

WEST MAIN STREET GALLERY

GALLERY HOURS

WED-FRI

11A-3P

SOCOARTS.ORG



The hydrofoil *Hydrus* provides passenger service in San Francisco Bay. A request for proposals to study to see if a similar passenger ferry service could work in Chesapeake Bay is now being advertised with Crisfield among the first tier of participating ports.

Proposals wanted for study of bay passenger ferry service

Responses due Feb. 15

Crisfield-Somerset County Times

ANNAPOLIS — The anticipated notice of request for proposals to study the feasibility, costs and economic benefits of a Chesapeake Bay passenger ferry has been released with responses due by Feb. 15.

Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County Conference & Visitor Bureau Inc. leads a consortium with Somerset, Queen Anne's, Calvert and St. Mary's counties as they take the first step to see if it's feasible to connect bayside port communities with a fast, passenger ferry system.

During the late 19th century and into the early 20th century there were passenger steamships and medium-sized boats carrying mail, freight and passengers to connect waterfront towns and cities. The selected respondent to this RFP is being asked to study the sustainability of a passenger ferry service connecting key destinations including Annapolis, Galesville, Chesapeake Beach, St. Mary's City, Leonardtown, Crisfield, Matapeake, Kent Narrows, and Baltimore as primary destinations.

Secondary locations include Solomons, Cambridge, St. Michaels, Easton, Rock Hall, Chestertown, Chesapeake City, North East, Havre de Grace.

Currently, "significant travel by water" unless with a personal boat is "missing from the Chesapeake Bay

experience," say consortium members.

"A passenger ferry would build a greater connection to the Chesapeake Bay ecologically and to its communities allowing more people to access the waterway by residents and visitors alike." And with emphasis on a tourism component, such a ferry system "would put a greater emphasis on 'slow' travel and experiential travel, an approach to travel that emphasizes connection to local people, cultures, food, and music.

"It relies on the concept that a trip is meant to be the experience, and the journey is the time to educate and provide meaning and sense of place."

The study will examine in-water issues and access, routes, and "first and last mile" transit connections. It will also provide an estimate for capital and operating costs for vessels required to run a sustainable schedule based on ridership estimates.

Potential ferry dock sites are to be identified, which for Crisfield the current City Dock would likely be a suitable location.

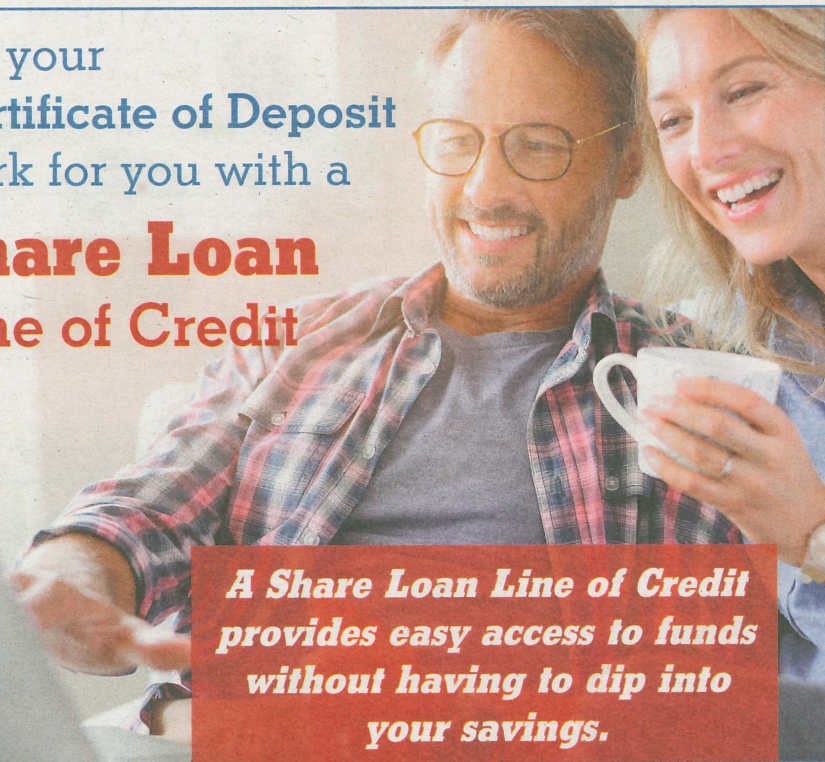
Funding for the study comes from a federal Economic Development Administration grant of \$125,000 with the consortium of participating jurisdictions providing an equivalent match.

Ten business days after proposals are received a contract is expected to be awarded with the final report due 120 days later.

See Fast Ferry — Page 17

Let your Certificate of Deposit work for you with a

Share Loan Line of Credit



A Share Loan Line of Credit provides easy access to funds without having to dip into your savings.

Loans are approved and settled generally within a couple of days.

Stop by or call today to talk with a deposit specialist.



www.firstshorefederal.com | 410-546-1101

We're proud to serve the residents of the Delmarva Peninsula since 1953.





For the Crisfield-Somerset County Times/Submitted

Newest asset

Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Station Crisfield check out their newest asset, a 27 ft. Special Purpose Shallow Water II (SPC-SWII) patrol boat that will be especially useful for search and rescue, maritime law enforcement and other operations required in shallow waters at low speeds.

Janes Island

Continued From Page 1

"In my world parks became very busy," she said. "We saw new visitors and new campers and it may have stuck!"

"People that didn't recreate outdoors have found a new passion."

On New Year's Day the park hosted a guided First Day Bike but morning fog may have kept participants away while others turned out to hike the White Tail Trail, which had been previously a ranger-guided walk on the first day of a new year.

The park includes 2900 acres of uplands, wetlands and sand beaches plus 30 miles of marked water trails. There are 105 camp sites, three full-service cabins, and the Daugherty Creek Lodge.

The marina includes 25 boat slips and it's adjacent to the park store and fish cleaning stations.

Last year there were 160 interpre-

tive programs drawing more than 2,300 participants and volunteer rangers and naturalists conducted 18 guided paddles. The park also hosts Somerset County seventh graders and Wicomico County sixth graders, and has a Junior Ranger program for ages 7-14.

This Saturday, Jan. 14, there is a build a bird feeder workshop for those who pre-register, providing a way to repurpose a plastic bottle and create a feeding station for birds.

A major event planned in late spring is the first annual Paddle Fest, which was to be held the first weekend in October last year but canceled due to weather. It is now set for the first weekend in June which coincides with National Trails Day. If that is a washout, it will be rescheduled for September.

Park day use hours are sunrise to sunset. For those interested in reservations for camping, a cabin or picnic pavilion visit <https://parkreservations.maryland.gov/> or call 410-968-1565.

Fast Ferry

Continued From Page 4

Passenger service between Crisfield and Smith and Tangier islands is one of the last remaining systems of its kind in Maryland especially after the Bay Bridge opened in 1952. In 1990 the *Chesapeake Flyer* started service between Baltimore and Rock Hall but never generated enough business and closed in 1994.

In 2007 a New Jersey-based company investigated the feasibility of a passenger and freight ferry using hovercraft with Crisfield one of the ports but no service was established.

Since then Annapolis officials discussed starting a service involving battery-powered ferries to connect the capital with regional venues but that too has not been established.

To see the RFP visit <https://ti-nurl.com/3fk4fyd2>.

NOTICE:

New Application(s) have been made by:

David Franklin Humphreys
(of 4 Anchor Drive, Crisfield, MD 21817) and
Vijaykumar Natubhai Patel

(of 114 Nina Lane, Fruitland, MD 21826)

On behalf of Shreegee, Inc.,
t/a Crisfield Oceanic

55 Richardson Avenue, Crisfield, MD 21817

For a Class "A" (B/W/L 7 Day Off Sale) License for the premises:
Shreegee, Inc.

t/a Crisfield Oceanic

55 Richardson Avenue

Crisfield, MD 21817

A hearing will be held on the applications at 7:00 p.m., followed by other matters brought before the Board on **Wednesday, January 18, 2023** at the Somerset County Office Complex, County Commissioners Meeting Room, Room 111, 11916 Somerset Avenue, Princess Anne, Maryland 21853. **All those that wish to be heard should be at the hearing.**

BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY

DALE MAGINNIS, CLERK

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(844) 733-7224

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* – A \$695 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

GENERAC®

