



The Courier

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Residents encouraged to 'Light up the Pines'

Ocean Pines residents once again have the chance to show off their holiday decorating skills with the community's annual "Light up the Pines" outdoor display contest.

This year's event is sponsored by the Ocean Pines Association and Choptank Electric Cooperative, which will give two free LED lightbulbs to each registered participant as well as prizes to the winners.

Participants will be judged in four categories: "Top-Notch All-Around," "Most Creative," "Most Lights" and "People's Choice." The winner in each category will receive a \$50 gift certificate to The Cove and a \$25 Choptank electric bill credit.

The deadline for applicants is Friday, December 11. Participants will be notified when judging will take place. The ballot for the "People's Choice" award will be emailed and will be available online at OceanPines.org. A map showing the locations of the entries will be on the website as well.

Residences are eligible to win "Top-Notch," "Most Creative" or "Most Lights" once every three years; there is no restriction for the "People's Choice" category. Previous winners may still submit their names and addresses to be included in the map of light displays entered in the contest. They will also receive two free LED lightbulbs.

Volunteer judges are being sought to help with the contest. Anyone interested in serving as a judge should submit a name and phone number to info@oceanpines.org or 410-641-7717 ext. 3014.

Residents interested in entering the contest may do so by submitting a name, address and phone number by email to info@oceanpines.org, fax to 410-641-5581, phone to 410-641-7717 ext. 3014 or to the Ocean Pines Association in person or mail at 239 Ocean Pkwy., Ocean Pines, MD, 21811.

Retired nurses to host party

The Retired Nurses will celebrate the holiday season with a cocktail party on December 9, at 5 p.m. The officers for 2016 will be installed at that time. The cost is \$15 per person, reservations required. For reservations or more information, call Sally Smith at 410-208-0564.



Christmas baking - The great-granddaughters of Ed and Bev Wisch were on hand recently to help Bev in the kitchen. Above are **Riley**, 8, **Madeline**, 4 and **Savannah**, 6. See Bev's column on page 7



16th Annual Ocean Pines Community

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

8:00 PM - December 24th
Ocean Pines Community Hall



Come as you are...
casual dress welcomed.





Kettle drive - The Salvation Army kicked off its annual Red Kettle Drive with a breakfast in the Salisbury Civic Center on Thursday November 19. Traditionally this is when awards for the previous campaign are presented. Once again, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City was awarded first place among civic groups with a total of 272 hours of service. As of Friday November 27, Kiwanis began manning the Red Kettle at the Berlin WalMart on Route 50 and will do so up to 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Students from the Kiwanis Key Club of Stephen Decatur High School are also participating in ringing that familiar bell.

Pictured are Kiwanis members who attended the kickoff (L-R) **Pat Winkelmayer, Stella Hartington, Barbara Peletier, Tom Southwell, Dick Claggett, Mark Joseph, Ralph and Wilma Chinn.**

AGH opens pain center

Atlantic General Hospital and Health System is pleased to announce that board certified anesthesiologist and pain intervention specialist Wadid Zaky, MD, will serve as medical director of the new Atlantic General Pain Center in Berlin, MD.

Building the center was one of the organization's strategic plans to address a chronic condition that plagues many residents on the Shore. According to the National Institutes of Health, chronic pain affects more Americans than diabetes, heart disease and cancer combined. It is a leading cause of disability and accounts for a significant portion of healthcare costs.

"We are very pleased to have Dr.

Zaky join us" said Colleen Wareing, vice president of patient care at Atlantic General Hospital. "He brings advanced techniques to the management of pain with a focus on integrating the right interventions for each individual patient. To have him on the Shore for our community is amazing. Dr. Zaky is one of only four pain experts in the United States that was invited to present at the World Institute of Pain International Conference being held in London this month."

Atlantic General Pain Center provides a comprehensive approach to treatment of chronic pain, with pain

please see **agh** on page 8

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2012 Business of the Year

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Norway is the birth-place of the Yule log. The ancient Norse used the Yule log in their celebration of the return of the sun at winter solstice. "Yule" came from the Norse word *hweol*, meaning wheel. The Norse believed that the sun was a great wheel of fire that rolled towards and then away from the earth. Ever wonder why the family fireplace is such a central part of the typical Christmas scene? This tradition dates back to the Norse Yule log. It is probably also responsible for the popularity of log-shaped cheese, cakes, and desserts during the holidays.



Merchant Marines sacrifices recalled

By **Sonny Bloxom**

Editor's Note: Worcester County Attorney Sonny Bloxom was the keynote speaker during the Veterans Day ceremony held at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines. His comments that day focused on the many contributions of the service throughout our nation's military history. Because



Sonny Bloxom

Monday, December 7, is the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor which propelled the United States to take up arms in World War II, Mr. Bloxom's speech has added meaning.

Thank you for the invitation to speak today. Some years ago, I spoke here when I was a County Commissioner about my experiences during the Vietnam War and the need to honor & respect all our veterans!!

When I was asked to speak this time, I pondered over what I could say

sional civilian sailor who mans private or government owned ships, such as cargo vessels, tankers and passenger liners.

The American Merchant Marines has played a vital role in every war our Country has fought in. Before there was a Continental Navy, there was a merchant marines. John Paul Jones, who is considered the father of the American Navy, was first a merchant ship captain. Most of the officers and crew in the Continental Navy came from the merchant marines.

Today though, I would like to focus on the U.S. Merchant Mariners role in WWII. One way to understand the Second World War is to appreciate the critical role of merchant shipping. The availability or non-availability of merchant shipping determined what the Allies could or could not do militarily. In other words, the U.S. Merchant Mariners provided critical logistical support to the war effort.

The U.S. Merchant Mariner provided the greatest sealift in history between the production forces at home and the fighting forces scattered around the globe in WWII. The prewar total of 55K experienced mariners was increased to over 215K through U.S. Maritime Service training programs.

Merchant ships faced danger from submarines, mines, armed raiders and destroyers, aircraft, kamikaze and the elements!! About 8,300 mariners were killed at sea, 12,000 wounded of whom at least 1,100 died from their wounds and 663 men and women were taken prisoner. The total estimated killed was 9,300. Some were blown to death, some incinerated, some drowned, some froze and some starved. 66 died in prison camps or aboard Japanese ships while being transported to other camps. 31 ships vanished without a trace to a watery grave!!

1 in 26 mariners serving aboard merchant ships in WWII died in the line of duty, suffering a greater percentage of war-related deaths than all other U.S. services. Casualties were kept secret during the war to keep information about their successes from

the enemy and to attract and keep mariners at sea!!! In 1942 alone, 33 ships were sunk each week!

The U.S. merchant mariners were a part of the Battle for Control of the Atlantic. Through the eventual use of convoys, the battle was won, when previously, the German U-Boats were sinking more ships than the U.S. could build!!

They endured the cold, deadly voyages of the run to Murmansk, Russia, where if your ship was sunk you couldn't survive more than 15 minutes in the frigid water.

American mariners took part in the invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. In the 2 years before the invasion, enormous quantities of war materiel were carried across the U-boat infested Atlantic to Britain by merchant ships. About 2,700 merchant ships were involved in the FIRST wave of the invasion on D-Day, landing troops and munitions under enemy fire!!

I would like to tell you a short story about a typical heroic merchant mariner. (O'Hara & Battle Standard)

The U.S. merchant mariner participated in every landing in the Pacific Campaign. Gen. Douglas McArthur said, "I hold no branch in higher esteem than the merchant marine."

Lt. Gen. Alexander Vandegrift, U.S. Marine Corps Commandant, said "the men and ships of the merchant marine have participated in every operation by the Marine Corps from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima and we know they will be at hand with supplies and equipment when American amphibious forces hit the beaches of Japan itself!!."

After the Japanese surrender, while action by Japanese units continued in various areas throughout the Pacific, the U.S. merchant marine was given the job of transporting the surrendered armies back to Japan.

The merchant marines also had to return the tired, wounded, and dead U.S. troops home and to bring replacement forces and supplies for the Occupation. Arms and bombs had to be returned to the U.S. After VJ Day, 49 U.S. merchant ships were sunk or damaged with at least 7 mariners



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that might be different from the last time but still be meaningful.

Since we are here today to honor & celebrate ALL our veterans, I would like to speak about a group that was for far too long left out, the American Merchant Mariner in WWII & why they are also veterans!!

The merchant mariner is a profes-

please see **marines** on page 13

'You're up Jeannette'

On an evening not long ago my wife and I were the guests of a dear friend and her sister who invited us to dinner. Joining us were two other couples with whom we've had many experiences over the years. This was the first time we'd been together for

vodka," brought a retelling of the magical evening many years ago when we hosted a foreign delegation and served them a traditional Thanksgiving dinner even though it was January. We laughed at the many challenges associated with putting that dinner on. And some at the table yet again "chastised" me for coming up with the idea in the first place. This story has been told so many times now that we all know our cues when to chime in.

Shortly thereafter, the Bronx Storyteller geared

up and regaled us yet again with some stories we've heard before and many we had not. It's a rare gift to be able to capture an audience with words and phrasing. The Bronx Storyteller is so gifted and did not disappoint. He had us laughing at times that at one point my friend at the other end of the table told his wife, "my sides hurt." He spoke for all of us.

The Bronxster regaled us with one youthful adventure that included a drive-in movie theater, a film with the rather racy title, "Nude in a White Car" (it was French) and watermelon. I could not do my friend or his story justice trying to tie those elements together in this space. You'll just have to believe me that it was a great story.

The funniest line of the evening was one that to anyone reading this won't understand. But trust me, when the Bronxster turned and said, "You're up Jeannette," the assembled group lost all remaining composure and did all it could not to fall on the floor in hysterics.

It's a nice experience to have connections with people around whom you can be yourself. And once again it was because of our hostess that we were together.

It was once asked of one of the guests that evening what his definition of fine dining was. Without missing a beat he said sitting at the table of our hostess. That statement was true when it was first offered years ago and it was certainly true the other evening.

Our hostess went out of her way to make us all feel comfortable and at home, something we've always felt crossing her threshold. It's my hope that after we left she felt just as good for having hosted us.



It's All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

dinner since our hostess' husband passed away earlier this year. Admittedly my wife and I were sensitive to the possibility that the dynamic of the evening would not be like it had once been because of this fact. Our concerns dissolved as soon as we walked through the door. We should have known as much.

When we first arrived our hostess was showing our friends who had arrived before us, a quilt made of her husband's favorite shirts. It was a beautiful remembrance that her thoughtful granddaughter had had done. The patterns and pictures emblazoned on the shirts our friend once wore brought back memories. It was a nice moment.

Once back in the kitchen where the adult beverages were available, it was like old times. What made it so was that we shared stories (the funny ones) about our departed friend and carried on as if he were with us. I think in a way he was. Because of the sheer grace, genuineness and absolute unaffected style of our hostess, a routine refined over the years was the rule of the evening: eating drinking, irreverence, storytelling and laughter.

Our friend is talented partygiver who, on this occasion, once again pulled out all the stops to make us feel welcome. From the appetizers to the main meal to the dessert, everything was a ten. I hope she got as much enjoyment from the preparation as we did in the partaking.

The mix of people at the table ensured there were no conversation lulls. As is always the case when this group gets together there were references to shared experiences. The question, "Bob, do you have any



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Santa to appear at Ocean Pines events

Despite the area's beach location and relatively mild temperatures,



Santa Claus and his posse will make appearances at several Ocean Pines events. Local children and adult be-

lievers are encouraged to attend.

Santa will begin his visit to

Ocean Pines with "Breakfast with Santa Claus & Friends" on Saturday, December 5 from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center, located at 235 Ocean Parkway. The entire family can enjoy breakfast and take a picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The cost is free for children ages 3 and under, \$4 for children ages 4-10 and \$6 for ages 11 and up. Attendees are encouraged to bring an unwrapped, new gift or nonperishable food item for local families in need.

The Reindeer Lane Gift Shop, also held on December 5 from 8

a.m. to 11 a.m. at the community center, is a holiday "store" where children ages 12 and under will be able to purchase gifts for family and friends. Items for children and adults, all nominally priced, will be available. Donations for the shop are also being accepted.

Following these events, Santa will be visiting with children weekly in White Horse Park, located across from the community center. He will be available for lap-sitting, pictures and wish lists every Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. starting Sunday, December 6 until Sunday, December 20. There is no charge for this Santa experience.

Santa will wrap up his stay by donning swim trunks and flip-flops at the 8th annual "Swim with Santa" on Saturday, December 12 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sports Core Pool, located at 11143 Cathell Road. The fee is \$6 for swimmers and \$3 for non-swimmers. Donations of food and unwrapped toys will also be accepted on behalf of the Worcester County Sheriff Department's "Christmas for the Needy" program.

All of these events are open to the public. For more information, call the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department at 410-641-7052.

Home Scripts Pharmacy now open in Pines

Peninsula Regional Medical Center has officially opened the new PRMC Home Scripts community pharmacy at the Delmarva Health Pavilion off Route 589 near the North Gate of Ocean Pines.

The pharmacy is open Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and offers prescription medications as well as over-the-counter products. They can be reached at 410-543-4769.

Peninsula Regional Medical Center first launched PRMC Home Scripts to serve patients being discharged from the Medical Center and to prescriptions for staff on the PRMC health plan. The new PRMC

Home Scripts Ocean Pines, along with a Millsboro location, brings PRMC Home Scripts' attention to prompt prescription fills and exceptional customer service closer to the community.

The opening means that people who visit Peninsula Regional Family Medicine Ocean Pines will have a convenient location to fill prescriptions given to them by their family doctor. Joining Home Scripts at the Delmarva Health Pavilion Ocean Pines are PRMC FamilyLab, Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation and the Junior Board's Pines Café.



Local Sons of Italy member Honored

Sons of Italy (SOI) members, from Lodge #2474 in Ocean City, attended the Son's of Italy Columbus Day Gala at the Valley Mansion in Hunt Valley, Maryland. They saw their president receive the National American Award for the Outstanding Member of Sons of Italy on Saturday, October 31.

(L-R) **Armando Graziosi**, past president of SOI and his wife **Barbara**, **Vito Potenza**, vice president of SOI and his wife **Donna**, **Joan DeMarco** SOI treasurer, **Mary Ellen Arena**, SOI social chair and her husband **Bob Arena**. (388) Sons of Italy Grand Lodge of Maryland State President Francis Cipriotti presented the highest award to Salvador "Sal" Castorina. It's awarded to the person showing extraordinary service benefiting their community and charitable causes in the state.



Making Sense(s) - Buckingham Elementary students **Meet Patel**, **Levi McDaniel**, **Keira Budd** and **Layla Evans** in Mrs. Mitrecic's Pre-K class participated in a sensory investigation. Students explored how their sense of smell affects their sense of taste as part of their Five Senses unit. In this photo students are using Now and Later candies in their investigation.

Recognition

The Commissioners present proclamations to representatives from three area Native American tribes recognizing November as Native American Heritage Month and November 27 as Native American Heritage Day. Those pictured include **John Looking Fox Baldwin** (front row); **Sandi Turtle Foot Ennis** (second row, from left), **Diane Singing Fire Wolf Woman Baldwin**, **Beverly Little Hawk Council** and **Clarence Long Wolf Tyler**; **Kaitlyn Ennis** (third row, from left) and **Mary Little Deer Hall**; **Vivian Spirit of the Butterfly Tyler** (fourth row, from left), Commissioner **Diana Purnell** and **Mike Fierce Arrow Hinmon**; and Commissioners **Ted Elder** (fifth row, from left), **Chip Bertino**, **Bud Church**, **Jim Bunting** and **Joe Mitrecic**. The Commissioners recognize the efforts of the three tribes to share their rich heritage and culture with school-age children and adults alike through volunteer outreach programs in Worcester County. Commissioner Purnell advised that she is part Native American and expressed the importance of knowing family history.



*I Love to Cook!**by Bev Wisch*

Christmas is for children and baking together makes lasting memories. I remember baking with my own children and grandchildren, and grandmothers loved to cook with us. My great grand girls now are my baking buddies. They are Riley (age 8), Savannah (age 6) and Madeline (age 4). (See their picture on the front page).

One thing they love to do is roll out the dough. It gets rolled and rolled. Sifting flour is fun for kids to do too and of course they take turns stirring and stirring.

We bake sugar and ginger cookies and then decorate them. I have found the little tubes of icing from the grocery store or Michaels are easier for them to handle than the larger tubes. They can be so creative. Simple 10X sugar, butter and water or almond extract make an easy icing for them as well. Gather toppings for them to add to iced cookies...mini chocolate chips, sprinkles of red, green and mixed colors, red cinnamon candies, mini marshmallows, mini M & M's, etc. Be creative!

Gingerbread

2-1/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour
 1/2 cup sugar
 1/2 cup shortening
 1/2 cup light molasses
 1 egg
 1 t. cinnamon
 1 t. baking powder
 1 t. ginger
 1 t. cloves
 1/2 t. nutmeg
 1/2 t. baking soda
 1/2 t. salt

Combine all ingredients in mixer.

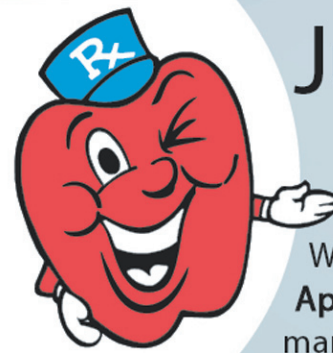
Refrigerate one hour. Roll out 1/8 inch thick. Place 1/2 inch apart on cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for about 8 minutes. Decorate when cool.

Crisp Sugar Cookies

2 sticks butter
 1 cup sugar
 2 eggs
 1 t. vanilla
 3 cups sifted flour
 4 t. baking powder
 1/4 t. salt

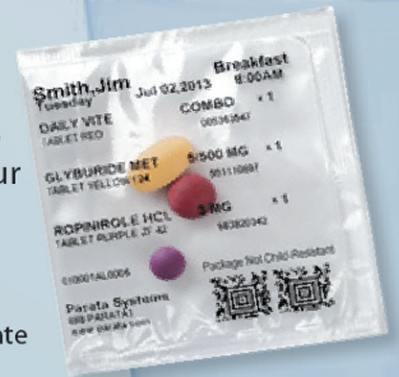
Cream butter and sugar, add rest of ingredients. Chill, roll out and cut out. Place on lightly greased cookie sheet (or parchment paper) and bake at 375 degrees for 5-7 minutes. (Do not double – make each single recipe and use only real butter.)

Note: I repeat this recipe every year as the readers request this one. It is the best.



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Achievement - Congratulations go out to newly certified Worcester County Jail Correctional Officers Nicholas Jones, Alecia Lawrence and Christina Collins who graduated from the Wor-Wic Community College's Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy Correctional Entry Level Training Program with above 90% accumulative test scores. Pictured are **Jones** (from left), **Lawrence**, Warden Garry Mumford, and **Collins**.



Anniversary - State and county government officials from Worcester and Somerset counties help celebrate the 40th anniversary of Wor-Wic Community College at the recent Founder's Day event at the college. Shown from left are **Jim Bunting**, president of the Worcester County Commissioners; **Diana Purnell** and **Chip Bertino**, members of the Worcester County Commissioners; **Mary Beth Carozza**, R-38C; and **Charles Otto**, R-38A.

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Tunis named a High School Heisman finalist

Worcester Preparatory School (WPS) senior Grace Tunis has been named a Maryland Finalist in the 2015 National Wendy's High School Heisman Program. This prestigious national award program selects the best student-athletes who exemplify the Heisman ideals. Each state finalist will receive a bronze medal, a Wendy's High School Heisman State Finalist patch and a \$25 Wendy's gift card. The Wendy's High School Heisman Program has recognized exceptional student athletes for more than two decades. The program continues to provide a platform where students are acknowledged and rewarded for their hard work and also inspired to continue their success.



Grace Tunis

Berlin resident, Grace Tunis, was selected as a 2015 state finalist due to her success in academics, athletics and leadership in the following areas: National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student, Cum Laude Society, National Honor Society, The George Washington University School of Engineering Mathematics and Applied Science Medal, Spanish National Honor Society, WPS best all-round

student grades 9 through 11, WPS highest academic average grades 9 through 11, US lacrosse academic all-American grade 11, varsity soccer, varsity basketball, varsity lacrosse, chorus/ensemble member, yearbook editor in chief, co-president of Worcester volunteers, class secretary grades 10, 11 and 12 and class treasurer grade 9.

agh
from page 3

blocks and spinal intervention procedures in addition to medical management. Over the next year, the program will expand to include behavioral health as well as complimentary services, providing a holistic approach to the treatment of pain.

"With the therapies that are now available in the field of pain intervention, there is hope for individuals suf-

fering with chronic pain," said Dr. Zaky. "I look forward to working with patients here on Delmarva to help alleviate the pain they may be struggling with."

In addition to administering pain blocks and performing minimally-invasive procedures, Zaky is the only physician on the Eastern Shore with expertise in advanced neuro modulation, which involves stimulation of the spine to relieve pain in various parts of the body. With one therapy, high-frequency modulation, the patient cannot detect the stimulation and the therapy can relieve pain for some individuals for whom lower frequency therapy was ineffective. Another modality is selective nerve root modulation.

These therapies are used to alleviate pain caused by a number of conditions, including neuropathy and peripheral nerve damage from diabetes, degenerative disc disease, neck and back pain as well as persistent pain after surgery.

Physiian referrals can be made by calling 410-641-3340.

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Entertainment - Delmarva Chorus entertained at The Parke Harvest Dinner on November 18. The chorus will host a holiday music sing-along on December 7 at 7 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Homemade holiday desserts will be served.

Service dog volunteers needed

Service dogs provide invaluable support and assistance to people who require their services. These dogs may help guide the blind or provide emotional therapy to adults and children. Some service dogs even perform tasks around the house for people with mobility issues.

Puppies trained for service work start out as bubbly animals just like any young dog. However, they will require additional obedience work and specialized training in preparation for their future duties.

Service animals are in high demand, and many organizations reach out to volunteers to help foster pups who will go on to provide help to people in need. This usually occurs when the dog is between one and two years old.

Organizations like Canine Partners of the Rockies in Colorado and Susquehanna Service Dogs in Pennsylvania often place service dog puppies in homes. They may have a few dozen receiving care and training by fostering families at any given time. Anyone who has a love for animals can volunteer, and many such volunteers benefit from the knowledge that they helped contribute to the development of dogs that will go on to do so much good.

To decide if raising service dogs is something you want to do, consider the following information.

-Puppies will need a secure environment, so homes with fenced yards that are free from hazards are ideal. Much as you would baby-proof a home, you will need to puppy-proof it, too. Puppies are curious and can get

into mischief if not supervised.

-Empty nesters may be drawn to service dog training because they find they have more time on their hands than they did when children were still in the house. Puppies will need a lot of attention to be well-rounded service dogs, and they will also need to be put into different environments to learn how to behave. Such situations may be easier to arrange in homes with fewer residents.

-Service dogs will need to have impeccable manners; therefore, you will have to enforce rules around the house that may run lax with a regular pet dog. These dogs must not jump on the furniture or other people. They will need to respond to commands well,

*please see **dogs** on page 11*

Community scholarship offered

Chesapeake Women's Network (CWN) is proud to announce their community scholarship program for Eastern Shore women seeking career advancement through further educational and enrichment opportunities.

The CWN Coastal Chapter Scholarship Committee was established to award scholarship assistance to deserving women seeking opportunities like post-undergraduate courses, specialized degree of study, required certifications, enrichment programs, and others.

Scholarships will be awarded on a continuous, as needed, basis. Applications will be reviewed every 90 days. The

application is found on CWN's website, <http://www.cwncoastal.org/scholarships.html>. Questions/Completed applications may be directed to the Committee for consideration at: scholarship@cwncoastal.org

The purpose of CWN is to facilitate personal enrichment and professional growth through communication, support and the stimulation of business opportunities for professional women in the Chesapeake Maryland regional community. The CWN wants to encourage women seeking career advancement to submit an application for these scholarships.

Exhibit winners named

The Worcester County Arts Council is pleased to announce winners in the juried art exhibit themed "Small Wonders." This exhibition features 46 pieces of artwork submitted by 31 professional or amateur artists with work in all media.

Although the subject of this show was open to artist's individual inspiration and interpretation, the main objective was to encourage and challenge artists to become involved in the exciting world of miniature art.

The guidelines required works to not exceed 7 inches for 3-dimensional works and 11 inches for 2-dimensional works. Despite the size limitation, artists submitted works that incorporate a diverse range of materials to communicate this thoughtful concept.

This exhibition combines many mediums including oil, watercolor, and acrylic painting, drawing, pastels, photography,

mixed media, fiber art, as well as glass and ceramic sculptures. The winning artwork was selected by an accomplished local artist, Martha Graham. The winners were honored at the opening reception held on November 13 at the Arts Council Gallery.

Janet Trimper won first prize for her watercolor painting, "Surfaces." Mitzi Ash placed second for her hand-painted silk "Harmony," and Joan Stockman won third prize for her pen and ink painting "Swans." An honorable mention awards were given to Priscilla Zytowicz for the photograph of "The Serpent," Karen Dimasio for the colored pencil drawing "Sight", and Peggy Warfield for her acrylic painting of "Tidal Pool."

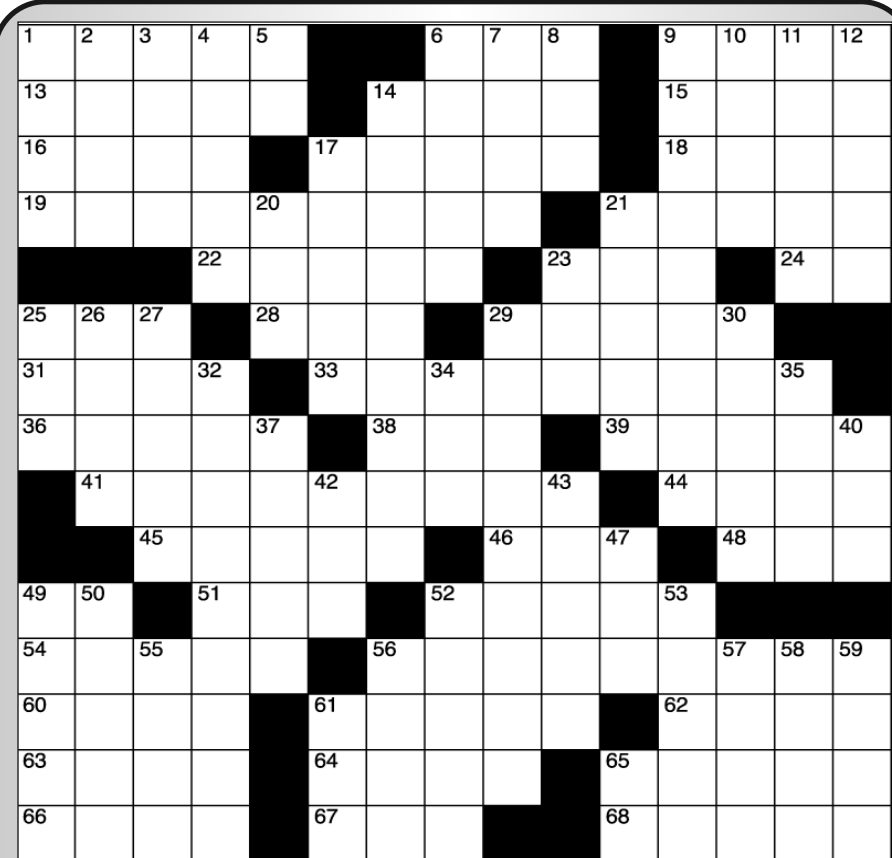
The exhibit will continue to be on display until December 31. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday by chance.

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ACROSS

- 1. Russian rulers (alt. sp.)
- 6. Swedish krona
- 9. Apothecaries' unit
- 13. MN 55121
- 14. Longer forearm bone
- 15. Prosperous state of well-being
- 16. Largest Czech city (alt. sp.)
- 17. Moss genus larger than Bryum
- 18. ____ Marie Presley
- 19. White native of Cape Province
- 21. Took the same position
- 22. About Sun
- 23. Respectful (abbr.)
- 24. Southeast
- 25. Rocket launching platform
- 28. Stake
- 29. Innermost parts
- 31. Bowfin genus
- 33. Past it's prime
- 36. Valleys on moon
- 38. Cheer
- 39. Abrupt response
- 41. Leave in disgrace
- 44. Israeli politi-

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- 36. Valleys on moon
- 38. Cheer
- 39. Abrupt response
- 41. Leave in disgrace
- 44. Israeli politi-

DOWN

- 1. Used for insect sterilization
- 2. Arabian coffee cup
- 3. Culture medium & a food gelling agent
- 4. Finger millets
- 5. Tin
- 6. More guileful
- 7. Tree gnarl

- 8. Force into place
- 9. Drawn
- 10. Sudden attack
- 11. Donkeys
- 12. George Gordon ____
- 14. Behaving in an artificial way
- 17. Moundbird
- 20. Orange-brown antelope
- 21. Flocks of mallards
- 23. Hall of Fame (abbr.)
- 25. Golf score
- 26. Friends (French)
- 27. Pickling herbs
- 29. In a way, dwelt
- 30. Pierces forcefully
- 32. Estranges
- 34. Shooting marble
- 35. Amounts of

- time
- 37. Register formally
- 40. Explosive
- 42. Kanza people, ____ Nation
- 43. Symbolize Shakti
- 47. Burdock seed vessel
- 49. Wild sheep of central Asia
- 50. Am. naturalist Charles Wm.
- 52. A fencing sword
- 53. Romanian city straddling the Cibin River
- 55. Small talks
- 56. Not well
- 57. Astronomer Sagan
- 58. Overgarments
- 59. Twist together
- 61. Radioactivity unit
- 65. Double play



Answers for Nov 25

Eyes on the Skies

Extrasolar Planets

By Douglas Hemmick, Ph.D.

The month of December might not offer comfortable temperatures, but bundling up for a stargazing session should be rewarding. The winter constellations begin to make their appearances as Taurus the Bull and Orion the Hunter enter the stage.

This month's column will focus on the "extrasolar planets." For generations stargazers have wondered whether the stars might host their own orbiting planets and possibly even life and intelligence. Discoveries over the last 20 years in the modern era of astronomy have, at last, produced exciting answers.

The first extrasolar (or exoplanet) discovery came in October, 1995 by Swiss astronomers Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz of the University of Geneva. Within weeks astronomers at the Lick Observatory in California confirmed the initial finding. New discoveries then began flooding in with as many as ten new exoplanets per month.

Geoffrey Marcy was the astronomer who led California's team in confirming the Mayor and Queloz discovery. Marcy went on to discover more extrasolar planets than anyone else in the world. In 2005, Marcy and Mayor shared a \$1 million award, the Shaw Prize in Astronomy, in recognition of their accomplishments.

Over the decades, astronomers have followed the same technique as utilized by both the Marcy and Mayor teams in searching for exoplanets - by observing and analyzing the movements of their host stars. If a given star is observed to wobble, i.e., to move about with some particular frequency, astronomers can deduce properties of an exoplanet orbiting the star.



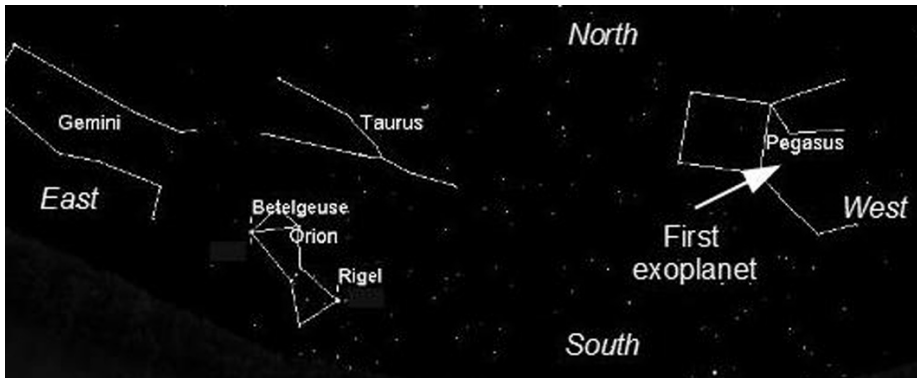
Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz

Next came the development of a technique known as the "transit method." Transits occur when a planet traverses a star, blocking part of its light from view, in a manner reminiscent of a solar eclipse. Sensitive instruments can monitor the light of individual stars being alert to small variations that may occur from a transit.

Transits occur when a planet traverses a star, blocking part of its light from view, in a manner reminiscent of a solar eclipse. Sensitive instruments can monitor the light of individual stars being alert to small variations that may occur from a transit.

please see **eyes** on page 11

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., November 26	7:15 a.m. 7:34 p.m.	12:53 a.m. 1:43 p.m.	6:53 a.m.	4:42 p.m.
Fri., November 27	8:05 a.m. 8:25 p.m.	1:42 a.m. 2:33 p.m.	6:54 a.m.	4:42 p.m.
Sat., November 28	8:54 a.m. 9:15 p.m.	2:30 a.m. 3:23 p.m.	6:55 a.m.	4:41 p.m.
Sun., November 29	9:42 a.m. 10:03 p.m.	3:19 a.m. 4:13 p.m.	6:56 a.m.	4:41 p.m.
Mon., November 30	10:30 a.m. 10:54 p.m.	4:10 a.m. 5:04 p.m.	6:57 a.m.	4:41 p.m.
Tues., December 1	11:19 a.m. 11:46 p.m.	5:03 a.m. 5:56 p.m.	6:58 a.m.	4:40 p.m.
Wed., December 2	12:10 p.m.	5:58 a.m. 6:46 p.m.	6:59 a.m.	4:40 p.m.



eyes
from page 10

siting exoplanet. This method is also called Transit Photometry.

In 2009 NASA launched its Kepler Space Telescope, an instrument capable of detecting exoplanets of any size including those as small as the Earth. Kepler operates by keeping its field of view fixed upon a region of the Milky Way containing about 150,000 stars. Its photometric instrument continually monitors the brightness of each star in this field, being alert to small variations. The space telescope reports such variations to Earthbound astronomers as a "candidate planet," meaning that the observed decrease in starlight may be due to an exoplanet transiting its host star.

These candidate planets must then be verified by collaborating telescopes on Earth, including the five-meter Hale Telescope of Mount Palomar as well as the Keck Telescopes of Hawaii. Hale has been particularly helpful in confirming the so-called "Hot Jupiters," - large, gaseous and very hot planets, orbiting very close to their host stars. Hobbyists may know that the first exoplanet found by Mayor and Queloz is a "Hot Jupiter," located in the Great Square of Pegasus.

The Keck Observatory is equipped with a precision instrument known as the HIRES, (High Resolution Echelle Spectrometer) which allows their large telescopes to confirm even the relatively small Earth-like planets.

Kepler has now collected more than 4000 so-called strong candidates, as well as 800 confirmed extrasolar planets of various sizes. Currently there are 31 exoplanets discovered by the Kepler team approximating the size of the Earth and deemed potentially habitable. A measure of habitability looks for exoplanets located in their star's "Goldilocks zone" - not so close to be too hot and not so distant to be too cold to host liquid water.

For stargazers who step outside this December, the early evening will feature the Great Square of Pegasus. As the sky first becomes dark enough, at about 5:30 p.m., the Great Square can be seen high overhead and slightly to the east. After 7 p.m. Taurus the Bull, with its characteristic "V" shape, will come into view over the eastern horizon. After 9 p.m. Orion the Hunter will appear in the east, followed by Gemini the Twins to his northeast.

A good meteor shower, appearing in the constellation Gemini helps to finish 2015 with a flourish. The Geminid meteor shower should be very prolific, showing as many as 60 meteors (shooting stars) per hour. The shower occurs between December 10 and 16 and reaches maximum activity on the night of the 13th to the 14th and on the night of the 14th to 15th. The shower should be visible any time after about 10:30 p.m.

Keeping warm - The Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County recently donated 30 lap blankets to Coastal Hospice to warm the patients in their care. Shown are **Eileen Larson** and **Ann Augustine** of the Democratic Women's Club, and **Elaine Bean**, community relations manager at Coastal Hospice.



dogs
from page 9

and they should not be encouraged to chase as part of play.

-Puppies will need to be handled regularly and grow accustomed to grooming and touching. Because they will go into stores and other places regular dogs will not, a neat and clean appearance is a must.

-Socializing the puppy may include taking him or her out in public to stores, on mass transit, to parks, and even to schools. The more situations these puppies experience, the more easily they will adapt to adverse environments when they become full-time service dogs.

When fostering a service animal, remember that they are not pets and they will eventually need to leave your home. Separations can be difficult, but you can rest assured that the dog will help provide a full life to a worthy owner. Plus, if you get lonely, you can volunteer to train a new puppy for the service organization.



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Chanukah foods steeped in tradition

Chanukah, which roughly translates to “dedication” or “induction,” is a Jewish holiday celebrated each year in November and/or December, depending on the Jewish calendar. This year it begins on Monday, December 7. Although it may not hold the same level of spiritual significance as some other holidays of the religion, Chanukah is a highly anticipated and popular holiday among people who practice Judaism.

Two miracles are celebrated on Chanukah. One of them is a victory by a small number of Jews known as the Maccabees, who defeated the Greek army occupying the Holy Land. The other miracle occurred when the Maccabees liberated their Temple from the Greeks. They only discovered a single night’s worth of oil to light the menorah. However, that oil managed to burn for eight days and nights.

Chanukah celebrations include various traditions that commemorate these miracles. Many celebrations focus around food and fun. It is com-

mon to find similar foods in Jewish households during the eight days of Chanukah. Here is a look at some of the more common foods and their significance.

-Latkes: Latkes have different names among the sects of Judaism, but they are essentially fried potato

pancakes. Different fried foods, like latkes, are eaten during Chanukah to honor the miracle of the oil that burned for eight days. Other fried foods include jelly-filled doughnuts called “sufganiyot.”

-Loukoumades: These deep-fried puffs dipped in honey or sugar, are treats used to represent the cake eaten by the Maccabees.

-Dairy: Dairy was not always included in Chanukah traditions, but cheese, blintzes and cheesecakes emerged to symbolize the story of Judith. Legend says Judith was a beautiful woman who saved her village from attacking Babylonians. Judith was able to enter the enemy camp

thanks to her beauty, charm and a basket of wine and cheese she brought along. She fed the enemy general, Holofernes, who consumed lots of salty cheese and wine and passed out. Judith killed the general, and the Babylonians left shortly thereafter.

-Brisket and tongue: Although these foods are not tied to a particular Chanukah story, they have grown quite popular as traditional Chanukah meals. Beef brisket pairs well with potato latkes, and beef or

veal tongue also may be served.

-Kugel: Potatoes are often baked, along with other hearty vegetables, into casseroles called “kugels.”

-Challah: Challah is a leavened bread traditionally baked and served on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays. The braided white bread is both attractive to look at and tasty to eat.

Food plays a big role in many Chanukah traditions, as there are various delicious dishes steeped in historical significance.



Showell “K-Kids” Club receives their bell



The “K-Kids” Club, a Kiwanis student club, received their bell used to open and close meetings just like the sponsoring parent Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City. The club was formed during the 2014 -2015 school year when teacher Evy Collins became the adviser to the club. She and the Kiwanis liaison, Jackie Todd, have been helping these elementary school students learn how to be leaders and to do community service.

Pictured (L-R) are Kiwanis Club President Mark Joseph and Jackie Todd with the K-Kids bell at the parent club meeting. Later that day at Showell Elementary School, immediate past President Carolyn Dryzga and Jackie Todd presented the bell to the club. Now everything is official, so “ring that bell” K-Kids and keep up the good work.

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Community Calendar

When submitting items for the calendar please include the event name, date, where held, time and a little about the event. Items being considered for the calendar need to be in by noon on Friday. E-mail to thecourier@delmarvacourier.com

Mondays

Ocean Pines Poker Club

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

Open every Monday through October: **Historic St. Martin's Church Museum.** 1-4 pm. 11413 Worcester Highway, Showell, MD. For more information, call 410-251-2849

Sweet Adelines

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

Mon. & Tues.

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

Mon., Wed. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

OC Baptist Church's Thrift Shop by Seaside Christian Academy behind White Marlin Mall open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat. Call 410-251-6971.

Tuesdays

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.

Take off Pounds Sensibly

Meeting. Berlin group No. 331, Worcester County Health Center 9730 Healthway Dr., Berlin, 5:30-7:00 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly on Tuesdays. Info: jean-duck47@gmail.com

Tuesdaysand Thursdays

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.

Wednesdays

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@delmarvahanddancing.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.

Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat.

Church Thrift Shop

The Shepherd's Nook at Community Church at Ocean Pines is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 410-641-5433.

Diakonia Thrift Shop

'Used to be Mine' offers clothing, furniture, household items and more. Proceeds benefit Diakonia shelter and pantry. Located at Rte. 611 and Sunset Ave. Open 10 - 4. Call 410-213-0243.

Thursdays

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.

Fridays

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.

Sundays

Sunday Night Serenity **Al-Anon Family Group** 7:30 p.m. at The Woodlands/Independent Living Apt. Bldg. 1135 Ocean Parkway-Ocean Pines, Md. 21811

Third Sunday

Sharing Sunday

Bring non-perishable groceries and paper goods to the Ocean Pines southside fire hall 1 -3 p.m. to benefit local food banks.

Third Monday

Democratic Women

The Democratic Women meet 9:30 a.m. for coffee followed by a meeting at 10 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Guests and new members are welcome.

Third Tuesday

Widows & Widowers Social Club.

Group meets in Ocean Pines at 1 p.m. for luncheon meeting. Call 410-208-1398.

Third Wednesday

Survivors of Suicide Meeting

Starts at 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health Department. 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Quiet listening, caring people, no judgment. For more information, call 410-629-0164 or visit www.choosetolivemaryland.org.

Fourth Wednesday

Marine Corps League

First State Detachment Marine Corps League raises funds for a variety of charities and meets at 7 p.m. in VFW Post 8296, 66th St. Ocean City. Open to all fellow Marines and FMF Corpsmen. Visit www.firststatemarines.org.

marines

from page 4

killed and 30 more wounded.

There were three major groups that represented the U.S. in WWII. Our fighting forces overseas, our production forces at home and the Merchant Marine, the link between them. Each force was dependent upon the other. During the war, President Roosevelt praised the role of the U.S. merchant marines as the "Fourth Arm of Defense"!

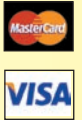
But after the war and after all the contributions of the merchant mariner to the war effort, the government didn't want to grant them veteran status! It wasn't until 1988, after a long legal battle in the Federal Courts was this wrong corrected, when the Judge ordered the government to grant veteran status to those merchant mariners who served our country during WWII!!

Now, as a part of our celebration today, we can include those men of the U.S. Merchant Marines who deserve our respect and honor for their service to our Country in WWII.

Thank you for your attendance here today and allowing me this honor and opportunity to speak about ALL our Veterans!!!

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Gift Shop celebrates anniversary

The Dazzle Gift Shop, located in Ocean Pines, opened one year ago to serve the needs of the Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Berlin, and surrounding communities. Joyce Landsman opened the gift shop and remains dedicated to providing customer service, affordable and useful gifts and gift baskets, and holiday décor. "I opened Dazzle so that people in the community don't have to travel to get things. I try to give people variety, quality, and good service," stated Landsman.

The Dazzle Gift Shop contains a variety of items including accessories, jewelry, gourmet foods and dips, baby items, and more. Customers are also given the option to select whichever items they like and have them put together in a gift basket. "We do gift bas-

kets to order, so nothing is really pre-made," Landsman said. "We will do whatever they want to put in it at any price they want, and the gift wrapping is complimentary." The beautiful gift wrapping is often considered a gift within itself due to the reactions on people's faces when they receive gifts from the Dazzle shop. Landsman claims her favorite part of running the business is making people happy.

To celebrate Dazzle's success over the past year, Dazzle and The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, December 4 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Tickets will also be given out from December 4 through 6 for drawings for gifts under Dazzle's tree.

Shirley Grace event is Saturday

Get ready for the holidays by attending the 2nd Annual, "A Night to Remember in December" on Saturday, December 5 at Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Ocean Pines. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

A donation of \$35 will get you an holiday buffet prepared by area local chefs, desserts, a night of dancing, a \$1,000 cash raffle ticket, 50/50, many Chinese Raffles baskets, some quality live auction items and many silent auction baskets with local hotels, restaurants, golf,



jewelry, and fabulous gift items for your Christmas shopping list. Non alcoholic beverages are included. There will be a cash bar.

Shirley Grace Pregnancy Center's mission is, "We seek to be a safe haven that advocates life affirming alternatives while equipping, educating and empowering parents in order to strengthen families in our community."

The vision is to build a world that supports all life. All proceeds go straight to helping the cause of making a positive difference in the lives of women, babies, and families. Call Patti Bulvin 443-513-4124 for information or tickets.

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