

The Courier

October 15, 2025 Volume 26 Number 7

Berlin angler sets record for longfin albacore

Marc Spagnola of Berlin is the new state record holder for longfin albacore.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has officially recognized Spagnola as the new state record holder for longfin albacore for the Atlantic Division. Spagnola's 78-pound catch surpasses the previous record set in 2004 by four pounds.

Spagnola was fishing out of Ocean City on the 82-foot private boat Instigator, which can troll as many as 15 lines at one time with a wide variety of lures and baits. He and a crew of other seasoned fishermen had been trolling in the Hudson Canyon, off the coasts of northern New Jersey and New York. When the seas turned rough, they headed south toward home port.

At dawn on September 21, the longfin albacore took a lure on a rod and line set from the flying bridge, called a shotgun, which is typically set very far beyond the other lures and baits. Spagnola took the rod, and the fight was on. The crew initially thought the fish was a yellowfin tuna, but once it was boated, they realized it was an exceptionally large longfin albacore.

The fish was weighed on a certified scale at Sunset Marina in Ocean City.

The group's two-day trip ended with an impressive 29 tuna landed, including bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, and longfin albacore. They also caught a large number of common dolphin-fish, known also as mahi-mahi.

Spagnola has been fishing offshore most of his life. He said he enjoys the adventure that it offers, as well as the rewards of tuna steaks, poke bowls, smoked tuna, and home-canned tuna.

Longfin albacores' torpedo-shaped bodies, high metabolism, and other unique traits allow them to swim at speeds topping 50 miles per hour. These highly migratory fish travel in schools throughout the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian oceans.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources maintains state records for sport fish in four divisions: Atlantic, Chesapeake, Nontidal, and Invasive. Anglers who believe they have caught a potential record-setting fish should complete the state record application and call 410-991-0748. The department recommends keeping the fish immersed in ice water to preserve its weight until it can be verified and certified.

Maryland state fishing licenses are available on DNR's MD Outdoors website. Fishing licenses, fishing tackle, boats, and marine fuel purchases fund DNR's fish and wildlife conservation work.



Marc Spagnola with record holder longfin albacore

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**No Materials will be accepted from
Business, Industrial or Commercial Sources.**

Harvest and Flannel Market scheduled

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market will host a special Harvest and Flannel Market on Saturday, October 18, from 9 a.m. to noon at White Horse Park.

The fall-themed event will celebrate the season with festive activities for the whole family. Shoppers and visitors are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite flannel attire and enjoy a cozy autumn atmosphere while browsing local farm-fresh produce, handmade goods, and artisanal treats.

"The Harvest and Flannel Market is a great way to celebrate fall and support local farmers and makers," said Market Manager David Bean. "It's always a fun morning full of community spirit and seasonal charm."

For more information, contact Market Manager David Bean at 410-641-7717, visit oceanpines.org, or email flavordrizzles@gmail.com.

Trivia contest scheduled

"The Last Hurrah" trivia contest will be held at the Ocean Pines library on Wednesday, October 15 at 3 p.m.

This will be the final contest with Jim Meckley as moderator and the last for 2025. Enjoy the fun, prizes and snacks. No team is too small or too big and individuals are always encouraged to attend. No registration is required and the contest is free and sponsored by the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library.

Community supper scheduled

Knights of Columbus will host a community supper with an Oktoberfest theme on Tuesday, October 21 between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$15. The event will occur at 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, behind St. Luke's Church. Call 410-524-7994 with questions.

Greek fall fest set

The Eastern Orthodox Community of Saint Andrew welcomes everyone to its annual Fall Fest, Friday and Saturday, November 7 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and 8 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Featured are a themed basket auction, international foods, bake sale (complete with a variety of Greek pastries), Mediterranean Market, and more. No cost for entry. The Church is located at 33384 MacKenzie Way (off Plantation Road) in Lewes, DE. For more information, call 302-645-5791 or visit the church website: www.orthodoxdelmar.org/fallfest.

Shred-It event planned

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Berlin will host a free community Shred-It event on Saturday, October 25 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Canned good donations will be accepted for local food pantries. The church is located at 3 Church Street in Berlin.

NARFE to meet

The local chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) will meet Thursday, October 23 and Thursday, November 20 at 10 a.m. in the Ocean Pines community center. For additional information, contact Karleen Hagan at khagannarfe@gmail.com.

Stars, Stripes and Stockings event scheduled

Come out to the Ocean Pines Yacht Club on Sunday, November 9, to help support our troops at the Stars, Stripes, and Stockings event.

Sponsored by Steel Blu Vodka, the event features live entertainment, passed Hors D'oeuvres, and a cash bar available. Stuff a stocking to be gifted to our soldiers in time for the holiday!

The Giving Tree is located inside the restaurant, filled with ornaments for items such as hot cocoa packets, hand warmers, and other small gifts. Stop by, take an ornament, and bring your donated items back to the Yacht Club by Friday, November 7. Then, gather with the community on Sunday, November 9, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. to fill stockings to be sent to those in need.

For more information, contact the Yacht Club at 410-641-7501.



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Arts Council calls for ‘small treasures’

The Worcester County Arts Council (WCAC) invites artists to submit original miniature artworks for its upcoming juried exhibition, “*Small Treasures*,” on display throughout November and December at the WCAC Gallery, located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin.

Small Treasures celebrates the beauty, intricacy, and charm of miniature artworks that draw viewers in with their intimate scale and hidden details. Artists are encouraged to interpret the theme in any way that resonates with them, from tiny landscapes and delicate portraits to intricate still lifes, abstract compositions, and sculptural miniatures.

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The exhibition is open to all artists, professional or emerging and all media are welcome.

To qualify:
-2D works must not exceed 11 inches in any direction (including the frame)

3D works must not exceed 7 inches in any one direction

All artwork must be original and created within the last three years

Entries must be delivered to the Arts Council between October 28 and 30, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., to be accepted. Artwork will be juried in and judged for the competition by John Mosher, a multidisciplinary artist and Associate Professor of Art at Salisbury University.

Monetary prizes will be awarded during an open-to-the-public reception on November 14 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Awards will be presented at 5 p.m. that evening.

Full competition guidelines and entry form are available at www.worcestercountyartscouncil.org



Display — Ocean Pines resident **Sherry Gamble** (pictured), former owner of *The Enchanted Tea Room* in Berlin and multimedia artist, has her works on display at the Ocean Pines library thru October. Sherry has spent over 50 years combing thrift and collectible stores searching for unusual items she combines to create eccentric, humorous assemblages.



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Tipity tap. Tipty tap. Tipity tap. Ding!

Dirt etchings with a stick. Painted symbols on cave walls. Carved tablets (think 10 Commandments). Scroll writing (monastery monks). The Guten-

board and printer. Roll in the paper and start typing. It was simple. Well, maybe I exaggerate. It wasn't always simple.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

berg press. Quill pens and parchment. Typewriters. Word processors. Desktop computers. Laptop computers. Smart phones. Such have been the communication methods throughout history more or less.

There was a time before MAC and Dell, when Corona, Underwood, Remington, Royal and IBM were kings of the hill. What were they? Typewriters. Relatively simple mechanical machines that could be operated day or night, with or without electricity.

Now more likely to be found in vintage shops, period cinema productions or tucked in the darkened eaves of a forgotten attic corner, there was a time when typewriters were ubiquitous, common equipment synonymous of a bygone era, an era in which I lived. What typewriters lacked in RAM or gigabytes or USB ports or screens they more than made up for with basic features. Typewriters did not have to be plugged in to use (unless of course it was an electric model). No surge protector with a battery back-up required. It could be used anywhere - at a desk, in a car, on a beach or in a jungle. Typewriters were all-in-one apparatuses that melded key-



Experiences with typewriter ribbons, bottles of White-Out, carbon paper and jammed keys were frustrating. I recall knock down, drag out fights with ribbon spools as I tried to get them properly adjusted so I would not type just half letters. Inevitably I wound up typing in red instead of black. For those too young to remember, some typewriter spools combined red and black ink ribbons - black on top, red on bottom.

Fixing typos was a complicated, swear-word laced process involving an eraser or a bottle of correction fluid. Many were the times when I applied too generously the correction fluid thus

smearing streaks of white across part of the next sentence as I continued to type. Retyping the entire page was necessary. Before the dawn of copiers and printers, carbon copy paper - a coated blue or purple filmy tissue-like paper - was commonplace. Without fail, I got carbon on my fingers and carbon smudges on my original.

Editing copy on a typewriter generated page was simple and straightforward - make corrections to the original and then retype the first word, the last word and every word in between. There was no cut and paste option. Writing a ten-page college paper took all night, especially when all the subject matter research - using actual books - was yet to be done.

It may seem odd in 2025 but there was a time when writers could only express themselves in one font. Typewriters had one and only one monospaced font, usually with a nineteenth century appeal. Bold-ing? Italicizing? Forget about it. If you wanted to emphasize a word or sentence, you underlined it by hitting the backspace by the number of letters you wanted underlined and then holding down the shift key and striking the number six key repeatedly.

Typewriters came in different sizes and colors. Some were portable and others were strictly for desk use. The key rows on some typewriters looked like the steep steps of a Philadelphia row home. As a result, typing was a real workout for the phalanges. I don't recall ever hearing the term "carpal tunnel syndrome" during the typewriter days. Admittedly it could have been drowned out by the clatter of key hammers striking paper.

Addressing an envelope with a typewriter was always

easier for me than putting an envelope through an inkjet printer. I can never remember whether the envelope should go in face up or down in the printer tray. I waste more envelopes as a result. But I digress.

Like malt shops, discos and drive-in theaters, typewriters are from another era. And as much as I may wax nostalgic for the touch of the keys, the ding of the carriage return bell or the light scent of ribbon ink, my laptop isn't going anywhere.

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.[^]

[^] Charles E. Weller used the phrase "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party" as a practice line for training typing skills in 1867. The phrase has been re-used frequently and the ending has often been corrupted to "...the aid of their country."



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Pink Lady Golf tournament raises funds

Despite rainy conditions, last week's annual Pink Lady Golf Tournament was a success.

The event is hosted by the Ocean Pines Ladies Golf Association (OPLGA) and supports the AGH Foundation, which helps pay for and provide mammograms for local women who are unable to afford these services.

The winners of the tournament are as follows:

Ladies Teams – 1st Place: Donna McElroy, Helen Johnson, Lara Spaid, Sherrie Clifford; 2nd Place: Donna Kelly, Lisa McNamara, Catie Sostak, Bev Brannon; 3rd Place: Stacie Swanstrom, Roberta Bragunier, Sandy Mattes, Angie Dixon

Men's Teams – 1st Place: Omar Kassem, George Nairn, Doug Bragunier, Billy Bridgett; 2nd Place: PJ Welch, Paul Fohner, Scott Bartholomew, Doug Delwater; 3rd Place: Steve Kelly, Mickey Lobb, Don Brannon, Shannon McNamara

Mixed Teams – 1st Place: Patty Curtin, Art Henshaw, Terri Stuiber, Darin Stuiber; 2nd Place: Carolyn

Neal, Steve Neal, Mike Neal, Daniel Neal; 3rd Place: Gina Morris, Kristen Jenkins, Danielle Shaw, Frank Rugiere

Closest to the Pin for Ladies: #5 – Geri Fasulo, #13 – Tracy Jones

Closest to the Pin for Men: #7 – Bill Bridgett, #16 – Frank Sallese

Closest to the Line for Ladies: #4 – Patty Curtin, #10 – Bev Brannon

Closest to the Line for Men: #4 – Carl Hedde, #10 – Don Bramer

Terri Stuiber and Sonny Cocholla won the putting contest, and Colette Horn was the winner of the 50/50.



Installation dinner

On October 3 the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City held its annual installation dinner and swore in its new officers.

Pictured (l-r) are **Mary Page, Terri Ulman, Lynne Waugh, Jim Ulman, Lt. Governor Darlene Phillips, new president Sarah Walker, Diane Denk and Kitty Wrench.**

Anyone interested in learning more about the Kiwanis Club of OP-OC should visit the website www.kiwanisofopoc.org and checkout the Facebook page.

New health grant funding opportunity available

The Worcester County Health Department (WCHD) is requesting proposals to address tobacco use disparities as a result of receiving funds from the State of Maryland to advance health equity by identifying and eliminating tobacco, diabetes, and chronic disease related health inequities and disparities. Community-based organizations, churches, private entities, non-

profits, and workplaces are encouraged to apply. Organizations can request up to \$11,500 and awards will depend on the number and quality of applications received. A total of \$23,000 is available to support these efforts.

Projects can include public awareness, community outreach, education, youth vaping prevention, youth advocacy, and tobacco health literacy. Tobacco control may address the reduction of smoking, prevention of vaping and smoking, or environmental change strategies. Funds should be used for projects implemented in places where residents live, work, learn, play and worship.

A virtual pre-proposal orienta-

tion meeting will be held through Google Meet on October 16 at 2 p.m. If you plan to attend this orientation session, RSVP to Crystal Bell at Crystal.bell1@maryland.gov.

Applications must be returned to the Worcester County Health Department located at 6040 Public Landing Rd. in Snow Hill by October 31 no later than 4:30 p.m. A review team will evaluate the applications, and awards will be made after November 14. Digital application packets can be found at worces-terhealth.org/minigrant. For more information or to request a paper application packet, please call the Worcester County Health Department Prevention Services at 410-632-1100 ext. 1108.

Courier Almanac

On October 15, 1973 – four months before the release of her 13th studio album, "Jolene"-country star Dolly Parton releases the record's titular song with the memorable refrain "Jolene, Jolene, Jolene, Joleeeeee." "



Philatelists, also known as stamp collectors, enjoy the hobby of studying and collecting postage stamps, among other items related to the postal world. Philatelists may be on the hunt for items that are very rare and thus highly valuable. The most expensive stamp ever sold is the 1856 British Guiana 1c "Black on Magenta," which sold for \$9.48 million. It is considered to be the world's rarest and most expensive stamp. Only one copy of the stamp is known to exist, and it was an emergency issue of a stamp in British Guiana, now Guyana.

The Courier

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The Courier

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Reading - Mrs. Allen's second grade class at Ocean City Elementary welcomed fall with a special visit from two students' grandmothers, Mrs. Cropper and Mrs. Oltman. The guests read aloud the book, "Otis and the Scarecrow" and helped the students make a festive scarecrow craft.

Household hazardous waste collection day set

The Worcester County Public Works Recycling Division will host Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Day on Saturday, November 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Central Landfill in Newark.

HHW, computer towers, and laptops may be dropped off for safe disposal. No keyboards, mice, or other electronics will be accepted.

HHW Collection Day provides an opportunity for Worcester County residents to safely dispose of products containing harmful chemicals, such as bleach, pesticides, pool chemicals, oil mixtures, gas and other fuels, acids, automotive fluids, thinners, and other everyday hazardous wastes accumulating in and around the home, like CFL light bulbs, batteries, and oil-based paints. Note that water-based paints are not hazardous materials and should not be brought to any hazardous waste event. Instead, solidify

water-based paints by drying or adding absorbent materials, like sand, kitty litter, or mulch. Then place the dried paint in the trash.

HHW Collection Day is open at no charge to county residents only. This event is hosted in conjunction with Maryland Environmental Services and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). MXI Environmental Services Company will be responsible for the safe disposal of all hazardous waste collected.

Collecting HHW for safe disposal saves valuable landfill space and helps protect the environment, as many of these items do not degrade and contain poisonous materials that could seep out of the landfill and contaminate surrounding soil and groundwater.

For more information, contact Worcester County Recycling Manager Bob Keenan at (410) 632-3177.

Public invited to playground opening

Area residents are cordially invited to join the Worcester County Commissioners as they cut the ribbon on the new playground equipment at the Showell Park on Tuesday, October 21 at 2:30 p.m.

Worcester County Recreation and Parks professionals contracted with All Recreation to install unitary surfacing with nautical-themed play structures across 6,600 square feet of play space. The playground is comprised of two adjoining sec-

tions, one for young children ages two to five and another for youth ages five to 12. Inclusive components are used in the play structures that allow children of all abilities to play and adults of varying ages and abilities to actively engage with their children.

The park also includes a concession stand, pavilion with grills, basketball courts, tennis/pickleball courts, a walking trail, volleyball pit, picnic tables, and public parking.

Freelance features
writers sought.

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Field Trip - On October 7 a group of Upper School students from Worcester Prep visited Duffie Boatworks in West Ocean City as part of the WORX (Work, Observe, Research, Experience) program. Pictured in the front row from the left are WPS Athletic Trainer Drew Oxenrieder, Duffie Boatworks President and Owner Jon Duffie and WPS students John Lynch, Gavin Sutherland, Justin McGovern, Luke Pitarra, Gavin Mann, Karrigan Russell-Wood, Chase Burbage, Blake Curdie, Michael Hall, Luke Mize, Beau Brittingham and Max Lev.

Yacht Club launches off-season specials
The Ocean Pines Yacht Club has announced the launch of its off-season specials, offering guests a variety of weekly dining and happy hour deals. Wednesdays feature happy hour from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., paired with Parm Night. Guests can enjoy Touch of Italy's signature dishes, including chicken parmesan for \$16.99 or eggplant parmesan for \$15.99.

Thursdays highlight \$10 smash burgers and 50% off select bottles of wine. Happy hour runs from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., followed by Trivia Night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Guests who prefer not to participate in the game can enjoy the Main Bar, Patio, or Tiki Bar (weather permitting). Limited dining room tables may also be available depending on reservations.

Fridays feature all-day happy hour from 11 a.m. to close and Fish Friday specials. Guests can choose from rotating plates crafted by Chef Nick Bertino, with house made desserts including made-to-order cannolis, a local favorite.

Saturdays continue with all-day happy hour from 11 a.m. to close, 25% off personal pizzas, and beer specials

All specials are dine-in only and begin at 3 p.m. The Yacht Club's off-season hours are Wednesday through Thursday from 3 to 9 p.m. and Friday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Sunday through Tuesday.

For NFL fans, the Yacht Club's sister restaurant, The Clubhouse Bar & Grille at Ocean Pines Golf Club, offers Sunday football drink and food specials, along with the NFL Ticket package. The restaurant also features live acoustic music Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. through October.

For more information, contact info@touchofitaly.com.

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**Dottie Daniels**

Daniels named October Crafter of the Month

Dottie Daniels has explored many forms of crafting over the years. In recent years, she has focused on creating notecards featuring her own photography and decorating oyster shells, which she sells through the Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop.

"Most of my shells are gathered and photos taken during my beach walks," Daniels said.

Originally from Pennsylvania, Daniels has lived on the Delmarva Peninsula for most of her adult life. She currently resides near Assateague Island, after several years in Salisbury and Ocean City.

"I love being near and in the ocean," she said.

Outside of crafting, Daniels enjoys an active lifestyle that includes kitesurfing, stand-up paddle surfing, biking, skiing, snowboarding, and playing pickleball.

"Crafting is one way I relax when the weather is less conducive to being active outside," she said. "My career was in technical sales, which involved a lot of left-brain activity. Being creative lets me use my right brain more."

Daniels' creations are available

at the Pine'eer Craft Club Artisan Gift Shop, located in White Horse Park in Ocean Pines. The shop is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Founded more than 50 years ago, the Pine'eer Craft Club has donated over \$201,000 to the Ocean Pines community. The club welcomes new members and meets on the third Thursday of each month.

Artisans interested in selling their work at the shop may contact shop managers Debbie Jiwa or Barbara Herzog, or email opcraftclub@aol.com.

For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-gift-shop

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Pickleball fundraiser assists cancer research

The Ocean Pines Pickleball Club recently announced that its annual Pink Ribbon Pickleball Round Robin fundraiser, held October 3 at the Ocean Pines Racquet Sports Center raised more than \$18,000 for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides against breast cancer campaign.

The event brought together 128 players who competed across 16 newly surfaced pickleball courts in Ocean Pines. More than three dozen volunteers, 26 sponsors, and over 30 donors contributed to the success of the event, which also featured 20 basket raffles, five JOOLA-sponsored online paddle auctions, and a 50/50 raffle.

JOOLA-USA continues to support the cause as a generous donor of pickleball equipment to help "Find the CURE."

Event organizer Becky Colt-Ferguson called the tournament "another great year of fundraising and pink fun."

"This round robin event is a celebration that allows participants an opportunity for healthy activity while supporting a time-honored fundraising cause," Colt-Ferguson said.

The Ocean Pines Pickleball Round Robin has become a cherished community tradition, offering players, friends, and families an opportunity to honor loved ones who are currently fighting or have battled breast cancer.

Next year's theme, 'Widening the Horizons for the CURE,' will focus on expanding the Club's fundraising efforts with additional online opportunities.

For more information about Ocean Pines Racquet Sports or the Ocean Pines Pickleball Club, visit www.oceanpines.org.

Fried chicken fundraiser is Sunday

The Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department will hold a fried chicken carryout fundraiser at the main station on Sunday, October 25 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. The menu includes half a chicken (leg, thigh, breast, wing), ham, string beans, cole slaw, potato salad, roll and dessert. The cost is \$20. Baked goods are available. Please pre-order by calling 443-880-4944.



Welcome - Ocean City Power Squadron Executive Officer **Lino Cressotti** [L] and **Fred Stiehl**, commander are welcomed to the Ocean Pines Anglers Club October meeting by moderator **Frank Fiori Jr.** They spoke on the Power Squadrons mission, boater safety, vessel inspection and community service.

Former educators inducted into Hall of Fame

Four former educators were recently inducted to the Worcester County Public School (WCPS) Hall of Fame by the Worcester County Board of Education and Worcester County Retired School Personnel Association (WCRPSA).

William Thomas "Tom" Dorman, Willie C. Jackson, Gwendolyn F. Lehman, and Francis A. Ruffo, Sr. became the second class of retirees to ever be inducted into the Worcester County Public Schools Hall of Fame. Collectively, the class dedicated 126 years to the school system and impacted the entire county with their service to the young people of Worcester.

William Thomas "Tom" Dorman was 37-year exceptional educator for Worcester County Public Schools, advancing from science teacher to assistant superintendent. As principal, vice-principal, and later as a system leader, he was known for his integrity, fairness, and dedication to students and staff. Mr. Dorman's professionalism, wisdom, and unwavering commitment left an indelible mark on Worcester County Public Schools and continue to serve as a model for future educators and leaders.

From vice principal and principal at Pocomoke High School to supervisor of Student Services and Human Resources, Willie Jackson guided

schools through challenges, implemented student supports, and developed innovative teacher recruitment programs. Known for his integrity, compassion, and mentorship, Mr. Jackson leaves a lasting legacy of professional excellence and generosity that continues to inspire students and colleagues alike.

A Worcester County Teacher of the Year and Milken Educator Award winner, Gwen Lehman pioneered a silent reading program and established the first theater curriculum as an academic subject. Beyond the classroom, Gwen founded the Gwen Lehman Foundation and supported countless students, colleagues, and community initiatives, leaving a lasting legacy of excellence, creativity, and inspiration.

Dr. Francis "Frank" Ruffo is known best for transforming Worcester County Public Schools into "Maryland's hidden gem." Appointed in 1978 after school integration, he raised expectations for student achievement, introduced innovative ideas from larger districts, and promoted lifelong learning. Known for his quiet strength, compassion, and humor, he strengthened ties between the Board of Education and County Commissioners, actively engaged in the community, and ensured every student received an equitable, high-quality education.



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Learning - At their annual Stand Up, Speak Up assembly on September 24, Ocean City Elementary School fourth grade students and school counselor, Linda McGean presented a skit to teach strategies for dealing with bullying situations. The skit was presented to the entire school and students had the opportunity to sing and dance to the Stand Up Speak Up song.

Research shows that the key to eliminating bullying is in empowering people to stand up and speak up for themselves and others when confronted with bullying. The goal at Ocean City Elementary is to directly teach the students the strategies they need to demonstrate positive leadership as bystanders to stand up and speak up to bullies.

Pictured: (left to right) Front: **Juwan Wilson, Miranda Molina, Emmett Snead and Colton Metcalf.**

Back: **Vivian Oladeji, Connor Atkinson, Baylee Howe, Reagan Emge, Niyah Collins and Carter Rios.**

Hall named to new dean of STEM position

Wor-Wic Community College has added a dean position to oversee science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs at the college, and appointed Dr. Stacey J. Hall to fill the role. Hall has worked at Wor-Wic since 2007, when she began as a part-time instructor of biological science. She became a full-time assistant professor in 2012, and in 2014 began serving as department head of math and science.



Stacey Hall

Under Hall's leadership, the college launched the biology transfer degree, which has since become part of the expanded STEM transfer associate of science program with concentrations in biology, chemistry, chemistry pre-pharmacy, data science, engineering, math, mechatronics and physics. She also guided the creation of the STEM honors program, offering students undergraduate research experi-

ences in collaboration with faculty mentors. She will also oversee computer studies and applied technologies credit programs.

Hall received her bachelor and master of science degrees from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg and her doctorate from the University of Missouri in Columbia.

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‘Rithmatic - Ocean City Elementary School Students in Mrs. Wolf’s math class represented multiplication equations in different ways.
Students from left to right: **Claire Ewing, River Kennedy, Kingsley Cropper and Lola Keller.**

Wilson Named MSET Outstanding Leader

The Maryland Society for Educational Technology (MSET) announced that Caleb Wilson, District Coach of Instructional Technology and Innovation for Worcester County Public Schools, has been selected as the 2025 recipient of the Outstanding Leader Using Technology Award.

The Outstanding Leader Award is presented annually to a Maryland educator serving outside the classroom who has made exemplary contributions to the implementation and advancement of educational technology. The award reflects MSET’s mission to advance excellence in learning and teaching through innovative and effective uses of technology in education.

Wilson has demonstrated exceptional leadership in guiding Worcester County Public Schools and the state of Maryland through transformative approaches to technology integration. He spearheaded the AI4WCPS Steering Committee, where he led the development of one of the most comprehensive and forward-thinking frameworks for artificial intelligence in K–12 education. His work has emphasized ethical use, accessibility, and practical classroom applications, ensuring that technology adoption remains focused on meaningful student outcomes.

Beyond policy and vision, Wilson’s leadership has extended directly into schools and classrooms. He has helped multiple schools achieve Apple Distinguished School recognition, provided

coaching and mentoring to educators across grade levels, and developed customized applications and tools to meet the unique needs of students, including nonverbal learners and students requiring adaptive technologies.

His professional influence reaches far beyond Worcester County. Wilson has presented extensively across Maryland, offering professional learning on artificial intelligence, instructional innovation, and the future of educational technology. His widely curated Wakelet collection of over 390 AI-focused resources has become a statewide resource for educators and stakeholders seeking to deepen their knowledge of AI tools in teaching and learning.

“Caleb’s leadership in bringing artificial intelligence into the professional learning space has been nothing short of inspiring,” said Dr. Brandie Shatto, past MSET President and Awards Chair. “He has provided countless educators with the tools, strategies, and confidence they need to approach AI thoughtfully and responsibly. His vision has positioned Maryland at the forefront of this critical conversation, while his humility and collaborative spirit have empowered others to lead alongside him.”

In addition to his local and state impact, Wilson has collaborated with the Maryland Center for Computing Education, the Maryland State De-

please see wilson on page 13

Holiday tree decorators sought

The Art League of Ocean City invites local artists, nonprofits, and businesses to compete in the annual tree decorating contest, “Trees for the Arts,” at Winterfest of Lights at Northside Park in Ocean City.

The Art League supplies the six-foot artificial trees, and decorators compete for the most votes and the honor of taking home a cash prize. The public will tour the trees during Winterfest and vote on their favorite decorations at \$1 per vote. The tree with the most votes will win \$1,000.

“Embrace the holiday spirit and show your creativity by transforming a Christmas tree into a stunning masterpiece that reflects your unique style or your organization’s mission,” Aubrey Sizemore, Art League Trees for the Arts coordinator, said. “Let your

imagination run wild with lights, ornaments, ribbons, and other decorations. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to shine.”

Sizemore noted that the number of available trees is limited, and the earliest reservations get the trees. The entry fee is \$40. The trees will be decorated at Northside Park on November 12 and 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and will be on display during the Winterfest of Lights opening November 20 and running through December 31.

Proceeds from “Trees for the Arts” votes will benefit the youth outreach programs of the Art League. Trees for the Arts is sponsored in part by the Town of Ocean City.

To enter or for more details, contact Sizemore at aubrey@artleagueofoceancity.org or 410-524-9433.

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Ocean Pines Fire department awarded FEMA grant

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department (OPVFD) announced it has been awarded a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in the amount of \$291,428.57. This federal grant will be used to replace the department's aging inventory of 34 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units, which are vital for firefighter safety during emergency operations.

The FEMA AFG program provides funding directly to fire departments and EMS organizations to enhance their ability to protect the health and safety of the

public and first responders. The new SCBA units will bring OPVFD into compliance with the most current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and ensure firefighters are equipped with the latest life-saving technology.

"This award represents a major step forward in ensuring the safety of our members and the community we serve," said OPVFD President/Captain Joe Enste. "SCBAs are among the most critical pieces of equipment for firefighters. These new units will allow our crews to

operate more effectively in dangerous environments and return home safely after every call."

The grant award was made possible thanks to the collaborative efforts of the OPVFD Board of Directors, fire department leadership, and the grant-writing team including Jason Faryniak of FireMed Grant Solutions, LLC who worked diligently to secure the funding after an earlier application was not selected for the 2023 Grant.

"We are extremely grateful to FEMA for recognizing our department's need and to everyone who played a role in this successful application," added Enste. "This investment ensures the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department can continue to provide the highest level of service to our residents and visitors."

The new SCBA units are expected to be placed into service in late 2025 or early 2026 following procurement and training.

Tree planting initiative set to begin

The Keep Berlin Cool tree planting initiative, supported by the Berlin Horticultural Advisory Committee and funded by a grant from Maryland Coastal Bays Program, will plant their first trees at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, October 21, when the Mayor and Council will attend the planting of a grove of small bald cypress trees in Stephen Decatur Park. All are welcome to participate in the event.

The trees being planted were grown from the oldest tree in the eastern United States, a 2,630-year-old bald cypress living in the Three Sisters Swamp along the Black River in North Carolina. The im-

portance of these ancient bald cypress trees was recognized by outdoor guide and explorer Charles Robbins, who collected the seeds, grew the trees, and donated them to the Old-Growth Forest Network in honor of its founder, Dr. Joan Maloof. Maloof, who lives in Berlin, donated her special trees to the "Keep Berlin Cool" initiative. The grove will be dedicated to her forest-saving efforts.

On Tuesday, October 28, at noon, a planting of four native trees will take place on the front lawn of the Buckingham Presbyterian Church located at 20 S. Main St. in Berlin.

wilson

from page 12

partment of Education, and higher education institutions such as the University of Maryland Global Campus. His work continues to shape both the policy and practice of technology integration in education across the region.

"Caleb's commitment to innovation, equity, and teacher empowerment embodies the true spirit of this award," said MSET leadership. "He reminds us that technology is not about the tools themselves, but about expanding opportunities and ensuring that every student can thrive."

The Maryland Society for Educational Technology congratulates Caleb Wilson on being named the 2025 Outstanding Leader Award recipient. His leadership, expertise, and passion for technology-enhanced learning represent the very best of Maryland education.

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Health Watch

Pioneering cancer care

State-of-the-art treatment offered

If you’re coping with a cancer diagnosis, you may feel overwhelmed, but one thing is certain: you do not need to travel far from home for world-class care.

With treatment offered in Ocean Pines, Salisbury, Seaford and Berlin — and a surgical team to provide care as needed — the TidalHealth Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute, TidalHealth Allen Cancer Center and the John H. ‘Jack’ Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center offer the most advanced care on the Shore.

TidalHealth boasts an expanded research department that gives patients access to the latest clinical trials; a surgical robot that improves precision and reduces pain; high-tech radiation equipment that preserves healthy tissue and reduces treatment times; and a unified healthcare team that creates individualized care plans and embraces the latest treatment methods.

Cancer patients in Worcester County and beyond now have access to quicker and more precise treatment options here on Delmarva. TidalHealth offers stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT), along with stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) and stereotactic radiation therapy (SRT).

SRS and SRT are painless, non-invasive procedures that use highly focused beams of radiation to destroy tumors. SRS is typically delivered in a single session, ideal for small tumors in sensitive areas like the brain or spine, while SRT is administered over multiple sessions for larger or more complex tumors. These techniques allow for precise targeting, minimizing damage to surrounding healthy tissue.

SBRT, often used for small tumors in the body, delivers radiation in three to five treatments, enabling patients to complete their care in one to two weeks. This significantly reduces treatment time compared to standard radiation plans, helping to ease the barriers many patients face in accessing timely care.

“These advanced techniques — SRS, SRT and SBRT — use highly focused, linear accelerator-driven radiation beams to obliterate tumors while sparing nearby normal tissue,” said John Mansueti, MD, Tidal-

Health’s executive medical director of cancer services. “We are committed to providing the highest quality care across all our locations, and these state-of-the-art treatment options help us fulfill that mission.”

For the past 18 years, TidalHealth has been building a robust research department and forging relationships with the Johns Hopkins Clinical Research Network and national cooperative groups for participation in clinical trials.

Each patient enrolled in a clinical trial has a coordinator and/or nurse who facilitates their care, helps them understand the clinical trial process and follows up with them throughout the experience.

Clinical trials are strictly regulated by the federal government to ensure they meet the highest scientific and ethical standards.

So, how do you know if a clinical trial is right for you? Talking it over with your physician is a good first step; TidalHealth’s clinical research team works with doctors throughout the region to help get patients into appropriate trials.

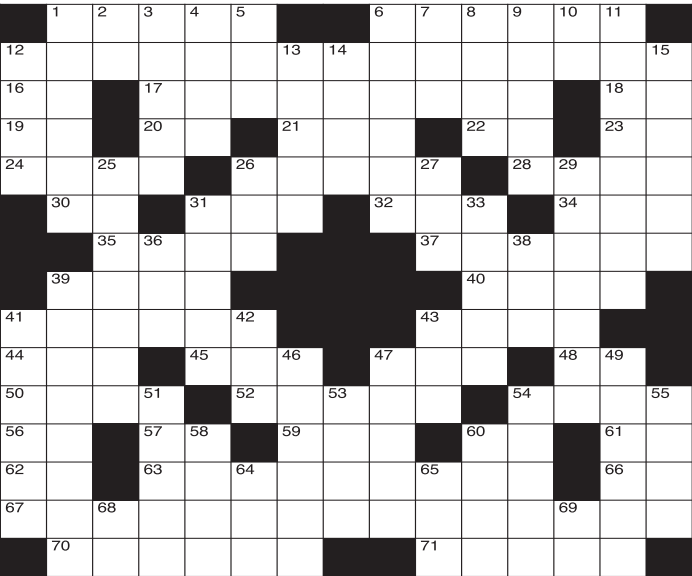
All TidalHealth cancer care locations are accredited. This recognition highlights TidalHealth’s commitment to delivering standardized, patient-centered care across its facilities. As a result of this dedication, TidalHealth has also been designated as an Integrated Network Cancer Program by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

To learn more about cancer care at TidalHealth, visit tidalhealth.org/cancer.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Martial arts in China

6. The butt of jokes

12. Nevertheless

16. Sportscaster Michaels

17. A firm believer

18. Atomic #18

19. One’s bestie

20. Of I

21. Hamburger accessory

22. Thus

23. Partner to Pa

24. Scottish tax

26. Cuts away

28. Require

30. Government lawyer

31. Own (Scottish)

32. Body cavity

34. Brew

35. Young woman (French)

37. Platforms

39. Pair of points in mathematics
40. Attack suddenly

41. Aviators

43. Make perfect

44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)

45. Neither

47. The center of a city

48. Sacrifice hit in baseball

50. Singer Redding

52. Dragged forcibly

54. Puncture with a knife

56. Belonging to me

57. Expresses surprise

59. Haul

60. The Golden State

61. Biblical Sumerian city

62. Integrated circuit

63. Opposed to certain principles

66. Sodium

67. Qualities

70. Walk

71. It awaits us all

CLUES DOWN

1. Ate quickly

2. Peyton Manning’s alma mater

3. Moves through water

4. Run away from

5. Utah resident

6. Natural objects

7. Children’s game

8. Obligation to prove

9. Ancient Greek building for performances

10. Soldier

11. Decorated

12. Catches

13. Russell __, author

14. Speak indistinctly

15. Students get them

25. Japanese warrior

26. Dessert

27. Doleful

29. Most cushy

31. Moon crater
33. Small evergreen Arabian tree

36. Something fugitives are “on”

38. 007’s creator

39. Paintings on hinged panels

41. Type of bomb

42. Japanese classical theater

43. U.S. gov’t department

46. Flightless bird

47. One who cuts wood or stone

49. Buttock and thigh together

51. A way to gather

53. Body part

54. Argentinian city

55. Undergarments

58. Jai __, sport

60. Container for shipping

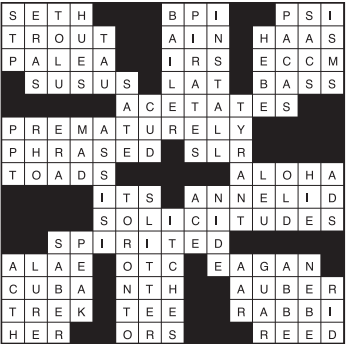
64. Type of screen

65. Get free of

68. Indicates position

69. Business department

Answers for October 8



Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet
by **Jack Barnes**



Me: I want to take a trip.

Bank Account: I highly suggest it be a trip to work.

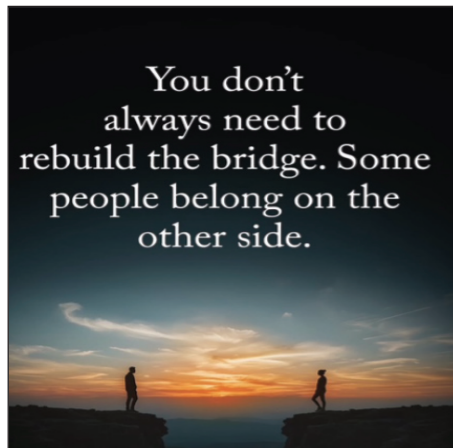
40 People Missing After First Flat Earth Surfing Championship



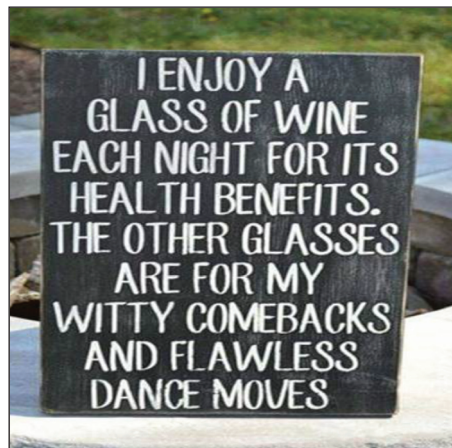
Wisconsin couple were treated for minor injuries at the local hospital emergency. After their Smart Car hit a squirrel on highway 8. The squirrel refused treatment and left the scene!



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