# January 17, 2024 Volume 24 Number 17

10482 Baltimore Ave, #348 Beltsville, MD 20705

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ne,

ulations! The MMEA Board is thrilled to inform you that you are the of a Maryland Music Educators Association's Awards of Excellence.

#### Anne Binkley

2024 MMEA Outstanding Educator - New Educator ward recognizes and honors music educators for their outstanding service to the music in public, private, or independent schools in the State of Maryland. As a New Educator, this ecognizes an educator with one to five years of teaching experience. MMEA Membership is

vards presentation will occur during the MMEA Annual State Conference on lay, February 24, 2024 at 5:30 PM in Baltimore, Maryland.

onal information and the link to reply was included in the email that npanied this letter, Reply requested by 12:00 pm/noon on January 17, 2024.

e so very honored to have you as a colleague in Maryland

Avarded - Dr. Anne Binkley, Ocean City Elementary School Music teacher, is the recipient of the 2024 Maryland Music Educators Association's Award of Excellence. This Outstanding Educator award recognizes and honors music educators for their outstanding service to the music students in public, private and independent schools in the State of Maryland. Dr. Binkley will be honored at a presentation during the MMEA Annual State Conference on February 24 in Baltimore. In addition to this great accomplishment, Dr. Binkley recently earned her Doctorate in Music Education from Liberty University. Pictured are (I to r) Dr. Anne Binkley and Assistant Principal Jane Chisholm.

## Your physical therapist can help you keep your resolution

By Cara Konlian, MSPT, CEO, **Aquacare Physical Therapy** 

As we enter the new year, many people start setting goals and making



resolutions. It's common for these goals to revolve around improving physical fitness. such as losing weight or getting in better shape. However, it's important to approach these goals with caution

Cara Konilan

and care.

Increasing your physical activity is beneficial for your overall health, energy levels, sleep quality, and mood. But rushing into a rigorous exercise routine after a holiday season of indulgence can lead to pain, injury, and disappointment if your body isn't prepared for it. That's where a qualified physical therapist comes in.

While most people think of physical therapists as the professionals vou turn to after an injury occurs. seeing one before making changes to your activity level can actually prevent injuries from happening in the first place.

How can a physical therapist *help me?* A thorough evaluation by your physical therapist will assess your strength, range of motion, and functional movement patterns - activities like jumping, running, squatting, and carrying. Some physical therapists may even use standardized assessments like the Functional

#### **Boating** course offered

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering virtually the Maryland Basic Boating Safety Course on February 6, 7, and 8 between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

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

If you live in Ocean Pines, be sure to contact The Courier if you want the paper each week in your driveway.

Call 410-629-5906

Movement Screening.

The majority of injuries experienced when you begin a new fitness routine are caused by underlying weaknesses, limited range of motion, or compensatory movements (movements your body makes to compensate for a weak area).

Your physical therapist will be able to identify these issues during the evaluation process. From there, they can prescribe exercises or movements that target these specific areas of concern and safely guide you through the transition into the new vear.

By working with a physical therapist before increasing your activity level, you can reduce the risk of injury and ensure that you're moving forward with confidence toward your fitness goals.

Prevent overdoing it. The other common way people get injured while working towards their resolution is by overtraining or doing too much too soon. Physical therapists are also experts in exercise prescription and program design.

Your physical therapist can help vou create a routine specific to vour needs and goals that will progress appropriately and keep you out of trouble.

So, stop only thinking of your physical therapist after you're iniured.

In this case, an ounce of prevention is indeed worth a pound of cure. Seeing your physical therapist before you start on your resolution can keep you on track, injury-free, and help you reach your goals for the new vear!

With 11 locations in Delaware and Maryland, chances are there's an Aquacare Physical Therapy in your neighborhood. Call the location nearest you or schedule online: www.aquacarephysicaltherapy.com.

Cara Konlian, MSPT, is the CEO of Aquacare Physical Therapy, which celebrates 25 years of serving our communities at 11 locations in Delaware and Maryland. Aquacare - Berlin opened in the summer of 2023 and is accepting new patients for all orthopedic concerns, peripheral neuropathy, balance/vestibular, pelvic floor therapy, incontinence. and more.



#### **Ocean Pines Players sends a Valentine**

Ocean Pines Players (OPP) will produce a heartfelt play just in time for Valentine's Day. On Saturday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m., OPP will present the play, "Love Letters" by A. R. Gurney. The Ocean Pines Community Center gladly welcomes OPP back after an extended absence. This play stars the married couple, Ed Guinan and Monica Guinan as star-crossed lifelong complicated friends. The event features cabaret-style seating with wine and charcuterie included in the ticket price of \$25. OPP President Frank Pasqualino, said, "I am thrilled that OPP is once again serving its community right here in the heart of Ocean Pines." Tickets are available online at: https://oceanpinesplayers.org.

## Facts about the month of January

January marks the start of a new year, and that sense of a new beginning is palpable for millions of people across the globe. New Year's resolutions are typically made at the start of January, and those can serve as a springboard to an enjoyable year. As the calendar turns to January, there's much to learn about this meaningful month.

1. The Roman god Janus is the namesake for the first month of the year. Janus was considered the protector of gates and doorways and the god of beginnings and transitions, among other things. Given those qualities, it's no wonder Janus is the namesake for the first month of the year.

2. Though it's not considered part of the holiday season, January boasts its fair share of holidays, and some Christians even consider it the end of the holiday season. Celebrated by some on January 6, the Epiphany is a Christian feast day that commemorates the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus Christ and the wedding at Cana. Though some Christian celebrants may take down their holiday decorations, including their Christmas trees, before the dawn of the new year, those who commemorate the Epiphanv may wait until January 6 to pack things up. In addition to the Epiphany, the January calendar also features holidays such as New Year's Day and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

3. Though they might not be officially recognized holidays, two very influential figures in American history were born in January. Founding Father Benjamin Franklin, who helped to draft the Declaration of Independence, was born on January 17, 1706, in Boston in what was then known as the Province of Massachusetts Bay. Nearly 230 years later, Elvis Presley was born on January 8, 1935, in Tupelo, Mississippi. Though he was not official royalty, Elvis is still considered the ÒKing of Rock and Roll,Ó and one can only wonder what Benjamin Franklin might have thought about that designation had he been around to hear it.

4. The Farmer's Almanac reports that there is some folklore associated with January weather. Though some might welcome a warmer January than they're accustomed to, the prevailing folklore around January weather suggests a summer-like January will result in a winterlike spring. In addition, fog in January is associated with a wet spring. So, anyone hoping for a warm and dry spring might want to hope for and subsequently grin and bear any cold weather that comes their way in January.



New officers - Sue Ann Baietti of Millsboro has been installed as the new President of the Ocean City Lodge of the Sons and Daughters of Italy. She took office at the organization's January meeting, along with a full slate of new officials. In total, 12 new officers and five trustees took office in January for the 2024 year.

Sue Ann has been a member of the cultural and charitable association for more than nine years and has previously served as Corresponding Secretary. She is best known for her charity work having organized the club's Dine and Donate programs in recent years.

The Ocean City chapter of the Sons and Daughters of Italy was started in 1980 and today has almost 200 members who join together to raise money for local charities and scholarships. It's main fundraiser, the annual St. Joseph's Day Festival, will be held this year on Saturday, March 23 at St. Andrews Hall, Synepuxent and 144th Street in Ocean City. Above are Sue Ann Baietti with outgoing president Vinnie Mallicone.

#### **OPA website maintenance scheduled**

The Ocean Pines Association website, oceanpines.org, will undergo upgrades through until approximately Feb. 5.

Because of that, OPA may be unable to post new materials to the website during that period.

Association staff plans to continue posting news updates to the news page (oceanpines.org/web/pages/opa-news), but there may be a blackout of updates to committee pages, the website calendar, amenity pages, and some other areas until the upgrades are completed.

#### **Bingo games will benefit Grace Center**

Calling all Bingo players to several opportunities to play your game and win at the same time as supporting the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin. This is a win - win for everyone. The Grace Center supports women throughout their pregnancy and beyond in order to create a safe environment for all concerned. Services are provided to clients free of charge.

Throughout the month of January, the Knights of Columbus located behind St. Luke Church in Ocean City (9901 Coastal Highway) will dedicate all profits from their regular Friday night games to "Bingo for Babies" for the Grace Center. You can play every game for the base price of \$25. Cash prizes are awarded for every game. A jackpot game at the end of the evening is worth up to \$1,000 for a cover-all. Doors open at 5 p.m. with games beginning at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments are available.

The Ocean City Lady Knights Auxiliary is also sponsoring a Luncheon Bingo to benefit the Grace Center on Wednesday, January 17 at the Knight's Hall. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. with lunch served at 11:30 a.m. and Bingo beginning at 12:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded. The cost for this event is \$40 plus a Baby Gift to donate to the Grace Center. Tickets are limited. Please call Dee Mathews at 410-409-5660 for availability.

In addition, on Wednesday, January 24, at 6 p.m., the Sterling Tavern located at 119 Main St. in Berlin will be hold a Bingo Night to benefit the Grace Center. Cards will sell for \$2 each to win some amazing prizes.



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#### art matters art matters

art matters art matters art matters art matters art matters art matters

## Artist leaves city life for peace and inspiration of the Eastern Shore

#### By Elaine Bean

"Art is so important for people of all ages," painter Amanda Lind said. "It is a great way to express yourself and an outlet for your feelings. Art has truly helped me with my anxiety. I actually feel a pull inside me if I am not creating enough. Ideas run through my mind all of the time, and art is an outlet to let them out.

"Art is also truly a way for people to be inspired," she continued. "There are so many different forms of art in the world that you can always find something that inspires you or helps you in a certain situation. If we didn't have art and music, this would be a very dull world. You don't realize that art is always around you. It influences a lot."

The artist moved to Berlin more than a year ago from Nashville, TN, ready for a change of scenery, away

from hustle and bustle of city life. Lind worked in the hotel industry for 10 years and is currently working in project management and consulting with the flexibility of working from anywhere.

"Why not work at the beach?" Lind said. "I grew up in Michigan and my wife grew up in Florida, so we are both used to being surrounded by water and missed having that in our lives. Living at the beach is a whole different lifestyle than living downtown in the city of Nashville. We are definitely enjoying the weather and the kindness of the people on the Eastern Shore."

Since moving to the Shore, Lind has made a commitment to make art a focus of her life.

"I really wanted to make a commitment to myself to work on my art," she said. "Working and traveling in the hotel industry didn't re-



ally afford me the time or ability to funny because when I create somepaint and focus on artwork. Now that I have the time, I have really been trying to get

involved more with the art community in person and sharing my art online.

"I am а member of the Art League of Ocean City as well as Salisbury Artspace and have participated in several group shows at both locations. I was re-

cently the featured artist at the satellite exhibit for the Art League at the Coffee Beanery. My work can be found online at my website www.amandalindart.com as well as all of the social media channels @amandalindart.

One of Lind's art pieces is currently hanging at the Ocean City Center for the Arts in the annual "Shared Visions" show, where artists and writers collaborate. "The piece is a large deviation from my typical work, but I am proud of how it turned out and that I was able to challenge myself to do something different," she said. "It is not always easy to do something outside of my comfort zone and then actually share it with others. To my surprise it sold on the first night and that made me so proud."

Lind's preferred medium is acrylic paint, but she also works in mixed media. "I have always enjoyed collage, and I like to mix both of those together to create my own style," she said.

The artist uses her painting time as a time to heal. "Most people ask me what a painting means or what inspired it, but for me art is a release and relief," Lind said. "I have always had anxiety, and I find that painting and creating can quiet my brain. It's

thing, I am usually doing it without thinking. I just create what feels right to me. Some paintings and

ideas happen very quickly, and others I will re-do over and over until they feel good to me."

Lind was a featured artist at Art Day in the Pines in 2023 as well as at Art & Jazz night at the Freeman Arts Pavilion. She participated in the Children's Healing Center charity masquerade show in December in Lewes, and hopes to participate in more cause-worthy events this year. She will also have a solo show at the Burley Oak Brewing Company in June 2024.

"As I get to know the area and people more, I hope to be able to continue to volunteer and donate my time and work," Lind said. "I really enjoy being able to give back to the community and donate my art and time where I can."

Lind reflects that since she's moved from a busy city to the peacefulness of the Shore, her paintings have tended to use more blues.

"I think the environment just brings about a feeling of relaxation," she said. "There could be a lot going on in life but the ability to take a break and go sit by the water and just relax is one of my favorite things to do."

## **Dinner decisions**

A consequence of our children no longer living at home is that my wife and I apply a much different thought process when deciding whether to dine out or eat at home.

The result is that we eat out more now than we ever did when our children were around. Looking back,



### It's All About. . . By Chip Bertino

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

schlepping our kids into the car to eat a meal at a restaurant was a very rare occasion. Contending with a car seat, a stroller and then a high chair was just more than we were willing to endure. Besides, back in those days when my hair was dark and my waist was thin, we just didn't have the money to splurge on restaurant visits. However, there were occasions when as a family treat, we ordered a pizza or Chinese food which made the kids ecstatic.

Another treat for the kids was going through the McDonald's drivethru. We would pull up to the order speaker and from the backseat the kids would start yelling out their orders in a cacophony of deafening desires. Inevitably, an inordinate

amount of time was spent deciding which Happy Meal they wanted and more importantly, which toy. The back and forth over which meal and toy was preferred drove me to distraction and wore my patience thin in short I'd count backwards from

three and if they still hadn't decided, I'd threaten to tell the server to forget about the toy. That motivated them.

Those experiences, at least with my kids, are in the rearview mirror. As frustrating as they could be at the time, I'd relive them in a heartbeat if given the opportunity. I have enjoyed somewhat similar experiences with my grandchildren who never come close to stretching my nerves to the breaking point. As far as I'm concerned, they can take all the time they need to decide. Ah, the joy of grandparenting.

Now though most of the time it's just me and the missus. We'll often decide to go out for dinner at the last minute when we've both arrived home from work and neither of us has taken anything out to thaw. One week we ate dinner out four evenings in a row which got expensive. Not only that, but there were no leftovers for the following day's lunch.

Being the good husband that I am, I often attempt to have dinner ready by the time my wife comes home later from work. Admittedly my culinary range is not very vast. Standards include a roasted chicken with potatoes, an eye roast with potatoes and when I'm feeling adventurous, a pork roast with potatoes. Are you seeing a trend?

When I'm able to fire up the outside grill, my menu offerings expand accordingly: barbecue chicken with a baked potato; steak with a baked potato; or, pork ribs with a baked potato.

There are evenings when we both

come home from work and neither of us has planned a meal nor are we interested or have the energy to head out to a restaurant. When that happens, a fallback meal is breakfast for dinner: scrambled eggs on a plate with a side of toast. Easy peasy.

There have also been times when we'll go back and forth asking what the other wants for dinner. "I don't know. What do you feel like?" This can go on for quite some time before we realize it's past 8 p.m. We usually decide to skip dinner, retrieving the scoop from the drawer and serving up a couple bowls of ice cream. We were much more disciplined when our kids were home. There would have been no way that ice cream for dinner would have happened if any or all three of our kids were with us. That's one of the positives of no longer having children at home.

Interestingly, found in the same situation with our grandchildren, I don't think we'd have any reservations about scooping ice cream for dinner. "Don't tell your parents."

Ah, the joy of grandparenting.

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## Embrace the New Year and discover new trails and outdoor spaces

#### By Laura Scharle

As the calendar turns and a new year unfolds, it's the perfect time to embrace the great outdoors here on Delmarva. And unbeknownst to most, there are a number of walking and hiking trails within our own community of Ocean Pines.

Many people joined in on First Day Hikes recently, hosted at nearby Assateague, Pocomoke River, Trap Pond, and Delaware Seashore State Parks. The First Day Hike movement is a national campaign to motivate people to

Did You

Know...

start the year off on a positive note, spending time outdoors and being active.

It's important not to lose the First Day Hike momentum though, and that's the purpose of this column - to inspire readers to stay active and visit new trails and greenspaces in our area. So here we are in mid-January - have you spent much time outdoors yet this year? It's not too late to set a goal to explore more in 2024.

With the chill in the air and the absence of summer's heat, humidity, and



On January 17, 1995, the Los Angeles Rams announced they are leaving Southern California after 49 years and moving to St. Louis. The team, which reportedly lost \$6 million in 1994, is lured to Missouri with a package that includes a new \$260 million stadium and a \$15 million practice facility.

Bullying affects children from all walks of life. Whether the student is on the receiving end of bullying or is the aggressor, parents and other adults will sometimes

need to step in to provide assistance. Although there is no magic formula to preventing bullying, parents can do their part to put a stop to such behaviors.

Parent authoritatively: According to developmental psychologist Diana Divecha, contributor to Greater Good magazine, an authoritative style of parenting offers high levels of warmth, love and closeness, while at the same time providing clear limits and high expectations. Children who are raised with this type of parenting often fare the best with better mental health and stronger relationship skills. Children who

Mary Adair Comptroller

are parented harshly may be more likely to become bullies or be bullied themselves.

Be knowledgeable and observant: Parents, teachers and administrators should keep their eyes peeled for bullying behaviors and reactions. Various signs indicate bullying is taking place, and these include being introverted, commonly reporting illness, withdrawing from daily activities, or having trouble sleeping.

Nurture a positive household climate: Parents and other family members can work together at home to create an organized and predictable environment. Parents should model the type of behavior they want their children to express.

Teach children coping skills: Practice scenarios at home where a child learns how to ignore a bully or develop assertive strategies for coping with bullying. Share who children can go to for help, apart from you, such as teachers or administrators, if they're worried about being bullied.

Set technology boundaries: Bullying can take place on social media, and by monitoring online activity, parents may be able to head off potential bullying problems. Document online bullying so it can be addressed with administrators or law enforcement.

bugs, now is the ideal season to venture into nature and discover the hidden gems of our area. But before we send you down Route 113 or even across state lines to trails in nearby Delaware, it's important to point out the

trails that are in our own backvards here in Ocean Pines.

The longest trail we have in Ocean Pines is the Sherwood Forest Trail (or some refer to it as the Robin Hood Trail). This trail is 1.6 miles, making for over 3 miles round trip. You can park at Robin Hood Park and you'll find one trailhead back behind the playground, and then the trail also meanders in the other direction across the street for about 0.3 miles. The Sherwood For-Trail meanders est through the neighborhood, and thanks to the Ocean Pines public works

department, there is new signage and mulch, making it pretty easy to navigate.

The next longest trail is the South Gate Pond Trail 2, but most people refer to it as the Route 90 Trail or the "library trail." This trail is a straight shot from the library parking lot to the Route 90 overpass. It's about 1.5 miles, one-way, and is suitable for riding bikes. Just be careful of the narrow spot that crosses the ditch!

There's also a great little trail on the north side of the Pines, located at White Horse Park. The trail begins behind the skatepark and wanders through the woods, crosses Beauchamp Rd. and leads to a lovely bench overlooking the St. Martins River. The trail then loops around by the boat ramp and leads back to the pavilion near the playground. The total mileage of the loop is around 0.8 miles.

If you're just interested in a short stroll, there is a .3-mile loop that wraps around the Swim & Racquet Club. It's very short, but offers the best waterfront views of any trail in Ocean Pines. Speaking of short waterfront walks, there's also a .2-mile walking path at Pintail Park with a new spur



leading to Pintail Drive. This park features a brand new ADA-accessible kayak launch too!

As the new year unfolds, make a resolution to connect with nature and discover the beauty right in your own backyard. Be sure to read this column each month for more trail ideas all over the lower shore and even a few glimpses into southern Delaware. For a full list of trails all over Delmarva v i S i t delmarvatrailsandwaterways.com. Embrace the great outdoors, breathe in the crisp winter air, and make 2024 a year filled with good health and memorable outdoor experiences.

Laura Scharle enjoys all things outdoors and is an avid kayaker. She resides in Ocean Pines with her husband and son. During the pandemic, Laura developed www.Delmarva-TrailsandWaterways.com to connect people with trails, beaches, piers, and public lands across the peninsula.



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The Courier is published Wednesday morning by CMN Communications, Inc. Contents copyright 2024. News release items and calendar entries should reach us Friday noon prior to publication date. The advertising deadline is Friday at 5 p.m. Read The Courier online at delmarvacourier.com,

Linda Knight Advertising Representative



Recognition - At their January meeting The Ocean Pines Anglers Club recognized member John McFalls for his 28 years of dedicated service, including the last five years as Board Administrator. John was presented a plaque and several gifts from the Club

Above (I tor): Budd Heim, Jim Spicknall, John McFalls, Jerry Leuters, Lee Phillips and Mike Vitak.

## Valentines to veterans returns

veteran with a Valentine card that mission of the Republican Women savs thank you for your service. For the 21st year, cards will be sent to four veteran rehab medical centers to thank them for their sacrifices and to let them know they are loved, appreciated, and not forgotten. All area schools, clubs, businesses, organizations, and individuals are invited to participate with purchased cards (no youth cards, please), but home-made cards are particularly appreciated. No postage is necessary and the card is to be addressed to "A Veteran."

Through the generosity of Linda Dearing and the Copy Central staff, the cards, plus some candy, will be delivered to Charlotte Hall Veterans Hospital, Baltimore Rehab Center, Baltimore VA Medical Center, and Perry Point Hospital.

Drop off locations are: Shamrock Realty Group, 11049 Racetrack Rd, Ocean Pines; Copy Central, Cathell RD, Ocean Pines; the Ocean Pines library, the Ocean Pines Community Center and Recreation and Parks building. The deadline is Friday, February 2. This project is

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Start the year off by thanking a sponsored by Caring for America, a of Worcester County.

#### 100 Years Ago This Month Historical events from January 1924

The month of January has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in January 1924.

Millionaire oil broker Courtland S. Dines is shot in the abdomen at his home on January 1. When police arrived on the scene, they found alcohol on the premises, causing a scandal during the Prohibition era.

Flooding causes the water level of the Seine to rise in Paris, forcing the closure of railway stations on January 2.

The exiled King Ferdinand is granted permission to return to Sofia by the Bulgarian government on January 2, prompting an immediate objection to the move by the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

On January 3, the governor of the Mexican state of Yucatan, Felipe Carrillo Puerto, is executed by rebels fighting for General Adolfo de la Huerta. de la Huerta was attempting to overthrow the government of President Alvaro Obreg, and Carrillo and three of his brothers were among 11 people killed by the rebels.

The automobile manufacturer Walter P. Chrysler introduces his first car, the Chrysler Six Model B-70 sedan, on January 5 at the 24th Annual New York Automobile Show.

The British submarine HMS L24 sinks during a training exercise on January 10. The sub collided with the battleship HMS Resolution, and all 43 crew members aboard perish in the accident.

Bengali activist for Indian independence Gopinath Saha shoots and kills Englishman Ernest Day, a civilian, in Calcutta on January 12. Saha believed he was shooting Calcutta police commissioner Charles Tegart, who was helping to lead the fight against the independence movement. Saha is arrested and subsequently tried and sentenced to death.

The SMS Berlin embarks on a twomonth tour of the North Atlantic Ocean on January 15. It is the first German Navy warship since the end of World War One to depart on an overseas voyage.

On January 16, Argentine engineer Racel Pateras Pescara breaks his own record for helicopter flight. Pescara keeps his model 2F aloft in the air for eight minutes and 13.8 seconds at an altitude of around 15 feet near Paris.

please see events on page 11



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## Thinking about buying your first boat?

**Fishing Report:** Not much going on with the weather impacting all fishing. Hopefully we will soon get a break?

**Did you know?** Many Rockfish can live hundreds of years. Rougheye Rockfish are the longest known living fish on earth and can live over 200 years! That means that a Rockfish on your dinner plate tonight could have been alive when Lewis and Clark set out on their famous expedition in 1804. Ref. Voicesofthebay @noaa.gov.

#### Buying your first boat:

When buying a boat, you will need to consider a few very important questions. Buying a boat without considering these could result in many unpleasant surprises. They are as follows:

-Will you be using the boat for pleasure boating, fishing or both?

-Will you be taking children on the boat?

-Are you interested in speed or simply a boat that will get you around at a comfortable pace?

-How big a boat are you interested in?

-Are you interested in a new or used boat?

-Will you have a slip in a marina to keep your boat during the boating season?

-Will you trailer the boat or will you have it stored and launched by some-one else?

-Where will you winter store the boat?

-Do you have a vehicle equipped and is it capable of towing the boat?

Don't forget to first take a safe boater's course either offered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Power Squadron or U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Here you will learn boating talk, safety, rules of the road, navigation, knot tying and proper identification of various locations on your boat. It may also help you decide what type boat you are interested in purchasing. You will also become familiar with Maryland boating regulations available through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Now you are ready to consider a purchase. Remember we are discussing a boat to be used on the Coastal Bays. I would not consider anything smaller than 17' or larger than 24' for ease of handling.

Don't be afraid to negotiate for price and include accessories. Although there are many types of boats, the center console, walk-around cuddy and pontoon boats are most commonly used on the bay. If you decide to purchase a new or used boat from a dealer, they will help you select a boat for your particular needs and will give you a demonstration ride and instructions on operation. They will also suggest an engine to meet your needs.

Today most new boats will have four-stroke engines that do not require mixing oil with your gas which is an added convenience. If you are purchasing a used boat, I will address what you should be considering later in this column. The dealer can also advise you on purchasing a trailer although most new boats today come with a trailer as a package.

Possibly you have decided to purchase a used boat. There are many great deals on used boats today. However, you do need to evaluate your prospective purchase thoroughly before the actual sale. Here are some of my recommendations:

Take a friend along who knows boats and who can help you evaluate your potential purchase.

Determine the age of the boat and look over the general condition including the hull for blistering which is a sign of real trouble. Check the steering to determine if it is working properly.

Ask how long the boat has been sitting? The tank could have water or phase separation which are two big problems. How old is the motor and how

please see **boat** on page 9



**Graduates** - Worcester County law enforcement officers who graduated in the 91st entrance-level law enforcement class of the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy operated by Wor-Wic Community College in Salisbury are shown, in the front row, from left, **Cara-Marie Chiocca, Dylan Gipe, Joshua Glaub** and **April Knudson** of the Ocean City Police Department. In the back row, from left, are **Jared Thompson** of the Ocean Pines Police Department, **Timothy Passarello** of the Ocean City Police Department, **Lawrence Bonneville** of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and **Jacob McElfish** of the Ocean City Police Department.

#### AGH Aux. to hold open house

Atlantic General Hospital Auxiliary has announced that they will host a Volunteer Open House, in which those who are interested in volunteering at AGH can learn about the many available opportunities. The event is to be held January 23, rom 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Atlantic General Hospital's cafeteria.

The Auxiliary is in need of volunteers to help in all areas of the hospital and health system, including the new Gudelsky Family Medical Center and AGH Thrift Shop. Volunteers greet visitors, run errands for staff, process and sort mail, visit patients, work at the information desk, help with administrative tasks, staff the Thrift Shop and more.

No RSVP necessary.

#### Women's Club to award scholarships

The Women's Club of Ocean Pines (WCOP) will award scholarships in June to promising students who are full-time residents of Ocean Pines. These students must graduate from high school in good standing with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 and plan to attend an accredited institution for further education. These awards may be used by the recipient to help defray post-high school expenses at any approved degree, certificate-granting college or university, technical or vocational school.

The WCOP Scholarship committee will consider the applicant's needs, goals, scholarship, citizenship, community service, extra-curricular activities and motivation. The club adheres to a non-discrimination policy on the basis of race, gender, religion, national origin or family status.

Applications for these scholarships may be found on the Naviance website. All completed applications must be returned to a senior counselor at Stephen Decatur High School by March 15. Qualifying applicants who do not attend Stephen Decatur High School are asked to call 410-641-8046 for information and/or an application.

> If you live in Ocean Pines and would like home delivery of *The Courier,* call 410-629-5906

**Tides for Ocean City Inlet** 

## How to recognize vision loss in dogs

Sometimes it is challenging to realize a pet dog is losing its vision. That's because, unlike humans, dogs do not rely on sight as readily as other senses, like hearing and smell. A pup who is slowly going blind might be able to



navigate quite well, as the other senses enable the dog to adapt to changes in evesight, advises the American Kennel Club.

Pet parents who are concerned their dogs may be losing their vision can learn the risk factors for vision loss and keep an eye out for potential signs that such loss is present.

Breed risk. Certain breeds are at

boat

from page 8

many hours does it have on it? Is it two-stroke or four-stroke? In what condition is the propeller? Who performed regular maintenance on the boat and motor?

What accessories are included such as VHF radio, depth finder, fish finder, GPS, life jackets, fire extinguisher, etc. and what is the working condition of each?

In what condition is the trailer and tires? Will it pass inspection?



higher risk for health issues that can lead to vision loss. For example, cataracts are the leading cause of blindness in Cocker Spaniels, says Handicapped-Pets.com. Both Golden Retrievers and Labrador Retrievers are genetically

> predisposed to progressive retinal atrophy (PRA), which can cause blindness. Due to recessive genes, Siberian huskies can be susceptible to eye issues, including corneal dystrophy. Boston terriers may develop cherry eye, a condition caused by a prolapsed eyelid.

> Pet owners should speak with their veterinarians to learn if their dogs have a genetic predisposition to eye diseases and conditions that may lead to blindness.

Conditions that cause blindness. Dogs who have had a cataract, which is a clouding of the eye that stops light from reaching the retina, may slowly lose their vision. Diabetes also can cause full or partial blindness. Glaucoma, PRA and sudden acquired retinal degeneration syndrome (SARDS) all can lead to blindness in one or both eyes. If dogs have been diagnosed with

Finally, be certain to insist on an

on-the-water demonstration while at the same time checking out all the ac-

cessories. Also, ask if you can have

vour mechanic check out the boat be-

these can result in considerable ex-

pense later on. I hope these guidelines

help as you consider your purchase.

Boating is fun but consider all your ex-

pense before you jump into purchas-

Failure to properly review all of

fore purchase.

ing your first boat.

**Captain Ron** 

(Manklin Creek & Ocean Pkwy)

these issues, it's best to work with a vet to carefully monitor and/or treat them, if possible.

Signs of diminished eyesight. Vision deterioration can produce certain signs, including:

-Cloudy appearance of the eve or eyes.

-Improper pupil response to light and darkness.

-Difficulty focusing on items or people's faces. Some dogs may have to come much closer to recognize a person's features.

-The dog seems dazed and confused, or gets surprised by someone suddenly when entering a room.

-Hesitancy running or moving around, or changes in mobility. The dog may no longer want to go up and down stairs.

-Difficulty finding the food bowl, as well as weight loss from not eating.

-Behavioral changes, such as acting more anxious, sullen or even scared.

Vision loss can occur in dogs, particularly aging canines. Pet owners can be attuned to signs of diminishing vision and take steps to help their furry friends.

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Day		Hig Low	h T	Tid im	le e
Th	18 18 18 18	High Low High Low	1:15 7:25 1:32 7:38	5 AN AM PM PM	1
F	19 19 19 19	Low High	2:19 8:33 2:35 8:33	AM PM	
Sa	20 20 20 20 20	High Low High Low	9:43	AM	
	21 21 21 21 21	High Low High Low	10:51	AM PM	
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	23 23 23	High Low High	12:38	ΡM	
W	24 24 24 24	Low High Low High	12:12 6:58 1:19 7:04	2 AN AM PM PM	Л



Pre-K to Grade 12 | Worcesterprep.org |Berlin, Maryland

## **My Backyard...** sponsored by Maureen Kennedy The Cardinal

The cardinal, also known as the red bird, is one of the most recognized birds. Even the non-birder knows who they are. Spotted easily by its bright red color, the male cardinal outshines its female counterpart who is far less flashy. She too has some red but is mostly a pale tan & gray. Both adult male and female have a tuft of feathers on the heads known as a crest, and a

reddish orange beak. Juvenile cardinals have a black beak. Their beaks turn the reddish orange once they have their first molt and they transition to adults.

Cardinals are omnivores, they eat seeds, berries, and insects. Some insects they eat include ants,

caterpillars, flies, spiders and even snails. The other part of their diet is made up of vegetable matter such as flowers, seeds of grasses and weeds and berries. They are mostly ground feeders, but they will visit your backyard feeders, especially if they have a flat surface on which they can land. They have been seen eating from a perch, but that is not the normal. Cardinals love black oil sunflower and safflower seeds. They enjoy mealworms too. When feeding their young, they only feed them insects. Cardinals, just like flamingos, get their color from what they eat. If there is not an abundance of red berries, the male cardinal may not be a vibrant red. In the bird world, this may lessen his chances of attracting a female if competing against more colorful males.

Cardinals typically mate for life. During mating season, you may have



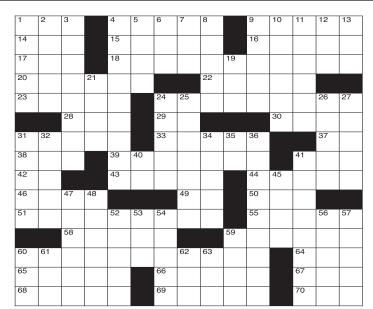
the opportunity to see the male feeding the female beak to beak. This is part of normal mating behavior. If you have not had the pleasure of seeing this, keep your eyes open this spring. It is a beautiful sight and shows how wonderful nature truly is. Unlike some birds, they do not nest in tree cavities or bird houses. They prefer to build the nest in thick bushes or

shrubbery and even on low branches that are usually less than 10-feet off the ground. Cardinals are open nesters and build them from twigs and other plant materials. During mating season, both male and female contribute to the nest building. They usually have their first brood in March, and another in May. It is possible for a third

brood to hatch in the same year. The female will lay three to four eggs which are a whitish green color. The female incubates the eggs for about 11 to 13 days. During this time, the male will fiercely protect both the female and the nest from any intruders. The hatchlings are born with pink skin and a gravish scaling. They grow incredibly fast and will usually leave the nest in about nine to 11 days. The male plays a major role in teaching the young to find food and learn to defend themselves. During this time, the female is working on a new location and will start building the next nest. They do not use the same nest twice.

People believe cardinals are a symbol of good luck. It is also believed that if you see one, it is a loved one coming back to visit. Weather you believe or not, the sight of the red bird is one of nature's incredible gifts.





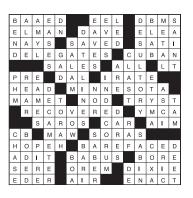
#### **CLUES ACROSS**

1. Defensive nuclear weapon

- 4. Moved back and forth
- 9. One-time coach of the
- Cowboys
- 14. Last letter
- 15. Cause to become less
- intense
- 16. Genus of tree bugs
- 17. Body art
- 18. Romance novelist 20. Be filled with love for
- 22. City
- 23. Make vivid
- 24. Horses
- 28. Mauna . Hawaiian volcano
- 29. Atomic #18
- 30. Shortly
- 31. A type of prejudice
- 33. Whirls
- 37. Six
- 38. Old world, new

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Indigenous people of Mexico
- 2. Dietary supplement
- 3. Having a particular sheen or
- luster
- 4. Views
- 5. Academic Bill of Rights
- 6. Automobile
- 7. When you anticipate arriving
- 8. Beef or chicken intestine
- 9. Conspiracy 10. Blood disorder
- 11. Long-time NBAer Shawn
- 12. Time zone
- 13. US, Latin America, Canada belong to
- 19. Upton Sinclair novel
- 21. What a cow does
- 24. Cavalry-sword
- 25. Ancient Greek war galley
- 26. Stars
- 27. Rebukes



- Hess, oil company 39.
- 41. Talk 42. Not off
- 43. Begets
- 44. Cars need them
- 46. Computing architecture (abbr.)
- 49. Of I
- 50. Journalist, activist Wells
- 51. Takes apart
- 55. Lists
- 58 Positively charged electrode
- 59 Hard. colorless compound
- 60. Inflammation of the
- peritoneum 64. Trent Reznor's band
- 65. Simply dry fruit
- 66. "Ivanhoe" author
- 67. Google certification
- 68. French commune
- 69. Medieval circuit courts
- 70. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 31. Billion year periods
  - 32. Some are in a bottle
- 34. Tears down
- 35. Lethal dose
- 36. Humorists
- 40. Midwestern US state (abbr.)
- 41. Frameworks
- 45. Rocker Billy
- 47. More thin
- 48. Dog
  - 52. Habitual repetitions
- 53. State of fuss
- 54. Uneasy
- 56. Chemical compounds 57. More cognizant of reality
- 59. A place to build
- 60. Exclamation that denotes disgust
- 61. Supplement with difficulty 62. Very slick
- 63. Hill or rocky peak

Answers for January 10

#### events

from page 7

Ailing Russian leader Leon Trotsky is rumored to have been arrested on January 18. Despite the rumors, Trotsky is ultimately revealed to have been traveling to the Black Sea in an effort to overcome his illness.

Richard Connell's short story "The Most Dangerous Game appears in the weekly magazine Collier's on January 19. The story's theme of the hunter who becomes the hunted has since been adapted for countless stories.

Following a stroke, semi-retired leader and founder of the Soviet Union Vladimir Lenin dies on January 21 at his estate in Gorki.

On January 23, Britain and the United States sign a treaty that allows American authorities to search British ships suspected of rum-running.

Oil tycoon Edward L. Doheny testifies on January 24 that he lent Senator Albert B. Fall \$100,000. Doheny's admission exacerbates the Teapot Dome Scandal that enveloped the administration of United States President Warren G. Harding.

The first Winter Olympics open in Chamonix, France, on January 25.

Prince Regent Hirohito marries Princess Nagako in an elaborate royal wedding in Tokyo on January 26. Within two years, Hirohito would become the 124th Emperor of Japan, a position he would retain, despite controversy, until his death in 1989.

Lenin is laid to rest in a state funeral in Moscow's Red Square on January 27. Mourners brave frigid conditions, as the temperature drops to -35 F during the funeral.

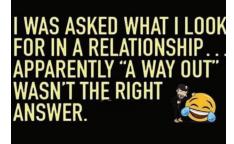
Benito Mussolini addresses 10,000 Blackshirts in the Palazzo Venezia in Rome on January 28. Mussolini predicts complete victory for the Fascists as he campaigns for a general election in Italy.

On January 31, within weeks of his wife's death, Prussian state executioner Paul Spaethe dresses in formal evening wear and lights 45 candles. Each candle signifies a person Spaethe had beheaded, and once each candle is lit, Spaethe takes his own life with a revolver.



Gathered from the internet by Jack Barnes

I've found marriage to be very educational. For example, I had no idea there was a wrong way to put milk in the fridge.



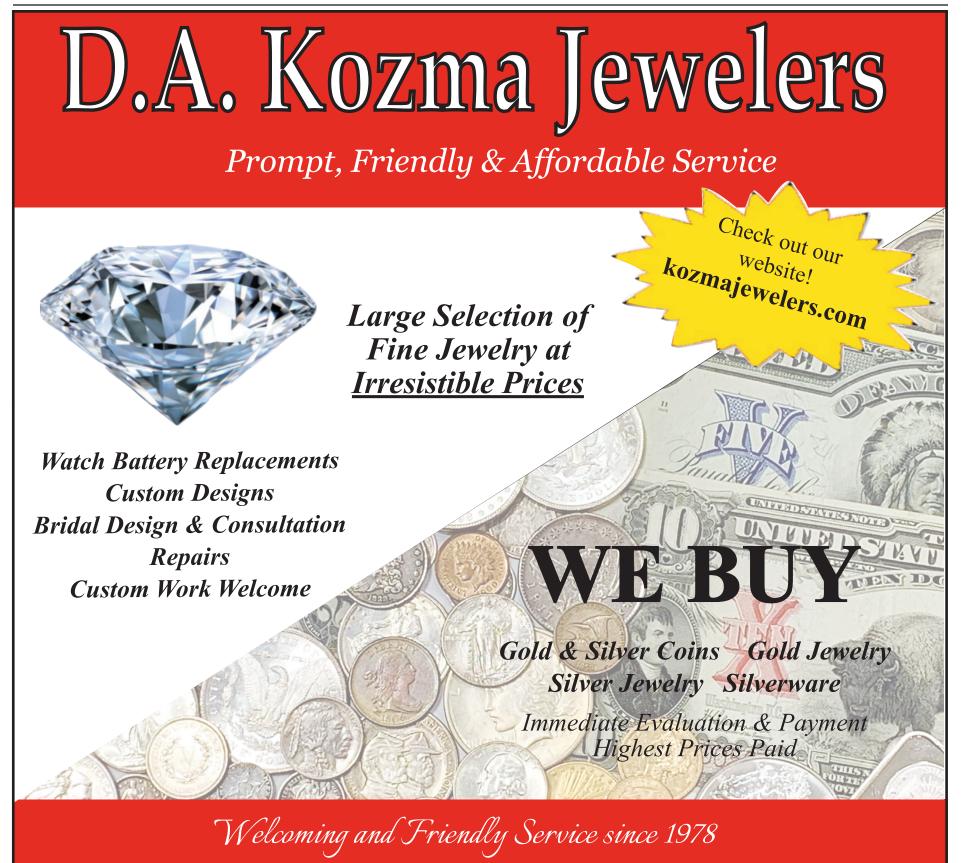
Do women ever sit back and think "mu man sure does know a lot, maube I should just be quiet and listen to him"

> Always make sure SOMEONE in the relationship has good credit. That's why it's called SIGNIFICANT other. Sign/if/l/can't.

Follow me for more marriage tips

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