homeowners pay each year.

For comparison, The Town of Berlin contributed \$525,000 to the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department in 2023. Fire departments also receive funding from Worcester County. Berlin received \$218,000 from the County in 2023, while OPVFD received \$311,000.

Members of OPA are extremely satisfied with the fire and EMS services provided by OPVFD. Both parties need to get back to the bargaining table and come up with an agreement that provides adequate structural facilities at the southside station now and in the future.

The disagreement over who owns the southside station property is a non-issue for community members who simply desire the best fire and EMS service. If the OPVFD can obtain a loan for the needed funds, OPA should agree to fund the loan payments as a part of OPA's yearly budget. If the OPVFD cannot obtain a loan on its own and OPA is legally prohibited from spending \$2 million or more for a structure on property it does not own, then OPVFD should turn over ownership of the property to OPA with adequate lease rights to protect the future of OPVFD.

Both parties need to do what is best for the people of Ocean Pines and stop feuding over funding and/or ownership of a needed new southside fire station. This is imperative.

Courier Almanac

On December 6, 1884, in Washington, D.C., workers place a nine-inch aluminum pyramid inscribed with "Laus Deo," meaning praise (be) to God, atop a tower of white marble, completing the construction of an impressive monument to the city's namesake and the nation's first president, George Washington.

Menorahs are a prominent symbol of Chanukah. Menorahs are seven-branched candelabras that have been used in Jewish worship since ancient times. The seven branches refer to the seven days of creation. The menorah is the traditional symbol of Judaism and the emblem of the state of Israel. For Chanukah, a nine-branched candelabra called a hanukiah is used, but the word "menorah" has become interchangeable. The Chanukah menorah consists of nine candles. The center and ninth candle are referred to as the Shamash. It is used to light all the other candles. The lighting of the menorah over the eight days of Chanukah symbolizes the miracle that occurred during the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean revolt. The sacred oil, of which there was only enough for one day's lighting, miraculously lasted for eight days.



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The
Courier



Giving thanks - Students in Kara Wolf's third grade class at Ocean City Elementary are preparing for the holiday season. They recently celebrated all the things for which they are thankful, added feathers to the school's thankful turkey and created Thanksgiving lapbooks.

Arts Council awards grants to local organizations

The Worcester County Arts Council awarded award \$19,495 in the Community Arts Development Grants program for art projects and events to be presented by local nonprofit organizations during the six-month granting cycle beginning January 1.

Grant projects are evaluated based on the overall quality of cultural excellence, community outreach and public impact, and financial/administrative merit.

In FY 2024, the Worcester County Arts Council awarded \$42,695 to local non-profit organizations through this program which is funded and supported by the Maryland State Arts Council.

The following is a list of organizations and their projects that are being awarded a Community Arts Development Grant for the current granting period:

- Art League of Ocean City – After School Art Club
- Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra – 2024 Spring
- Ocean Pines Children's Theater –

“Mean Girls, Jr.” Musical

Pine Tones Chorus – Spring Concert and Sing Outs

Pocomoke Drama Club - “Little Mermaid” Musical

Town of Berlin/Berlin Main Street - Farmers Market Live Music

Ward Foundation, Inc. – Ward Carving Competition

Ocean City Library Branch – Children's Area Entryway

Applications are currently accepted for art projects through the Mini-Grant program. The Mini-Grant program is intended to provide funds (up to \$500) for new projects facing an emergency need that emerges between grant periods and deserve immediate Arts Council support. Visit www.worcestercountyartsCouncil.org for more information.

The next deadline to receive grant applications for the Community Arts Development Grant Program is April 15. For technical assistance and more information, please contact Anna Mullis, Executive Director: anna@worces-tercountyartsCouncil.org



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Letter to Board of Education: suggestions on how to secure schools

(The following letter was sent to the Worcester County Board of Education and shared with The Courier.)

Board Members:

I know you are all engaged in one of the, if not the, most important undertakings that you can do; securing our schools, protecting our most treasured loves, our children. Options have been considered, but allow me to offer another. To some of you this option will be abhorrent and too emotional to consider. I think it will be the most effective.

Try to get in the very disturbed, sick mind of a would-be assassin. For



reasons only known to him or her, they have a desire to kill and maim and bring misery to as many people as possible with as little risk to themselves as possible. They look for an easy target that will offer no opposition. I think we can safely assume they have thought the assault through and calculated the risks to themselves. They fully understand that a school is a “gun-free-zone”. This means that the bullets they project will not be returned to them. They know that the overwhelming number of people are good, law-abiding citizens and will not violate a gun-free-zone. This will give the would-be perpetrator a secure, enabling feeling and will enable them to feel the horrendous act will probably go down unopposed. When you think

about it, this line of security and reasoning is quite realistic. Who will stop them or even slow them down, reducing the carnage? As things are right now, no one!

Posting a sheriff or an armed guard in the school will be known to the assassin. The inherent problem with this is that the killer will know his first target. Kill the guard and he is home free among “gun-free-zone” law abiders.

The next thing I am going to suggest will immediately illicit a negative emotional response from some, due to the fact that they have a distorted, unrealistic notion of what the organization is, its history and what it stands for. The National Rifle Association, the oldest civil rights organization in America, has a program to train school personnel in the safe and proper handling of a fire arm in schools. The cost-effective training course is dedicated to those schools that want to harden their resistance to mad killers and effectively protect their students. The operative term here is “effectively”!

I propose the board solicit school staff personnel who volunteer to be licensed and trained in the safe proper use of a concealed weapon. These weapons will be concealed on these staff members at all times that they are on school grounds. The names of these staff members, (Notice I did not say teachers?) will be kept as confidential as possible. The would-be gunman will know that he or she stands an excellent chance having fire returned to them from defenders he has no way of determining. Some will say, “So we are going to have a “shoot-out”? Yes, but this time the bullets will be going the other way and not last very long for a trained gun user will also be trained in accuracy. Just think how the carnage can be reduced!

Remember the adages: “A good man with a gun always stops a bad man with a gun!” This applies to law enforcement and the military. Also: “When seconds count, the police are only minutes away!”

I know some will call me a nut and say that this is ridiculous. I will call you a shallow thinker who allows emotions to control your ability to think logically. Consider this, how many school shootings do you hear about in Israel who are surrounded with thousands who want to annihi-

late Jewish children? Some will say that this is a poor analogy and their situation is different. Think about it deeper, both there and here we have killers that want to kill as many as possible. In Israel the teachers are armed.

Also consider how many American facilities are protected with armed guards but our children in schools are not. Why is that? Some will say that there are too many guns we don’t need more. Yes we do, we need them in the hands of good people that will use them to protect you. Now we have the good people, AKA law abiding, who are not armed, which leaves the bad people, AKA outlaws to carry them. People are too emotional about guns and fail to read how many people are saved from death and destruction each year because a good person had a gun to protect themselves and others? Guns are tools for protection not just tools for killing. There very possession, not firing, deters crime. This is a statistic you don’t hear about!!!

In conclusion is can suggest the Worcester County Board of Education, maintaining an open mind, contact the NRA and learn what they have to offer in terms of training for school personnel. You will be surprised!!!!

God forbid we have a school shooting. But if we do, would any of you who oppose this solution and stopped it implementation feel any guilt??? If not so much for the actual incident but for the EXTENT of the carnage which could have been lessened???

Dennis W. Evans
Berlin

Plant shut down will impact power grid

Editor:

I’m sure glad I don’t have to rely on the mainstream media for all my news. I recently learned through other media that the Brandon Shores coal fired power plant outside of Baltimore is scheduled to shut down and close in 2025. I guess that wouldn’t be a problem if the needed improvements to the power grid were going to be completed by then. Unfortunately, that is not the case.

The power grid operator - PJM Interconnection - which coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in all or parts of 13 states and District of Columbia, serving 65 million customers - said the shutdown of the Brandon Shores plant will disrupt the reliability of the region’s grid, as the grid operator would need to divert electricity generated elsewhere, but transmission upgrades in Maryland aren’t expected to be finished until 2028. That “region” includes Baltimore and the immediate surrounding areas. How long before it affects the rest of the state? Asking for a friend.

The decision to close Brandon Shores and two other plants was the result of a 2020 agreement between the plant operator, Talen Energy, and the Sierra Club, which aims to avoid future litigation or permit disputes

related to coal at Talen’s “transitioning sites”. Hmmm - do what we want and we won’t sue.

Both PJM and Talen have confirmed they are currently engaged in negotiation with the Sierra Club and Maryland state officials to find a solution. “We are always mindful of regional electric system reliability and how it relates to electricity consumers in Maryland,” said Maryland Public Service Commission spokesperson Tori Leonard in a statement. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is now involved and has greenlighted PJM’s nearly 800-million-dollar emergency plan for transmission upgrades to blunt the Brandon Shores closures. The FERC Commissioner said on November 8th the shutdown could cause “severe voltage collapse in Baltimore and the surrounding zones, including Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia, Delaware and southeastern Pennsylvania,” adding such a scenario would be “potentially catastrophic.”

I think this might be a good time to write to Governor Moore and Senators Cardin and Van Hollen to voice our concerns. We should also let our Congressional Representatives and State Senators and Delegates know about any concerns we have.

Carol Frazier
Ocean Pines



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'Light Up the Pines' outdoor decorating event returns to Ocean Pines

Ocean Pines residents and property owners interested in adding holiday cheer to the community are invited to participate in this year's "Light Up the Pines" outdoor decorating program.

Those who register with the program will be featured on an online Google map, which will include locations of the decorated properties.

Participants will also be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$50

bill credits donated by Choptank Electric Cooperative, which sponsors the program. Additionally, the first 25 registered participants received a goody bag, also courtesy of Choptank Electric.

Households interested in participating should submit a name, address, and phone number via email to info@oceanpines.org. Participants are also asked, if possible, to submit a photo of their lighted home for a spe-

cial holiday video.

The initial deadline to register is Friday, Dec. 8, although residents may continue to sign up after this date and through the holiday season to have

their homes included on the online map.

The map of participating homes may be viewed via the link on the home page at oceanpines.org.

Facts about the month of December

December is arguably the most festive month of the year. The holiday season and all the gatherings with family and friends make the final month of the year a busy time. But a peek under the proverbial hood reveals that there's more to December than the holiday season.

1. Armchair linguists might know that the Latin word "decem" means "ten," which is a little curious given that December is the twelfth month of the year. So why isn't December the tenth month of the year? Like other months on the modern calendar, including October and November, December once occupied a different place on the calendar, namely the Julian calendar that was used prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar. Back then, December was the tenth month on the calendar. Though its position changed when the Gregorian calendar was adopted, its name remained the same.

2. It's easy to overlook in a month populated by holidays like Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa, but the winter solstice is a significant day on the calendar as well. According to the Farmer's Almanac, the 2023 winter solstice occurs on December 21 at 10:27 p.m. EST for the northern hemisphere. The winter solstice might not be sun worshippers' favorite day of the year, as it's the day with the least amount of sunlight all year long. However, one positive to keep in mind is that, once the winter solstice occurs, each day thereafter experiences a gradual increase in daylight. That should give anyone yet another reason to celebrate in December.

3. December has historically been a month of firsts, particularly for women and politicians. On December 1, 1919, Lady Nancy Astor became the first woman to serve in the British House of Commons. Exactly 69 years later, Benazir Bhutto was nominated for the role of prime minister of Pakistan. Bhutto ultimately became the first woman to be elected as head of a democratic govern-

ment in a Muslim-majority country. Political firsts in December are not limited to events involving women. A year after Bhutto was nominated, Russia's Mikhail Gorbachev became the first Soviet Russian leader to visit the Vatican and meet the Pope.

4. January might be the month people most associate with efforts to change their fortunes, but the birthstone of December also is considered a symbol of good fortune. The Farmer's Almanac notes that one of the birthstones of December is turquoise, which some believe is symbolic of good fortune and success.

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The partridge

A partridge is a medium-sized galliform bird in any of several genera, with a wide native distribution throughout parts of Europe, Asia and Africa. Several species have been introduced to the Americas. They are sometimes grouped in the subfamily of pheasants, quail, etc.

Partridges are medium-sized game birds, generally intermediate in size between the larger pheasants, smaller quail; they're ground-dwelling birds that feature variable plumage coloration across species, with most being grey and brown.

Partridges are native to Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. Some species are found nest-

in captivity and released for the purpose of hunting. For the same reason, they have been introduced into large areas of North America.

According to Greek legend, the first partridge appeared when Daedalus threw his nephew, Perdix, off the sacred hill of Athena in a fit of jealous rage. Supposedly mindful of his fall, the bird does not build its nest in the trees, nor take lofty flights and avoids high places.

As described by medieval scholar Madeleine Pelner Cosman, medical practitioners in the Middle Ages recommended partridge as a food of love: They suggested that "Partridge was superior in arousing dulled passions and increasing the powers of engendering. Gentle to the human stomach, partridge stimulated bodily fluids, raised the spirits, and firmed the muscles."

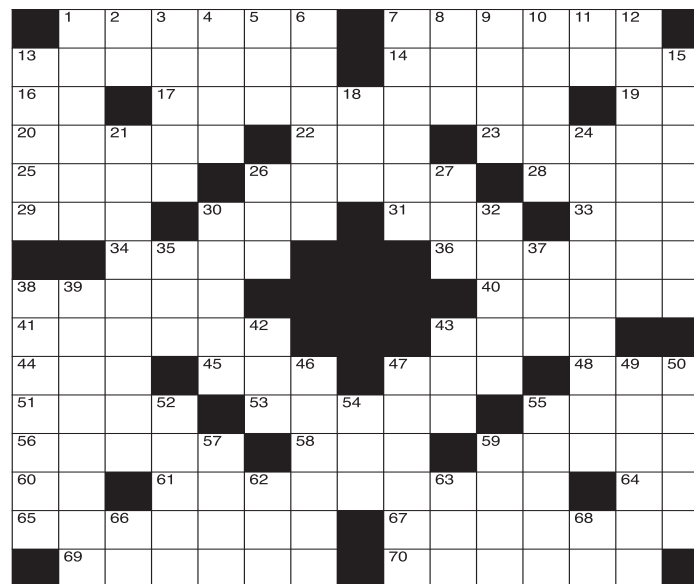
Probably the most famous reference to the partridge is in the Christmas carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." The first gift listed is "a partridge in a pear tree," and these words end each verse. Since partridges are unlikely to be seen in pear trees (they are ground-nesting birds) it has been suggested that the text "a pear tree" is a corruption of the French "une perdrix" (a partridge).

-Wikipedia



ing on steppes or agricultural land, while other species prefer more forested areas. They nest on the ground and have a diet consisting of seeds and insects.

The grey partridge and the red-legged partridge are popular as game birds, and are often reared



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Spiritual leaders
- 7. Salt
- 13. Fortified wine
- 14. Edible mollusk
- 16. It begins with them
- 17. A way to compare
- 19. Government lawyer
- 20. Back parts
- 22. 8th month (abbr.)
- 23. Very willing
- 25. ___ ex machina
- 26. Satisfies
- 28. Quebec river
- 29. A doctrine
- 30. Popular pickup truck
- 31. Dekagram
- 33. Naturally occurring solid material
- 34. Company officer
- 36. Villains
- 38. Cricket frogs
- 40. German founder of psychology
- 41. Endured
- 43. A female domestic
- 44. A "place" to avoid
- 45. Cigarette (slang)
- 47. Canadian politician Josephine
- 48. French ballet/acting dynasty
- 51. Employee stock ownership plan
- 53. Belonging to the bottom
- 55. Sound
- 56. Yankees' slugger Judge
- 58. Dickens character
- 59. More wise
- 60. Flash memory card
- 61. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- 64. Atomic #79
- 65. Longtime Braves pitcher Julio
- 67. Humor
- 69. Shawl
- 70. Preliminary assessment of patients

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Animal disease
- 2. Commercial
- 3. Craft supply
- 4. Storage units
- 5. Investment vehicle
- 6. Colorado Heisman winner
- 7. In a way, sank
- 8. Post-birth brain damage (abbr.)
- 9. Lay about
- 10. Intestinal
- 11. The opposite of yes
- 12. Caused to be loved
- 13. Messianic in Islamic eschatology
- 15. Showing since conviction
- 18. Not safe
- 21. The number above the line in a fraction
- 24. Yard invader
- 26. Pouch
- 27. Swedish krona
- 30. Start anew
- 32. While white or yellow flower
- 35. Fourteen
- 37. Graphical user interface
- 38. Up-to-date on the news
- 39. Campaigns
- 42. Touch softly
- 43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- 46. Violent seizure of property
- 47. One who supports the Pope
- 49. Anxiety
- 50. Body fluid
- 52. Phony person
- 54. Title of respect
- 55. Chilean city
- 57. City in central Japan
- 59. Silk garment
- 62. Draw from
- 63. Automobile
- 66. Man
- 68. Legal bigwig (abbr.)



Answers for November 22



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Traditions associated with Chanukah celebrations

During December, the holiday season has hit full swing. Celebrants of various faiths and backgrounds participate in holiday celebrations, which are unique to each faith.



Although Chanukah is a relatively minor holiday on the Jewish religious calendar, it has enjoyed a greater share of fanfare in recent years. That popu-

Pines Tones to perform Friday

On Friday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. the Pine Tones Chorus will present their Christmas Concert at Atlantic United Methodist Church located in Ocean City at Baltimore Ave. and 4th Street.

The concert, "A Very Jazzy Christmas" will feature spirited and syncopated selections as well as some with dream-like harmonies.

Chorus president Dave Holloway, said, "My favorite song is our arrangement of "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" with its jazzy, spirited sound."

Other songs featuring high energy will include "Perfect Christmas Night" from the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and also a rollicking version of "Joy to the World."

From the story "A Charlie Brown Christmas" comes the song "Christmas Time is Here," a well-known popular theme. Other songs reflecting the mellow, contemporary harmonies will include "White Christmas" and "I'll be

larity is perhaps due to the proximity of Chanukah to another major December celebration featuring a bearded fellow in a red suit. Chanukah isn't mandated by the Torah, and isn't even mentioned in the Hebrew Bible. Rather, it was created by the ancient rabbis.

Judaism is one of the world's oldest and most influential religions. World Population Review estimates there were approximately 15.2 million Jews worldwide in 2021. Many likely will participate in Chanukah celebrations. Chanukah begins on the 25th day of Kislev each year. In 2023, Chanukah begins at sundown on December 7 and ends on the evening of Friday, December 15. Here are some Chanukah traditions.

Lighting the menorah. Participants will light a special nine-pronged menorah, sometimes called a hanukiah. It is practice to light one candle per night to recall the miracle of the sacred lamp oil that lasted for eight days during the rededication of the Temple. The ninth candle (sham-mash) is used to light the others. Lighting the menorah has been a primary ritual for at least 1,800 years. Lit menorahs are placed in prominent locations, including front windows in homes.

Playing dreidel. There are various stories about the origins of the dreidel, but historians say the first mention in Jewish writings did not occur until the 18th century. The four sides of the

dreidel are marked with different letters, which in German are G "ganz" (all), H "halb" (half), N nischt" (nothing) and S "schict" (put). This dictates whether the player who spun the dreidel gets all, half or nothing in the collective coin pot, or has to put in his own. Yiddish is quite similar to German, and the letters on the dreidel also correspond to the first letters of the Yiddish phrase "nes gadol haya sham," which translates to "a great miracle happened here," a reference to the Chanukah miracle.

Time at home. Unlike other Jewish

Chanukah begins at sundown on December 7 and ends on the evening of Friday, December 15.

holidays, Chanukah is celebrated primarily at home rather than in a synagogue. This means that family time is a big component of Chanukah celebrations, which include singing songs, praying and cooking foods.

Fried dishes. Eating dishes cooked in oil is another commemoration of the miracle of the oil. Potato pancakes called latkes and jelly doughnuts may be served during Chanukah celebrations.

Giving gelt and gifts. Gelt was the gift of coin that would be given out to independent workers come Chanukah as an end-of-year gratuity. Later it became a way to offer small tokens to children. Today's gelt is typically discs

of chocolate wrapped in foil to resemble coins.

Many families also give gifts during Chanukah, particularly on the sixth night. But Chanukah gift-giving generally is not to the extent of gift-giving in other religions. Gifts may be monetary but also can include gifts of time.

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High /Low	Tide Time
Th 7	High	3:15 AM
7	Low	9:08 AM
7	High	3:29 PM
7	Low	9:26 PM
F 8	High	4:04 AM
8	Low	10:03 AM
8	High	4:18 PM
8	Low	10:10 PM
Sa 9	High	4:50 AM
9	Low	10:56 AM
9	High	5:04 PM
9	Low	10:54 PM
Su 10	High	5:34 AM
10	Low	11:45 AM
10	High	5:49 PM
10	Low	11:38 PM
M 11	High	6:18 AM
11	Low	12:33 PM
11	High	6:34 PM
Tu 12	Low	12:23 AM
12	High	7:04 AM
12	Low	1:19 PM
12	High	7:20 PM
W 13	Low	1:08 AM
13	High	7:51 AM
13	Low	2:06 PM
13	High	8:08 PM

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please see **performance** page 12

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"I hope you find the book interesting, at times humorous and be able to visualize yourself and your family in similar situations."

- Chip Bertino

A unique holiday gift idea

Experiencing pain with spinal stenosis?

By **Lauren Nuttle, DPT,**
Aquacare Physical Therapy

Thinking about starting a new exercise program? Maybe yoga will be your new thing for relaxation and flexibility if you are experiencing pain from spinal stenosis. As with any new exercise program, it is important that you consult with your physician and/or physical therapist, especially, if you have known health conditions that may limit your participation.

What is spinal stenosis?

Lumbar spinal stenosis is a narrowing of the spinal canal. It may compress nerves and increase radicular symptoms in the legs. There are several types of spinal stenosis:

Central canal - nerve pinched in the main spinal canal

Foraminal - nerve pinched in the passageways as the nerve exits the spinal canal

Lateral - nerve pinched as it exits spinal canal.

Who does spinal stenosis affect?

Lumbar spinal stenosis can affect anyone. However, due to it being degenerative in nature it generally affects people who are 50 years old or older.

What are the symptoms of spinal stenosis?

There are several signs that you are

experiencing spinal stenosis. Here are a few symptoms:

- Increase in leg pain with walking (or without); it may be in one or both
- General weakness
- Increase in pain in standing
- Back pain
- Tingling/burning in legs
- Severity/intensity can vary day to day
- Cramping in legs
- Trunk flexed posture
- Incontinence - severe
- Paralysis - severe.

What activities should I avoid?

During your day, make a conscious effort to prevent aggravating your back pain. Here are some movements to avoid:

- Back extension greater than neutral
- High-impact activities - running, jumping
- Longer walks.

How can physical therapy help?

Physical therapy is a great conservative treatment for lumbar spinal stenosis. Physical therapy can help build strength and endurance in a safe manner that reduces symptoms of aggravation. Physical therapy for spinal stenosis can include but is not limited to riding a recumbent bike, aquatics, yoga, stretching, and assisting in weight loss and strength training. Your therapist can assist in posture modifications to allow you to continue to enjoy your normal activities.

What are some treatment options?

Lumbar spinal stenosis can be treated in multiple ways. A person can try conservative treatments or more invasive treatments like surgery. Some conservative treatments can include ice/heat, NSAIDS, weight loss, diet/nutrition, and holistic approaches. A mid-range invasive technique may be injections.

As always, never begin an exercise program or change in medication without consulting your physician, or physical therapist.

Struggling with low back pain? Schedule a consultation with our physical therapy teams in Delaware and Maryland. Call the location nearest you or go online: www.aquacarephysicaltherapy.com.

performance
from page 11

Home for Christmas."

The Pine Tones Chorus includes about 50 singers from Ocean Pines, Ocean City, and nearby areas. The chorus is under the direction of Jenny Anderson and Pete Anderson. Guest musicians will accompany the chorus with Tom Baione playing string bass and Frank Pasqualino adding percussion.

Admission is free and an offering will be received. After the concert, guests may enjoy refreshments in the church social hall.

The Pine Tones Chorus has been entertaining local audiences in the Ocean Pines and Ocean City areas since 1984. For additional information, call the chorus president, Dave Holloway at 410-641-5672 or Jenny Anderson at 443-655-5636.

About Pets

How to get house cats some exercise

Cats make beloved pets for any number of reasons. Many pet owners love their cats for their quirky personalities, while others like the companionship of an animal that does not require the same level of hands-on attention as a dog.

In a testament to the love pet owners have for their cats, many would do anything to keep them

toys cats seem to like best and then use those toys during exercise sessions to entice participation. Use one or two toys each session and swap them every few days so cats do not grow bored with their fitness routines.

Incentivize physical activity. Much like dogs respond to treats during behavior training, cats are more likely to engage in exercise when sessions end with a reward. PetMD notes some post-exercise praise and a few healthy treats can encourage cats to participate willingly in exercise sessions.

Don't overdo it. Cats are not humans, so felines' fitness sessions don't need to mirror their owners' lengthy workouts. Play sessions intended to get cats to exercise can last between 10 and 15 minutes each. PetMD recommends limiting sessions to two or three per day for older cats, while as many as 10 sessions per day can be effective for younger cats.

safe, happy and healthy. Cat health can be easy to take for granted, as felines are generally quiet and many prefer to spend ample time alone. However, pet owners must take an active role in the health of their cats, and that includes ensuring the felines get enough exercise. The United Kingdom-based People's Dispensary for Sick Animals notes that cats that stay fit and remain active are less likely to become obese and develop diabetes and arthritis.

Cat owners know that the very quirks that make cats such lovable pets also can make it hard to get them to do things they won't necessarily want to do. But the following are some ways to ensure cats get enough exercise to stay fit and healthy.

Determine which toys cats like best. Some pre-exercise observation can help lay a strong foundation for feline fitness sessions. The PDSA advises cat owners to identify which

Let cats sink their teeth and claws into a workout. WebMD recommends letting cats sink their teeth and claws into toys during a workout. This type of engagement satisfies cats and will encourage them to embrace exercise sessions. Keep some replacements at the ready in case cats are especially enthusiastic.

Employ a laser pointer. Cat owners are undoubtedly aware and likely amused by how much cats are drawn to laser pointers. Make the most of that inability to resist laser light by using a laser pointer during a cat's workout routine. Cats will chase the pointer all over the room, all the while getting some beneficial exercise.

Cats can benefit from routine exercise just as much as their owners, and there are several fun and even some amusing ways to encourage felines to enthusiastically engage in physical activity.



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Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Artemis mission updates

On December 11, 2022 the Artemis-1 mission, driven by the SLS, the most powerful rocket ever to fly, completed its 25-day flight from the Earth to the moon and back. NASA and space fans worldwide celebrated the splash down of the mission's unmanned Orion capsule, as it returned home.

Now a year later, new activities at NASA are afoot, pushing toward the goal of landing astronauts on the lunar surface, for the first time in more than 50 years. Their next step towards this is the Artemis-2 mission, tentatively scheduled

(ESM). The ESM's purpose is to provide electricity, air and water to the capsule occupants. On October 19 at Kennedy Spaceflight Center, the Orion capsule and the ESM module were linked together for the very first time, using a special adapter mechanism.

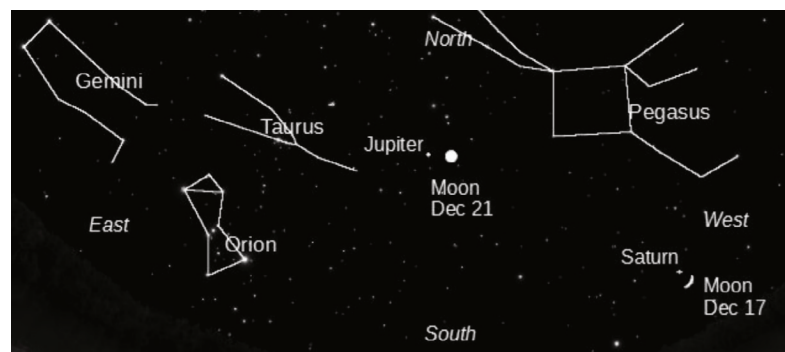
NASA officials said, "The team will power up the combined crew and service module for the first time. After the power-on tests are complete, Orion will begin altitude chamber testing, which will put the spacecraft through conditions as close as possible to the environment it will experience in the vacuum of deep space."

Among the tests performed will be power distribution, command data handling, and video functional testing. Some of the components used in Artemis-1 mission will be refurbished for use on Artemis-2 such as the guidance navigation system, radio communications antennas and transponders.

Orion crew capsules for the various Artemis flights and earlier NASA trips were made by Lockheed Martin. The capsule's state-of-the-art computer network is 25 times



Artemis 2 crew, from left: Pilot **Victor Glover**, Commander **Reid Wiseman**, mission specialists **Jeremy Hansen** and **Christina Koch**.



to launch in November 2024. This mission will fly four astronauts around the far side of the Earth's nearest neighbor and demonstrate the intricate life support systems of the Orion crew capsule as it hosts its intrepid occupants.

To help prepare for the 2024 launch, an extensive series of tests are now being performed on the Orion crew capsule, along with the European Service Module

faster than earlier versions on the International Space Station and now features triple redundancy.

The European Service Module was built by Airbus Defence and Space, located in the Netherlands.

The four astronauts scheduled to ride aboard Artemis 2 include: NASA commander Reid Wiseman, NASA pilot Victor Glover (first black person to leave low

Earth orbit), NASA mission specialist Christina Koch (first woman to do so) and Canadian Space Agency mission specialist Jeremy Hansen (first non-American on a lunar flight).

The smooth operation of high-powered rocket engines is a complex engineering task, and thus extensive engine testing is always performed. To prepare for subsequent missions, the Space Agency has begun a series of test firings of a new SLS rocket prototype at its Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

The launch technology with its powerful rockets might be what excites space fans the most. The SLS launch rocket makes use of four engines whose design is borrowed from Space Shuttle days, and are known as RS-25 units. Sixteen new and enhanced version RS-25 engines are slated to go into service on future Artemis missions, beginning with Artemis 5 sometime in the late 2020s.

NASA officials said: "The test series will collect data on the performance of several new key engine components, including a nozzle, hydraulic actuators, flex ducts and turbopumps." A series of twelve tests is scheduled to take place between now and 2024.

The testing is led by the SLS engine contractor Aerojet Rocketdyne as well as NASA engineers. A test firing took place on October 18 lasting about eight and a half minutes (500 seconds), the same amount of time the engines must operate to power SLS to space. The four RS-25 engines, when fired simultaneously, generate a combined 1.6 million pounds of thrust at launch and 2 million pounds of thrust during ascent.

When the sky grows fully dark at about 5:30 p.m., stargazers may see the Great Square of Pegasus flying high overhead.

Fans of meteors may enjoy the Geminid shower which peaks on the evening of December 13. This offers the excitement of as many as 40 meteors (shooting stars) per hour after about 10:30 p.m., and continuing after midnight. Look near the constellation Gemini. Also, two evenings before and after the 13th, some meteors are usually visible.

The bright planet Jupiter which appears east of Pegasus. On December 21 the gibbous moon and Jupiter appear close by in the sky.

At about 7 p.m., Taurus the Bull will be coming into view, followed hours later by Orion the Hunter and Gemini the Twins.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.

Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

Funny stuff

Every box of raisins is a tragic tale of grapes that could have been wine.

Theme parks can snap a crystal-clear picture of you on a roller coaster going 70 mph, but bank cameras can't get a clear shot of a robber standing still.

Dear paranoid people who check behind their shower curtains for murderers . . . if you do find one, what's your plan?

The more I get to know people, the more I realize why Noah only let animals on the ark.

Facial recognition software can pick a person out of a crowd but the vending machine at work can't recognize a dollar bill with a bent corner.

I never make the same mistake twice. I do it like, five or six times, you know, to make sure.

Someone just honked to get me out of my parking space faster, so now I just have to sit here until both of us are dead.

My train of thought derailed. There were no survivors.

If you see someone buying candy, popcorn and a soda at the movies, they must be a drug dealer. There's no other explanation for that type of income.

I know it's time to clean out my purse when my car assumes it's an extra passenger who isn't wearing a seat belt.

Dr. Oz says rubbing coffee grounds on your naked body will get rid of cellulite. Apparently, you can't do this in Starbucks. And now the cops are here.

In the 1950s I fell off my bike and hurt my knee. I'm telling you this now because we didn't have social media then.

gm report
from page 4

CPI and customer service updates

Martin said 155 compliance, permit, and inspections (CPI) violations were submitted in October, including 85 for maintenance, trash and grass; 20 for lack of a permit; and 50 miscellaneous that included signs violations, stop work orders, and unregistered or junk vehicles. Two hundred total violations remain open.

During that same period, she said Public Works fielded 91 work orders, including 45 for general maintenance, 14 for drainage, and

nine each for bulkheads and roads. Martin said the department receives between one and four new work orders each day.

Martin said the customer service team fielded almost 200 questions in October, including 106 about amenities, 67 general questions, and 26 for Public Works/CPI.

Viola said questions sent to info@oceanpines.com have largely been very positive and constructive.

“Compliments to Linda and the team,” he said.

For additional questions, email info@oceanpines.org or call 410-641-7717 during normal business hours.

Anglers to meet

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club will meet on Saturday, December 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ocean Pines library. There will be a summary of this year’s kids fishing events, “Teach A Kid To Fish” and “The Youth Fishing Contest.” Guest Mary Brown, director of Ocean City’s Believe In Tomorrow will share the Anglers Club Captains impact on their program. Also, the “Walt Boge Memorial Fishing Contest” awards will be presented and all things fishing will be discussed. Members are asked to bring a non-perishable food item or donation for Diakonia shelter. All are welcome.


Buffalo Soldiers to be discussed

The Germantown School will host Dr. Clara Small on December 9 between 10 a.m. and noon as she discusses the history of the role of Buffalo Soldiers. This is the third in the series, “Veteran Voices.” The event is free, but registration is recommended. To register, email: germantownschool@gmail.com or call (410) 641-0638. The Germantown School is located at 10223 Trappe Road, Berlin, MD.

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