

The Courier



November 5, 2025 Volume 26 Number 9

Annual Veterans Day ceremony returns

The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation will host a traditional Veterans Day ceremony on Tuesday, November 11, to honor all who have served in our military.

The ceremony will begin promptly at 11 a.m. at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines, including patriotic music and a salute to all branches of our Armed Forces.

This year's guest speaker will be Col. John Fenzel, retired Senior Army Special Forces Officer, who served in both war and peace, extending from Washington D.C. to the Middle East.

The ceremony will also include the dedication of a National Gold Star Memorial, presented to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial by the Worcester County Garden Club, a member of the Garden Club of America and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland.



"Veterans Day is a Day to honor and celebrate all who have served in our military." We are forever indebted to those who were willing to serve to protect our freedoms. We are grateful to the families they left behind while they served," said Marie Gilmore, President of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation.

Some seating will be provided, but attendees are recommended to bring a chair. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will move to the Ocean Pines Community Center.

For more information about the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation and the Worcester County Veterans Memorial, visit www.WoCoVets.org.



Game reward - Mrs. Antlitz's second grade class raised \$2,400.00 for Ocean City Elementary School. As a reward for raising a large amount of money, students could bring in and play a board game of their choice with their classmates. Pictured are (l to r) **Arlo Smith** and **Graham Artrip**.

D.A. KOZMA BUYS GOLD and Silver

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



- All types of fence
- All types of Railing
- Screen porches
- EZ Breeze 3 season rooms
- Wood and composite decks



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

Call for your FREE estimate today!

302-436-9520

www.esvinylproducts.com





Get on the path to recovery

If you need orthopedic care, let our highly experienced team of orthopedic surgeons, nurses and rehabilitation therapists help you get back to living the life you love.

Our practitioners combine the newest technology with a personal, compassionate approach to your care.

Whether you need a joint replacement, arthroscopic surgery or are dealing with a sports injury, we're here for you.



Visit tidalhealth.org/careforlife to schedule your appointment today!

Atlantic General Orthopedics
314 Franklin Ave.
Suite 201
Berlin, MD 21811
410-629-0366




TidalHealth Orthopedics
30265 Commerce Drive
Suite 103
Millsboro, DE 19966
302-990-3280

100 Rawlins Drive
Seaford, DE 19973
302-990-3280





**PAVING ■ SEAL COATING
TAR & CHIP ■ COMMERCIAL
& RESIDENTIAL**



Licensed & Insured ■ MHIC 05-136088
410.697.3167 ■ 4th Generation
www.accurate-asphalt.com
info@accurate-asphalt.com

A Taste of the Amalfi Coast Wine Dinner scheduled

The Ocean Pines Yacht Club will host A Taste of the Amalfi Coast Wine Dinner on Saturday, November 29, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

This dinner is a journey through the flavors, stories, and spirit of the Amalfi Coast, from its windswept cliff and citrus groves, to the deep blue of its waters.

Tickets are \$150 per person and include five courses, each course a love letter to Southern Italy – vivid, heartfelt, and unforgettable.

The courses are as follows:

-First Course - “From the Fisherman’s Net:” Fried bluefish with tomato and garlic toast points, paired with lava falanghina, a lively, mineral driven sparkling wine born from the volcanic slopes near Mount Vesuvius

-Second Course - “The Lemon Road:” Gli Scialatielli All’Amalfitana, paired with Ischia Bianco, a white blend of Biancolella and Forastera grapes from the island of Ischia.

-Third Course - “The Hunter’s Path:” Pollo alla Cacciatora paired with Lava Aglianico, a softly sparkling red with a deep ruby hue and notes of black cherry, violet, and spice, born near Naples.

Fourth Course - “The Monk and the Sea:” Paccheri con la Rana Pescatrice paired with Mille Anni Piediroso from casa d’ambra vs la pietra red blend from de concilis. An ancient grape cultivated on the volcanic slopes of Campania, Piediroso offers ripe red fruit, smoky undertones, and a smooth, velvety finish.

Fifth Course – “Scorza del Limone” (Zest of the Lemon): Tiramisu al Limone paired with Limoncello Giarola, a golden liqueur bursting with sundrenched lemon peel, sweet cream, and subtle herbal warmth

For full descriptions of each course and to purchase tickets, click here <https://www.opyachtclub.com/events/a-taste-of-the-amalfi-coast-wine-dinner>.

Anglers to meet

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club will meet on Saturday, November 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ocean Pines library. The speaker will be Captain Tom Ottenwaelder, retired from the U.S. Coast Guard and owner of Guardian Marine Services. He is a National Safe Boating Council Certified Instructor and marine surveyor who will discuss all things boating from winterization, inspections and marine regulation changes. There will also be updates on all things fishing. All are welcome.

Reservations open for Yacht Club Thanksgiving Buffet

The Ocean Pines Yacht Club is now accepting reservations for its annual All-You-Can-Eat Thanksgiving Buffet, taking place on Thursday, November 27.

Guests can choose from multiple seating times: 12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. upstairs, and 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. downstairs.

This year’s festive buffet will feature holiday favorites, including roast turkey, smoked brisket, mashed potatoes, mashed sweet potatoes, house-made cranberry sauce, green bean casserole, baked ziti, roasted Brussels sprouts, corn succotash, dinner rolls, cornbread, apple pie, baked brownies, and assorted desserts.

The Yacht Club will also offer a selection of Thanksgiving cocktails and featured wines, such as Seasonal Sangria, Burnt Orange Spritz, Maple Butter Old Fashioned, and Prickly Pear Martini.

Wines are available for \$9 per glass or \$32 per bottle, featuring Josh Cabernet, Greg Norman Pinot Noir, TOI Montepulciano, CK Mondavi Chardonnay, CK Mondavi Sauvignon Blanc, and TOI Pinot Grigio.

Pricing is \$39.95 per adult, \$17.95 for children ages 12 and under, and free for children under 3. Prices do not include tax or gratuity. Coffee, tea, water, and soft drinks are included.

Full payment by credit card is required to confirm a reservation. Cancellations made within 72 hours of Thanksgiving Day are non-refundable.

To reserve your table, call 410-641-7501 (press 1).

The curve of a fender

From the first time a horse-drawn buggy yielded to its motorized cousin, the automobile has fascinated young and old alike. Why? The curve of the fender? The length of the hood? The guttural throb of the engine? The embodiment of freedom? Maybe it's all of the above and even more that de-

ester floods. The *right car* would also persuade actress Valerie Bertinelli to accept my invitation to prom.

The cars of my teenage desire were probably not much different than other teenagers: Bandit's Firebird (with Sally Field riding shotgun); James Bond's Aston Martin DB5 (with ejection seat). Although I wasn't a big Starsky and Hutch fan, I would have settled for the red Ford Torino with white stripe. The General Lee, a 1969 Dodge Charger, would have been fine too.

But hands down and without hesitation, my dream car of all time was and still is, Jim Rockford's 1978 gold Pontiac Firebird. Why? Several reasons I suppose. I liked the way Jim Rockford handled himself and how he executed those reverse J-turns to escape being tailed or captured by the bad guys. The car reminds me of the "Rockford Files" theme song which is a favorite. The car attracted beautiful attorney Beth Davenport.

Reality sprayed cold water over my car fantasies. Monthly insurance premiums, fuel costs and maintenance expenses all but extinguished the warm glow of auto desire. My first car was a used four-door Plymouth Volare (without the Corinthian leather). Truth be told, I loved that Volare. I was 16 and that car was freedom on wheels. In time marriage and childrearing dictated multiple car choices – sedans, station wagons and a minivan. I'm not complaining.

I have yet to own a '78 Firebird. I never went to my prom. The braces are long removed from my teeth. Polyester pants have been banned from my wardrobe since 1980.

A few years ago, I purchased a Dodge Challenger, black like my hair once was. Shortly after, my wife and I were cruising along a back county road on a warm day, windows open, Willie Nelson playing through the speakers when I commented how much different my high school experience could have been had I owned a car like this then – the girls I could have attracted, the parking lot respect I could have earned. Without missing a beat, she turned toward me and stated plainly but with affection, "You would still have been a nerd but with a black car."



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

sire. For most, the car in our dreams and the car in our driveway are not the same. A two-seat roadster is probably not the best choice for a family of five.

If you were to ask random people, "What's your favorite car?" I suspect many would harken back to their youths for an answer. It's in our youth when, especially as our sixteenth birthday and the prospect of getting a driver's license approach, cars are viewed as an extension of personal identity. In the high school student parking lot would you rather emerge from an AMC Pacer or a Chevy Camaro? Most of us don't have a choice. Our ride depends on what's available, what's affordable and whether our mother will let us drive her car to school.

My first experience driving onto the Archbishop Ryan High School for Boys parking lot, saw me behind the wheel of my mother's 1972 Volkswagen 411. The 411 was not cool – unique – but not cool. I didn't care. I was happy I didn't have to ride the bus. At least it wasn't an AMC Pacer.

Youthful car memories abound. The favorite cars of my youth included Fred Flintstone's open-air, foot-propelled chariot, the Munster Koach that transported the Munster family, Jed Clampett's 1921 Oldsmobile truck, Speed Racer's Mach 5, the Scooby Doo Mystery Machine, the Monkeemobile and last but not least, the original Batmobile.

During my teenage years, I projected mystical powers on desired cars believing they would compensate for my nerdiness. The *right car* I believed would make people look beyond my braces, big nose, zits, unibrow, pocket protector and poly-

ANNUAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines



NOVEMBER 11, 2025

*Veterans Day
Ceremony
11 a.m.*



*We will honor all
who have served in
our nation's military.*

ALL ARE WELCOME

Please bring your lawn chairs

*In the event of inclement weather the ceremony
will be held at Ocean Pines Community Center.*

What's going on with Ocean Pines water bills?

By **Chip Bertino**

Worcester County Commissioner

Many ratepayers in the Ocean Pines Water District have received their quarterly bills in the past couple days and have been reaching out to me about the rates reflected on their invoices.

There are two issues that have generated questions: 1) higher quarterly rates; and, 2) accessibility fees.

Before I get started, I do want to knock down speculation I've heard that Ocean Pines ratepayers are being forced to pay for shortfalls in other service areas. **THIS IS NOT THE CASE.**

As you will remember last spring the Commissioners DID NOT move forward with a plan that would have required all service areas to bear the financial shortfalls of a few struggling service areas. It was decided that each service area would be responsible for its own debt/shortages. So, in short, despite what you may hear on the grapevine, Ocean Pines ratepayers ARE NOT paying for other service areas.

Let's discuss increased fees.

What is impacting our current bills?

There have been increases in many operational costs. Chemicals have been steadily increasing, additional regulatory standards (i.e. PFAS which are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) require mandated testing not previously needed, and maintenance is needed for the aging facility. Capital items total \$1.2 million in this year's budget, outside of any unexpected maintenance that might be needed. If the rates were not increased from the FY25 budget, there would have been a shortfall of \$864,000 with the expenses that were approved in the FY26 budget.

Keep in mind that bills are usually higher this quarter every year because homeowners are typically irrigating at this time. Remember, this billing period is for the summer months. This results in a higher usage fee because of the additional water being used. The remaining three quarters see more normal usage and thus see lower usage fees.

How are rates calculated?

The base fee of \$207 increased \$2 to \$209 per EDU. Per EDU is also applicable to commercial customers. Before if a commercial customer had more than three EDUs, they were put into tiers depending on how many EDUs they had. Now if they have more than one EDU, they are charged the base rate per their number of EDUs.

The usage tiers changed from the previous year's tiers. Before, there were five tiers starting at \$1.60 and ending at \$15 per 1,000 gallons used. Now it is \$5 per 1,000 gallons used up to 22,500 gallons; and then \$15 per 1,000 gallons used over 22,500 gallons. 22,500 gallons is what a 250 gallon per day (gpd) single-family home would produce in a quarter - 250 gpd x 90 days = 22,500 gallons.

On paper, this is what a single-family home is rated to use and what the system expects to treat.

An example of the FY25 rates vs. FY26 rates and 10,000 gallons used:

\$207 base fee + (\$1.60 / 1,000 x 10,000) = \$223

\$209 base fee + (\$5.00 / 1,000 x 10,000) = \$259

Now, let's talk about the ACCESSIBILITY FEE some of you may see on your bill.

The new accessibility fees implemented in fiscal year 2026 are assessed to undeveloped properties with one or more EDUs (Note: some county service areas were already being charged accessibility fees).

Undeveloped properties that hold EDUs are guaranteed future access to public water and/or sewer, and play a key role in supporting the operation and maintenance needs of the Sanitary Service Areas (SSAs) where they are located.

Accessibility fees ensure that all properties that benefit from access to a public water and/or wastewater system contribute proportionally to the costs to build and maintain that infrastructure (e.g., treatment plants, pump stations, mains). Without these fees, existing, connected users would be required to

shoulder all these costs. Accessibility fees spread funding for existing and future capital costs across all properties that are or can connect and reduces costs for all users.

In summary, accessibility fees play a key role in the county's efforts to establish uniform, transparent rates across the SSAs, so that adequate funding is available to 1) cover current operation and maintenance costs and 2) establish reserve funding to pay for future infrastructure improvements.

The owner of an undeveloped property that has been allotted an equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) may be able to return the EDU on that property. However, due to capacity limitations and development demands, EDUs may not be available if a property owner decides at some point in the future to develop the land. Furthermore, the property owner would be required to buy the EDU back at the cost assessed at the time of purchase.

Increases are never welcome. Unfortunately, ever-increasing costs and an enhanced regulatory environment are realities that the County must manage. You don't like the increases. I don't like the increases. But, it's imperative that the Ocean Pines Water/Wastewater facility and all our water facilities for that matter, be properly maintained and updated when necessary and operated efficiently in the best interests of all of us.

For more information about EDUs, contact Worcester County Environmental Programs at 410-632-1220.

To learn more about accessibility fees, please contact the Water and Wastewater Division's billing department at 410-632-0686 and select Option 4.

Something else I want to pass on. The quarterly bills were sent out late. Please note that the payment grace period has been extended.

I hope this information provides you with a better understanding of the situation. As more information becomes available, I will pass it along.

Courier Almanac

On November 5, 1994, George Foreman, age 45, becomes boxing's oldest heavyweight champion when he defeats 26-year-old Michael Moorer in the 10th round of their WBA fight in Las Vegas. More than 12,000 spectators at the MGM Grand Hotel watched Foreman dethrone Moorer, who went into the fight with a 35-0 record. Foreman dedicated his upset win to "all my buddies in the nursing home and all the guys in jail."

Getting vaccinated against the flu is an important step in personal health.



The flu vaccine is designed to feature a mix of flu virus strains that are expected to be the dominant strains for any given year. Getting vaccinated can reduce a person's risk of becoming infected with the flu. Timing needs to be correct for the flu vaccine to be most effective. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends getting the flu shot between September and October. This timing allows the body to build immunity

before flu season typically peaks in December. Even if a person has missed the early window for the flu vaccine, it's still beneficial to get vaccinated in November or December, as the flu can continue to circulate into the spring.

**The
Courier**

Chip Bertino Publisher/Editor

Mary Adair Comptroller

Linda Knight Advertising Representative

Contributors

Jack Barnes, Elaine Bean Dan Collins, Douglas Hemmick

Robert B. Adair 1938-2007

98 Nottingham Lane Ocean Pines, MD 21811

410-629-5906

thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

www.delmarvacourier.com

facebook.com/TheCourierofOceanPines

The Courier is published Wednesday morning by CMN Communications, Inc. Contents copyright 2025. News release items and calendar entries should reach us Friday noon prior to publication date. The advertising deadline is Friday at 5 p.m. Read **The Courier** online at delmarvacourier.com,

Viola highlights financials

Ocean Pines Association (OPA) General Manager John Viola delivered his monthly report during the Board of Directors' regular meeting on October 25.

Viola began by thanking the Landscaping and Beautification crew for their hard work on the community's fall decorations, highlighting the seasonal displays at entrances and around buildings.

He reported that OPA has received the architectural and mechanical drawings for the new South Firehouse. The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department is now working with the interior designer to finalize furniture, fixtures, and flooring. OPA is currently reviewing transition costs and plans, with construction expected to begin in winter 2026.

Recent maintenance and beautification projects across Ocean Pines include:

- Installation of pavers around the Bocce Ball courts
- Restripping of the Clubhouse parking lot
- Replacement of cracked patio paving at the Sports Core Pool
- Upcoming restroom divider re-

placements and carpet installation at the Swim and Racquet Club to improve water absorption

-Renovations to Golf Club bathrooms as needed

Work on the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 budget is underway, with meetings to be scheduled in December. The increased cost of safety is to be around 42% of the assessment, reflecting the police pension equivalent and new fire department.

The DMA Reserve Study was conducted October 14 to 16 with represen-

tatives on site for field work. The final report is slated to be released in December, prior to budget meetings.

September 2025 financials show favorable to budget by approximately \$54,000. Viola clarified that insurance for Food & Beverage buildings had not previously been included as a budget line item, which affected expense reporting. Going forward, that insurance cost will be incorporated into the Food & Beverage budget.

The year-to-date financial results show favorability of \$330,000.

Marina announces end-of-season hours

The Ocean Pines Marina has announced extended hours as the 2025 season comes to a close.

The Marina fuel dock will be open November 7 to 9, from 8 a.m. 5 p.m. before officially closing for the season on November 9.

For updates on additional dates and hours, visit www.oceanpines.org. For questions or more information, contact Marina Manager Tony Tedeschi at 410-641-7717, ext. 7118.

Beckelman departs

In press release last week, the Ocean Pines Association announced that director of Golf Bob Beckelman is no longer with OPA. A replacement has yet to be named. No reason for the departure was provided.



**Sunshine
Properties, Inc.**

Ask For

MICHAEL RAY
Broker

1% Listing Broker Compensation
Premium Full Service Marketing

Direct
(301) 980-8155

Broker/Office:
(410) 600-3419

Email:
MichaelRay@sunpropinc.com

CALL MIKE
SAVE THOUSANDS

OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER SERVICE



We Want Your Business!



www.SaveWithSunshine.com

OCEAN PINES

Recreation & Parks

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars!

29
NOV

6
DEC

OCEAN PINES 15TH ANNUAL
HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS

WITH SANTA IN THE PARK | WHITE HORSE PARK

Tree Lighting Ceremony | 6:30pm
See the dazzling lights from trees decorated by local businesses, individuals, families, community clubs & neighborhoods. Sip cocoa, admire the tree decorations, listen to local choir groups sing & welcome Santa Claus into town.

Santa in the Park | 7-8pm
Here comes Santa Claus... right down Ocean Parkway to White Horse Park! Santa will be ready to listen to all the boys and girls' Christmas wishes. Photo opportunities available.

2026 Pup of the Pines winner announcement

BREAKFAST W/SANTA

OCEAN PINES COMMUNITY CENTER | 8-11AM

Pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, juice, milk, coffee, pastries & fruit. Bring a unwrapped gift for donation to local charity or non-perishable food item for families in need. **\$10 ages 11+, \$6 ages 4-10, free ages 3 & under.** Pay at the door. Purchase photos for a \$5 donation to Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks.

REINDEER LANE GIFT SHOP

OCEAN PINES COMMUNITY CENTER | 8-11AM

Kids ages 12 & under can purchase gifts for family & friends. All gifts are \$5 or less. **Donations needed! Please drop off new or slightly worn items at the Community Center.** Free admission.

SPONSOR A TREE!

Businesses, clubs, families, and individuals are invited to sponsor and decorate a tree!

Sponsors receive a recognition sign at their tree. Trees are 8-10 ft and may be decorated in any theme.

Fee: \$75 returning sponsors | \$100 new sponsors
Call Ocean Pines Recreation & Parks at 410-641-7052 to join!

OCEAN PINES COMMUNITY CENTER | 235 OCEAN PARKWAY, OCEAN PINES | 410.641.7052 | OCEANPINES.ORG

Thanksgiving festival returns

Get ready for a bountiful Thanksgiving at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market with the return of the annual Thanksgiving Festival on Saturday, November 22 and Tuesday, November 25.

D.J. David Greengrocer, a 14-year greengrocer shop at the market, will



showcase an impressive array of fresh vegetables, herbs, and fruits, perfect for crafting traditional Thanksgiving side dishes. They'll also have a wide selection of nuts, seeds, and dried fruits for meal prep or snacking.

The many bakeries, including DelVecchio's Bakery and Bella's Bakery, are taking special orders for pies, breads, dinner rolls, and breakfast pastries. An assortment of sweet and savory treats offered at the market are

sure to complement your Thanksgiving feast.

Indulge in local honey, jellies, and jams from We Be Jammin, perfect for adding sweetness to your holiday meal. JABBS Seasonings will also feature an assortment of gift sets, including their famous Vermont Maple Honey Rub for turkey.

Explore unique gifts from local artisans, including jewelry, candles, and floral arrangements, ideal for hostess gifts or early holiday shopping.

"The Thanksgiving markets at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market have become a family tradition," says Market Manager David Bean. "We can't wait to see everyone there!"

“Come and experience the best of Ocean Pines’ community spirit, local goods, and delicious food. Mark your calendars for a fun and festive shopping experience,” Bean adds.

The market takes place from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. each day at White Horse Park, located at 239 Ocean Parkway.

Learn more about the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market here: www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.

Board approves motion to build cell tower

The Board of Directors passed a motion to move forward with the signing of the site lease agreement with Milestone Towers to build a new cell tower in Ocean Pines.

Police Chief Tim Robinson presented the motion at the October regular board meeting. Robinson says the architect drawings are coming soon, but it is confirmed that the tower will look like a tree, with the idea that it will blend in to its surroundings.

When the question of financials surrounding the tower were raised, Robinson clarified that Ocean Pines will receive 40% of the revenue that is for the ground rent, which will be received when the project begins. If there is only one carrier, the first year would likely bring in about \$36,000, which includes the initial \$20,000 payment. That would change with more than one carrier coming on board.

“I have been told that all three major carriers, Verizon, AT&T, and T-Mobile are planning on coming on board. If that happens, it’s going to be a consistent mid-30s, about \$35,000 a year rent to Ocean Pines,” said Robinson.

Milestone approached the Ocean Pines Association in the spring regarding the project, and a Town Hall was held in July for residents to learn more about the proposed tower.

While the exact timeline remains unknown, Milestone officials say this tower could realistically be completed by November 2026.

More information can be found here <https://www.oceanpineswireless.com/>

Friday night bingo scheduled

The Knights of Columbus will host bingo every Friday night through December 5 at Columbus Hall located at 9901 Coastal Highway behind St. Luke's Church in Ocean City.

Doors open at 5 p.m. and games start at 6:30 p.m. Every night there will be at least \$1,000 in payouts and a chance to win the \$1,000 big jackpot at the end of the evening. Light snacks available before games start and at intermission. Call 410-524-7994 with questions.

SIGN UP TODAY:



Bethany Travel

THE INTERNET IS FOR LOOKING,
BETHANY TRAVEL IS FOR BOOKING!



VIKING CRUISE NIGHT



WE'RE THRILLED TO INVITE YOU TO AN EXCLUSIVE EVENING DEDICATED TO VIKING CRUISES – THE WORLD LEADER IN RIVER, OCEAN, AND EXPEDITION JOURNEYS! IF YOU'VE EVER DREAMED OF GLIDING DOWN EUROPE'S MOST SCENIC RIVERS, EXPLORING THE WORLD'S OCEANS IN LUXURIOUS COMFORT, OR EMBARKING ON A BREATHTAKING EXPEDITION TO REMOTE DESTINATIONS, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO LEARN ALL ABOUT THE INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCES VIKING HAS TO OFFER.

RSVP IS MANDATORY! PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL OUR OFFICE TO SIGN UP!

PRESENTATION TIMES:



4:00PM
6:00 PM



WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 10, 2025

302-933-0955

WWW.BETHANYTRAVEL.NET

@BETHANYTRAVEL

REGISTER HERE!

We're thrilled to invite you to an exclusive evening dedicated to Viking Cruises — the world leader in River, Ocean, and Expedition journeys! If you've ever dreamed of gliding down Europe's most scenic rivers, exploring the world's oceans in luxurious comfort, or embarking on a breathtaking expedition to remote destinations, this is your chance to learn all about the incredible experiences Viking has to offer. Come discover the voyages, destinations, and special opportunities waiting for you — your next great adventure starts here!

SIGN UP TODAY:



Cindy@bethanytravel.net

302-933-0955

28436 Dupont Blvd, Millsboro, DE 19966

Board approves capital requests

The Ocean Pines Board of Directors approved three Capital Requests from General Manager John Viola at the regular board meeting on Saturday, October 25.

All three requests pertain to proposed changes to Food & Beverage amenities, initially presented at the September board meeting.

At the Beach Club, plans call for basement and first-floor renovations, new first-floor decking, an elevator addition, and updates to the second-floor deck and bars. The board unanimously approved a Capital Request of \$75,000 for plans and engineering design work for the project.

At the Clubhouse, the board approved a \$51,000 Capital Request to Vista Design for the engineering design work and plans regarding the addition of a pavilion with a small kitchen, allowing golfers to enjoy quick bites without entering the main building. Additional improvements include new flooring, a re-vamped indoor bar, and a new outdoor bar and food rail on the patio. The motion passed with six votes in favor and one abstention.

Finally, at the Yacht Club, the board unanimously approved a \$40,800 Capital Request for engineering design work for an outdoor building featuring a pizza oven and grill to enhance service to the pool and deck areas. The project also includes a new patio space between the Tiki Bar and the planned outdoor kitchen.

Arts Council launches holiday raffle

The Worcester County Arts Council (WCAC) announced its upcoming Arts Scholarship Fundraiser, featuring a one-of-a-kind raffle basket themed “Creative Expressions.” This special fundraiser will showcase original works donated by talented Gallery artists and directly support scholarships for local students pursuing their artistic passions.

The raffle launched on November 1 and the basket drawing will take place in December, making it a perfect opportunity for holiday season gifting.

Tickets are available for just \$5 each or 5 for \$20. All proceeds will benefit
*please see **raffle** on page 12*



The
SPECIALTY
Practice

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



Schedule today

410.208.3300

Info@HamiltonHand.com



Hamiltonhand.com

D.A. Kozma Jewelry & Coins



**BUYING & SELLING GOLD, SILVER,
COINS & CURRENCY**

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

410-213-7505 410-524-GOLD

www.kozmajewelers.com

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

How to support veterans through nonprofits

Military service personnel make a personal sacrifice and put the country before their own needs and those of their families. Serving the military has inherent risks to safety, but many still heed the call to serve.

Serving the nation seldom is an easy task, and sometimes acting military and

veterans need some assistance. Many charities work to provide that assistance, and these organizations are worth supporting.

Wounded Warrior Project: This organization was founded in 2003 by a group of veterans and friends in Roanoke, Virginia, who wanted to take

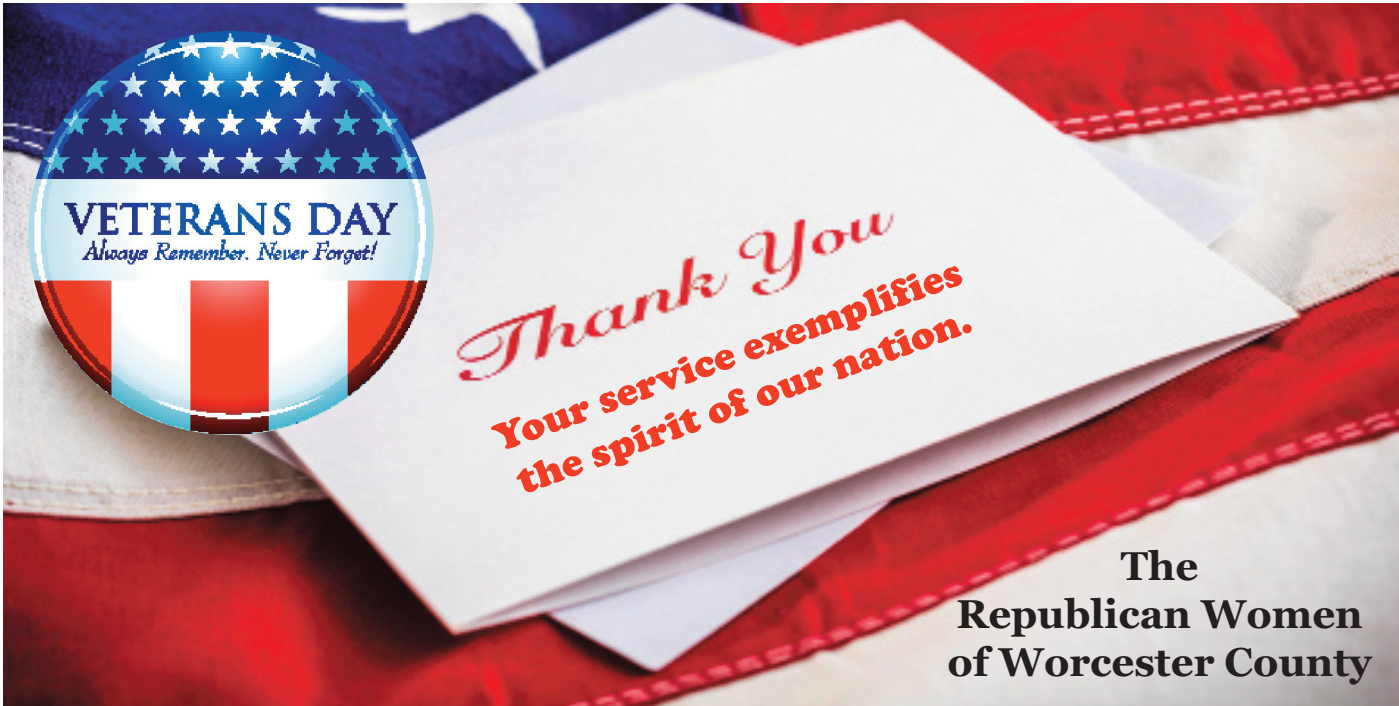
action to help injured service men and women. The mission of WWP is to honor and empower service personnel who incurred physical or mental injuries, illnesses or wounds related to military service on or after September 11, 2001. According to the organization, 100 percent of a person's donation supports

wounded warriors, with roughly 71 percent spent directly on programs and services, and the balance paid to support the delivery of this support.


Homes For Our Troops: Homes For Our Troops builds and donates specially adapted and customized homes nationwide to help severely injured post-9/11 veterans. Since the nonprofit organization's inception in 2004, nearly 90 cents out of every dollar spent has gone directly to program services to veterans. HFOT builds homes where veterans choose to live, and continues a relationship with the veterans after home delivery to assist with rebuilding their lives.

Gary Sinise Foundation: Many people recognize Gary Sinise as a prominent and award-winning actor known predominantly for his roles as Lieutenant Dan in "Forrest Gump" and Detective Mac Taylor on "CSI: New York." After the tragic attacks on September 11, 2001, Sinise began devoting much of his time to support the people who were deployed in response to those attacks. Sinise ultimately decided to found his own organization with the mission of expressing gratitude and giving support to


please see support on page 11



The
Republican Women
of Worcester County



"Thank You, Veterans!"



15% OFF ANY JOB
for All First Responders &
Active Military

888-ZWEEMER 302-363-6116

Zweemer's LLC

PAVING & SEAL COATING

Why is Veterans Day celebrated?

Each November, millions of people recognize the service and sacrifice of military veterans on Veterans Day. Initially commemorated as Armistice Day but renamed Veterans Day in the United States in 1954, the holiday is a federal holiday throughout the country.



The first Armistice Day was observed in 1919. Despite that lengthy history, the general public may still have questions about Veterans Day.

When is Veterans Day observed? The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs notes that Veterans Day is always observed officially on November 11, regardless of which day of the week that happens to be. In 2025, Veterans Day is Tuesday, November 11.

Why is November 11 so significant?

November 11 is a significant day in world history because it marks the signing of the armistice between the Allies of World War I and Germany at 5:45 a.m. on November 11, 1918. Though the formal peace treaty, the Treaty of Versailles, was not signed until 1919 and hostilities between the sides continued for hours after the armistice was signed, the day is still viewed as the end of World War I.

What distinguishes Veterans Day from Memorial Day? The VA notes that Veterans Day honors all those individuals who served honorably in the military during both wartime and peacetime. Memorial Day is a day to honor and remember military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who lost their lives in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

What is the significance of red poppies? Red poppies are ubiquitous on Memorial Day, but they're also visible on Veterans Day. Though it's not taboo to wear red poppies on Veterans Day, it's a tradition that aligns more with Memorial Day. That's because the poppies are typically worn to honor fallen military per-

sonnel. A 1915 poem written by a Canadian Lieutenant Colonel named John McCrae referred to the fields of poppies growing around the graves of World War I soldiers in Flanders.

Do other countries honor their military veterans? Many countries across the globe honor their military veterans, and many do so on November 11 as well. For example, Canadians and Aus-

support
from page 10

the men and women who willingly fight for the country to keep the nation safe and free.

K9s for Warriors: According to the K9s for Warriors organization, an average of 20 veterans take their own lives each day and roughly 1,000 dogs are euthanized. To change these stark statistics, K9s for Warriors was established to adopt and train shelter dogs as service animals, and pair them with mentally struggling veterans who could benefit from a four-legged friend. A study by Flagler College found 92 percent of the nonprofit's veteran graduates reported a reduction in medication usage, and

trilians observe Remembrance Day in honor of their nation's respective veterans on November 11. Great Britain observes Remembrance Day on the Sunday nearest to November 11.

Veterans Day is a day to honor and commemorate the brave men and women who have honorably served in the U.S. military during wartime and peacetime.

82 percent reported reduced suicide ideation after being paired with a dog.

Vets Canada: Vets Canada is a grassroots movement founded by veteran Jim Lowther in 2010. Lowther realized veterans were slipping through the cracks and living in high-risk situations. Together with his wife Debbie, Lowther formed a small team in Halifax to offer help to homeless and at-risk veterans with an end goal of reintegrating them into civilian life. The mission evolved into Vets Canada, which has helped 4,554 veterans to date.

Supporting military and veterans' charities is a great way to show your appreciation for the individuals who served and sacrificed for their countries.

***On Veterans Day and every day,**
may we always remember to thank the men and
women of our armed forces for their selfless
dedication to military service and for keeping our
country the home of the free and the brave.*



*Special thanks to the men and women of the Eastern
Shore who have served and are serving now.*

Senator Mary Beth Carozza

District 38

New History, Heritage & Homelands” Guide showcases cultural legacy

The Beach to Bay Heritage Area (BBHA) announced the redevelopment of a National Recreation Trail once known as the Beach to Bay Indian Trail. Working in partnership with Somerset and Worcester counties and the Pocomoke Indian Nation, BBHA has created a more robust, accurate, and authentic traveler experience—now re-named the History, Heritage & Homelands National Recreation Trail.

Originally designated a National Recreation Trail in 1993 by the U.S. Department of the Interior, the route

spans more than 100 miles through Worcester and Somerset counties, stretching from the Atlantic Coast to the Chesapeake Bay. The new guide offers visitors a self-guided journey through 25 sites, from museums and parks to walking and water trails, exploring the stories, people, and natural wonders that define Maryland’s Lower Eastern Shore.

“This project was a true partnership and really opened my eyes to the rich Native American heritage we have here on the Lower Shore,” said Lisa Chal-

lenger, Executive Director of the Beach to Bay Heritage Area. “The guide booklet will help visitors explore the history and heritage of the region, with a special focus on Native American homelands.”

Developed in close collaboration with Native American descendants of the Pocomoke Indian Nation, the guide draws on primary sources to foster a

genuine and inclusive exploration of the region’s shared heritage.

Funding was provided by the Rural Maryland Council, MD250 Commission, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and Worcester and Asomerset Counties.

Visit beachesbayswaterways.org to learn more or to order a free copy email: info@beachesbayswaterways.org

A BAGEL and...

Free Wireless Internet


Serving Breakfast and Lunch

Pastries and Cookie Trays

Boar’s Head Meats

410-208-0707

Open 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Wednesday - Sunday

RTE. 589	
	O.P. South Gate Entrance
	OCEAN PKWY
	Manklin Creek
Southgate - Ocean Pines (Manklin Creek & Ocean Pkwy)	

raffle
from page 9

WCAC’s annual Arts Scholarship Program, which provides essential support to the next generation of creative leaders.

In June 2025, the Arts Council awarded a total of \$10,000 in scholarships to local students to help further their artistic education and development.

“We’re so grateful to our Gallery artists for contributing their work to this basket,” said Anna Mullis, Executive Director of WCAC. “Not only does this fundraiser support scholarships, but it also celebrates the incredible range of artistic talent that we’re proud to showcase in our community.”

The Creative Expressions basket features a variety of unique artworks, reflecting the diverse styles and media represented in the WCAC Gallery. The total value of the basket donations is \$578.

In addition to the basket raffle, original pieces of artwork will be available for bidding in the Silent Auction, another opportunity to take home a unique piece of art.

Raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the Worcester County Arts Council Gallery, located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin.

For more information, please contact the Worcester County Arts Council at 410-641-0809 or visit www.worcestercountyartsCouncil.org.



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

Learn more at
sandpiper-energy.com



Astronomy & Spaceflight

Pending launch of Roman telescope to probe cosmic history

By **Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D**

NASA and astronomy researchers are never sitting still and at the current time, they are actively working on preparing the new Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope for launch.



The Roman, which NASA has dubbed a "Flagship Telescope" will carry on the space organization's proud tradition of placing formidable observatories into space. As readers are aware this heritage includes the Hubble, the Chandra and the James Webb space telescopes. The Nancy Grace Roman Telescope will be different in that it will present a very broad field of view allowing a single photograph to take in far more targets in one fell swoop.

On August 12, a press release announced an observing program for the new telescope to examine so called "type 1a supernovae." This research will help astronomers understand the overall changes in the universe as a whole.

To see why this is so, we recall the original 1929 work of Edwin Hubble, who first measured our ever-expanding cosmos. By observing that distant galaxies are all rushing away from the Milky Way, Hubble was able to demonstrate that we live in a universe whose size is growing larger with the passing ages, i.e., the so-called "expanding universe." Theorists George Gamov and George Lemaitre hypothesized the "big bang" explosive origin of the cosmos, which was the original cause of the expansion we see today. Much later, in 1964, astronomers first detected the so-called "Cosmic Background" radiation, which is the "flash" emitted near the dawn of the universe when particles combined to make atoms for the first time.

Even after the remarkable discoveries of expansion and cosmic background, still more exciting things were to come. Just before the turn of the twenty-first century, came the spectacular 1998 breakthrough when it was found that the rate of cosmic expansion is actually increasing and getting faster with time. There appears to be a sort of anti-gravity force which acts to push the universe apart at an ever-increasing speed. Physicists call this the "accelerating universe" and the agent responsible was given the name "dark energy." The astronomers detected this by

examining the explosions of very remote type 1a supernova.

To better understand these cosmic changes, it is necessary to complete this picture, analyzing supernovae at a variety of times from the era just after the big bang. Looking at a large sample of these colossal exploding stars will allow astronomers to assess the state of cosmic motion throughout its long history. The new Roman telescope will be able to "see" back to 11 billion years in the past, when our cosmos was in its toddler stages.

In addition to the announcement of this research program, there has been another exciting piece of news for the Roman telescope. This is the installation of special sunshade flaps on the instrument to help protect delicate and sensitive infrared detectors from the heat and light of the sun. The sunshields were designed and engineered at NASA Goddard Space Center and each is about seven by seven feet in size. "They're basically giant aluminum sandwiches, with metal sheets as thin as a credit card on the top and bottom and the central portion made up of a honeycomb structure" said Conrad Mason, an aerospace engineer at Goddard.

One aerospace engineer at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Said Mathew Stephens stated: "This shield is like an extremely strong sunblock for Roman's sensitive instruments, protecting them from heat and light from the Sun that would otherwise overwhelm our ability to detect faint signals from space. The deploying mechanisms have dampers that work like soft-close hinges for drawers or cabinets, so the panels won't slam open and rattle the observatory. They each take about two minutes to move into their final positions. This is the very first system that Roman will deploy in space after the spacecraft separates from the launch vehicle."

With the completion of this task, the telescope is now ready for the next stages of preparation including a 70-day thermal vacuum test. The goal is to complete all preliminary testing to prepare for launch of the NASA Flagship telescope sometime between Fall of 2026 and May of 2027.

We live in a wonderful age when all may join in the human cosmic adventure by studying not just books and magazines, but specialized science journalism to be found via smart phone "apps".

Happy science-browsing to all astronomy lovers.

Edward Jones
edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

3-Month	3.65% APY*
6-Month	3.60% APY*
1-Year	3.60% APY*

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



John Bennish
Financial Advisor

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

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 10/31/25. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-18670-A-E-FLAECSPAD 26778226

Shoremetalfabricators.com
Shoremetalfabricators@gmail.com

Serving
DE & Eastern MD

GUTTERS! install!
GUTTERS!
GUTTERS!

5" and 6" SEAMLESS GUTTERS
Fabricated On-Site

YOUR LOCAL METAL FABRICATION SHOP

SHORE METAL FABRICATORS LLC

CALL US for:

SEAMLESS GUTTERS (302) 612-7021
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES (302) 222-0477
Seamless Gutters • Box Gutters • Roll Forming
Accessories • Architectural Standing Seam

My Backyard... sponsored by Maureen Kennedy

The turkey

Benjamin Franklin would have preferred to have the Wild Turkey, not the Bald Eagle, chosen as the national symbol of the United States. Although the barnyard variety is a rather stupid creature (leading to the insulting tone of the term ‘turkey’), the original wild form is a wary and magnificent bird. Wild Turkeys usually get around by walking or running, but they can fly strongly, and they typically roost overnight in tall trees. Turkeys were formerly considered to belong to a separate family from other chicken-like birds; there are only two

age most actively in early morning and evening. They usually lay 10 to 15 eggs, sometimes four to 18, rarely more. The eggs are white to pale buff, dotted with reddish brown. Sometimes more than one female will lay eggs in one nest. Incubation is by female only, 25 to 31 days. Downy young leave nest soon after hatching. Female tend to the young and broods them at night for several weeks. The young feed themselves. Young can make short flights at age of one to two weeks, but are not full-grown for several months.



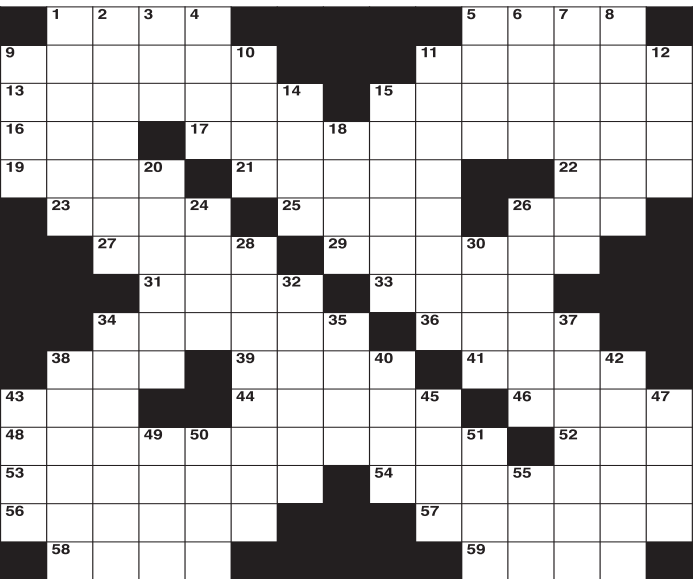
Turkeys are omnivorous. Their diet varies with season but is mostly plant material, including many acorns, leaves, seeds, grains, berries, buds, grass blades, roots, bulbs. Also eats insects, spiders, snails. Sometimes eats frogs, lizards, snakes, salamanders, crabs.

In spring, males give gobbling calls to attract females. In courtship, males puff out feathers, raise and spread tail, swell up face wattles, droop wings; in this exaggerated posture they strut, rattling the wing feathers and making humming sounds. One male will mate with sev-

eral females. The nest site is on ground, often at base of tree, under shrub, or in tall grass. Nest is a shallow depression, sparsely lined with grass, leaves. Turkey species, North America and the Ocellated Turkey in Central America. Turkeys forage mostly by walking on ground. They often scratch in leaf litter to expose food items, sometimes climbing in shrubs or trees to eat berries. They may for-

age most actively in early morning and evening. They usually lay 10 to 15 eggs, sometimes four to 18, rarely more. The eggs are white to pale buff, dotted with reddish brown. Sometimes more than one female will lay eggs in one nest. Incubation is by female only, 25 to 31 days. Downy young leave nest soon after hatching. Female tend to the young and broods them at night for several weeks. The young feed themselves. Young can make short flights at age of one to two weeks, but are not full-grown for several months.

-Audubon



CLUES ACROSS

1. Difficult

5. Coarsely ground corn

9. There's one for the "world"

11. Loved Romeo

13. Sticky situation

15. Pelvic areas

16. An informal debt instrument

17. Cannot be repaired surgically

19. A device attached to a workbench

21. Related on the mother's side

22. Sound unit

23. ___ Sagan, astronomer

25. Utah city

26. A disappointing effort

27. Steal goods during a riot

29. Wakes up

31. Hair salon service
33. Serenaded

34. Looked intensely

36. U.S. Air Force expert Robert F.

38. A type of cast

39. One's duty

41. Where golfers begin

43. Make a mistake

44. Semitic sun god

46. Ancient Greek City

48. Having had the head cut off

52. A place to stay

53. Unwise

54. Most unnatural

56. Dennis is a notable one

57. Ointments

58. Students' exam

59. Leaked blood

CLUES DOWN

1. Brave

2. Act of awakening

3. Jest at

4. Sandwich store

5. Chapter of the Koran

6. Dismounted

7. Small vehicle

8. Irked

9. One who earns by disreputable dealings

10. Monetary unit of Samoa

11. Long, mournful lamentation

12. Weight unit

14. Alone, single

15. Decreases

18. Indicates beside

20. Worn by exposure to the weather

24. A body of traditions
26. College students' ultimate goal

28. Amino acid

30. Nasal mucus

32. US government entity

34. Swinish

35. Legislative body in Russia

37. Grant an exemption to

38. Put in advance

40. Satisfy

42. Felt

43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls

45. Witnesses

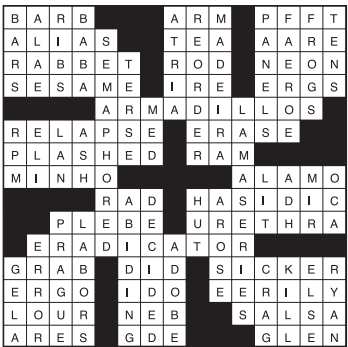
47. Picnic invaders

49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

50. Ancient person of Scotland

51. Cheerless

55. Unwell



Answers for October 22

We're all about the birds and more!

OPEN

Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

South Gate Ocean Pines 11312 Manklin Creek Rd

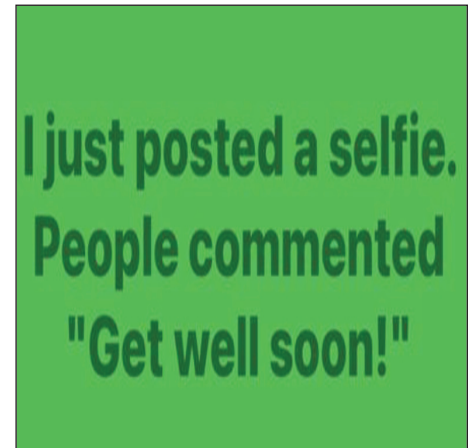
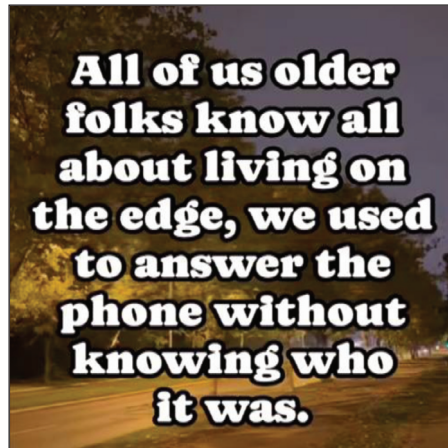
410-208-1479

Follow us on facebook @ mybackyard.oceanpines

Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet
by **Jack Barnes**

I'm Positive You Will Not Know
What This Is. If you really know
this then you must be old.



Support Local Businesses

To place your business card call
410-629-5906

BOAT LIFTS

Ocean City Boat Lifts & Marine Construction Inc.
"We sell the best and service the rest"
(410) 352- 5095
oceancitylifts@aol.com
12010 Industrial Park Rd, Unit II, Bishopville, MD 21813

MDIC 13392

Docks / Piers
Elevator Boat Lifts
4 Piling + Platform Boat Lifts
PWC + Dual PWC Lifts

CLEANING

Cleaning Services
Residential Commercial Seasonal
Berlin & Surrounding Areas
410-845-1624
Call or Text anytime

DENTISTRY

Gerard Ott, D.M.D., PA
Jeremy Masenior, D.D.S.
Family Dentistry
1 Pitts Street
Berlin, Maryland 21811
(410) 641-3490
ott.masenior@gmail.com

DINING

A BAGEL and...
Serving Breakfast and Lunch
Southgate - Ocean Pines
(Manklin Creek & Ocean Pkwy)
410-208-0707
Open 6 a.m. - 2 p.m. Wed-Sun

JEWELRY

D.A. Kozma Jewelers
Custom Designs
Personalized Service
Bridal Consultation
410-213-7505
410-524-GOLD
www.kozmajewelers.com
on Route 611 at Route 50 in the Food Lion Shopping Center

E-subscribe **FREE** to *The Courier*
www.delmarvacourier.com

LANDSCAPING

Atlantic Landscaping & More Commercial or Residential
Property Management
Firewood, Lawn Care
Gutter Cleaning
Power Washing
Window Cleaning
Leaf Removal
Painting, Stone, Gravel,
Mulching, Cleaning,
Hauling Services, Stump
Grinding, Shed Demolition,
House/Shed/Garage
Clean Outs & More
Call or text for free estimates **410-713-9159 904-468-8206**

The Courier

Place your
business card here !
Call Linda Knight
443-366-4184



The Courier

Place your
business card here !
Call Linda Knight
443-366-4184



A "Little Birdie"
told me...that MY BACKYARD
is having a



Food Drive



Stop by & bring non-perishable
food items to be donated to our local
food banks. With each donation you
will be entered to win a
Video Bird Feeder
Collecting through Dec. 20th



Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10:00-5:00
Closed Sun. & Mon.

Thank you for supporting our community



SOUTHGATE OCEAN PINES
410-208-1479
www.gotomybackyard.com

11312 Manklin Creek Rd.
Ocean Pines, MD 21811

