The Courier June 4, 2025 Volume 25 Number 33



Published

Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) announced that several student writers have been published in "Fright Club: Home Before Dark," a national flash fiction anthology showcasing spine-tingling stories in just 100 words or less.

This unique challenge invited young authors from across the country to craft and complete compelling spooky tales in exactly 100 words—a true test of precision, imagination, and storytelling skill. Worcester Prep students stood out for their originality, chilling twists, and ability to pack a punch in a small package. Pictured are Worcester Prep's student writers

Front row from left: Anna French, Claire Cooper, Lillian Ha, Lilly White, and Tenley Abshe. Second row from left: Isha Garg, Sydney Parker, Bella Forman, Genia Fedarkevich and Keerat Brar. Third row from left: Raia Gorfinkel, Olivia Owens, Lara Owens, Gabriella Damouni, Haven Harrison, Kayley Adkins and Alex Gjoni.

Back row from left: Michael Hall, Luke Pitarra, Karrigan Russel-Wood, Jackson Griffin and Gavin Mann.

D.A. KOZMA BUYS GOLD and Silver

D.A.KOZMA JEWELERS Rt. 50 & 611 in the FOOD LION SHOPPING CENTER WOC 410-213-7505 KOZMAJEWELERS.COM



- EZ Breeze 3 season rooms
- Wood and composite decks

Local and reliable with over 35 years of happy customers on the Eastern Shore! Give us a call or come visit our showroom right down the street in Selbyville Delaware.

Call for your FREE estimate today! **302-436-9520** www.esvinylproducts.com





Better Together

TidalHealth and Atlantic General Hospital are joining forces to expand care, closer to home.

- More Access Expanded specialists, treatments, and technology
- · Stronger Network Seamless care across hospitals and providers
- + Same High Quality A shared commitment to excellence in patient care

Two trusted healthcare providers. One vision for a healthier tomorrow. We're better together.

To learn more, visit tidalhealth.org/bettertogether.





Huber works to prevent youth suicides in Worcester County

By Elaine Bean

In Worcester County in 2022-2023, 8.3% of middle and high school students attempted suicide. In Maryland overall, that rate was 9.4%.

It is Katrin Huber's mission to lower that number.



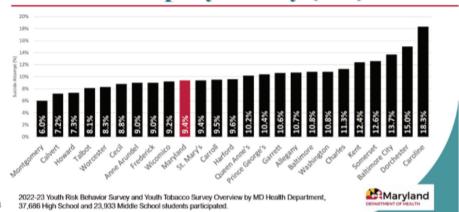
Katrin Huber

As executive director of the nonprofit Jesse Klump Memorial Fund, Huber goes into local schools with programs designed for suicide prevention and self-care, and to make students aware that there is help out there if they need it.

The Jesse Klump Memorial Scholarship Fund was created in March 2009 following the suicide of Jesse Klump, a promising Snow Hill High School senior. "I wanted to do something Jesse would approve of," his mother, Kim Klump, said. The community responded with an outpouring of love and support.

By 2011, the mission of the fund expanded to youth suicide prevention and education. The nonprofit's main focus is preventing youth suicide by teaching young people skills to cope with modern stresses such as bullying, peer pressure, and grade pressure. This is the program Huber took over in June 2024, with the mission to raise awareness and prevention for suicide by visiting schools, churches, and organizations to talk about kindness, self-care, the warning signs of suicide, and where to find help.

"The program for pre-K to fourth grade is all about kindness and care for others, but also for themselves," Huber said. "While talking about kind2022-23 YRBS/VTS Suicide Attempt by County (HS)



ness, the students will answer questions like why do we need to be kind, what does kindness look like, and what can they personally do. We follow this discussion with a pour painting art project where the students use colors based on how they are feeling that day."

The program for middle and high schoolers addresses bullying with the slogan, "Bullying is never okay!" "We talk about what bullying is, if anyone has ever been bullied, if anyone has ever bullied someone, how you can keep yourself safe from bullying, and what to do if you can't escape it," Huber said. After the discussion, the students paint rocks with uplifting messages and images like oceans, flowers, or whatever makes them smile.

from 17.3 percent in 2021-22

In April 2025, more than one thousand of these painted rocks were please see **huber** on page 16

Dad's You Deserve This!

Bethany Trave

Join us on our Golf Trip to Jamaica!! Dates: November 8-15, 2025! Location: Sandals Dunn's River!

What's Included on the Golf Trip:

- Complimentary Golf at a stunning resort course
- Exclusive Group Dinner with fellow travelers
- Unlimited Food at all-inclusive resort restaurants
- Chance to Win a 4-Night Getaway to Sandals Montego Bay in 2026!

Call for more information: 302-933-0955

Being jealous of young people at the beach

It's getting to be that time again when gold beaches beneath a sky more blue lure like-minded revelers to the ocean. Summering in the Cape May, NJ area as a child, many sun-shiny days were spent on the beach in the shadow of Congress



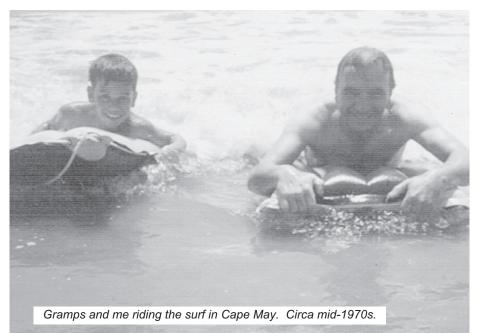
Hall. My brother and I along with our grandfather dove through waves, body surfed and dug our toes into the warm, sometimes very hot, sand. The scent of sea air and the sight of bikini-clad girls made for

ticed the other people around me. They were all young. They were all buff. They were all tan. And they were all beautiful. I thought I had inadvertently walked in on auditions for a "Baywatch" reunion.

Seemingly all around me were

young, appallingly inshape twenty-somethings enjoying the sun and surf with seemingly not a care in the world. I bet not one of them had to slather on sunscreen before heading to the beach. I bet not one of them had

to worry about making sure the kids were where they could be seen them at all times while in the water. I bet not one of them had to pay a mortgage or worry about the cost of a child's braces.



days well spent.

Going to the beach is still of interest. But truth be told, the older I get, the more I realize that in some ways the "going to the beach experience" is a younger man's pursuit. I recall the first time I realized this. It happened a number of years ago.

It may have been a mistake for me to go to the beach that day, my first time that year. It wasn't the weather. It was ideal. It wasn't for a lack of bringing reading material. I had. It wasn't because I did not have money for refreshments. I did.

The problem was not something I could easily put my finger on until... and this is a big "until": I noThere I sat under my umbrella taking in the scenes around me. I watched as young men with evenly tanned, perfectly chiseled physiques strutted along the water's edge. You could almost hear choirs of angels heralding their every step. In fact, I think I saw several sea gulls, those that weren't circling above me contemplating target practice, bow their heads in awe.

Awe for me is making it from under my umbrella to the water's edge without getting winded. If I can remain standing while wading into the surf and not have a wave crash over me leaving me covered in a seaweed residue, it's considered a good day.

I watched as some young men performed acrobatic feats while running down the beach, diving into the water to impress attractive young women who were nearby. At this stage of my life the only way I could attract a beautiful young woman is if she were an EMT trying to revive me after losing consciousness while attempting to suck in my belly so it didn't hang over my bathing suit.

Watching these young bucks athletically stroll along the beach reminded me of all the false starts I had trying to diet during the winter. I am so far out of shape that if I were a rectangle I'd look more like a droopy oval, with nipples. I have no one to blame but myself for this. Well, I could blame my wife's excellent cooking.

There's really no place you can hide on the beach. You're right there in the open for all to see.

It's easy to be jealous of all the young people at the beach. Their bodies are more toned. Their hair is shinier. Their teeth are whiter. They tan perfectly and the rays of the sun seem to follow them wherever they go. There was time when I was fit, trim and tanned perfectly. Now, I tan like orange swirl ice cream with patches of orange and white streaks from where I was sitting on a webbed chair.

Young people look good because they are young. They live life to its fullest. While they're playing Frisbee, touch football and/or volleyball, my athletic prowess on the beach consists of digging my toes in the sand while sitting in my 12-yearold beach chair with the frayed webbing.

I enjoy going to the beach and I don't plan on giving it up because of all the young people enjoying youth. In fact, I could be just like them if I really wanted. A little black hair dye, a corset under my T-shirt and a truss would no doubt work wonders for my self-esteem.

The only thing left to accomplish would be to convince the gulls, and my wife, to stop laughing. That would be a little more difficult.





Ransdell - yet again!

Steve Ransdell proved once again script, Ransdell stated: that he should not be on the OPA Elections Committee, much less the chair of that most important committee.

Ransdell rose during the OPA Board of Directors meeting of May 24, 2025 to give public comments.

During those public comments, he denigrated association members who have expressed concern about a complete lack of transparency and possible violations of the Maryland HOA Act by Ransdell's committee under his guidance.

Incredibly, Ransdell tried to mock those who expressed concerns about lack of Election Committee meeting minutes on the OPA website and total lack of notice or information about any committee meetings by stating publicly that no meetings were held.

Based on the YouTube video tran-

"The last thing I'd like to address is there's been some public comment about a lack of transparency on behalf of my committee and I'd like to address that forthrightly. There were a couple of meetings earlier in the year where we had some logistics problems with our meeting location and meetings were not held, so to those who say we didn't post transparent minutes and agendas. Not true. Those meetings simply weren't held. You can't post meeting minutes of a meeting that doesn't happen. So with that our only focus is running a free and fair election so that everybody can feel that but, negative misinformation doesn't help our effort."

Do the facts support Ransdell's mocking of concerned association members, and his use of innuendo, perhaps even accusatory innuendo aimed quite improperly at a specific candidate in the upcoming board election? No.

Ransdell claimed publicly there were no Election Committee meeting minutes, apparently prior to April 28, 2025, because there were no meetings. Yet there is a video of a meeting on January 27, 2025 but no meeting minutes on the OPA website. There does not appear to be any motion to send out a request for proposals to election contractors during that meeting. In fact, they just talk vaguely about "getting it out."

How could Ransdell's public comments about "no meetings" and thus no meeting minutes be true? Ocean *Pines Progress* publisher Tom Stauss reported in early April that the Elections Committee had received bids from five vendors to handle the 2025 OPA Board of Directors election process and there was no further Election Committee meeting after January 27, 2025 until April 28, 2025.

Does Ransdell think association members are fools? How could the Elections Committee never hold a meeting, as he stated publicly, yet somehow issue a request for bids and subsequently receive bids related to hiring a contractor to run the election process when there is no record of any meeting motion to do so prior to the excellent reporting by Stauss?

If there is any OPA Committee requiring transparency, it is the Elections Committee.

With these latest public comments, not to mention how, at a prior board meeting, to the consternation of other committee members, he provided the board a personal opinion about selection of an elections contractor other than the one actually approved by a vote of the Elections Committee, Ransdell has lost all credibility.

The board should replace Ransdell as chair of what may be OPA's most important committee.

Icing on the cake for why reasonable people might think Ransdell should not be on Elections Committe, much less chairing it?

When current board candidate Peck ran for election a few years ago the following exchange took place on OceanPinesForum.com:

Dave Walter wrote: "Vote NO for Peck and Wheatley. Neither should be on the board."

Steve Ransdell replied: "Definitely! Those two gotta go!"



The Courier, a weekly community newspaper seeks experienced advertising sales individuals with strong interpersonal skills to build advertising relationships and assist in publication growth.

You must be professional, well-spoken, deadline and customer oriented, and highly motivated with strong communication and organizational skills. Work from home.

This is a commission-based position with considerable income growth potential. Enjoy flexible working schedule.

> Send cover letter and resume to Chip Bertino at chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

EOE



Chip Bertino Publisher/Editor Mary Adair Comptroller

98 Nottingham Lane Ocean Pines, MD 21811 410-629-5906 thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Contributors Jack Barnes, Dan Collins, Ralph Farrusi, Douglas Hemmick, Joe Reynolds Robert B. Adair 1938-2007

The Courier is published Wednesday morning by CMN Communications, Inc. Contents copyright 2025. 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,

, Courier

On June 4, 1876, a mere 83 hours after leaving New York City, the Transcontinental Express train arrives in San Francisco.

Getting engaged is a momentous occasion worthy of celebration. However, soon after the question is popped, people in the couple's lives tend to start asking when the big day might be. Newly engaged couples may feel pressured to rush into setting a wedding date, but enjoying one's engagement for however long it may last is an option for brides and grooms. Some couples want to run Did You to the altar in a month, while others are happy to stay engaged indefinitely. The Knot, a trusted wedding resource, sur-(now... veyed nearly 170,000 American couples in 2024 to gauge how long most were waiting to wed. The Knot 2025 Real Weddings Study found that the average engagement length is 15 months.

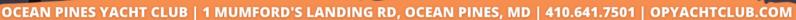
This number has held steady since 2022. Event Source in Canada says the average engagement length for couples in Canada also is 15 months. In general, couples across North America are waiting just over a year to tie the knot after getting engaged.

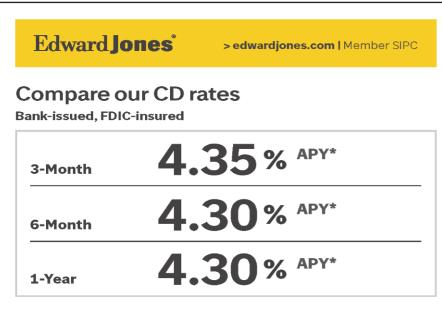
Linda Knight Advertising Representative

www.delmarvacourier.com facebook@TheCourierofOceanPines

SUMMER2025 VENUSIC VACHT CLUB ocean pines, maryland







Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



John Bennish Financial Advisor

11200 Racetrack Road Suite A102 The Pavilions Ocean Pines, MD 21811 410-208-9083

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 05/30/25. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC). FDI-18670-A-E-FLAECSPAD 25391023

HAMILTON

The *SPECIALTY* Practice

We're proud to be the **only** PT's on the eastern shore specializing in evaluation & treatment of the shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand. Reach out today to learn how we can help!

Schedule today 410.208.3300 Info@HamiltonHand.com



Hamiltonhand.com

Wor-Wic receives military friendly designation

Wor-Wic Community College has earned the 2025-2026 Military Friendly School Silver Award designation in the small community college category by VIQTORY, a veteran-owned company that connects the military community to civilian employment, educational and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Institutions earning the designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. More than 1,800 schools participated in the survey. Methodology, criteria and weightings were determined by VIQTORY with input from the Military Friendly advisory council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's survey scores with the assessment of the institution's ability to meet thresholds for student retention, graduation, job placement, loan repayment, persistence (degree advancement or transfer) and loan default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

At Wor-Wic, veterans, active-duty members, National Guard, reservists and eligible family members can use one of several Veterans Administration G.I. Bill educational benefits while attending college. In addition to educational benefits, eligible military students can use their active duty and reserve tuition assistance while attending Wor-Wic. Jason King is Wor-Wic's director of veterans services and is available to help current and prospective students who are veterans or active military personnel.

"Wor-Wic takes pride in our veteran students and the services we provide for them," said King. "Every year, we have an average of 300 veteran, military and eligible dependent students."

"Military Friendly is committed to transparency and providing consistent data-driven standards in our designation process," said Kayla Lopez, vice president of Military Friendly. "Our standards provide a benchmark that promotes positive outcomes and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the military community. This creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages institutions to evolve and invest in their programs consistently. Schools who achieve awards designation show true commitment in their efforts, exceeding the standard."

The Military Friendly Schools list can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com and will be published in the May and October issue of G.I. Jobs magazine.

Decatur presentation planned at library event

The Friends of the Ocean Pines Library (FOPL) will present a Worcester History event during the group's semi-annual membership meeting Monday, June

9. The Friends' efforts to support the Ocean Pines Branch of the Worcester County Library will be discussed at the 10 a.m. membership meeting, and Ocean Pines Police Chief Tim Robinson will present the exploits of Commodore Stephen Decatur at 11 a.m. The event is free and all are welcome.

Stephen Decatur was born in the Worcester County village of Sinepuxent in 1779, and he was one of the most celebrated figures in the U.S. Navy during its formative years. He fought Barbary pirates and engaged in several naval battles during the War of 1812. Decatur was killed in a duel in 1820 in Bladensburg, Maryland. He was only 41 years old.



Also, the Ocean Pines Historical Task Force will discuss their preservation efforts, including their collection of local vintage photos and the re-release of Bud Rogner's "History of Ocean Pines."

For more information, call 410-208-4014 or check the Events page at worcesterlibrary.org.

June 4, 2025 The Courier Page 9



WWW.JOLLYROGERPARK.COM · 410-289-3477

Supermassive black hole signature discovered



Black holes of various types have fascinated astronomers from the time of theoretical conception in the 1930s to the eventual telescopic evidence found in the 1960s and 1970s. But it is the "supermassive" black holes present at the center of most massive galaxies that really steal the show. A famous radio-image of such an attraction in galaxy M87 was taken in 2019, and featured in international headlines.

Recently, another nearby galaxy, M83 or the Southern Pinwheel Galaxy, is making news. This glowing spiral galaxy has puzzled astronomers for years, showing no sign of such a supermassive monster. Now with the special infrared capabilities of the James Webb Space Telescope the secret of M83 may finally be revealed.



Instrument (MIRI). The instrument enabled the astronomers to identify unusually energetic gasses in M83's central nucleus area. The gasses they saw there were highly-ionized Neon V and Neon VI.

Lead author of the study, Svea Hernandez, said, "Before Webb, we simply did not have the tools to detect such faint and highly ionized gas signatures in M83's nucleus. Now, with its incredible mid-infrared sensitivity, we are finally able to explore these hidden depths of the galaxy and uncover what was once invisible."

The study was supported by NASA grants and conducted at the Space Telescope Science Institute located at Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University. That institute is the science operations center for the Hubble Space Telescope, the James Webb Space Telescope, and will also guide the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope, scheduled for launch in 2027.

Black holes are places where cosmic matter has been crushed to extremely high density, resulting in such enormous gravitation that even ray of lights are ensnared. In the core

INTERNATION AND A TRADITIONAL STATEMENTS STATEMENT AND A TRADITION AND A STATEMENT AND A STATEMENT AND A STATEM

of large galaxies lurk the supermassive black holes, which act to draw in surrounding matter. As the material swirls inward, its rapid motion creates a so-called accretion disk. Extreme heat in these disks leads to emission of high energy x-rays and jets of material streaming up and outwards from the galaxy core. Just such an accretion disk was famously visible in the 2019 image of M87.

Astronomers consider it quite plausible that an accretion disk with its extreme conditions could give rise

to the high energy ionized neon just as seen by James Webb at the core of M83. It would seem that M83 has finally been caught in the act with clear evidence for a supermassive black hole in its center.

To further unravel the nature of M83 and its energetic processes, the team plans to conduct follow-up studies using

other observatories such as the Atacama Array, and the Very Large Telescope, both are in Chile, as well as the Hubble Space Telescope.

Astronomers are enjoying notable success in recent times. For example, readers may recall the August 2024 column describing one of the clearest cases of an intermediate mass black hole. Other recent discoveries of black holes include a so-called triple formation. In the October 2024 issue of "Nature" scientists at MIT and Caltech reported observing this phenomenon, which consists of a black hole orbited by two stars.

The future seems to promise still more such fascinating discoveries in the mysterious world of black holes.

As the June stars become fully visible at about 9:30 p.m. Leo the Lion appears prominently in the western sky. The constellation Bootes the Herdsman is centrally located overhead. Moving southwards from Bootes, the bright star "Spica" appears.



Spiral Galaxy M83

Experienced hobbyists can aim their telescopes towards the skies south of Spica where this month's topic, M83, the Southern Pinwheel Galaxy might be spotted.

Leo the Lion might be the most enjoyable sight of the sky this time of year and it might be worth seeking out especially on the night of June 16. On this occasion, Mars dances just half a degree above Leo's prominent star

please see **black hole** page 16





Annual community awards

Ocean City Knights of Columbus (Council # 9053 and Assembly #2454) held its annual Community Awards Ceremony on May 22. Sir Knight and Faithful Navigator Thomas Herwig presided over the ceremony at Columbus Hall in Ocean City. Pat Schrawder District Representative for Maryland State Senator Mary Beth Carozza, assisted by Senator Carozza's parents Tony and Mary Pat Carozza, presented Maryland State Citations to 2024-2025 Awardees. Also in attendance was Ashley Miller, Deputy Communications Manager at Ocean City Police Department.

Pictured above: Front Row (left to right): **Kathy Foote** (Ocean City Knight's Special Recognition Award), Detective First Class **Hailie Brumley** (Ocean City Police Officer of the Year), Assistant State's Attorney **Toni Rinaldi** (Worcester County Prosecutor of the Year)

Second Row (left to right): **Kimberly Bean** (Ocean City Lady Knights Auxiliary Member of the Year), Sir Knight **Neil Foote** (Ocean City Knight's Special Recognition Award), Sir Knight **Ken Hidenfelter** (Grand Knight Ocean City Knights of Columbus), Sir Knight **Richard Fox** (Ocean City Knight of the Year), Ocean City Volunteer Fire Chief **J. Lester**, **Marissa Poliks** (Ocean City Knight's Special Service Award), **John Haskell** (Most Blessed Sacrament School Teacher of the Year), Petty Officer **Zachary Dale** (United States Coast Guard, Ocean City), **Adrienne Celeste** (President, Ocean City Lady Knights Auxiliary)

Back Row (left to right): Ocean City Chief of Police **Raymond J Austin** and **Kristin Heiser** (State's Attorney, Worcester County)

Candidate draw results announced

Results of the 2025 Ocean Pines Association Candidate Draw were announced by the Ocean Pines Elections Committee on May 27.

Drawn at random using a series of playing cards, the results determine ballot order for the 2025 Board of Directors election, and the order candidates are seated during the election forum.

Results were:

- 1. Stuart Lakernick
- 2. Monica Rakowski
- 3. Steve Jacobs
- 4. Amy Peck

This year, three seats on the Board will be up for election: those currently held by Lakernick, Rakowski, and Jacobs. The seven-member volunteer board is the governing body of Ocean Pines.

The deadline for candidates was extended to June 20, 2025 to allow for additional candidates per the applicable Bylaw provisions. Any additional candidates will be added to the ballot order determined by the date of their application submittal.

Once any additional applications

have been verified, the Elections Committee will announce the date and time for the candidate forum.

For questions about the election, email elections@oceanpines.org.

Art League, Bethany Resort Furnishing collaborate

The Art League of Ocean City is partnering with Bethany Resort Furnishings to offer a series of workshops presenting ways to use original art in home decorating.

"We are pleased to team with Bethany Resort Furnishings for their workshops on using art in your home," Jessica Bauer, Art League Development Director, said. "The Art League offers so many choices in original art, and the designers at Bethany know how to put it all together. We are also excited to establish brand partnerships and engage the community in different ways with art."

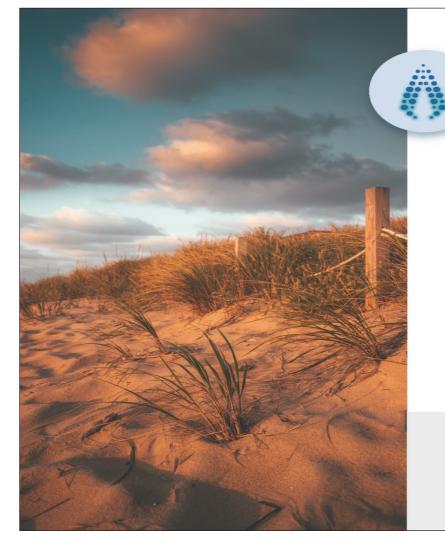
The first workshop is free on Thursday, June 12, entitled "Creating a Mood Board to Inspire Your Space,"

please see collaborate page 16

Using natural gas in your home or at your business can reduce your carbon footprint.

Learn more at sandpiper-energy.com



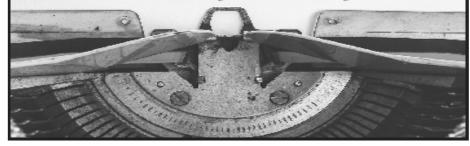


Freelance features writers sought.

Interested?

Email chipbertino@ delmarvacourier.com

What's your story?





Who: Group1- Ages 6 -10 Group2 - Ages 11 - 16 When: June 7, 2025, 9:00AM – 1:00PM Where: Oceanic Fishing Pier 710 S Philadelphia Ave Ocean City, MD 21842

Cost: Free to child participants, membership not required, no license required. Parents \$5.00 fee

Questions: Contact Jerry Leuters at 240-427-8929, or via email at dorado1045@ yahoo.com Note: Need to Bring a fishing rod and tackle. Tackle is also available to rent/purchase at the pier.



New members - On May 22 at the luncheon meeting of the Republican Women of Worcester County (RWWC), four new members were welcomed.

Above (L-R): Jennie Allen, RWWC Membership Chair, new members Annette Pennewell Furst, Alice Wigfield, Susan Wilgus-Murphy, Barbara Firchak and Jean Delcher, RWWC President. For more information on membership, please contact Jennie Allen at gopwomenofwc@gmail.com.



Donation - The Ocean City American Legion and Touch of Italy Foundation teamed up to donate \$5,000 each to the Veterans Memorial Foundation during the Foundation's 20th Anniversary Gala held Friday night. Left to Right - **Marie Gilmore**, Veterans Memorial Foundation president; **Bob Ciprietti** of Touch of Italy; and **George Barstis** from the American Legion. Photo by John Viola



Southgate - Ocean Pines (Manklin Creek & Ocean Pkwy)

Boar's Head Meats



Backyard visitor - *Linda Knight* snapped this picture of a heron standing on her dock in Ocean Pines.

Art League Games to support the arts

The Art League of Ocean City seeks supporters to champion for the arts and participate in the "Art League Games." This new competition encourages those passionate about the arts – nicknamed Gladiators - to host events on their own to financially support the many educational and outreach programs of the nonprofit Art League.

"In these Art League Games, our modern-day Gladiators enter a new kind of arena," Rina Thaler, Executive Director of the Art League, said. "They battle not with swords, but with passion, raising funds and rallying support to keep creativity thriving in our community. Each Gladiator fights for the arts with boldness - hosting events, calling on supporters, and championing a cause greater than themselves."

The goal of the Art League Games is for supporters to raise funds for the arts by planning and hosting one major event or a series of events, whatever fits their style and comfort level. Suggested events include wine tastings, competitive board or sports games, monthly trivia nights, and so on. The Art League will support the events with posts on social media and email blasts.

The Games will run as individual Gladiators or Teams of Gladiators with the goal of being crowned "Champion of the Arts" during an Art League celebration in April 2026. The Champion will be honored, not only for raising the most funds, but for their courage, dedication, and relentless drive to strengthen the creative spirit of Ocean City, and will be recognized with a public acknowledgment.

"This initiative is more than just about creating benefits," Jessica Bauer, Art League Development Director, said. "It's about fostering community support for the arts, strengthening relationships, and making a lasting impact on the Art League. By taking ownership of an event, you are directly contributing to keeping the arts alive and accessible in the greater Ocean City area."

To become an Art League Gladiator, participants should apply at OCart.org/ArtLeagueGames. The Games will conclude March 31, 2026.

For more information or to discuss participation, parties should contact Bauer at 410-524-9433, ext. 105, or at development@artleagueofoceancity.org.







News, Life and Politics in Ocean Pines, Maryland

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

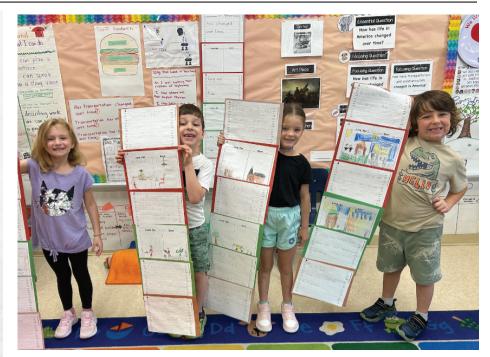


- Connect with other Ocean Pines members, including OPA leaders, in lively, respectful discussions.
- Community Insights:
 20 years of posts on issues that matter to OPA.
 Award-Winning

Resource: Access video archives of OPA meetings and receive email updates.

SIGN UP TODAY!





Then & Now - *Ms.* Santoni's kindergarten class at Ocean City Elementary ended their third reading module, America, Then and Now by writing informative paragraphs about how America has changed over time. The students included a topic statement, two details, and a conclusion to share what they learned about how home, school, and communication have changed in America.

Help Kiwanis help others

The 2026 Kiwanis Lottery tickets are on sale. In order to be in for the 2026 drawings that start January 1, tickets must be purchased before December 31. The cost is \$20 per ticket. Tickets are good for all 365 Maryland evening "Pick 3" drawings. It is not necessary to live in Maryland to win.

Once your number(s) are in the database, winnings are automatically mailed by PNC Bank. There are 17 celebration "Special Dates" that pay up to \$250.

Tickets make great stocking stuffers. Kiwanis members have tickets to sell and there will be tickets available at all Kiwanis events throughout the year including the annual July and November pancake breakfasts, the Summer Concerts in the Park and most Ocean Pines



events like the 4th of July Celebration, craft shows, and some weeks at the Saturday Farmers Market in Whitehorse Park.

Proceeds benefit the youth of Worcester County via the Kiwanis Club's Annual Scholarships awarded to high school graduating senior students in the three county high schools and supporting the five Kiwanis Student Leadership Program clubs in Buckingham and Showell elementary schools, Berlin Intermediate School, Stephen Decatur Middle School and Stephen Decatur High School. The club also donates and supports Cedar Chapel Special School.

The organization also supports community service organizations like Worcester GOLD, Diakonia, Worcester County Youth & Family, Worcester County Child Advocacy Center, 4Steps Therapeutic Riding Program, Companion Dolls and Ocean Pines Recreation Department summer camp.

Every year the club holds food, coat and toy drives to collect and make donations of goods to local organizations. Membership to the club is always open. More information is available at www.kiwanisofopoc.org and on Facebook.

OCEAN PINES

VOLUNTEER

FIRE DEPT.

REAVY, 11 RESCUE

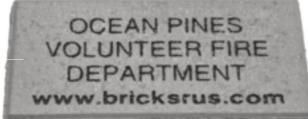


VOLUNTEER & CAREER SERVING OCEAN PINES SINCE 1963

FIRE STATION FUNDRAISER

We are raising funds to build a new and improved South Station.

Personalized Brick Fundraiser



TWO OPTIONS

- 🖌 4x8 Brick- \$100
- 8x8 Brick- \$200

BRICKS WILL BE USED TO CONSTRUCT A FEATURE AT THE NEW SOUTH STATION! *DONATIONS OF \$1,000, \$5,000, \$10,000 (AND UP) WILL BE RECOGNIZED ON PLAQUES AT THE NEW STATION.

house the second s

0

PURCHASE online or in person TODAY!

More Information www.OPVFD.com

Historical events from June 1925

to many historical events over the vears. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in June 1925.

Twenty-one-year-old New York Yankee Lou Gehrig is inserted as a pinch hitter for Pee-Wee Wanninger in a game versus the Washington Senators on June 1. Gehrig's appearance begins what would become a streak of 2,130 consecutive games played.

An Independence Tribunal orders the closure of Turkey's Progressive Republican Party on June 3. The order is

The month of June has been home issued on the grounds that the party had supported the protection of Islamic religious customs that had spurred the Sheikh Said rebellion.

> The Rentenmark becomes obsolete in Germany on June 5. The currency had initially been issued in 1923 to combat hyperinflation in the Weimar Republic. The Reichsmark replaced the Rentenmark.

Walter P. Chrysler incorporates the Chrysler Corporation on June 6 after acquiring the assets of the defunct Maxwell Motor Company.

Norway sends out two planes to

thoughts in her teen years and listening to her own two children in their teens. Huber previously spearheaded the "Stigma Highlighted Project" for the Art League of Ocean City, where she was Education Director, to address the stigma of mental illness through art and storytelling.

"Working with students through the Stigma Highlighted Project, I found that I love to work with young adults and try to help them find ways to live a happier life by having open conversations about problems that affect them, like drug addiction, depression, and suicidal thoughts," Huber said. "I want to help them find ways to deal with these problems by offering outlets in creating art and finding companionship in conversations."

In 2025 alone, 986 local students have participated in suicide prevention programs Huber designed.

While prevention is Huber's mission at the Jesse Klump Fund, founder Kim Klump has established the LOSS team to help those who have lost a loved one to suicide. The LOSS team provides support, connection, resources, and understanding after a suicide and for the months and years that follow. The team is made up of other survivors of suicide, who work closely with first responders, and serves as a guidepost for the newly bereaved in their process of grief and recovery.

Survivors of suicide will connect with the LOSS team when they are ready to receive one-on-one help and support. Certified grief counselors and crisis response professionals host monthly support group meetings in Berlin.

More information on receiving support from the Jesse Klump Fund is available at jessespaddle.org or by calling 667-227-9247.

search for Roald Amundsen and his crew on June 6. The explorers had been on the North Pole seaplane expedition but were missing for two weeks before the planes were sent. Amundsen and his crew would land safely in Norway on June 16.

On June 7, the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial is unveiled

collaborate from page 11

and will be held at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St. bayside. Designers from Bethany Resort Furnishings will talk about how to make a mood board and how it can inspire personal style in the home.

On Thursday, June 26, designers from Bethany Resort Furnishings will cover art selection, displaying art like a pro, balancing color and pattern, and making art the focal point of the space. This workshop is also free and at the Arts Center,

During the free First Friday event at the Arts Center on August 1 and throughout the month of August, Bethany Resort Furnishings will take over Studio E. Designers will create two installations inspired by the Pantone Color of the Year, Mocha Mousse. Guests can walk through space, chat with designers, and reon the grounds where the Battle of the Somme had taken place in France in July 1916.

Seventeen people are killed as a result of a coal mine explosion in Sturgis, Kentucky, on June 8.

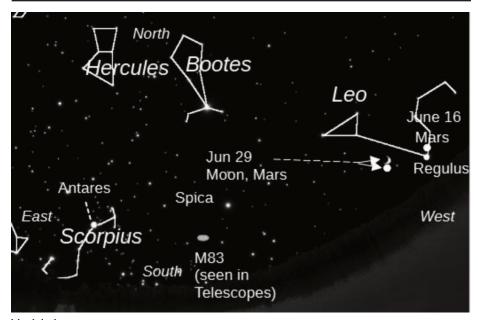
Eddie Gaedel is born in Chicago on

please see events page 17

ceive inspiration for their own home. All items on display will be available for purchase. "It will be a lively spectacle, and people will be excited to view it," Bauer said. "This is a completely new idea for us, and we hope it will be an inspiration to everyone."

For those interested in diving deeper into using art in their home decorating, Bethany Resort Furnishings is hosting a "Pairing Party: Art X Furnishings," on Aug. 29, 2025, 5-7 p.m. at their location in Bethany Beach. Guests will stroll through room vignettes displaying art from the Art League's "Artist Paint OC" event and enjoy a keynote talk, drinks, and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$50 per person, and benefit the nonprofit Art League.

Space is limited for the free workshops to 20 guests and to the paid event, 50. The Art League suggests early registration at OCart.org/classes by date.



black hole from page 10

Regulus.

After about 10 p.m., the star Antares and other members of Scorpius the Scorpion begin to appear over the southeastern horizon.

As a final June attraction, one may note that Mars appears just two-tenths of a degree from the crescent moon on June 29th.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.

huber from page 4

moved to the "Community River of Kindness" pathway at Stephen Decatur Park in Berlin, built by the Stephen Decatur Middle School Kiwanis Builders Club with sponsorships from the Town of Berlin and the Humphreys Foundation of Ocean City. The rocks were painted by students at Stephen Decatur Middle School, Willards Elementary School, Worcester Recreation Center After School Program, Cedar Chapel Special School, Pocomoke Elementary School, Worcester Youth and Family, Stephen Decatur High School, Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, St. Francis de Sales Catholic School, and Snow

keeps growing. Another program for middle and high schoolers talks about mental health, suicide awareness, and prevention. "We ask students questions like what are the warning signs of suicide, what can I do to help a friend, and where do I find help. After the discussion, students role-play and draw a self-portrait that highlights what makes each one unique and special."

Hill Middle School. And the river

Huber was born and raised in a small town in East Germany, studied engineering, and received her MBA at the University of Technology and Business in Mittweida. After meeting her husband, an orthopedic trauma surgeon, they moved to the United States in 2002 and became citizens in 2021. From their home near Assateague Island, Huber paints with friends, plays tennis, frequents the gym, surfs, and bikes.

She was inspired to take on her position with the Jesse Klump Fund after personally struggling with suicidal

events from page 16

June 8. Despite his career lasting just a single plate appearance, the three-footseven Gaedel is remembered as the shortest player in Major League Baseball History.

Various churches merge to form the United Church of Canada on June 10. The merger takes place during a meeting of church leaders and representatives at the Mutual Street Arena in Toronto, and the Church of Canada immediately becomes the largest Protestant denomination in the country.

On June 11, the Republic of China agrees to assist the Empire of Japan and Japanese soldiers with the removal of Korean immigrants from China's northeastern provinces, where Korean independence agitators had established a foothold.

The Southern Branch of the University of California, now known as the University of California, Los Angeles, awards its first Bachelor of Arts degrees on June 12. Ninety-eight of the 128 degrees are awarded to women.

Charles Francis Jenkins publicly demonstrates the synchronized transmission of pictures and sound in Washington, D.C. on June 13. Hawaiian surfer Duke Kahanamoku, a gold medal-winning swimmer at the 1912 Olympic Games, saves eight people off the coast of Newport Beach, California, on June 14. Kahanamoku's heroics were prompted by the capsizing of the fishing yacht *Thelma*.

The Philadelphia Athletics score 13 runs in the eighth inning of a game versus the Cleveland Indians on June 15. The thirteen-run outburst erases a 14-2 deficit, and the comeback from 12 runs down remains a record today. The 1925 Athletics share the record with the 1911 Detroit Tigers and the 2001 Indians.

Thirty-eight nations sign the Geneva Protocol on June 17. The protocol establishes a general prohibition on the usage of chemical and biological weapons in international armed conflicts.

Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini launches "La battaglia del grano" ("The Battle for Grain") on June 20. The campaign aspires to decrease Italy's reliance on imported grain and advocates for the consumption of rice and rice-based substitutes for traditional Italian foods.

The Vietnamese Revolutionary

Youth League is formally established on June 21. The organization is considered the beginning of communism in Vietnam.

The Irish Free State holds elections on June 23. The elections are the first local elections since Ireland gained its independence.

General Theodoros Pangalos leads a bloodless coup d'etat to overthrow the government of the Second Hellenic Republic on June 25. Pangalos installs himself as the leader of Greece a day later.

"The Gold Rush" starring Charlie Chaplin premieres at Grauman's Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood on June 26. The film remains one of the most celebrated works of Chaplin's career.

After a speech by Helen Keller at its international convention in Ohio, the Lions Club formally launches its signature mission of assistance to the blind and the visually impaired on June 30.

Subscribe FREE to *The Courier* and get it delivered to your computer each week!



Advertising Sales Professionals

The Courier, a weekly community newspaper seeks experienced advertising sales individuals with strong interpersonal skills to build advertising relationships and assist in publication growth.

You must be professional, well-spoken, deadline and customer oriented, and highly motivated with strong communication and organizational skills. Work from home.

This is a commission-based position with considerable income growth potential. Enjoy flexible working schedule.

Send cover letter and resume to Chip Bertino at chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

EOE

D.A. Kozma Jewelry & Coins



BUYING & SELLING GOLD, SILVER, COINS & CURRENCY

FREE APPRAISALS - 1 COIN OR AN ENTIRE COLLECTION BUYING GOLD, SILVER JEWELRY & FLATWARE

410-213-7505 410-524-GOLD

www.kozmajewelers.com

9936 Stephen Decatur Highway, West Ocean City Route 611 at Route 50 in the Food Lion Shopping Center

My Backyard... sponsored by Maureen Kennedy The American Robin

The quintessential early bird, robins present in the northern parts of American Robins are common sights on lawns across North America, where you often see them tugging earthworms out of the ground. Robins are popular birds for their warm orange breast, cheery song, and early appearance at the end of winter. Though they're familiar town and city birds, American Robins are at home in wilder areas, too, including mountain forests and Alaskan wilderness.

This species often comes to bird feeders.

Consider putting up a nest structure to attract a breeding pair. Make sure you put it up well before breeding season. An Amer-

ican Robin can produce three successful broods in one year. On average, though, only 40 percent of nests successfully produce young. Only 25 percent of those fledged young survive to November. From that point on, about half of the robins alive in any year will make it to the next. Despite the fact that a lucky robin can live to be 14 years old,

the entire population turns over on average every six years.

Although robins are considered harbingers of spring, many American Robins spend the whole winter in their breeding range. But because they spend more time roosting in trees and less time in your yard, you're much less likely to see them. The number of earthworms in the morning and more fruit later in the day. Because the robin forages largely on lawns, it is vulnerable to pesticide poisoning and can be an important indicator of chemical pollution.

the range varies each year with the

winter. When they eat honeysuckle

berries exclusively, they sometimes

times including a quarter-million birds during winter. In summer, females

sleep at their nests and males gather at

roosts. As young robins become inde-

pendent, they join the males. Female

adults go to the roosts only after they

depending on the time of day: more

Robins eat different types of food

Robins eat a lot of fruit in fall and

Robin roosts can be huge, some-

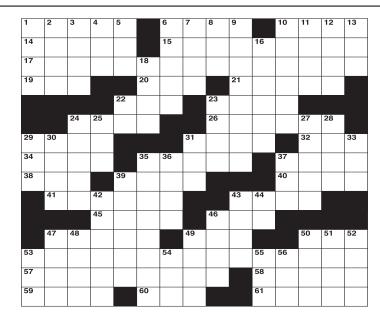
local conditions.

become intoxicated.

have finished nesting.

The oldest recorded American Robin was 13 years and 11 months old. -The Cornell Lab





CLUES ACROSS

1. Marsh plant

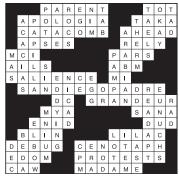
- 6. Southern constellation
- ("The Peacock")
- 10. Fogginess
- 14. Home to Fools' Day
- 15. Absence of the sense of pain
- 17. Popular November holiday
- 19. Consume food
- 20. Buddy
- 21. Long-haired goat-antelope
- 22. Japanese honorific
- 23. Actor Malek
- 24. One point south of southeast
- 26. Illegal acts 29. As fast as can be done
- 31. Prevents harm to young
 - 59. Hostelries 60. Bitterly regret
- 32. Exclamation of satisfaction 34 African nation

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Satisfy
- 2. European health advocate
- 3. Expression of annoyance
- 4. Strong liquor
- 5. Large red deer

- 8. Family of proteins
- 9. Wealthy, influential business
- 11. Approves food
- 12. Monetary unit of Iran and
 - Oman
- _, cosmetics 13. Mary _
- 16. Expressed in pithy maxims

- 24. Starchy preparation of dried
- orchid tubers



Answers for May 28

31. Bread dipping in sauce 33. Commercials

30. Pouches

35. A reminder of past events

35. Slow-moving animal

38. A team's best pitcher

40. Radioactivity units

41. Expectorated matter

43. Cover a wide range

47. Dutch painter Klaver

58. Stalin's police chief

27. Minneapolis suburb

28. Herring-like fish

29. Doctors' group

49.007's creator

57. Cloths

45. The central area of a church

46. California capital (abbr.)

50. Impression of dishonesty

53. Northeastern sports rivalry

61. Anwar ___, Egyptian statesman

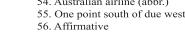
37. Oh, goodness!

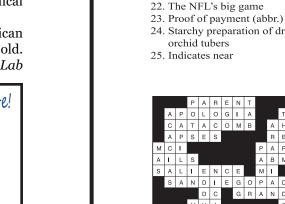
39. Cleanser

- 36. Affected by injury
- 37. Geological time
- 39. Stationary part of a motor 42. Brings together
- 43. Of sound mind
- 44. Personal computer
- 46. Without (French)
- 47. A bank might give you one
- 48. Agricultural testing organization 49. A small island
- 50. Type of gene
- 51. Murres
- 52. Card game
- 54. Australian airline (abbr.)
- 56. Affirmative



- 6. Holder of less common religious beliefs 7. West Indian shrub leader 10. Low spirits
 - - 18. Relaxing spaces
 - - - 53. A measure of human health









Gathered from the internet by Jack Barnes



young girl with a tattoo and green hair walked over to me and asked, "What brings you in today, I looked at her and said, "I'm interested in

By drinking 130 bottles of wine you could save a bird

sells only shoes, nothing else. A



- Today I was in a shoe store that buying a refrigerator." She didn't quite know how to respond, had that deer in the headlights look.

A little humor

- I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.

- When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat" I just say, "No, it's for company!"

- Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."

- The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

- The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

- Have you ever noticed: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.

- The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he knows when he's really in trouble.

- Did you ever notice that when you put the two words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "Theirs?"

- Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.

- Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable.

- Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth.

To place your business card call

410-629-5906

Support Local Businesses

