

The Courier

February 8, 2017 Volume 17 Number 22

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Pines police warn parents to keep safe distance at bus stops

Ocean Pines police officers are on the lookout for parents who park illegally at school bus stops in the community. An officer recently observed an individual parking dangerously close to an intersection while waiting for a school bus to arrive. Contributing to the safety problem are limited visibility and a tight turning radius which are created by illegally parked vehicles, police said. These hazards could cause a problem for vehicles that are approaching stop signs and/or intersections.

To help keep the bus stops in Ocean Pines as safe as possible, the police department is releasing a reminder for parents to keep a safe distance from intersections while parked at school bus stops. According to Maryland vehicle law, a person may not stand or park a vehicle within 30 feet on the approach to any flashing signal, stop sign, yield sign, or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway. Violators face a \$60 citation.

Ocean Pines officers will continue to patrol the school bus stops in the area to limit risks to children.

Pines plans for Golden Anniversary

The Ocean Pines Association will participate in the planning of the 50th anniversary celebration for the community. Since its founding, Ocean Pines has become the largest year-round community in Worcester County. The community has more than nine miles of waterfront property on 3,000 wooded acres and a population in excess of 12,000.

The board of directors recently approved \$20,000 for the planning of a series of celebratory events that are set for 2018. The festivities will include a Sign Ceremony, Kick-Off Party, golf tournament, anniversary parade, 5K Run, Family Fun Day, a time capsule event, Historical Society update event, miniature golf tournament and Winter Ball.

OPA will work with the anniversary committee and will publish a commemorative newsletter that will look back at some of the major milestones in the community's history.



Heart jump - In January, Ocean City Elementary School students in grades one through four participated in its annual Jump Rope for Heart Event to benefit the American Heart Association. There were 225 jump participants who collected donations. The money raised each year helps the American Heart Association research new methods to help heart and stroke patients.

Pictured are fourth graders Adelina Olerta and Molly Hoffman.



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Community Calendar

February

Brought to you by **Law Offices of Patricia Cleary**

Women's club to meet

The Democratic Women's Club will meet at the Ocean Pines Community Center on Wednesday, February 20. There will be a panel discussion with representatives from the NAACP and Stand Up for Racial Justice. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. and meeting at 10 a.m.



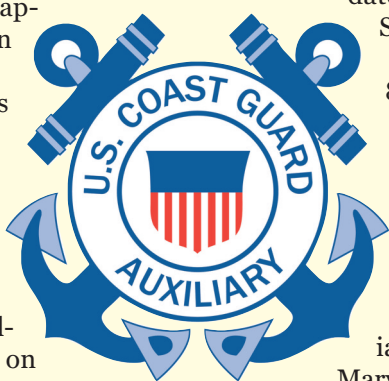
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Boating classes scheduled

The Maryland Safe Boating Class and certificate are required for boat operators born after July 1, 1972 but everyone can benefit from it. Why? In 88% of recreational boating fatalities, the operator did not have a nationally approved boater education certificate.

Safety on the water is every boater's responsibility and knowing what to do, not only in an emergency but also when docking, anchoring and passing another boat, is key to having fun and developing a culture of safety on the water.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary will teach the state mandated Recreational Safe Boating Course at the Ocean Pines library located at 11107 Cathell Road in Ocean Pines, five times on three consecutive week nights: March 7, 8 and 9; April 18, 19 and 20; May 2, 3 and 4; June 6, 7 and 8; and, July 11, 12 & 13



The classes will run from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

The Maryland Safe Boating Class will also be taught twice in a one-day format at the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, located at 12320 Ocean Gateway in Ocean City. The dates are Saturday, May 20 and Saturday, August 19.

The class will run from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m.

Perhaps you are starting out in boating, or coming back to it, this is a great chance to brush up on your general boating knowledge and get practical boating insight and advice from Coast Guard Auxiliary Instructors. Besides the

Maryland boating regulations, learn about safely navigating and piloting our local Ocean City waters, basic nautical knots, trailering a boat, safety equipment and maintenance.

Cost for the course is \$15 and includes all course materials. To register, or if you have questions, please contact Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807 or by E mail at CGAUXOC@Gmail.com.

Monday

Ocean Pines Poker Club

Poker players wanted in Ocean Pines area for Monday evenings. Call 410-208-1928.

Sweet Adelines

The Delmarva Sweet Adeline Chorus meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Call 410-641-6876.

Monday/Tuesday

Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge

Open bridge games Monday at 12 p.m., Tuesday at 10 a.m. at OP Community Center. Call Mary Stover 410-726-1795.

Tuesday

Families Anonymous

From 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at room 37 in the the Community Church at Ocean Pines on Rte. 589. For more information call Carol at 410-208-4515.

Tuesday/Thursday

Poker Players wanted for Gentlemen's Poker in North Gate area Ocean Pines. Game played every Tuesday & Thursday evening 5:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. on Pinehurst Rd. Ocean Pines. Call 410-208-0063 for more information.

Wednesday

Kiwanis Club Meeting

Weekly meetings at 8 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Ocean Pines Community Center. Doors open 7 a.m. October through April.

Elks Bingo

Ocean City Elks in Ocean City (behind Fenwick Inn) open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 and bingo at 7 p.m. Call 410-250-2645.

Delmarva Hand Dancing

Dancing at The Fenwick Inn in Ocean City from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Contact 302-934-7951 or info@delmarvahand-dancing.com.

Rotary Club

Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club meetings are held at 5:45 p.m. at the Captains Table in Ocean City. Contact Stan.Kahn@carouselhotel.com.

Square Dancing

The Pinesteppers have introduction to square dancing at the OP Community Center at 7 p.m. Call Bruce Barrett at 410-208-6777.

AL-Anon/OP-West OC-Berlin

Wednesday Night Bayside Beginnings Al-Anon family meetings are held at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

Story Time

Stories, music and crafts at 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3-5 at Ocean Pines library. Call 410-208-4014.

Beach Singles

Beach Singles 45 for Happy Hour at Harpoon Hanna's at 4 p.m. Call Arlene at 302-436-9577, Kate at 410-524-0649 or Dianne at 302-541-4642.

Legion Bingo

American Legion in Ocean City opens doors at 5:30 p.m., games begin at 7. For information call 410-289-3166.

Gamblers Anonymous

Group meets at 8 p.m. at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City. Call 888-424-3577 for help.

Friday

Knights of Columbus Bingo

Bingo will be held behind St. Luke's Church, 100th St. in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments available. Call 410-524-7994.

Gamblers Anonymous

Group meets at 8 p.m. at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City. Call 888-424-3577 for help.



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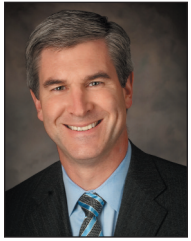
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Franklin signs AGH contract extension

Atlantic General Hospital and Health System's Board of Trustees recently signed a contract extension with president and CEO Michael Franklin to serve the not-for-profit community hospital and physician network for another five years.



Michael Franklin

The next 60 months will be a time of considerable transformation for the organization. Atlantic General may be responding to a reversal of healthcare policy spurred by the new presidential administration, while completing the master facilities plan outlined in 2015 in the "2020 Vision," the hospital and health system's five-year strategic plan. That plan includes construction of the John H. "Jack" Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center, the comprehensive Atlantic General Women's Health Center, an expansion of ER and surgical services and renovation of the in-

patient care area.

"Healthcare has changed so rapidly in the past few years, and it promises to keep doing so at breakneck speed. But, our mission remains steady. Atlantic General has done wonderful things for this community, despite challenges, and we're confident that Michael Franklin is the best person to guide Atlantic General into the future," said Louis H. Taylor, chair of the Atlantic General Hospital Board of Trustees.

Franklin joined the organization as president and CEO in October 2005. During his tenure, Atlantic General has deftly adapted to the changing forces in healthcare, staying ahead of the curve with health information technology and care coordination initiatives while continuing to improve patient access to primary and specialty care through physical expansion and telemedicine collaboratives.

In the last 11 years, he has led Atlantic General in the development of new services greatly needed in the

please see franklin on page 4

The Boat Show That Works For Kids! Admission
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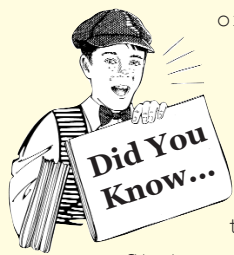
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Douglas Hemmick, Jean Marx, Dolores Pike,
Kelsey Reichenberg and Bev Wisch

Robert B. Adair 1938-2007

2012 Business of the Year

The Courier is published Wednesday morning by CMN Communications, Inc. Contents copyright 2017. 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

Valentine's Day is a time when men and women express their love and affection for one another, which can be accomplished in a variety of ways. For many celebrants, food and beverages are part



of the festivities. According to the USDA and Gallup, in the United States Valentine's Day is the bubbliest occasion after New Year's Eve and Thanksgiving. That's because around \$9 million is spent on sparkling wine products. What pairs well with that bubbly? Why chocolate, of course. Fifty-eight million pounds of chocolate candy is purchased during the week of Valentine's Day, when the National Confectioners Association says 36 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate are sold.

Naloxone can save a life

By **Ray Clauson**

The use of Naloxone can save a life. Naloxone, also known as Narcan is an opioid antagonist used in opioid overdoses to counteract the life-threatening depression of the respiratory system. It allows an overdose victim to breathe normally.

Although traditionally administered by emergency response personnel, naloxone can be administered by lay people or public, making it ideal for treating heroin and other opioids overdoses. The training is simple and use of Naloxone results in a life saved.

Here is what occurs in an opioid overdose. When too much of any opioid, like heroin goes into too many receptors, the respiratory system slows and the person breathes more slowly,

then not at all. Because Naloxone basically knocks the opioids out of the opiate receptors in the brain, the overdose is reversed and the person is able to breathe again.

However, it is a temporary drug that will wear off in 30-90 minutes and the person should be watched for signs of continued overdose. The overdose victim must seek medical assistance or call 911.

Lack of oxygen from opioid overdose may lead to brain injury in as little as 4 minutes, yet the average EMS response time is 9.4 minutes. Seconds can count during an opioid overdose so it is vital if you have a loved one or friends who use, you need to have a plan in place. Most life threatening opioid emergencies occur in the home,

witnessed by friends or family.

Brand names of Naloxone are Evzio, Narcan injection, Narcan Nasal Spray. They all come with simple, life-saving directions and are easy to administer. Upon purchase, read and know how to use these devices and keep them readily available.

Some states have a third-party law where a concerned parent, employee or nurse at a school can obtain Naloxone and administer it without facing legal repercussions (known as the good Samaritan act). If you come in contact with a high-risk individual, you should have this lifesaving overdose antidote.

For more information and the availability of naloxone, go to <http://www.narcononnewlifere-treat.org/blog/naloxone-availability.html>. If you are in need of a referral to a treatment center, call us at 1- 800-431-1754.

Top excuses for substance abusers who fail to seek treatment include

- Not ready to quit using.
- Too scared to kick.
- Their habit is not that bad.

All result in continued abuse and all boil down to one real excuse – they want to use drugs. If you are suspicious one of your loved ones is abusing drugs or alcohol call us today for free information on the signs of drug abuse.

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today at 1-800-DRUG FREE or by visiting <http://www.narcononnewlifere-treat.org> for free screenings, referrals, or your free copy of signs of addiction.

franklin

from page 3

community, including cancer care and medical infusion, a bariatric surgery and medical weight loss program, an award-winning wound care center, endoscopy center, urology, developmental health care for children with cognitive and behavioral conditions, dermatology, outpatient pediatrics and population health programs, and Maryland's only service guarantee for timeliness of ER care (the AGH "ER 30 Minute Promise"). The number of Atlantic General Health System providers has also tripled in that time, to create better access to primary care and specialty services and meet the growing demands of residents and visitors.

Prior to joining Atlantic General, Franklin was the vice president of operations and COO for Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, MD.

He earned his master's in healthcare administration from Virginia Commonwealth University and his bachelor's in health sciences from Old Dominion University. Franklin is the current chair of the board of directors of the critical care telemedicine collaborative Maryland eCare, LLC, and serves as the vice chair for the board of directors of the Blood Bank of Delmarva. He is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

"It's been a privilege to serve the community for the last 11 years. It's so rewarding to work with our Board of Trustees, physicians and our associates to advocate for the better health of our community and make sure we are in the best possible position to provide the care and health and wellness guidance that is needed. I look forward to what the future holds," Franklin said.

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Letters sent to The Courier for publication consideration must be signed and include a telephone number where the author can be reached to verify authenticity, if necessary. Letters are not corrected for spelling or grammar and priority will be given to letters of 300 words or less. Letters must be received by Friday at 5 p.m. They can be e-mailed to:

thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

'Ah, iba da bah,' said I

Through the years I've learned that homeownership requires being something of a jack of all trades, a handyman of sorts who has an understanding, as rudimentary as it may be, of plumbing



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

(unclog the toilet), carpentry (install a shelf), electricity (replace a light bulb or a ceiling fan), painting (a room) and gardening (spreading mulch). The skills, no matter the level, are learned through experiences both good and not good. Such has been the case with me through the years.

As a high-honors graduate of the School of Hard Knocks and a practitioner of Murphy's Law, I've tried not to exceed the limits of my expertise, avoiding projects that require a skill set that surpasses, even by a little bit, my competency. Let me share a little anecdote to demonstrative my point.

Many years ago, when just a young lad, I assisted my grandfather as he installed new copper pipes in a bathroom he built in the master bedroom. Installation required solder and a torch. I watched as my grandfather seamlessly soldered the fittings to the pipes. His motions were flawless and resulted in no leaking pipes.

Fast forward a number of years. We're in our first house. There is a small leak in a pipe in the crawlspace. No problem I tell myself. I've seen this done before. With a roll of solder in one hand and a torch in the other, I squirm my way into position under the house. I cut the pipe at the leak. Success was fleeting as the next steps rose in priority. I won't bore you with the details but in the process of trying valiantly to mend the leaking pipe, I

melted away nearly two spools of solder, emptied a bottle of propane and never came close to creating a perfect (or a sort of perfect) solder bead at the joint fitting. When I finally emerged from the dark, cramped quarters beneath the house into the light of day, many hours had elapsed. Two days later a plumber arrived and took care of business within 10 minutes, seven of which he used to write up a \$125 bill and share with me Do-It-Yourself horror stories he'd encountered through the years.

Alas it doesn't end there.

I've installed my share of light switches and ceiling fans. However, when it comes to getting up close and personal with electricity, I suffer cold sweats, recalling an unfortunate encounter with a live wire. It's the early 1980s at a small bungalow in North Wildwood, NJ. It was a sunny late summer afternoon. My grandfather was running wires in the home of my great aunt. As was often the case I was at his

side which meant I was his Step and Fetch It Boy whose sole purpose was to retrieve or hand to him what he needed so he wouldn't have to get down from a ladder when he needed a screw driver or finagle his way out from behind the washer after spending nearly a quarter hour positioning himself just right when he needed a wrench. I was only too glad to assist.

But I digress. The job that day required feeding wire behind walls down into the crawlspace which was where I was stationed. Through an auditory process of yelling and banging a hammer on the floor my grandfather directed me to where the wire he was threading down was expected to poke through. Things proceeded without incident right up until the time they didn't.

Now before I tell you the rest of the story, it's important for you to know that my grandfather was a very talented and gifted man who never shied away from a project big or small. Whether it was building a house or replacing a car muffler he got it done. As focused as he was on accomplishing the task at hand, some things sometimes fell by the wayside. And on this particular day, on this particular wiring project, the thing that fell by the wayside was a warning that there was an exposed live wire dangling be-

tween floor joists that had not yet been connected to a junction box.

Ok, now, back on the scene. There I was pulling wires in a cramped, poorly lit, no more than two and foot high space when I reached for a wire that I thought had been pushed through from above. It hadn't been. ZAP! BZZZ! ZAP! My body shook and convulsed uncontrollably as current surged through me. I was screaming or at least I think I was. I banged my head on a pipe. Although it seemed like an eternity but was only a few seconds at most, I released the wire. I laid stunned on the sandy floor. My grandfather, half hanging through the crawlspace opening, asked "why'd you touch that wire for? That one's live!"

"Ah, iba da bah iba da," I responded.

Since that experience I double and triple check to ensure that switches and circuit breakers are turned off before removing a switch plate cover. You can never be too careful.

Oh, in case you're wondering, in exchange for me not telling my mother what had happened, my grandfather bought me a cream soda on the way home. I never told my mother but she had to have been suspicious that something was afoot when she saw that I had dribbled the soda down the front of me.

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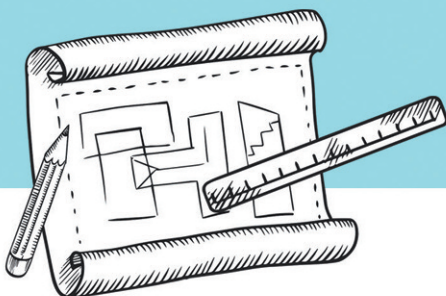
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County offers free emergency training in Ocean Pines

Worcester County Emergency Services (WCES) invites the public to participate in the free, eight-session course Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) in Ocean Pines.

The training will take place at the Ocean Pines Fire Department, located at 911 Ocean Parkway, on Mondays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. from March 6 to April 24.

CERT is an informative, hands-on, educational program packed with information to equip residents, who have no prior emergency medical training, to support their families and communities during a disaster. Participants will gain the decision-making and practical skills

necessary to offer immediate assistance to those in need following an emergency until further help can arrive.

Participants will learn to recognize both natural and manmade hazards. In addition to Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) training, sessions will include Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Fire Safety and Suppression, Disaster Medical Operations I and II, Light Search and Rescue and Hazardous Materials, Organization, Disaster Psychology, and Incident Command System, Practical Work Stations, and Special Topics. Upon completion of this program, students will be able to create disaster plans and supply kits.

Those who successfully complete the training will receive CPR and First Aid certification through the American Heart Association. During the course, instructors will provide information on hazards typical to Worcester County, hazardous materials in the home and the National Incident Management System. Instruction is geared to help residents better prepare and survive during the first 36 to 72 hours after a catastrophic event, when local first responder resources are stretched to their limits.

CERT is available at no cost to all interested residents thanks to the support of the Worcester County Commissioners. Space is limited to 20 individuals and is available on a first come, first served basis. For more info or to register, contact Tom Kane at 410-632-3080 or tkane@co.worcester.md.us.



Celebration - Quilters by the Sea celebrated founding member Light Henderson's 91st birthday. Above are from left: **Jenny Compston, Diane Tanner, Light Henderson, Cathy Good, Marty Heeg, Joanne Massey and BJ Bell.**

Frederick Douglass book discussion scheduled

In celebration of African-American history month, a book discussion of the "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave," will be held on Saturday, February 25, at 11 a.m., in Room 200 of the Hazel Center at Wor-Wic Community College. According to the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, the theme of this year's African-American History Month is "The

Crisis in Black Education." The autobiography depicts Frederick Douglass's journey from slavery to freedom. His experiences as abolitionist, newspaper editor, civil rights activist and orator denote his determination to educate himself. The discussion will be limited to 25 participants. This event is sponsored by Wor-Wic's cultural diversity committee. For more information, call 410-572-8711.

GOP committee seeks members

The Worcester County Republican Central Committee is looking for new members and auxiliary members. If interested, call Grant Helvey at 410-430-7282 or attend the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 14 at 7 p.m. at the Ocean Pines library.

Dual enrollment information night set

A free dual enrollment information session for parents of current high school sophomores and juniors will be held on Thursday, February 16, at 6 p.m., in Room 101 of Guerrieri Hall at Wor-Wic Community College in Salisbury. High school sophomores and juniors are also in-

please see **enrollment** on page 8



Monday

Chicken Parmesan over Pasta

\$9.95

Lobster Tail **\$14**

Tuesday

Burger and French Fries **\$6**

Wednesday

Meatloaf with mashed potatoes and a vegetable **\$6.95**

Add a soup or a salad **\$9.95**

Thursday

Steak Night! **\$13.95**

Friday

Fried Shrimp with French Fries & cole slaw **\$14.75**

Saturday

Crabcake Platter with 2 sides and a choice of a soup or salad **\$15**

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Officers installed

Worcester County NAACP Officers were installed at their January meeting at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Berlin. The Honorable Gee Williams, Berlin Mayor, officiated.

Above are 3rd Vice President **Cyril Acholonu**, President **Roxie Dennis Acholonu**, Secretary **Linda Purnell**, Mayor **Gee Williams**, Treasurer **Christine Clark** and 2nd Vice President **Ivory Smith**.

Not pictured are 1st Vice President Gabriel Purnell and Executive Board Members: Jim Richardson, Quintin Dennis and Chuck Herbert.

The next meeting is Thursday, February 23 at 6 p.m. at the New Macedonia Baptist Church in Pocomoke. Affordable housing will be discussed. Phone 443-944-6701 for more information.

PRMC names new president, CEO

The Peninsula Regional Health System (PRHS) Board of Directors and the Peninsula Regional Medical Center (PRMC) Board of Trustees formally announced, following a nationwide search and interview process, that Steven E. Leonard has accepted the position of President/CEO



Steven Leonard

Designate for the Health System and the Medical Center. He will succeed Dr. Peggy Naleppa, who is retiring after a 15-year career with PRHS and PRMC, the last eight years as its president/CEO.

Leonard, the current vice president of Operations Optimization and Innovation at PRMC, will work closely with Dr. Naleppa between now and January 4, 2018 on an executive leadership succession plan that has been established to ensure a smooth transition.

"Steve is exceptionally credentialed and rose to the top of an equally exceptional field of over 200 candidates who applied for the position," said Monty Saylor, Chairman, Peninsula Regional Health System Board of Di-

rectors and Peninsula Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees. "The board and Dr. Naleppa have complete confidence that he will do a wonderful job leading this healthcare team and we are committed to supporting Steve during this transitional phase."

In his current role, Leonard administratively oversees the operations of Peninsula Regional's Richard A. Henson Cancer Institute, Surgical Services, Pharmacy, Medical Imaging, Laboratory, Supply Chain and Support Services, Food and Nutrition, Information Services, Organizational Development and Performance Improvement, and Business Intelligence and Clinical Analytics departments.

Additionally, he supports efforts to improve organizational alignment and effectiveness at Peninsula Regional through the adoption of the latest innovative operational practices.

Leonard has been with Peninsula Regional since 2003. Previously, he was both the director and executive director of Operational Performance Improvement at PRMC. He also served Premier, Inc. as a senior consultant/performance engineer and March,

please see **prmc** on page 8



If you or a family member suddenly becomes sick, it's good to know you have a better choice than going to the hospital Emergency Room.

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Texting and driving – what are the consequences?

By **Steven W. Rakow**, Esquire

Most people think nothing of using their cellphones to text while driving.



Steve Rakow

Next time you are sitting behind someone at a stop light who fails to start driving when the light turns green, know that the person in front of you is probably on their phone. Here are a few scary statistics:

(1) according to the National Safety Council, at any given moment 660,000 drivers are engaged in the use of their cellphones to make calls, email, or text while driving; (2) there are 341,000 motor vehicle accidents a

year involving a driver who was either texting or emailing someone using their cellphone; (3) eleven people are killed each day as a result of someone using a cellphone while driving; and (4) over 3,000 teens die each year from texting and driving accidents – about 300 more per year than those killed by drunk drivers. It is time for America to wake up and stop this senseless behavior of texting and driving.

Forty-six states ban the use of hand-held devices while operating a motor vehicle. Yet, as it stands now in Maryland, the penalty for being caught using a hand-held device is no real deterrent to this horrendous behavior. One caught using a cellphone to text or email may receive up to a \$70 fine and only one point on their driving record from the Motor Vehicle Administration. If such use causes an accident, the fine is only \$110 and three points are assessed. Only if the accident from use of a cellphone kills someone would the offender be required to appear in court and face 12 points on their driving record.

Of course, in the case of a death caused by someone texting and driving, the state could pursue a manslaughter-by-vehicle charge against the driver. These types of cases are difficult to prove, but if the state were successful in showing that a driver's conduct in texting while driving amounted to a wanton or reckless disregard for human life – a gross negligence standard – the driver could face up to 10 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. If the state could only show that the driver's conduct was such that the driver should have been aware, but failed to perceive, that the texting while driving created a substantial and unjustifiable risk and that there was a gross deviation from the standard of

care of a reasonable driver, then the driver might only face three years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. These possible penalties are simply not taken into consideration by those who text or email while driving. If they were, no one would do it.

Traffic and criminal penalties one faces while texting and driving are serious, but so is civil liability. Injured persons and survivors of someone killed by a driver who was texting and driving may pursue civil lawsuits against negligent drivers. A successful plaintiff may be awarded millions of dollars. Most insurance policies would not cover the full amount of such judgments.

Think about this. The average time it takes to send a text message is five seconds. If you drive at 60 MPH and

take your eyes off the road for five seconds, you travel the distance of one and a half football fields. Texting and driving is so senseless that the thought of injuring or killing another person while doing so should halt such behavior. If you are one of those who text and drive, understand that what you are doing is putting yourself and everyone else at risk. Doing so could result in prison time, major fines, and a devastating civil judgment.

Steven W. Rakow, Esquire, a former assistant state's attorney and retired Marine officer, practices civil litigation, construction law, criminal law, and general practice matters. He can be reached at 410-600-3075, by email at steve@steverakowlaw.com, or through his website www.steverakowlaw.com.

Pine'er Craft Club to meet

The Pine'er Craft Club of Ocean Pines will meet on Thursday, February 16 in the Ocean Pines Community Center. The group begins at 9:45 a.m. with refreshments, followed by a business meeting at 10 a.m. Following the February meeting the group will be making favors for distribution to clients of Meals on Wheels in Ocean Pines and Ocean City. Guests are welcome to join in the fun.

The Craft Club also sponsors the Artisan and Gift Shop located opposite the Ocean Pines Community Center. The shop is open on weekends, Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stop by and see all the creative items made by members of the Pine'er Craft Club. The selection of items includes wreaths, jewelry, glassware, stitchery items, doll clothes, and much, much more. Credit cards accepted.

enrollment

from page 6

vited to attend.

Presentations will be given by a former dual enrollment student and parent. Wor-Wic employees will provide information about how high school students can earn college credits while they are juniors and seniors in high school. Participants will have the opportunity to start the enrollment process and go on a campus tour.

"Wor-Wic's dual enrollment program is an excellent opportunity for

high school students to begin their college education early at a highly-reduced cost," said Bryan Newton, vice president for enrollment management and student services at Wor-Wic. "Students can start early on their college education, save thousands of dollars on college costs and begin to learn how to succeed in a college setting."

For more information or to reserve a seat, contact Richard C. Webster, director of admissions, at rwebster@worwic.edu or 410-334-2896.

SDHS recognizes VIPs of the Game

In its ongoing efforts to recognize outstanding students and community members, the Stephen Decatur High School PBIS program (Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports) is honoring VIPs of the Game this winter during home basketball games. Since

2006, SDHS has been recognizing the Decatur Way and the principles of pride, achievement, respect, and responsibility through the PBIS initiative.

Stephen Decatur High School Athletic Boosters President, **Kim Holloway**, was recognized as a VIP of the Game during a January 26 home basketball game. Holloway has served for five years in this capacity and has dedicated countless hours to Decatur's athletes and athletic programs through those years. She is pictured with PBIS committee member **Amy Fenzel-Mergott** and Principal **Tom Zimmer**.



prmc

from page 7

Curington and Company as a senior healthcare consultant/project Manager.

He is a graduate of Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor's degree in Management and Finance and has a Master of Business Administration degree from Salisbury University. Leonard is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore with a research focus on Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness.

Leonard is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, has served as an Examiner for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for three years, and is a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt by the American So-

ciety for Quality.

"I could not have been more fortunate to support the efforts at PRMC over the last 15 years. During this time, I know that I have been positively influenced by countless members of a team that is dedicated to exceeding expectations and providing exceptional care," said Leonard. "I would like to thank the Board for their support. I am honored, humbled and excited to have an opportunity to lead this great team at PRMC at what is nothing short of a revolutionary time in our industry."

Leonard will officially assume his new position on January 4, 2018. He is married (Kim) with three children (Riley, Raiden and Ronan). They reside in Snow Hill, Maryland.

Courier Bookshelf

by **Dolores E. Pike**



World Without End by Kenneth Follett

Apparently, 2016 was the year of sons making sure their mother had plenty of reading material to keep her busy and out of trouble. Beginning my year with the gift of “Hamilton” written by Ron Chernow and ending it with the gift of “World Without End” by Ken Follett, I plowed through two, 1,000 page books in this past year of living dangerously. The first book, “Hamilton” was non-fiction and the second a novel. Since I have already reviewed “Hamilton” in this column, I’ll continue here with my review of the second book, “World Without End.” I must say, I enjoyed both, neither of which is very new, being published simultaneously in 2007. But, as I have stated many times in this column, any

book reviewed here is available at the Ocean Pines library.

There is very little I can offer in the way of literary comment on the creative writing aspect of this novel penned by Mr. Follett. You know once in a while we just need to appreciate a book for the sheer enjoyment of reading. And this one takes place during a unique time frame - 1327 to 1361. This date happens to encompass the era of the bubonic plague, also known as the Black Death which ravaged Britain and Europe, creating a pandemic that wiped out almost half the world-wide population.

For fans of Mr. Follett’s previous fiction entitled “Pillars of the Earth” (published in 1989) “World” is somewhat of a sequel to that tome and of identical length. Both books have been well-received by the critics;

sometimes that’s an asset – and sometimes not. But you do not have to have read the previous book to become engrossed in this one. You just need strong biceps to tote it from place to place or, in the alternative, position it as a reliable doorstep. I just advise you not to carelessly drop it on your foot.

Both novels share the same general writing characteristics – multiple characters making the same bonehead mistakes and having to deal with human cruelty with repeated regularity. Enough to make readers ask themselves: Don’t these people ever learn? As they advance three steps forward you know they will take two or three backward. Though I must say that the plague presented a convenient opportunity for Mr. Follett to dispose of some particularly nasty deed-doers who had been consistently thwarting our hero and heroines.

For those cold winter days or nights when we may not want to venture outside this might just be the time

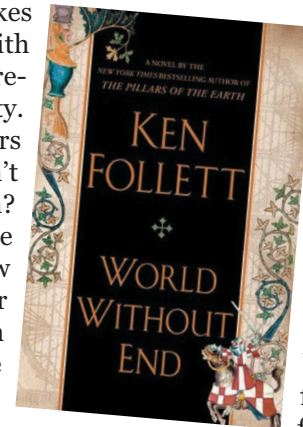
to settle in warmth and comfort with a long read. Though it appears monstrously lengthy, once you start reading “World Without End” it will pull you in.

The fictitious village of Kingsbridge is again Mr. Follett’s locale. Four children meet by chance at the annual wool fair – brothers Merthin and Ralph with Gwenda and Caris. The brothers are sons of an impoverished

knight and are eventually indentured; one (Merthin) with a carpenter and the other (Ralph) with a nobleman as a squire. The brothers are of differing statures and temperaments – Merthin smaller, very bright and kind; Ralph muscular, less intelligent and cruel. Whereas the girls, both bright, come from differing backgrounds. Gwenda from a poor family with a despicable father (he once sold his daughter in return for a cow) and Caris from a wool merchant’s family.

Caris and Merthin fall in love and their marriage is an on-again-off-again affair over the course of many chapters

*please see **book** on page 11*



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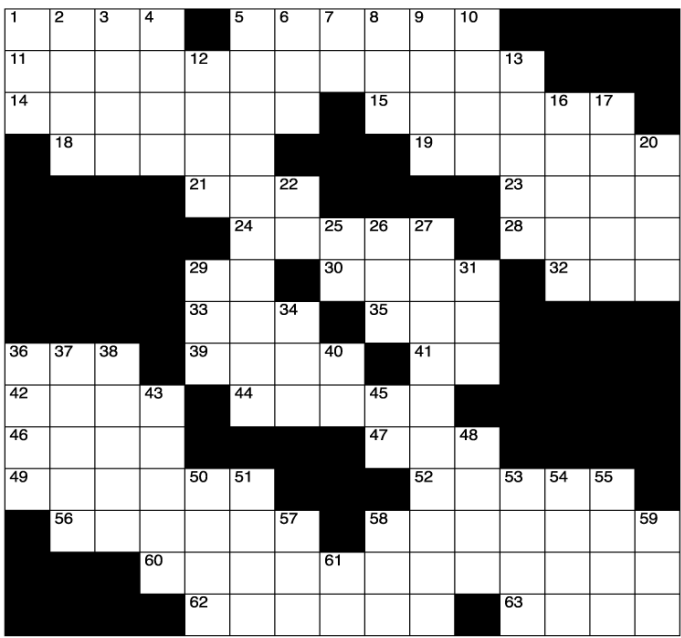
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Unruly groups

5. Colorful flowers

11. December 25

14. Final stages of insects' development

15. Breadmakers

18. Spanish man

19. In the middle

21. Bill

23. Noted editor Alexander ____

24. Swollen

28. Paddles

29. Cirrus

30. Seeped into

32. Skeletal muscle

33. Japanese traditional drama
35. Licensed practical nurse

36. Sibiu Airport

39. Rebuff

41. Sun God

42. Astringent

44. Feeling of humiliation

46. A device attached to a workbench

47. Wood sorrel

49. Among

52. Horizontal passages

56. Father of Alexander the Great

58. Utter repeatedly

60. Linked together

62. Literary effect

63. Held onto

CLUES DOWN

1. One-time phone company

2. Units of electrical resistance

3. Hillside

4. Omen

5. Repetitions

6. Royal Mail Ship

7. Farm state

8. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

9. Dutch cheese

10. Japanese alcoholic beverage

12. Black powdery substance

13. Tokyo's former name

16. Monetary unit

17. Bones

20. To avoid the risk of

22. Dry goods unit of volume (abbr.)

25. Megabyte

26. Unwell

27. Expresses disapproval of
29. Central nervous system

31. We all have it

34. Expression of bafflement

36. Tributary of the Danube

37. Flies over sporting events

38. Chinese city

40. College degree

43. Dispenser of first aid

45. Momentum (slang)

48. Red Sea port

50. Sloven

51. ____ Turner, rock singer

53. Asian nation (alt. sp.)

54. Manson victim

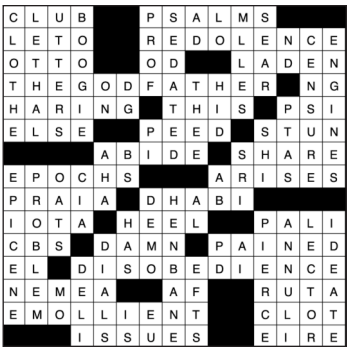
55. Go forward

57. Primary Care Trust

58. Simpson trial judge

59. Sun up in New York

61. Exclamation of surprise



Answers for February 1



Mexican Wines

Sales of Mexican wines aren’t that prevalent in the U.S., yet their winemaking tradition long predates ours. In last September’s “Wine About It” column, we explored wines made by our neighbor country to the north, Canada. This month we are reversing our geographic direction to feature our neighbor to the south. It so happens that I will be vacationing in Mexico later this month, similar to my trip to Canada last summer. It will be exciting to once again explore wines from another country firsthand.

A fascinating history lesson is now in order. Spanish conquistadors set their eyes on making Mexico part of “New Spain” in the mid-16th Century. On their long voyage, the Spaniards brought with them some of their own grape varieties to replant in the new colony. The first varieties were of the *Vitis vinifera* species. They were planted in the region known as La Laguna, located in Northeast Mexico not far from the Rio Grande River. There were also some indigenous grapes that the Spaniards found success with due to the dry, desert-like climate, particularly in the higher elevations. It wasn’t long before thousands of grapevines were planted throughout the country.

Many of the vineyards were cared for by missionaries who used the wines they produced to celebrate Mass. Over time, the Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries consolidated their grape varieties into a new name, aptly called the mission grape. The wine industry began to flourish in the latter part of the 17th Century. During this time, Spanish ships continued to import wine into Mexico from vineyards in their home country. The trade and resulting revenue stream filled the royal coffers nicely. However, with the demand for wine in Mexico increasingly being met locally, King Charles II of Spain saw this growth as a threat that he needed to eliminate. In 1699, he banned winemaking throughout Mexico, with the exception of the Catholic Church for their religious purposes.

It wasn’t until Mexico’s independence from Spain on September 16, 1810 that the ban was lifted. Winemaking began to grow once again, but then it experienced yet another setback with the Mexican Revolution that began in 1910 against the regime of Porfirio Díaz, who served as the Mexican President from 1876 to 1911. The clergy continued to make wines during these years. For example, the Santo Tomás Mission was founded in Baja California by Jesuit priests in 1791 and they produced wines on a rather large scale. Dominican priests started their own winemaking in 1843 at a nearby mission.

Finally, Mexican wines began making an official comeback in the 1980s, although wine is still heavily taxed by the government. The tax is 40% per bottle, making it virtually impossible for wineries to compete with Mexico’s popular beer and tequila sales. This competitive disadvantage is also why wine exports to the U.S. from Mexico are much lower than from other countries.

Fortunately, there are some Mexican wineries that are shipping to the U.S. More common are the winemakers who sell their wines within the country’s borders. Mexico’s winemaking history has been so labored that it hopefully offers both appeal and promise for a bright future. As I travel to Mexico later this month with my family, it will be our pleasure to try several wines and relate them in a future article.

For now, here are a few Mexican wine suggestions courtesy of the article, “10 Mexican Wines You Have to Taste Before You Die.” The first is St. Thomas, Unico 2005, a 65% Cabernet Sauvignon and 35% Merlot blend harvested in Baja California. Another is the Shiraz Casa Grande made by the Casa Madero winery. This wine is 100% Shiraz and is actually aged for two years in American oak barrels that impart tastes of cinnamon, hazelnut, and semisweet chocolate into the wine. Two white wines are the Chardonnay Casa Grande by Casa Madero and La Cetto Sauvignon Blanc, suggested to be paired with fresh salads, pasta, and seafood. Salud!

Valentine's traditions from around the world

Valentine's Day is celebrated across the globe. Come Valentine's Day, candy, flowers and other gifts are exchanged between sweethearts in one of the many traditions associated with the holiday.

The origins of Valentine's Day are largely unknown. Some suggest Valentine's Day was initially a way to honor St. Valentine on the anniversary of his death. Others believe it was the Christian church's way of Christianizing the Pagan celebration of Lupercalia, a fertility festival dedicated to Faunus, the Roman god of agriculture.

Regardless of its origins, Valentine's Day is now celebrated by millions and is one of the retail industry's most lucrative shopping holidays.

Many different traditions can be linked to Valentine's Day. Here is a list of the interesting ways Valentine's Day is celebrated across the globe.

South Korea. In South Korea, men get to enjoy the spotlight on Valentine's Day, as women bestow gifts of chocolate on them. In return, a month later men reciprocate with gifts for

women on White Day. South Koreans take Valentine's Day a step further on Black Day, which falls on April 14. This is an opportunity for all single people who may not have received Valentine's Day gifts to gather at restaurants and eat a dish called black noodles as they celebrate their singleton status.

Denmark and Norway. These Scandinavian countries did not really celebrate Valentine's Day until recently, but have now put their own spin on the traditions. Men write funny poems or rhyming love notes called Gaekkebrev and send them to women anonymously. Women must try to guess their admirers by counting dots that are put on the note that correspond to the number of letters in the man's name.

Estonia. In Estonia, Valentine's Day is a day more devoted to friendship than romantic love. Cards and gifts are exchanged among friends.

Wales. In Wales, Valentine's Day is not celebrated. Rather, the Welsh commemorate St. Dwynwen's Day, who is their patron saint of lovers on January 25. It is customary to gift

love-spoons, a tradition that likely stems from the practice of sailors carving intricately decorated spoons of wood and presenting them to women they were interested in courting or marrying.

France. Considered to be one of the most romantic countries in the world, France can be an ideal place to participate in Valentine's Day traditions. The French have an old custom called "une loterie d'amour," which is

a drawing for love. Single men and women of all ages once entered houses that faced one another and took turns calling out to one another to find romantic matches. The men could refuse the match and leave the woman looking for another man to call on. Women who were not paired up would light a bonfire and damn the men who rejected them. The French government eventually banned the practice be-

please see *traditions* on page 12

Tide and Sun Chart

* tide is for Ocean City Fishing Pier. Add two hours for Isle of Wight tide

DATE	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Thur., February 9	5:57 a.m. 6:12 p.m.	12:25 p.m.	6:57 a.m.	5:32 p.m.
Fri., February 10	6:47 a.m. 7:03 p.m.	12:25 a.m. 1:13 p.m.	6:56 a.m.	5:33 p.m.
Sat., February 11	7:35 a.m. 7:50 p.m.	1:14 a.m. 1:57 p.m.	6:55 a.m.	5:34 p.m.
Sun., February 12	8:20 a.m. 8:36 p.m.	2:01 a.m. 2:39 p.m.	6:55 a.m.	5:34 p.m.
Mon., February 13	9:02 a.m. 9:20 p.m.	2:47 a.m. 3:20 p.m.	6:53 a.m.	5:35 p.m.
Tues., February 14	9:44 a.m. 10:04 p.m.	3:32 a.m. 4:01 p.m.	6:52 a.m.	5:37 p.m.
Wed., February 15	10:25 a.m. 10:48 p.m.	4:19 a.m. 4:43 p.m.	6:50 a.m.	5:39 p.m.

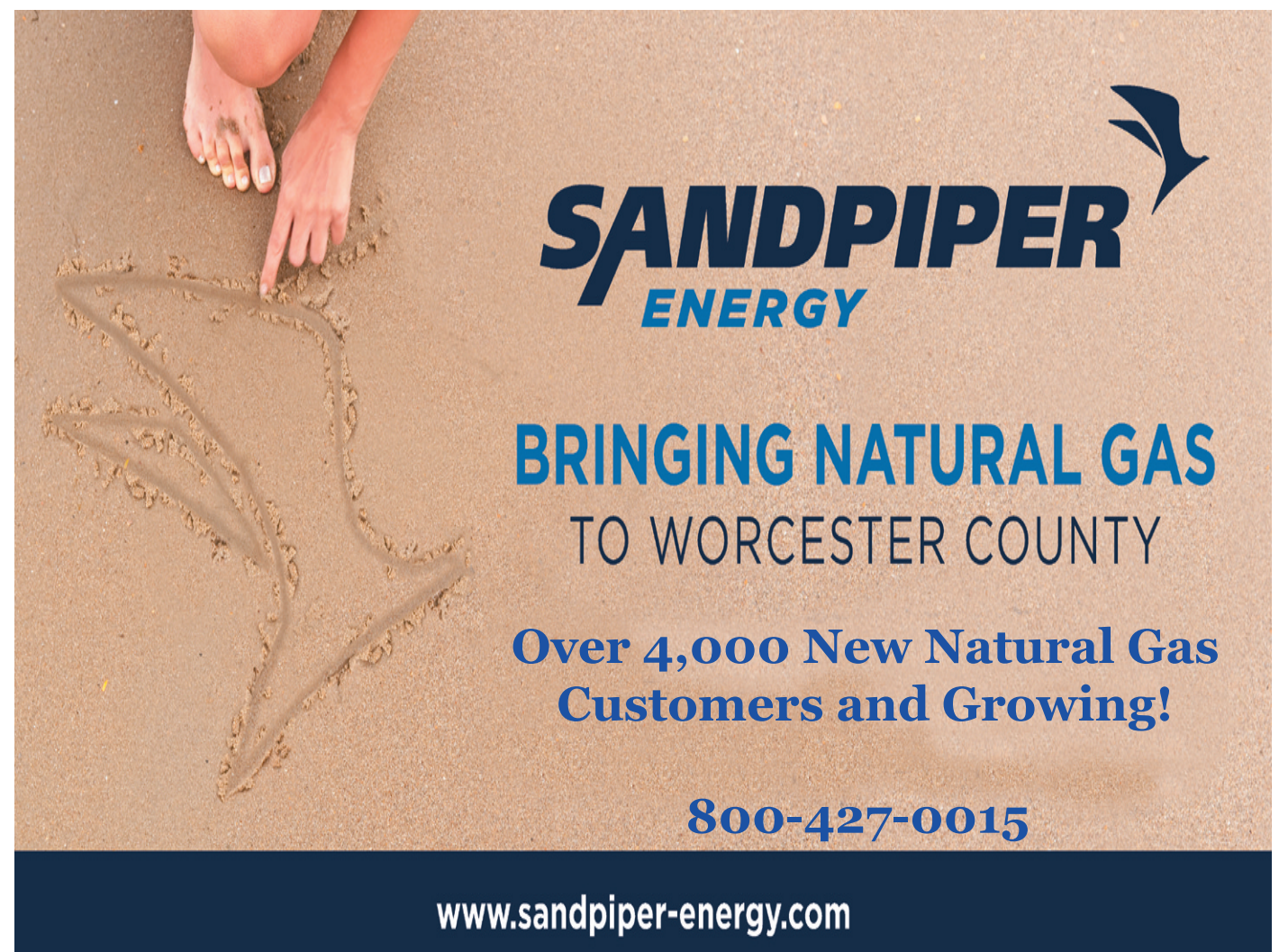
book

from page 9

ters. When finally the knot is about to be tied, Caris is accused of witchcraft by the town's bishop, (her cousin, for goodness sake) and her only recourse is to enter the local nunnery. Devastated, Merthin leaves for Italy to pursue his burgeoning career as a builder.

In the convent Caris steadily builds her reputation as an administrator and a healer as she strives to outwit the scheming bishop and his sneaky sidekick who happens to be Gwenda's brother. Meanwhile, Gwenda has married and still struggles to overcome poverty and the cruelties inflicted on her husband time and again by Ralph, now an earl, who harbors a relentless grudge. Her husband once broke Ralph's nose in a teen age scuffle.

Merthin eventually returns to Kingsbridge to again persuade Caris to marry him. Will she leave the nunnery for him? Will she marry him? Will Gwenda overcome poverty and best Ralph, once and for all? Tuned in tomorrow at the same time and channel to "World Without End" and find out all the answers to these and many, many other questions posed in the ongoing saga of – oops, I mean read the book.



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Student exhibits on display

During the month of February the Worcester County Arts Council will present an exhibit featuring entries submitted by local high schools students for the annual art competition sponsored by the Berlin/Ocean City Optimist Club.

The exhibit includes a total of 33 paintings and drawings and is showcased on display at the Worcester County Arts Council gallery located at 6 Jefferson Street in downtown Berlin.

The goal of this competition is to encourage, recognize and honor artistic expression of talented art students in Worcester County as well as to emphasize the importance and support of quality art programs.

The competition offers a total of \$1,400 in cash prizes to the student artists. Selection of paintings and drawings entered for this contest was judged by award winning local artist and art educator, David Simpson.

Monetary awards and ribbons for the first, second, and third place as well as honorable mention will be presented to students on Friday, February 10 at 6 p.m. during an

open to the public reception to be held at the Worcester County Arts Council's Gallery.

Visitors to the gallery are encouraged to vote for the "People's Choice" award. Voting will end on February 10. The "People's Choice" winner will be announced and awarded monetary prize at the opening exhibit reception.

The exhibit is on display through February 28. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday and some Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CPR training offered

Peninsula Regional Medical Center will host a free Friends & Family CPR class on February 13 from 10 a.m. to noon as part of its American Heart Month festivities

The Family & Friends CPR Course is an American Heart Association class that teaches the lifesaving skills of adult hands-only CPR, adult CPR with breaths, child CPR with breaths, adult and child AED use, infant CPR, and mild and severe airway block for adults, children, and infants. Family & Friends CPR is for people who want to learn CPR but do not need a CPR course completion card to meet a job requirement. This course is ideal for new parents, grandparents, babysitters, and others interested in learning how to save a life.

The class will be held in the Avery W. Hall Educational Center Auditorium, on the PRMC campus at the corner of Waverly Drive and Vine Street. Registration is required and space is limited - call 410-543-7028 to sign up.

traditions

from page 11

cause of rowdy crowds.

Italy. Italian lovers celebrate Valentine's Day in much the same way as Americans. One interesting Valentine's tradition in Italy is locking padlocks to different structures, which is called "Lucchetti dell'Amore (locks of love)." Couples attach the locks to bridges, railings and lamp posts, inscribe their names and throw away the key. The action suggests the couple will be together forever.



Pines couple make donation

Atlantic General Hospital Foundation received a \$5,000 donation from Cliff and Donna Berg toward its Campaign for the Future and the development of the new Regional Cancer Care Center.

Cliff and Donna live in Ocean Pines having moved to this community from Chadds Ford, PA. after retiring. Cliff was a principal in a financial planning firm while Donna worked for Christiana Care Hospital as a medical technologist. Cliff serves on Atlantic General Hospital's Foundation Board and is president of Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club. Donna volunteers for the American Cancer Society and Atlantic United Methodist Church Thrift Shop.

The new cancer center will be named the John H. "Jack" Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center in honor of Burbage's personal and financial contributions to the hospital and the community.

From left: **Tammy Patrick**, Development Officer Atlantic General Hospital Foundation; **Cliff and Donna Berg**; and **Michael Franklin**, president and CEO Atlantic General Hospital.

New program launches at Assateague

Assateague Island Alliance (AIA), the Friends Group of Assateague Island National Seashore (ASIS), will host a new program, "Behind the Scenes: Science of the National Seashore." The event will take place Saturday February 11 at 10:30 a.m. for refreshments prior to the program which begins at 11a.m.

There is so much valuable research that goes on outside of the public eye year round at Assateague Island National Seashore. Presented by Kelly Taylor, ASIS Interpretation and Education Supervisor, she will take you on a journey behind the scenes to discover what National Seashore resource management staff are up to and how the research and projects are essential to the island. Taylor will cover everything from aquatics, vegetation & plover management,

physical science monitoring, and of course, horse management.

"The science that our staff conducts on the island help us understand how to protect the park and its resources for the future, but they are also some of the most difficult programs to find funding for," said Deborah Darden, Park Superintendent. "AIA is able to provide funding for some of these projects, which is one of the reasons our partnership is so valuable."

The program will be held in the Assateague Island Environmental Education Center located at 7206 National Seashore Lane in Berlin.

The Assateague Island Alliance (AIA), a 501(c)3 organization, is the Friends Group to benefit Assateague Island National Seashore. AIA financially supports educational, interpretive, scientific and recreational programs. All funds raised by AIA are for the direct benefit of Assateague Island National Seashore. Donations are tax-deductible.



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I Love to Cook!

by Bev Wisch



For Valentine's day, think chocolate. It is the time of year when you can indulge. How about making the one you love some chocolate mousse? Follow this easy recipe and put a smile on his face.

Chocolate Mousse

6 oz. semisweet chocolate
2 T. Kahlua
1 T. orange juice
2 egg yolks
2 eggs
1 t. vanilla extract
¼ cup sugar
1 cup heavy cream

Mix the chocolate in the Kahlua and orange juice over very low heat. Set aside. Put the egg yolks and eggs in the blender with vanilla and sugar. Blend for two minutes at medium high speed. Add the heavy cream and blend for another 30 seconds. Add the melted chocolate mix-

ture and blend until smooth. Pour into a bowl or individual cups. Refrigerate. Make three servings

Make your own chocolate sauce to pour over ice cream or to make milk shakes.

Chocolate Sauce

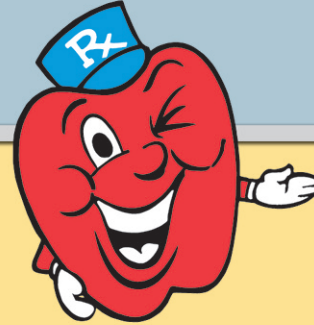
12 oz. semisweet chocolate
½ cup sweet butter
1 cup sugar
1 t. vanilla extract
1 cup heavy cream

Cook the chocolate and butter in a heavy saucepan over low heat until melted. Add sugar, vanilla and heavy cream. Simmer over very low heat for 5 minutes until smooth. Makes about two cups.

Happy Valentine's Day
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Harriet Tubman presentation scheduled

In celebration of African-American history month, Robert Parker, superintendent of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park and National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, and Dana Paterra, park manager of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park, will give a joint presentation on the March 2017 grand opening of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitors Center in Cambridge on Thursday, February 16, at 7 p.m., in Room 103 of Fulton-Owen Hall at Wor-Wic Community College in Salisbury. This event is sponsored by Wor-Wic's cultural diversity committee.

For more information, call 410-572-8711.

A BAGEL and...

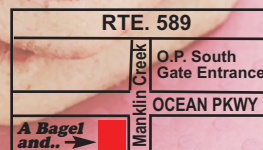
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Valentine Slot Dollars

**TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 14**

Drawings every 30 minutes
12:15pm - 8:15pm

Every 30 minutes carded players will be randomly selected to choose a Sweetheart pull-tab and win \$50 - \$150 Slot Dollars!



Earn entries Now - February 12
30 Points = 1 Entry

Activate your entries by inserting your card in any slot machine between 8am - 7pm on February 13.

**Prize Drawing at 8pm on
Monday, February 13**

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Package includes: \$1,000 Gift Card to Park Place Jewelers, \$100 Gift Card to Ruth's Chris, \$100 Home Depot Gift Card, Box of Chocolates, Bouquet of Flowers, \$1,000 Slot Dollars, \$100 Tanger Gift Card, \$100 Gift Card to Serenity Spa

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MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE. Please play responsibly, for help visit mdgamblinghelp.org or call 1-800-GAMBLER.

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