

The Courier

July 2, 2025 Volume 25 Number 37



Encore, encore - The Ocean City Film Festival presented a encore screening of the Historical Film Challenge at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on June 21. Eight films with historical significance to the Town of Ocean City were shown to a crowd of 110 at the free event. The films were originally created for the March 2025 Film Festival to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the resort. The Ocean City Film Festival is a program of the Art League of Ocean City.

Above (left to right) are Historical Challenge filmmakers **Gwen** and **Don Lehman**, **Fiona O'Brien** with the Town of Ocean City, and **Davis Mears**.

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Library book sale has thousands of books to sell

By **Elaine Bean**

Book lovers, mark your calendars. During the last weekend in July, the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library will hold their annual book sale with more than 25,000 books offered and most starting at \$1.

The books on sale include hardcovers, paperbacks, and children's books with more than 40 categories, sorted for easy browsing. Popular genres include mystery, fiction, cookbooks, history, biographies, coffee table books, and children's books. Every book being sold was donated to the library and is in very good to like-new condition. Hardcover books account for approximately 65% of the offerings.

A special area will feature individually-priced rare and unique finds, including collectibles, signed books, first editions, ephemera, historic items, and other unusual treasures.

This year's sale kicks off on Friday, July 25, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. with a Members Only Preview Night for Friends of the Ocean Pines Library. Potential members can join at the door for \$5 per year for individuals or \$10 per year for families. The sale continues

for everyone on Saturday, July 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Monday, July 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the sale wraps up with all remaining books half price. All sales are cash only.

This is the 25th year the Friends have held their annual book sale, raising needed funds for the library's programs and infrastructure. Lisa Schoch, volunteer chair of the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library Book Sale, said the book sale is more than a bargain hunt. Proceeds help fund events for children, teens, and adults, reading initiatives, as well as technology and physical upgrades across the Worcester County Library Ocean Pines Branch.

In 2024, the book sale raised approximately \$14,000 for the library. Funds from this year's book sale are earmarked to fund a new shade covering for the recently completed outdoor reading area as well as new and ongoing programs for children and adults.

"Worcester County does support the library, but there are limited funds," Schoch said. "This is extra for the library and our community."

The annual book sale is a popular

event in Ocean Pines, with eager book lovers forming lines outside the library doors on Friday's opening night.


"Over the past 25 years, the Annual Book Sale has become a beloved local tradition," Schoch said. "It's an opportunity to come together, meet neighbors, and support the treasured Ocean Pines library. It's a community event that promotes reading, encourages sustainability by recycling books, and supports a wide range of library programs. The sale is a celebration of community spirit. It's a wonderful way to promote literacy and support the library that gives so much back to our residents year-round."

The annual event is a challenge to put together, requiring


many hours of sorting and hauling books, with much of the work accomplished by a team of volunteers. In 2024, 126 volunteers gave more than 800 hours doing set-up, tear-down, please see *library* on page 28




Volunteer **Sharon Puser**



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They came to America

Like many immigrants from other European countries who sought the promise and opportunities of the New World, my ancestors arrived in this country at the dawn of the 20th century.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

They sailed across the Atlantic Ocean in third class accommodations aboard ships with such names as *Niagara*. Some came from southern Italy. Some came from Sicily. Some came from a small French village in the foothills of the Pyrenees Mountains. They left behind family and friends and in some cases the graves of children who died not long after birth. All sought a better life in a land whose streets it was rumored were "paved with gold."

In the shadow of Lady Liberty they disembarked in New York Harbor at different times between 1904 and 1913. They filed through Ellis Island with many thousands of other immigrants whose languages were foreign but whose aspirations were familiar. Their health was checked; their papers were stamped. They carried their belongings and their dreams with equal determination as they waded into the currents of a new and unknown country that beckoned their imaginations and hearts toward a horizon glimmering with hope and promise for themselves and their small children.

They searched for a foothold in the melting pot of America ultimately settling in Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love though it was not always brotherly nor full of love for those whose names ended with a vowel. Yet like some many others who inhabited the ethnic enclaves of defined city blocks that pulsed with the traditions of the old world while keeping rhythm with the new, my ancestors built their lives. The neighborhoods were defined by their ethnicity, for instance Little Italy. For the most part the Italians stayed on their streets, the Irish on theirs, etcetera.

Some of my ancestors earned their way as laborers, some as carpenters and craftsmen and one as a barber. The women remained mostly at home, maybe taking in some ironing or sewing

work. They assimilated as best they could, learning new customs and speaking a new language – at least while in public and often in broken cadence. Their native language was spoken at home. It's likely their experiences did not always measure up to the American promise to which they clung. Yet, they lived their lives – as ordinary as they may be – in ways that hopefully ensured a better tomorrow or at least the day after that.

In time these family pioneers - with names like Giacomo and Dominica, Antonio and Vincenza, Pierre and Jeanne, Raffaele and Assunta - rooted their families in this new country. Their children went to the public schools, some making it was far as the eighth grade. Some bought homes, modest in structure but grand in symbolism as it was another step in fulfilling the promise that beckoned them to America in the first place.

There were births and baptisms and marriages and deaths. There were boom times and bust times. There was the Spanish Flu. There was Prohibition. There was Depression. There was war.

Subsequent generations went to college, married outside their ethnicity and sometimes outside the faith. Some became professionals. Some left behind the narrow city streets lined with the father/son/holy ghost row homes moving to other parts of the city with hopes and expectations for a life unfettered by the struggles faced by their parents.

By the time I arrived, more than sixty years had passed since my great-grandparents first set a dusty foot in America. My family lived in a part of the city that was considered the country, Northeast Philadelphia. We lived in a single-family, air-conditioned home surrounded by more than a third of an acre of land. My father was a college graduate working for city government. My mother was a legal secretary who later earned her Masters degree. There was an Oldsmobile in the driveway and a stone barbecue grill in the backyard. My friends had last names of Italian, Irish, German and Polish descent.

The motivation of my ancestors to leave their country of birth for the promise of America was shared by many millions of other brave souls who were determined to start a new life in a new country. What a great gift they gave their descendants.



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Historical events from July 1925

The month of July has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in July 1925.

The Kuomintang proclaim a new national government for the Republic of China on July 1. Nikolai Golitsyn is executed by the Soviet Union on July 2. Golitsyn, the last prime minister of the Russian Empire, was charged with participating in a counterrevolutionary monarchist organization. The Bolsheviks granted Golitsyn an opportunity to leave the Soviet Union, but the 75-year-old aristocrat chose to stay.

Forty-four people lose their lives when a ceiling collapses inside the Pickwick Club in Boston on July 4. The club was hosting a Fourth of July celebration when a ceiling above roughly 120 people dancing at 3:30 a.m. collapses.

The treasury of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome is robbed on July 4. Police report between five and seven million lira worth of valuables, including gold crosses and other religious objects, were stolen during the heist. Numerous arrests are made and stolen items are recovered just two days later.

The Boeing Airplane Company test flies its first passenger aircraft, the Boeing Model 40, on July 7.

Ralph Samuelson becomes the first person to perform a ski jump on water while performing at a water carnival on Lake Pepin in Minnesota on July 8. Samuelson eventually earns the nickname "The Father of Waterskiing."

Ecuadoran president Gonzalo Cordova is arrested and removed from office by the Military League on July 10.

The Scopes Monkey Trial begins in Dayton, Tennessee, on July 10. Scopes is ultimately found guilty of violating the Butler Act and fined \$100 on July 21.

English high school student Phyllis Green breaks the world record for the women's high jump on July 11. The 17-year-old Green becomes the first female competitor to jump higher than five feet. A mob of 200 white residents of the logging town of Toledo, Oregon, kidnap 29 residents of Asian descent on July 12. The kidnapped residents are placed on a train bound for Portland. Five mob leaders are ultimately arrested and one of the residents is eventually awarded financial damages for violation of his civil

rights.

Archaeologists in what is now the Czech Republic discover one of the oldest ceramic figurines in the world on July 13. The roughly four-inch artifact is estimated to be from before 24,000 B.C.

The Canadian province of Saskatchewan repeals the Prohibition Act of 1916 on July 16.

A flood wall collapses on July 17 after several days of heavy rains in Hong Kong. Eighty people are killed after a landslide sparks the collapse of the wall.

The first volume of Adolf Hitler's autobiographical manifesto *Mein Kampf* is published on July 18.

Britain enacts the first Palestinian Citizenship Order, 1925, on July 24. The act officially defines a Palestinian for the first time and remains in effect until 1948.

American lawyer, orator and politician William Jennings Bryan, who ran for president three times between 1896 and 1908, dies in his sleep on July 26. Bryan's death comes just five days after he obtained a guilty verdict in the Scopes Trial.

George Seldes is ordered to leave Italy on July 27. Seldes was in the country as an American correspondent for the Chicago Tribune and refused to alter the tone of one of his dispatches that was critical of the Fascist government led by Benito Mussolini.

Delmarva Chorus to perform

The Delmarva Chorus, a chapter of Sweet Adelines International and directed by Carol Ludwig, will hold their annual chorus show on Saturday, July 12, at 7 pm, in the Ocean Pines Community Center. The theme this year will be "Coffee, Tea & Who Dun It Harmony." Your are invited for the show with familiar tunes, audience participation, free coffee, tea and tables full of homemade desserts, door prizes, a 50/50, raffles, raffle baskets and more! Tickets are \$15. For more information call Barb at 814-421-3437 or Elaine at 410-703-1262.

Carozza comments on hiring freeze

Senator Mary Beth Carozza (R - District 38) recently commented on Governor Wes Moore's recent announcement on planned changes to the State of Maryland's personnel budget. Changes include a voluntary employee buyout program, the elimination of more than 150 vacant state positions, and a hiring freeze on new state workers.

"We as Republicans in the Maryland General Assembly consistently have called for several alternatives to raising taxes to resolve Maryland's budget crisis, including a hiring freeze, and I agree that the decision to enact a hiring freeze and reduce vacant positions is the right one," said Senator Mary Beth Carozza. "Our constituents expect State government to tighten its own belt and make the necessary budget decisions including moving forward with a hiring freeze, excluding

public safety and health safety positions."

The Moore Administration's plan cuts \$121 million from Maryland's personnel budget and is similar to an earlier budgetary proposal made by Senate Republicans. During the 2025 legislative session, Senator J.B. Jennings (R - District 7) introduced a budget amendment to institute a hiring freeze and eliminate unfilled positions as a fiscally responsible step to stabilize state finances in the face of a \$2.8 billion structural budget deficit. However, the amendment was rejected when it was considered by the full Senate on March 31.

The hiring freeze is set to take effect on July 1 and is expected to last at least through the end of the 2026 Fiscal Year, according to the Moore Administration.

Courier Almanac

On July 2, 1977, Hollywood composer Bill Conti scores a #1 pop hit with the single "Gonna Fly Now (Theme From Rocky)."

The Second Continental Congress unanimously adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The Library of Congress (LOC) notes that marked an official announcement of the colonies' separation from Great Britain, but it would be a while before celebrating American independence on July 4 became commonplace. According to the LOC, it was not until the conclusion of the War of 1812 that festivities celebrating American independence became the norm. Curiously, even though the War of 1812 officially concluded in 1815, Congress did not pass a law making Independence Day a federal holiday until 1870.



Since then, Americans have celebrated July 4 in numerous ways.

Backyard barbecues and community fireworks displays are popular ways to celebrate the holiday. Some even experience life-changing moments on July 4, when the country still holds naturalization ceremonies at which many individuals officially become U.S. citizens.

**The
Courier**

Chip Bertino Publisher/Editor

Mary Adair Comptroller

Linda Knight Advertising Representative

Contributors

Jack Barnes, Dan Collins, Ralph Farrusi, Douglas Hemmick, Joe Reynolds

Robert B. Adair 1938-2007

98 Nottingham Lane Ocean Pines, MD 21811

410-629-5906

thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

www.delmarvacourier.com

facebook.com/TheCourierofOceanPines

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New future - Clarksville Construction recently hosted a ribbon cutting at their Bishopville location. Left to right: **Keith Lockerman Jr., Patrick Bright, Gene Rainaldi, Keith Lorange, Melissa Leslie, Kandace Faust, Doug Worm, Adam August, Jake Harrison and Donnie Lecates.**

Library announces celebration series

The Worcester County Library announced last week a year-long series of events commemorating the upcoming Semiquincentennial of the United States, marking 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The kickoff event will feature "Travel Through Time with Mary Katharine Goddard," a living history program researched, written and performed by Rosemarie Law. The event is on Monday, July 14 at the Ocean Pines library at 2 p.m. This engaging portrayal will delve into the life and contributions of the woman responsible for printing the first broadside of the Declaration of Independence that included the names of the signers.

"We are thrilled to begin our celebration with such a unique and educational program," stated Elena Coelho, adult services coordinator for the Worcester County Library. "Ms. Law's performance promises to be informative, offering our community a deeper understanding of a pivotal figure in American history."

This program is the first in a comprehensive series that will explore various facets of Colonial America. The Worcester County Library invites the public to participate in this enriching journey through American history.

Coastal Hospice to host free estate planning workshop

Plan today for peace tomorrow. Many believe they are too young or don't have enough to need a will, but the truth is, tomorrow is never promised. Whether you're 30 or 85, making your wishes known is one of the greatest gifts you can give your loved ones. And whether you drive a Ford or a Ferrari, your belongings deserve a proper home.

Do you have children or pets? Who will care for them if you can no longer?

In honor of August's Make-A-Will Month, Coastal Hospice is hosting a series of free Estate Planning Workshops, led by Gina Shaffer, Esquire, a seasoned expert in Elder Law. Learn about the importance of creating a will, navigating complex legal processes, understanding tax implications, and planning for the future.

There will be a workshop on Thursday, July 31, at 4:30 p.m. at the Ocean Pines library.

Gina began solo law practice in 2004 after working for 2 years at a large Baltimore firm. She partnered with Brad Stover and Eric McLauchlin for about 10 years. At the beginning of 2022, Gina restarted Shaffer Law Office Elder Law and Estates & Trusts. She specializes in elder law, estate planning, and trusts. Gina recently opened an office at 11033 Cathell Road in Ocean Pines.

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Wor-Wic opens cyber range training program

In partnership with the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce, Wor-Wic Community College recently cut the ribbon on a new cybersecurity training facility as part of its participation in Maryland's Cyber Workforce Accelerator (CWA) program. The new cybersecurity laboratory features the BCR Cyber Series 3000 Cyber Range, a high-tech training system that simulates cyberattacks and introduces students to cybersecurity concepts and operations.

The CWA was established in 2024 by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges and BCR Cyber. It provides cyber ranges to all 16 Maryland community colleges for training across the IT and cybersecurity spectrum. Wor-Wic will now have access on site to the cyber range using dedicated remote workstations that can be used for cybersecurity curriculum development and course inclusion. Students will now be able to demonstrate their knowledge in a hyper-realistic and stimulating environment alongside both their peers

and professors.

“Our cybersecurity program has been growing to meet the needs of our community and our students,” said Deborah Casey, Ph.D., president of Wor-Wic. “This cutting-edge training reflects our commitment to equip students with the tools they need to keep their skills sharp for this high-demand field.”

Once students complete their studies, the program assists in placing these students in industry jobs while also helping address the urgent needs of Maryland's cyber workforce.

“The Cyber Workforce Accelerator program, with its cutting-edge cyber ranges, will be a game-changer for cybersecurity education in Maryland,” said Brad Phillips, executive director of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges. “We are proud to support this initiative at Wor-Wic and its positive impact on its students and the state's economy.”

To learn more about cybersecurity at Wor-Wic, visit worwic.edu.



Historic - Members of the Worcester County Garden Club served as docents at Historic St. Martin's Church in Showell during the month of June. This Georgian brick structure, completed in 1764, is open to the public on Mondays throughout the summer from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The Worcester County Garden Club is a member of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, whose mission is to provide support, leadership and education for garden clubs and the public about best practices for horticulture, conservation, and landscape design. Individuals interested in learning more about the Worcester County Garden Club can contact the membership chair at WorCtyGardenClub@gmail.com.

Above are visitors hearing about the altar from (far right) Worcester County Garden Club members **Pat Bell** and **Pat Arata**.



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Remembering Veterans - Pictured (L-R) are Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation President **Marie Gilmore** and Vice President **Susie Pantone** who spoke at a recent meeting of the Kiwanis Club with club President **Tom Southwell**.

County offers cannabis reinvestment, repair grant

A new grant program will offer funding to support initiatives that benefit low-income communities and those disproportionately impacted by cannabis charges.

Worcester County is currently accepting applications through the new Worcester County Reinvestment and Repair Grant Program for community-based projects that support economic development, public health, and community improvement. The grant program is being funded with Worcester County's allocation from the state's Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund, which receives a portion of cannabis sales tax revenue and license conversion fees.

"This program will allow the county to provide financial support to projects that will benefit our low-in-

come communities," Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young said. "The broad parameters of the program will allow us to consider a variety of applicants as we reinvest this funding into our local jurisdictions."

Nonprofit organizations, community groups, small businesses, and local government entities are encouraged to apply for funding if they have projects that will benefit low-income communities or serve disproportionately impacted areas. The grant program is designed to fund economic development, public health, and community improvement initiatives. The funding, per state guidelines, cannot be used for law enforcement activities.

More information is available at www.co.worcester.md.us.

K of C seafood dinners scheduled

The Knights of Columbus will host Seafood Nights every Tuesday in July and August at Columbus Hall located at 9901 Coastal Highway, behind St. Luke's Church, in Ocean City. If you wish to pick crabs, you must pre-order Monday or Tuesday morning of that week by calling 410-524-7994. Non-seafood options are available. The event takes place between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

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Maryland leaders sign landmark agreement to protect bays

In a show of bipartisan and multi-agency collaboration, local, state, and federal leaders gathered Tuesday afternoon outside the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum to officially sign an updated Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP).

The agreement renews commitments among agencies, municipalities, and organizations to protect and restore the ecological health of one of the nation's most treasured estuaries.

The document affirms:

"Maryland's Coastal Bays are a treasured natural resource and should be managed and protected for current and future generations ... Cooperation and commitments between federal, state, and local governments, and other partner organizations is essential to meet the goals of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and implement the Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan."

Signatories included Maryland Gov. Wes Moore; Secretary Josh Kurtz, Maryland Department of Natural Resources; Secretary Serena

McIlwain, Maryland Department of the Environment; Secretary Rebecca Flora, Maryland Department of Planning; Secretary Kevin Atticks, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Assateague National Seashore Superintendent, Hugh Hawthorn, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall; Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan; Worcester County Commissioners President Ted Elder; Ocean Pines Association President Stuart Lakernick; Judy O'Neil, Chair of MCBP's Science and Technical Advisory Committee; Steve Taylor, President of the MCBP Board; and Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 3 office.

Governor Moore praised the unique collaboration on display.

"It does take our amazing local leadership ... It does take our state leaders, it does take federal leadership, it does take nonprofit leadership, it does take the private sector – it does take everyday private citizens who understand that this is one of the greatest heirlooms we've got," Moore said.

Moore said he was thankful his administration was able to sign the Chesapeake Bay Legacy Act, adding, "But we're also really proud to be able to add a final signature" to the agreement with MCBP.

State Sen. Mary Beth Carozza, who has long advocated for equal recognition of the coastal bays alongside the Chesapeake, said the moment marked a milestone.

"One of the reasons I am so

thrilled about the official signing of this comprehensive conservation and management plan is that it elevates our Maryland Coastal Bays as a shared priority at the local, state and federal level," she said. "I have spent a lot of time as a member of the Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee educating my colleagues that we also – in addition to supporting the Chesapeake Bay – should be supporting the Maryland Coastal Bays. So, it's thrilling that we are here together."

Worcester County Commissioners President Ted Elder offered praise and optimism, and thanked MCBP for protecting the local watershed.

"We've got a great agreement here, and I look forward in the future to working with everybody to keep our bays pristine and improve on our marshlands," he said.

Josh Kurtz, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, said the CCMP reflects a forward-looking and science-based strategy.

"This is the strength of partnership. And empirical data shows us that what we're doing is working," he said, pointing to recent water quality report cards showing improvements.

"We're seeing warmer waters, which makes it difficult to achieve the goals we want. We're seeing more erosion [and] shrinking islands," he continued. "But this plan takes that into consideration, and it looks into that future and helps us really build for what we want to see – which is a coastal bays that provide robust economic opportunity for all of our local communities, provides incredible places for all Marylanders and really everybody on the Eastern Shore to be able to get here and experience this incredible place."

Kurtz also praised MCBP leadership.

"What an incredible job you all have done," he said. "We really appreciate what you've done with us on the Watershed Act. I can't get over how well this partnership is working – and I just see this as a model for everything that we do."

Governor Moore said "the Coastal Bays are like an heirloom that's been handed down from prior generations.

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The Declaration of Independence is the crucible of freedom

By **Bob Lassahn**

Independence Day, commonly called the 4th of July, is a national holiday, providing most Americans a day off from work and an opportunity for a family cookout or an outing at the beach. For millions of Americans it is also an evening to watch a traditional fireworks display. As the pyrotechnics light up the night sky their beauty and loud explosions are apt to extract applause and numerous exclamations of "oh!" or "wow!" In the midst of all the fun the question could be asked if anyone is thinking about what the day really means, for this is America's birthday, the day when our forefathers set the wheels in motion to create the nation where we live and to secure the freedoms we enjoy.

The Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, the document that "officially" severed the American Colonies from England on July 4, 1776. The decision to do so was not made in haste and the colonists had spent nearly a decade protesting their treatment and the heavy tax burden laid upon them by King George III. Many attempts were made to find a peaceful resolution until, in 1774, the colonists essentially broke all trade in an attempt at an economic boycott. During the following months the King declared that Massachusetts was in rebellion and in 1775 the first shots were exchanged between the colonists and their British masters at Lexington and Concord.

On June 7, 1776 Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduced a resolution to the Second Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, to declare the independence of the colonies from England. On June 11, 1776 a committee was appointed including Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston, to draft a document. The committee assigned Thomas Jefferson to draft the basic document, then reviewed and edited his work. On June 28, 1776 the committee's draft of the Declaration of Independence was read in Congress and during the period of July 1 to July 4 the document was debated and revised before the vote to adopt was taken. John Han-

cock, president of the Continental Congress placed his bold signature upon the document that day but the remaining signers would not sign the officially inscribed copy until August 2.

On July 8, 1776 the Declaration of Independence was returned from the printer and the "Province Bell" of Philadelphia's Carpenters Hall summoned citizens to hear the first public reading by Colonel John Nixon. The bell that tolled the reading was later renamed the "Liberty Bell" and appropriately bears the inscription "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." The American Revolutionary War had officially begun, but the freedom American colonists sought was still seven years away and would be paid for with many American lives.

The Declaration of Independence bears 56 signatures. Most were persons of wealth and position, in-

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

**Benjamin Franklin
(1706 - 1790)**

cluding physicians, lawyers and businessmen with much to lose in the ensuing conflict, but all valued freedom above wealth. Many would lose their property and die in poverty, while some would not survive the Revolutionary War to see the Treaty of Paris signed in 1783. Several were captured, imprisoned and subjected to cruel treatment by the British. The signatures also include many who continued to serve the government as America grew into a new nation, including two who later served as President of the United States, John Adams (2nd president) and Thomas Jefferson (3rd president). The signers, listed by the colony represented, are as follows (names in italics are those who did not survive the Revolutionary War - noting year-of-death):

Delaware (DE): George Read;

Thomas McKean; Caesar Rodney.

Pennsylvania (PA): George Clymer; Benjamin Franklin; Robert Morris; John Morton (1777); Benjamin Rush; George Ross (1779); James Smith; James Wilson; George Taylor (1781).

Massachusetts (MA): John Adams; Samuel Adams; John Hancock; Robert Treat Paine; Elbridge Gerry.

New Hampshire (NH): Josiah Bartlett; Matthew Thornton; William Whipple.

Rhode Island (RI): Stephen Hopkins; William Ellery.

New York (NY): William Floyd; Francis Lewis; Philip Livingston (1778); Lewis Morris.

Georgia (GA): Button Gwinnett (1777); Lyman Hall; George Walton.

Virginia (VA): Carter Braxton; Benjamin Harrison; Thomas Jefferson; Francis Lightfoot Lee; Richard Henry Lee; Thomas Nelson, Jr.; George Wythe.

North Carolina (NC): Joseph Hewes (1779); William Hooper; John Penn.

South Carolina (SC): Thomas Heyward, Jr.; Thomas Lynch, Jr. (1779); Arthur Middleton; Edward Rutledge.

New Jersey (NJ): Abraham Clark; John Hart (1779); Francis Hopkinson; Richard Stockton (1781); John Witherspoon.

Connecticut (CT): Samuel Huntington; Roger Sherman; William Williams; Oliver Wolcott.

Maryland (MD): Charles Carroll; Samuel Chase; William Paca; Thomas Stone.

The act of severing relations with England was not something undertaken by rash, high spirited youngsters nor a group of grumpy old geezers. There was a broad cross section in ages, with the exuberance of youth tempered by the wisdom of experience. The men who signed the Declaration of Independence ranged from 26 years old (Thomas Lynch, Jr., born August 5, 1749) to 70 years old (Benjamin Franklin, born January 17, 1706). There were three signers in their twenties, 16 in their thirties, 19 in their forties, 11 in their fifties and seven who were 60 years or older. The median age was 42. South Carolina sent the youngest delegation to the Congress with their oldest member, Arthur

Middleton, being 34 years old and their other three delegates (Rutledge, Lynch and Heyward) all in their twenties. The man most responsible for drafting the document, Thomas Jefferson, was 33 years old at the time and the boldest signature was that of 39-year-old John Hancock.

Those signers who lost virtually all of their property during the war include Thomas McKean (DE); Robert Morris (PA); Francis Lewis (NY); William Floyd (NY); Lyman Hall (GA); George Walton (GA); Carter Braxton (VA) Thomas Nelson, Jr. (VA) and Arthur Middleton (SC). Many never recovered from the loss and died in poverty.

Other tidbits of information about the signers: During the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr. learned that British General Cornwallis had taken over his family farm for a headquarters and Nelson urged General George Washington to open fire. Thomas Nelson, Jr. actually requested the artillery barrage that destroyed his home. At the time of his death in 1789 he was bankrupt. Being in ill health, Thomas Lynch, Jr. (SC) sailed for the West Indies in 1777 but was not seen nor heard from again. His date of death is recorded as c.1779. On July 4, 1826 John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, both involved in drafting the Declaration of Independence and both having served as president, died within hours of each other on the 50th anniversary of the signing. Charles Carroll of Carrollton (MD) was the last surviving signer when he died on November 14, 1832 at 96 years old (56 years after the signing).

As the burgers sizzle on the barbecue, the kids splash in the waves or the fireworks burst in the night sky we are celebrating the courage of these 56 men. Each of them knew the act of signing the Declaration of Independence could ultimately result in their execution as a traitor, but they forged ahead.

The first observance of the anniversary took place in 1777. Finally, in 1941 the day was made a national holiday. The holiday is a fixed, not a floating holiday and always occurs on the actual date of July 4th. It is the day for all Americans to say "Happy Birthday America!"

The Declaration of Independence

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migra-

tions hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harrass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power. He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:
For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World:
For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:
For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:
For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

He is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose

Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

Nor have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Signed by Order and in Behalf of the Congress,
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

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Anthem is more than sports event opening

By **Bob Lassahn**

Independence Day is a holiday when the Star Spangled Banner will receive a great deal of attention. It will undoubtedly be played during most scheduled fireworks displays and will be a part of many other events. Americans will be expected to remove their caps, place their hand over their heart and sing along.

The Star Spangled Banner was written by Francis Scott Key while he was detained aboard a British warship in Baltimore harbor during the War of 1812. He was inspired as he saw the American flag flying over Fort McHenry on the morning of September 14, 1814, following a 2-hour bombardment by the British fleet. He composed the poem as an expression of his elation. Originally written as a poem and titled The Defense of Fort McHenry, it was soon put to the music of a popular melody, To Anacreon in Heaven.

The first public performance of the words and music together took place at the Holiday Street Theater in Baltimore, MD on October 19, 1814.

The Star Spangled Banner gradually became popular as a patriotic tune, but it was not until 1931 that it was designated our national anthem by an act of Congress. The actual words were not included in the documents creating our national anthem. There are minor differences in the words based upon different sources (including some changes by Francis Scott Key himself) so slight variations are possible. "Modernization" has also occurred to conform the text to modern spelling and grammar.

Since its designation as our national anthem the Star Spangled Banner has drawn some criticism. Some have argued that the song is

difficult to sing (verse three in particular), while others feel it sounds too "warlike." But it prevails as a song that inspires Americans and is easily recognized even from its first several notes.

Why fireworks on the Fourth of July? The fifth and sixth lines of the first verse of the Star Spangled Banner

"Then, in that hour of deliverance, my heart spoke. Does not such a country, and such defenders of their country, deserve a song?..."

Francis Scott Key (1779 - 1843)

ner may give some insight, "And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof thru the night that our flag was still there." Can you smell "reenactment" as the fireworks rise in the sky?

The Star Spangled Banner actually has four verses, although to many Americans only

verse of the Star Spangled Banner are not "play ball!"

The Courier presents all four verses of the Star Spangled Banner for the edification of our readers. The text is as true to the original as possible, the spelling and contractions mirror the way it was set down in 1814. As the fireworks are exploding overhead, moving folks to burst forth in song, you could surprise everyone around you with a rendition of the Star Spangled Banner that includes all the verses.

National Anthem of the United States of America The Star Spangled Banner

Lyrics by Francis Scott Key

*Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?*



the first verse is familiar. In almost every case it is only the first verse that is played and sung at the beginning of sporting events or other gatherings. Some may be surprised to learn that the first two words of the second

*Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watch'd,
were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro' the night that our*

*flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

*On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream;
'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner, Oh long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

*And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and country should leave us no more!
Their blood has washed out of their foul footsteps pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight and the gloom of the grave;
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

*Oh, thus be it ever, when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation!*

*Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, "in God is our trust"
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

Publisher's Note: Bob Lassahn was a reporter and editor of *The Courier*. He passed away in 2015.

DNR rolls out new licensing system

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources introduced its new online licensing system, MD Outdoors, on June 24. This centralized system replaces the current system, COMPASS.

MD Outdoors will continue to offer products for all outdoor activities, including all Maryland hunting and fishing licenses and associated stamps and permits, boat and off-road vehicle renewal registration, and other services that will be available in this one convenient location. The system is designed to streamline the process of renewing licenses and permits as well as make it easier and more simple for new and returning customers.

Current license-holders will retain their DNR ID number; the new website will provide clear instructions on creating a new username and password for MD Outdoors, where customers can retrieve their account information. The new system includes auto-renew options, an easier-to-navigate interface, and an app that stores your license information, and can help direct people to new hunt-

ing and fishing opportunities. Other benefits and capabilities will be added in the future.

Along with improvements in the user experience, Maryland for the first time is offering the purchase of durable license cards that demonstrate fishing and hunting license validity. These rugged, collectable cards feature various images of Maryland fish and wildlife.

"MD Outdoors will improve the licensing experience for residents and visitors. We're debuting this system after years of listening to feedback from our hunters, anglers, boaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts," said DNR Secretary Josh Kurtz. "Customer service is a top priority for the department, especially since license purchases support scientific monitoring, research, and surveys in the field and the laboratory to ensure that Maryland maintains its premier hunting and fishing opportunities."

Specifically, hunting license fees go toward recruiting, educating, and certifying new hunters; acquiring and restoring wildlife habitats; maintaining and improving existing Wildlife

Management Areas; providing technical assistance to landowners; and helping enforce wildlife laws and regulations for the benefit of all Marylanders. Fishing licenses and stamps support management activities like stocking fish, managing invasive species, and improving fishing locations.

Developing a new licensing system has been planned for several years and the transition to MD Outdoors comes at no additional cost to taxpayers. Funding that is already allocated to maintain COMPASS will be used for the upgraded system. This project is funded by the Maryland Department of Information

Technology through its Major IT Development Project Oversight Division. The new system will not affect fees for hunting and fishing licenses, which are set by the General Assembly.

To develop this long-awaited new system, the Department of Natural Resources contracted Brandt Information Services, the premier technology provider for outdoor recreational licensing systems. Brandt currently works with 27 other states and territories across the country including Virginia, West Virginia, and Florida, to handle hunting and fishing license sales, boat registrations, and other transactions.

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Workshop - Students got to know the beach from an artist's perspective during the two-day watercolor workshop entitled "Day at the Beach," taught by Amy D'Apice, on June 21 and 22 at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St., home of the Art League of Ocean City. A complete list of upcoming classes is available at OCart.org/classes.

Notable events that have taken place on July Fourth

Residents of the United States spend July 4th celebrating the country's independence. Though July 4 has served as America's Independence Day for centuries, many other significant and memorable events have taken place on the fourth day of July.

1744: The Treaty of Lancaster is signed in Pennsylvania. The treaty dictates that the Iroquois will cede land between the Allegheny Mountains and the Ohio River to the British colonies.

1776: The United States Declaration of Independence is adopted by the Second Continental Congress. July 4 actually marks the day the final wording of the declaration, which had been submitted on July 2, was approved.

1802: The United States Military Academy officially commences operations. Located in West Point, New York, the USMA is the oldest of the five American service academies.

1826: On the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of the Independence, the second and third presidents of the United States, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, respectively, pass away. Both men were instrumental to American success during the American Revolution.

1831: Samuel Francis Smith's

"America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)" is performed in public for the first time. The performance took place during a children's Independence Day celebration in Boston.

1845: Naturalist and essayist Henry David Thoreau moves into a cabin on Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts. His experiences there would later be detailed in "Walden Pond."

See the complete text of the Declaration of Independence on pages 16 and 17

1913: President Woodrow Wilson addresses veterans of the


American Civil War at a reunion marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. More than 50,000 veterans of the war, including roughly 9,000 Confederate veterans, attend the reunion.

1939: New York Yankees first baseman Lou Gehrig announces his retirement to a crowd at Yankee Stadium, informing them he feels he is "the luckiest man on the face of the earth." Gehrig had recently been diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a disease that would later be widely referred to as "Lou Gehrig's disease." 1983:

Twenty-four-year old New York Yankees left-hander Dave Righetti

please see events page 28

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Fishing - More than 40 children as well as parents and grandparents attended the recent Ocean Pines Anglers Club Teach a Kid to Fish day at the South Pond in Ocean Pines. Young aspiring anglers were introduced to tackle, bait selection, regulations, casting and safe environmental practices. Many young anglers tried out their newly acquired skills and were rewarded with several nice catches. A free drawing was held for a rod and reel.

Above: Anglers **Lee** and **Jim** get help with sign from young aspiring angler **Declan**. Photo by Jack Barnes

Coastal Hospice announces leadership appointment

The Coastal Hospice Board of Directors recently announced the appointment of Ann Lovely, RN, BSN, CHPN, as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately. Lovely has served as Interim president and CEO since June 2024, guiding the organization with strength and compassion through a period of transition.



Ann Lovely

A steadfast leader and one of Coastal Hospice’s longest-tenured team members, Ann brings more than 25 years of dedication, experience, and deep knowledge of hospice and palliative care to her new role. Her appointment is a reflection of her exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to the patients, families, and communities served by Coastal Hospice.

“Our deepest gratitude to Ann for leading us this past year with such care, clarity, and purpose,” said Mor-

gan Fisher, Chair of the Coastal Hospice Board of Directors. “She has skillfully navigated challenges, strengthened internal and external relationships, and laid a foundation for continued growth and excellence.”

Ann began her hospice career in 1999 as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Coastal Hospice while attending Wor-Wic Community College, pursuing a nursing degree. She became a Registered Nurse Case Manager, mentoring new hires and student interns. After completing her bachelor’s in nursing, Ann quickly rose to the ranks of clinical leadership, becoming Education Coordinator, bringing end-of-life education to healthcare professionals in the community, and later becoming Manager of Quality and Education. During the past 25 years, Ann has been involved in almost all aspects of the organization and has worn many hats, serving throughout the years as Director of Quality Assurance, Compliance, Infection Control, Education, Medical Records, Access

please see **appointment** page 28

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United States flag facts and handling etiquette

The United States flag was first imagined after the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The Continental Congress authorized creation of the first national flag on June 14, 1777. It was decided that the flag should have 13 stripes, alternating red and white, to represent the original 13 colonies, and that the new union be represented by 13 white stars in a blue field to signify a "new constellation." Francis Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is most often credited with the original design.



Today there are 50 stars on the flag to represent the 50 states, while the 13 stripes still represent the 13 British colonies that became the first states. While this may be common knowledge, Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code, may not be as widely known. The code dictates that the flag is to be treated with respect and proper etiquette. The code is extensive, but the following guidelines can help private individuals interested in displaying their flags do so in accordance with the law.

Flags should only be displayed in

public from sunrise to sunset, unless the flag can be properly illuminated during darkness. In this instance, it may be displayed at all times.

When displayed with other flags, such as on a single staff or lanyard, the U.S. flag should be above all other flags. If flags are displayed in a row, the U.S. flag goes to the observer's left.

State and local flags are traditionally flown lower than the American flag.

During marching ceremonies or parades with other flags, the U.S. flag should be to the observer's left.

The flag should be displayed at every public institution and at schools during school days.

When displayed vertically and not on a staff, the union should be on the left when observed. It should be suspended so its folds fall freely as though the flag were staffed.

The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

The flag is often displayed at half-staff on days of mourning, including Memorial Day. The flag should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to half-staff position, which is half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.

On a vehicle, the U.S. flag should be displayed from a staff firmly fixed to the chassis. It should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle.

The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise. It also should never have anything placed on it.

A flag in poor condition should be destroyed with dignity, preferably by burning. Most American Legion posts and local Boy Scouts troops will have the resources to retire flags accordingly. Many will host annual flag retirement ceremonies on Flag Day.



New officers - The Worcester Country Historical Society announced their new officers and board members during their recent spring banquet in Pocomoke City. In front from left are secretary **Erin Scott**, President **Jefferson Moak**, and Vice President **Cara Downey**. In rear from left are board members **Jeff Bacon**, **Kimberly Jones**, **Karen Neville**, **Allison Blakeman**, **Alicia Gibson**, **Roxie Dennis**, **Bunk Mann** and **Barry Laws**.



Awards - Ocean City Knights of Columbus (Council # 9053 and Assembly #2454) held its Annual Community Awards Ceremony on 22 May 2025. 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 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**, **Kristin Heiser** (State's Attorney, Worcester County).

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Wild Blue Yonder

The demise of the B-17G *NINE-O-NINE*

By **Ralph Ferrusi**

On September 9, 2016 I flew in the Massachusetts-based Collings Foundation beautiful B-17G, the *NINE-O-NINE* (named after the last three digits of its tail number, 42-31909). We flew from Dutchess County Airport in New York State up the Hudson River past Kingston and back. It was a once-in-a-lifetime, remarkable, unforgettable experience. For a long time after that September 9, 2016 flight, I smiled every time “9:09” popped up on a digital clock, anywhere.

On October 2, 2019 a good friend e-mailed me that the *NINE-O-NINE* had crashed, at Bradley International Airport in Connecticut. I was shocked, and stunned.

From what I’ve read, take-off had been delayed because one of the engines (number four, outboard on the right wing?) wouldn’t start. The plane eventually took off, and about two minutes into the flight, about eight miles out, the pilots reported a problem to the control tower and

requested an emergency landing. Again, from what I’ve read, there was no real urgency in the exchanges between the pilots and the tower, but eyewitnesses reported the plane was “making loud noises” and flying “really low.”

News reports say the plane crashed 1,000 feet short of the runway, and then veered into the airport’s de-icer storage tanks, and was then just about totally destroyed in an explosion. Only the vertical rudder and some of the left wing are recognizable in photos.

I know a lot about World War II airplanes, and, the B-17s. From my readings, it was not uncommon for B-17s to return from missions over France, and Germany on three engines, and, I think, even on two engines. And, these very tough airplanes often landed, or, crash landed, with minimal damage.

Here’s a theory, and this is just my theory, if a four-engine airplane loses an engine, it will be very difficult, most likely impossible, for the remaining three engines to allow it to maintain a



Ralph Ferrusi beside *NINE-O-NINE*


given altitude for any great period of time. Most likely it will slowly (or maybe not-so-slowly) lose altitude: let’s just say, for the sake of round numbers, about 100 feet per mile.

A World War II bomber, 30,000 feet over France, could then possibly make it 300 miles over, and possibly across, the English Channel. The


please see demise page 28

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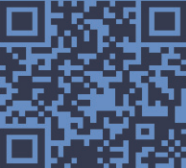
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Fourth of July fireworks, family fun and festivities set in Ocean Pines

The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department will once again host a Fourth of July fireworks celebration at Veterans Memorial Park on Route 589 and Cathell Road.

The event this year is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, July 4, with carnival games, dry slides and bounce houses for children, plus live music and food and drink vendors, face painting, jewelry and hair wrap and sand art.

Wristbands are \$20 and are good for all slides and bounce houses, games, etc. Wristbands will be required for those attractions only. Cash and credit cards will be accepted for wristbands, and for glow-in-the-dark and light up products sold at the recreation area.

General admission is free and open to the public, for both the carnival and fireworks.

Fireworks are scheduled to start at roughly 9:15 p.m.

The fireworks will launch from the north side of the pond, by Cathell Road. Viewing will be available at Veterans Memorial Park.

There will be limited seating (chairs and blankets), along Ocean Parkway, from the South Fire Station to Manklin Creek Road. This area will be controlled by Public Works and will not be available for vehicles.

Guests may bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating at Veterans Memorial Park and the Parkway / pond viewing area.

Police will close Ocean Parkway from Manklin Creek Road to Offshore Lane about 60 minutes before the fireworks begin. That area will remain closed until all fireworks have been launched and the Fire Marshal deems it safe.

There will also be a "safe zone" marked by an orange fence, from Offshore Lane to the firehouse. No one may enter the marked area once the fireworks have started. This area will be monitored and controlled by Fire Police and Public Works. Pedestrian traffic will be allowed until one hour prior to the launch time. No vehicles will be allowed through the area dur-

ing that time.

Public parking will be available in the Green Lot across from the Post Office. Parking will not be allowed along Ocean Parkway. Limited handicapped parking will be available at the library parking lot. A handicap-accessible shuttle will be available between the library and the event area.

Additionally, police will close the south end of Cathell Road from Ocean Parkway to the entrance of the Sports Core Pool at around noon, when the fireworks vendor is scheduled to arrive.

The area will remain closed until the fireworks equipment is loaded, the area is cleared of debris, and the fire marshal deems it safe and clear for traffic.

Cathell Road will remain open from the Sports Core Pool to Route 589 for the entire day, for pool access and access to Veterans Memorial Park.

Public Works personnel will help with road closures and directing traffic throughout the day. Please note that the road closures are for public safety and are required by the Fire Marshal's Office.

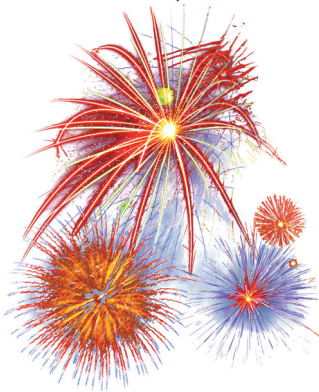
The Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works and Neighborhood Watch will be directing traffic, and helping with parking and crossover traffic from the Green Lot. Pedestrian traffic is encouraged, to help with traffic delays.

At the conclusion of the fireworks, pedestrians will have preference over motorists. Residents and guests should expect delays throughout the day.

In case of inclement weather, the fireworks display will move to Saturday, July 5.

Also scheduled for the Fourth of July is the annual Ocean Pines Freedom 5K, taking place from 7:30-10 a.m. The race route will begin and end at Veterans Memorial Park and run along the Route 90 path to Offshore Lane and back. Drivers and pedestrians are asked to use caution in the area during this time.

For more information, contact Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks at 410-641-7052, or visit www.oceanpines.org.



Arrival - As they do every year, the members of the Ocean City Lodge of the Sons and Daughters of Italy welcomed Italian university students who travel to the resort city every year to fill summer help jobs. This year 36 students from throughout Italy came to Ocean City to work at hotels, restaurants and amusement parks.

The first to arrive were treated to a typical American food often served in summer, fried chicken, smoked brisket, baked beans, mac and cheese and salad. For dessert they shared with members two sheet cakes one of which said in Italian Buona Estate a Ocean City. Translated it means Have a Nice Summer in Ocean City.

Then they were gifted with tote bags filled with some goodies and summer necessities assembled by Lodge members. Each student also received a Salisbury University shirt courtesy of members Pat and Al D'Annunzio, whose daughter attends the school.

One lucky Italian student won a raffle of a bike, a staple means of traveling by many foreign students in Ocean City each year. The bike was donated by a Lodge member and the winner said she would be sharing it with her fellow students.

Above: Students move down the buffet line for their first taste of American summer fare.



Wor-Wic nursing students take part in pinning ceremony

Thirty Wor-Wic Community College associate degree in nursing (ADN) graduates recently participated in an awards and recognition ceremony.

The nurse pinning ceremony, modeled after a tradition started by Florence Nightingale in the 1860s, initiates nurse graduates into the profession. Wor-Wic's most recent pinning for ADN students took place on the campus in Salisbury. The event this year featured a keynote address by Alana L. Long, assistant professor of nursing.

Special awards were presented by Dr. Brenda J. Mister, department head and professor of nursing. Jana Fisher was the student speaker.

Nutritional benefits of watermelon

Watermelon is widely considered a summertime treat that's particularly refreshing on a hot day. A staple at backyard barbecues, watermelon makes a great appetizer, side dish and even dessert.

Watermelon also can make for a nutritious addition to a backyard barbecue menu. Those who want something nutritious to eat alongside less healthy fare like hamburgers and hot



dogs can consider the many nutritional benefits of watermelon.

Watermelon is low in calories. The Mayo Clinic notes that one cup of watermelon is 46 calories. That makes watermelon an ideal low-calorie dessert, particularly when compared to other treats, including ice cream. The calorie count for a single cup of ice cream varies by flavor, but the United States Department of Agriculture notes one cup of vanilla ice cream contains 274 calories, while one cup of chocolate ice cream is 286 calories. Watermelon is a low-calorie dessert alternative to ice cream that can be especially appealing after eating popular backyard barbecue fare.

Watermelon promotes hydration. The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Pub-

lic Health notes that drinking enough water helps to regulate body temperature, lubricate the joints, prevent infections, and promotes proper organ function. Water also delivers nutrients to cells. Come summertime, it's easy to fall victim to dehydration, but consuming watermelon can help to prevent that. The Mayo Clinic notes watermelon is 92 percent water, which can help people remain hydrated on hot summer days spent outside.

Watermelon is a good source of vitamins C and A. The National Institutes of Health notes that human beings are unable to synthesize vitamin C endogenously, which means they must get this crucial vitamin from the foods they eat. Watermelon contains 14 percent of the recommended daily value (DV) of vitamin C per USDA dietary guidelines, making it a worthy addition to anyone's diet. Watermelon also contains 5 percent of the recommended DV of vitamin A, which the NIH notes is important for normal vision, immune system health, reproduction, and growth and development.

Watermelon does not contain any fat, cholesterol or sodium. It's not only what's in watermelon that makes it so healthy, but what's not in it as well. Unlike other popular desserts, such as ice cream, watermelon contains no fat, cholesterol or sodium. Opting for watermelon over more traditional desserts can help people lower their fat consumption, reduce their cholesterol and avoid overconsumption of sodium.

Watermelon makes for a refreshing treat on a hot summer day. But watermelon provides a host of additional nutritional benefits as well, making it an ideal food for your next backyard barbecue.

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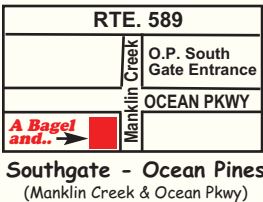
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Emerging nuclear rocket technology

Astronomy & Spaceflight

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.



Since the earliest days of space exploration, rockets have been fueled by liquid hydrogen combining with

liquid oxygen to produce very hot, continuous “explosions.” Variation of those fuels have included using highly refined methane or kerosene used in place of oxygen. Yet those so-called “chemical” fueled rockets are now reaching their maximum efficiency of performance. However, technology is always moving forward with new innovations and thus Nuclear Thermal Propulsion (NTP) rocket systems are now receiving more attention.

A new NTP system we discuss in this column uses liquid uranium and hydrogen for fuel. This research is being conducted at Ohio State University and University of Alabama at Huntsville and was recently reported in the Acta Astronautica science journal.

NTP rocket engines create power using uranium fission as opposed to chemical reaction. The new technique will pass liquid hydrogen gas through the uranium reactor chamber in the engine and then to expel the superheated hydrogen from the exhaust to create thrust.

The new system features a rotating cylindrical chamber containing liquid molten uranium, hence it is called a Centrifugal Nuclear Thermal Rocket (CNTR). As the fission reactions are occurring, liquid hydrogen is injected through the walls of the cylinder and into the chamber. As the hydrogen liquid passes the hot fissioning

uranium, it vaporizes and then shoots into the central chamber as hot bubbles of hydrogen gas. As this hot gas is then expelled through the rear exhaust, significant thrust gains would be realized, compared to thrust from chemical fuels.

Efficiency calculations show startling gains compared with the traditional chemical fuels. Measurements of the specific impulse typical for existing chemical fueled rockets shows figures in the range of 450 seconds, whereas recent designs using uranium can perform at 900 seconds of specific impulse. The latest technology design for the CNTR is estimated to be a specific impulse of 1,500 seconds.

drag may pull some uranium along with it.

If technological innovation can overcome the obstacles the CNTR will represent a genuine revolution in interplanetary travel. Scientists hope for faster, more efficient spacecraft, capable of carrying larger cargoes over long journeys to the planets.

July stargazers can begin their evening at about 9:45 p.m., when the full stellar vista comes into view.

The classic spring constellation Leo the Lion with its distinguished lion-shaped pattern can still be seen hovering over the western horizon. Look to the south of Leo to spot the planet Mars which shows its faint orange colored glow. Just above the



Higher speeds for space travel from CNTR engines will be extremely beneficial considering that flight times to Mars would now take about nine months with existing rocket engines. A nuclear engine might reduce this to about five months. Also, the added lift capacity offered by the new technology will benefit astronauts with more equipment and supplies.

However, the CNTR engine is currently in its infancy and real-world prototypes have not yet been built. The Acta Astronautica report contains a listing of potential problems as well as discussions of how these might be resolved.

The most difficult and troublesome issue is the loss of uranium liquid through the exhaust system. The uranium is largely kept in place by the high spin rate of the cylinder - up to 2,000 rpm. As the hydrogen gas passes through the uranium, viscous

southern horizon the constellation Scorpius the Scorpion appears.

Almost straight upward, one can see the familiar kite-shaped Bootes (Boh OH teeZ) the Herdsman, with the bright star Arcturus. To the east of Bootes, Hercules the Hero appears. Hercules might be considered a “summer cousin” of Orion, as it features a man-shaped stellar configuration.

High overhead, one can see the classic Cygnus the Swan, also known as the Northern Cross.

Many stargazers are aware of the “Summer Triangle” featuring three prominent stars Vega, Deneb and Altair. Deneb appears in Cygnus, while Vega and Altair are located in Lyra and Aquila, respectively. Although Deneb and Vega are in the same quadrant, Altair is well-separated, to the south.

Wishing good luck and clear skies to all stargazers.

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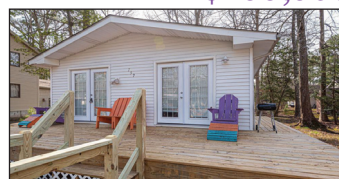
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Speaker - Captain Tom Ottenwaelder was the guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City. Captain Ottenwaelder, known by his friends as Tommy O, retired from the US Coast Guard after serving 29 years of active duty. During that time, he operated both rescue and security boats; enforced maritime law enforcement operation in south Florida Keys; served as the Assistant Chief of the National Search & Rescue School; and, established the Coast Guard's first deployable anti-terrorism teams. After retiring in 2019, Captain Tommy O worked as a marine surveyor and licensed captain providing on-water boat safety training with the National Safe Boating Council. He is a marine safety consultant with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and serves on Maryland's Boating Act Advisory Committee.

Above are **Tom Ottenwaelder** and Kiwanis President **Tom Southwell**.

Local park receives improvement grant

Board of Public Works has approved more than \$4.3 million in grants to support 20 projects under the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Greenspace Equity Program. Worcester County will receive \$100,000.

These awards will benefit local governments, land trusts, and nonprofit organizations working to enhance green spaces in underserved communities across 14 counties. An additional \$567,382 in grants for two projects will be presented to the BPW for approval at a future meeting.

Improvements to the John Walter Smith Park Walking Trail located in Snow Hill will include installing new walking trails, a new play module, a new pavilion, renovating restrooms, replacing fencing, landscaping, and adding picnic tables, grills, bleachers, securing lighting, water fountains, and other park amenities.

Established by Maryland General Assembly legislation in 2023, the Greenspace Equity Program supports the creation, preservation, and improvement of public green spaces, en-

hancing the public health and community livability in overburdened and underserved communities. The Greenspace Equity legislation defines areas as overburdened if environmental health measures show they are affected by pollution sources at higher levels than other areas and underserved based on income levels and other indicators.

The program received 40 applications requesting more than \$11 million during its first funding round. Ultimately, 22 projects were selected for funding in Fiscal Year 2025, including new trails, parks, urban farms, gathering spaces, community woodlands, and gardens. The Greenspace Equity Advisory Board consulted with the Department in the implementation and administration of the program.

"The Greenspace Equity Program helps close the gap in green space protection and access for communities that have often been left behind, and develops a sense of stewardship among all Marylanders," Maryland Department of Natural Resources Secretary Josh Kurtz said.

Community parks and playgrounds program accepting applications

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is now accepting grant proposals for the FY 2027 Community Parks and Playgrounds program. The Community Parks and Playgrounds program provides flexible grants to municipal governments to rehabilitate, expand, or improve existing parks, create new parks, or purchase and install playground equipment. The proposals will be reviewed and considered for submission to the General Assembly as part of the Governor's FY 2027 budget.

Governor Wes Moore's FY 2026 budget included a total of \$5 million

for 26 projects across 15 counties. The Town of Ocean City will receive \$267,140 to purchase and install new playground equipment and safety surfacing for five- to 12-year-olds.

Town of Snow Hill will receive \$298,215 to purchase and install a new restroom building at Sturgis Park.

Maryland's Community Parks and Playground program invests in the future of Maryland's established communities by developing and revitalizing parks and playgrounds statewide. To date, over \$92 million has been approved so far for over 880 parks and playground projects.

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Ocean Pines Freedom 5K set for July 4

The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department is encouraging runners and walkers of all ages to pre-register for the annual Ocean Pines Freedom 5K, scheduled for Friday, July 4, with an 8 a.m. start at Veterans Memorial Park in Ocean Pines.

The race, timed and organized by Elite Feats, will take participants on a scenic course through Ocean Pines pathways and residential streets.

Sponsored by Ocean Pines' Signature Sponsor, TidalHealth, the festive, family-friendly event invites participants to show off their most patriotic outfits as they celebrate Independence Day with an energizing community run.

Pre-registration is \$30 and is avail-

able online at events.elitefeats.com/25oceanpines. Race-day registration is \$35 and opens at 7 a.m. on July 4.

All pre-registered participants will receive a race T-shirt. Shirt sizes are not guaranteed for those who register on the day of the event. Race packet pickup is scheduled for Thursday, July 3, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Awards will be presented to the top three male and female finishers in each age group, as well as to the participant with the best July 4th costume and the winner of a grand prize trophy.

For more information, contact the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052.

appointment
from page 21

Services, and Chief Clinical Officer.

"It's been quite a journey, and I'm both honored and humbled to take on this role," said Ann Lovely. "I'm looking forward to continuing the incredible work we've all been doing together and to building on the strong foundation we've created as a team."

As Coastal Hospice celebrates 45 years of service across Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties, Ann Lovely's leadership promises to carry the mission forward, promoting dignity and quality of life for patients and families who face life-limiting conditions.

library
from page 4

cashiering, counting, organizing, greeting, and other essential tasks.

"The Friends of the Ocean Pines Library would like to thank all those who donated their time last year, and offer a special thanks to the many dedicated volunteers who have already committed to helping again this year," Schoch said.

Schoch, a resident of Glen Ridge, was herself a volunteer before taking over in 2025 from long-time chair Jim Meckley. "Jim is the powerhouse, the pillar," she said. "He put out a number of pleas for some help."

Meckley had written in a letter announcing his retirement that he was going to end the book sale since no one had stepped up to take over.

events
from page 20

throws a no-hitter against the rival Boston Red Sox at Yankee Stadium. Righetti struck seven of the first nine batters he faced and even overcame a delay in the eighth inning when umpire Steve Palermo suffered a knee injury. Outspoken Yankees owner George Steinbrenner did not attend the game, as he was in Florida celebrating his 53rd birthday with family.

2004: The cornerstone of the Freedom Tower is laid on the World Trade Center site in New York City. Now known as One World Trade Center, the building formally opened in November 2014.

"We can't have that happen," Schoch said. "My kids are readers; they do well because of it."

Schoch's children collect books for the Words for Winners book giveaway held during Berlin's annual Peach Festival, starting with their own private collection. Books left over from the library book sale are included in the free giveaway.

"It's not about us, but this is why I care about [the book sale]," Schoch said. "Friends of the Library has always helped and supported the community. I'm not the greatest book chair, but I can't let it stop."

The Ocean Pines library is ADA accessible, with ample free parking, and volunteers will be on hand to assist anyone needing help carrying purchases. For more information on the book sale, contact fopl.book-sale@gmail.com.



Kiwanis supports WYFCS

Worcester Youth & Family Counselling Services (WYFCS) held its annual Shine on The Shore Luau fundraiser on at Sunset Grille. The Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City annually supports this organization with a donation of \$2,000 which was presented earlier this spring.

Above: (L-R) John Hanberry, Teri Westbrook, Tom and Skip Flanagan, WYFCS Executive Director Dr. Jennifer Leggour, Jan and Bob Wolfing, Ron and Bette Wildgust and Jim Spicknall.

demise
from page 23

NINE-O-NINE was eight miles from Bradley, 800 feet up. Do the math: it did make it back to airport property: the de-icer tanks are part of the airport.

To me, on that October 2019 day the veteran pilots did everything they could to save this priceless airplane, but, at some point, things became "in the hands of the gods": and, the gods let us down. And, instead of a belly landing where the plane could have been salvaged, with minimum loss of life, it hit those tanks, and exploded. Plowing into them was just plain rotten, lousy bad luck. Why?

Over time I've been following up on this why, and here's what I've come up with. After a long, long investigation the FAA came to the conclusion that "pilot error" caused the crash: the landing gear and the flaps were down in anticipation of landing at the airport. This made the

plane aerodynamically "dirty" so it didn't reach the runway. And, all of the Collings Foundation warbirds were grounded, as far as taking people like me on flights, and have been grounded ever since.

In my opinion, the pilots having never faced a situation like this before, did the right thing by dropping the landing gear and flaps when the runway was tantalizingly in sight just ahead of them. The gods should have taken this into consideration.

From October 2, 2019 on, every time I have seen "9:09" on a digital clock, it is with unutterable sadness; every time.

Ralph Ferrusi is a World War II aviation enthusiast. His all-time favorite aircraft is the North American P-51D Mustang. He has actually flown in a P-51D, the B-17G NINE-O-NINE, and a B-25H. Born and raised in New York, he and his wife currently reside in Ocean Pines. Questions, comments; rjferrusi@frontiernet.net.

bays
from page 14

We didn't create it, but we are responsible for its care and should honor what it means to us"

MCBP Board President Steve Taylor underscored the organization's strong sense of responsibility in safeguarding the health of the Coastal Bay ecosystems.

MCBP Executive Director Kevin Smith expressed his thanks to all of the partners and supporters who came out on a very hot afternoon to reaffirm their commitment to keeping the bays healthy and robust.

"This only happens when we work together and this tremendous show of support and commitment ensures a healthy and productive future for our treasured coastal bays," Smith said.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program is one of just 28 National Estuary Programs designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to protect and restore estuaries of national significance. The updated CCMP represents a renewed commitment to science-driven, community-based action to improve water quality, habitat, and quality of life across the watershed.

For more information about the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, visit www.mdcoastalbays.org.



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The pelican

Pelicans inhabit lakes, rivers, and seacoasts in many parts of the world. With some species reaching a length of 70 inches and having a wingspan of 10 feet and weighing up to 30 pounds. Pelicans are among the largest of living birds.

Pelicans eat fish, which they catch by using the extensible throat pouch as a dip-net. The pouch is not used to store the fish, which are swallowed immediately. One species, the brown pelican, captures fish by a spectacular plunge from the air, but other species swim in formation, driving small

sexes are similar in appearance, but males are larger.

Between 1970 and late 2009, the brown pelican was listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Though the brown pelican once bred in enormous colonies along New World coasts, its population declined drastically in North America during the period 1940 to 1970 as a result of use of DDT and related pesticides. The birds' breeding improved after DDT was banned.

Pelicans usually breed in colonies on islands; there may be many small

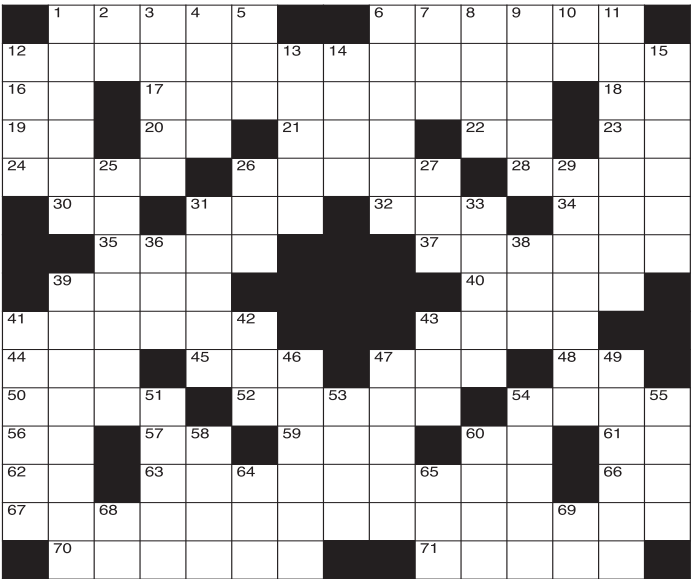


schools of fish into shoal water where they are scooped up by the birds.

Pelicans lay one to four bluish white eggs in a stick nest, and the young hatch in about a month. The young live on regurgitated food obtained by thrusting their bills down the parent's gullet. The young mature at three to four years. Though ungainly on land, pelicans are impressive in flight. They usually travel in small flocks, soaring overhead and often beating their wings in unison. The

colonies on a single island. The gregarious North American white pelican breeds on islands in lakes in north-central and western North America; all pairs in any colony at any given time are in the same stage of the reproductive cycle. It is migratory, as are some other species. The brown pelican breeds along the tropical and subtropical shores of both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

-Britannica

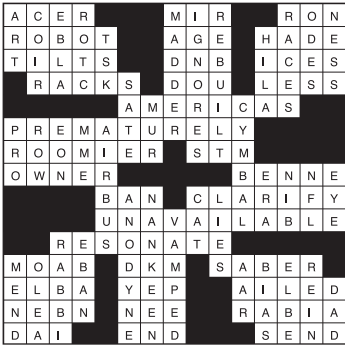


CLUES ACROSS

1. Notes
6. Long-haired dog breed
12. ESPN's nickname
16. Spanish be
17. Disadvantage
18. Of I
19. Actor Pacino
20. On your way: __ route
21. Fifth note of a major scale
22. Companies need it
23. News agency
24. Faces of an organization
26. Ponds
28. Samoa's capital
30. Partner to "Pa"
31. Adult male
32. Cool!
34. Used of a number or amount not specified
35. No No No
37. Hosts film festival
39. British place to house convicts
40. Made of fermented honey and water
41. Chief
43. College army
44. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
45. Consume
47. One point north of due east
48. For instance
50. Brews
52. Alaskan river
54. Not soft
56. Atomic #22
57. "The Golden State"
59. "The world's most famous arena"
60. Larry and Curly's pal
61. One billion gigabytes
62. Conducts inspections
63. Malaria mosquitoes
66. Unit to measure width
67. Features
70. Affairs
71. Letter of Semitic abjads

CLUES DOWN

1. Follower of Islam
2. Trauma center
3. French young women
4. Norse god
5. U.S. commercial flyer (abbr.)
6. Merchant
7. Peyton's younger brother
8. Jungle planet in "Star Wars" galaxy
9. Tree-dwelling animal of C. and S. America
10. "Pollack" actor Harris
11. Stuck around
12. Put on
13. Influential Norwegian playwright
14. Christian __, designer
15. Fulfills a debt
25. Style
26. More (Spanish)
27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
29. Remedy
31. Disturbance
33. "The Martian" actor Matt
36. Express delight
38. Brooklyn hoopster
39. 1900 lamp
41. Motionless
42. One's mother (Brit.)
43. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
46. Compels to act
47. Gardening tool
49. Ancient country
51. Frightening
53. Wimbledon champion Arthur
54. Popular plant
55. Database management system
58. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
60. Where soldiers eat
64. Tenth month (abbr.)
65. Illuminated
68. Atomic #18
69. Adults need one to travel



Answers for June 25



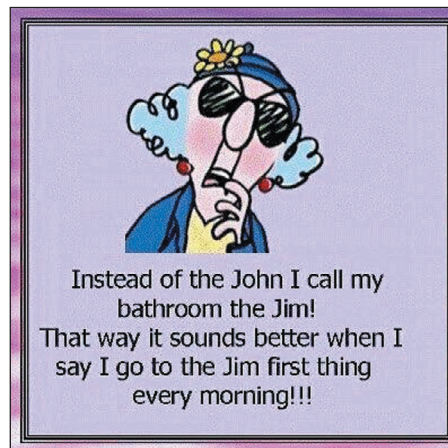
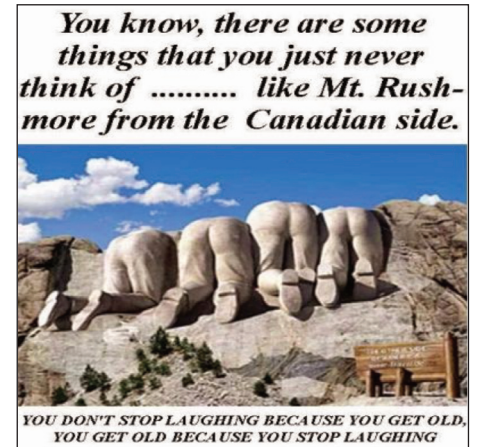
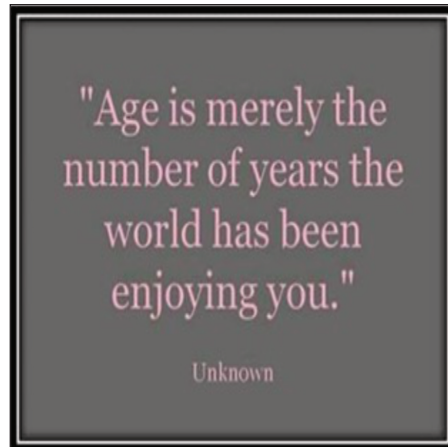
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Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet
by **Jack Barnes**



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