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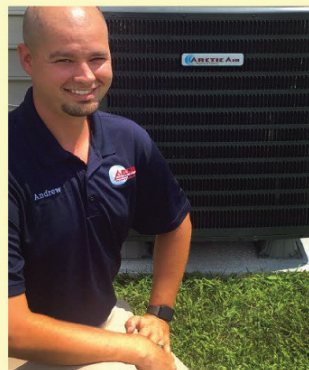
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Election Day 2018: Who's running and where you can vote

By Rachel Ravina

Staff Writer

(Nov. 1, 2018) Election Day: it's less than one week away.

Voters will head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 6 to cast ballots for the representative of their choosing in several elections, including Worcester County Commissioners, Maryland House of Delegates and Maryland State Senate.

Democratic Sen. Jim Mathias has competition from District 38C Del. Mary Beth Carozza, a Republican, for the District 38 Senate seat.

In local delegate races, Del. Charles James Otto, a Republican, is running against Democratic challenger Kirkland J. Hall, Sr. in the race for District 38A. Ocean City Councilman Wayne Hartman is vying for the 38C seat, but has some competition against write-in candidate Ed Tinus. Both are Republicans.

Four seats are up for grabs on the Worcester County Commissioners, with all of the incumbents on the Republican side and all of the challengers representing Democrats.

Incumbent Commissioner Merrill Lockfaw and his opponent Joshua Nordstrom are vying for the District 1 seat.

District 2 Commissioner Diana Purnell is running unopposed.

Berlin Town Councilman Zackery Tyndall is challenging Commissioner Bud Church for the District 3 seat.

Commissioner Ted Elder and former commissioner Virgil Shockley are vying for the District 4 seat.

Current Commissioner Chip Bertino and retired laboratory scientist Judy Butler are facing off in the race for the District 5 seat.

District 6 Commissioner Madison "Jim" Bunting and District 7 Commissioner Joseph Mitrecic are each running unopposed.

This election cycle's referendum question asks voters whether they are for or against a constitutional amendment for funding as "the State Constitution currently authorizes video lottery operation licenses for the primary purpose of raising money for public education."

Another question asks voters whether they are for or against same-day voter registration at polling places on Election Day.

Early voting was scheduled from Oct. 25 to Nov. 1.

On Election Day, polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Find your designated polling place by visiting the Maryland State Board of Elections' website at <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/Polling-PlaceSearch>.

District/precinct 1-1: Pocomoke Community Center, 1410 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD 21851. Call the center at 410-957-4200 for more information.

District/precinct 1-2: First Baptist Church, 5912 Taylor Landing Road,


See POLLING Page 17



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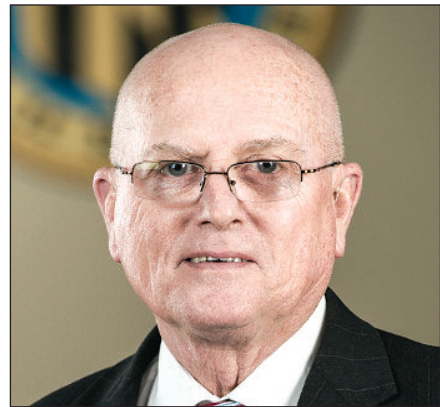
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ELECTION 2018 CANDIDATE PROFILES

Candidates running for contested seats in Worcester County provide information about their campaign platforms in the following profiles:

By Rachel Ravina
Staff Writer

County Commissioners
District 1



MERRIL LOCKFAW
(Nov. 1, 2018) Worcester County has been good to District 1 County Commissioner and lifelong resident, 70-year-old Merrill Lockfaw.
“It’s been very enjoyable working with the people, not just in District 1 but throughout the county, and I feel dedicated ... the county has given me an awful lot,” Lockfaw said. “I’ve made a good living, raised a family here and wanted to give something back.”
“I see some things that maybe I could help make some changes in and improve, so for the last eight years I’ve been a commissioner for District 1, down here on the south end of the county,” Lockfaw said.
Throughout Lockfaw’s tenure as one

of seven commissioners, he said he’s worked to help create an afterschool program in Pocomoke, bring lights to the Pocomoke Bridge and make a Girdletree crabbing pier handicapped-accessible.
Lockfaw, who’s running as a Republican, said he’s also worked with the other commissioners to build schools and libraries during his time in office.
“We’ve tried to streamline government and cut expenses wherever we could,” Lockfaw said.
He said he past experiences with agriculture, business management and budgeting makes him fit for the position. If reelected, he said he’d continue to work to bring such initiatives about.
As former fire chief, Lockfaw sees the importance of finding funds for the area’s volunteer fire companies, and stressed the need to address a shortage of first responders.
“That is something that I see dwindling, and I think that we need to try [to] ... generate more interest in that type of vocation,” he said.
Although agriculture, tourism and education are important to District 1, Lockfaw thinks there’s room for another entry on the list: aquaculture.
“I think that it’s something that could be vital to us in the future,” Lockfaw said. “I think that sometimes because of a shortage ... that you have to find a new way to fill in those shortages and that’s an area that I think is new to this area.”

Lockfaw mentioned how vineyards could benefit within the county’s landscape and bring the beer and wine industries to the area.
He acknowledged the importance of Ocean City’s economy, but thinks there should be more countywide growth.
“I would like to see some of it come to the south end of the county,” he said. “We need growth desperately on the south end, whether it be industrial or some form of tourism.”
Lockfaw emphasized the need to upgrade the infrastructure — especially high-speed internet — to accommodate that growth in the southern end of the county. In addition, he believes a well-trained workforce is vital to any economic expansion.
“We really need to work with WorWic Community College, the technical schools, because if you’re going to build an area, or develop an area, you’ve got to have skilled labor,” Lockfaw said.
Wallops Flight Facility is located across the state line in Virginia, but is just a 20-minute drive from Pocomoke City.
“Also, I think we’re going to work more closely with NASA and try to get maybe some industry through them located on the south end of the county,” Lockfaw said.
Lockfaw said if reelected, he’d continue working with county officials responsible for economic development, as well as elected leaders at the state level to bring economic prosperity to

the county.
“We need to let them know that we want business to come to Worcester County,” Lockfaw said. That we’re willing to do our part to maybe create some type of initiative to bring them here ... and we’re willing in any way to try to encourage that.”



JOSH NORDSTROM
(Nov. 1, 2018) Joshua Nordstrom, 45, of Pocomoke, says he has plans for District 1 if he’s elected to the Board of Worcester County Commissioners on Nov. 6.
Nordstrom, who is running as a Democrat, studied political science at George Washington University and said he has been preparing for this election by attending Worcester County Commissioner meetings for the last four years.
“I just want to see good leadership here in the lower part of the county,” he

See ELECTION Page 5

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ELECTION 2018

Continued from Page 4
said.

Nordstrom used the meetings as an additional form of education as a way to pick up on policy and connect with staff. If elected, he said he wants to “spend my first year doing, not learning.”

Nordstrom said he’s spoken to hundreds of area residents over the last couple months, and found a mounting concern is internet efficiency.

“People can’t get good internet service in a large part of the county, not just the southern part, but a large part of the county,” he said.

Nordstrom said that lack of broadband harms the county’s job prospects.

“We have lost out on several businesses who’ve wanted to relocate here or open a new branch here because we didn’t have high-speed internet in this part of this county,” he said. “So we lose out on those businesses. We lose out on the tax base.”

Providing affordable education and employment opportunities to younger residents who stay in the county is another priority for Nordstrom.

“These folks are our future entrepreneurs. They’re our future job creators, and if they go to another place, then they’re part of somebody else’s job creation,” Nordstrom said. “They’re part of somebody else’s economic development, and I want them to stay here if they want to, and be able to earn a living, and stay here and help us develop this part of the county.”

How does he plan to accomplish that task? Nordstrom said it starts by taking notes from other counties on the Eastern Shore, and allocating funds for lower income students at Wor-Wic University. He said he feels Worcester County residents living in Pocomoke are at a disadvantage.

He said “it’s not a new idea,” but laying the groundwork through financial incentives for a variety of career paths can set younger residents up for success.

Nordstrom addressed the need for an “educated workforce,” and advocated for vocational careers.

“I mean these are the jobs that are open,” he said. “It’s not just college, it’s technical certification, and things of that nature that are going to allow our

young people to earn a living, but also help our employers fill the open jobs.”

Nordstrom said there’s serious work to be done.

“We have roads that are crumbling here in the southern part of the county,” he said. “We have a lot of blight in the form of abandoned houses that are falling in on each other.”

Another major concern for Nordstrom is the lack of positive activity for District 1’s youth.

“Certainly young people get into trouble lots of times if they don’t have something to occupy themselves, and we want to prevent that here,” Nordstrom said.

Nordstrom offered a possible solution to encourage new business without sacrificing the area’s greatest asset.

“We are not going to alter our natural beauty here, but there are a lot of things that we can do ... to let people know that Worcester County is open for business,” Nordstrom said. “I want this place to be a magnet for new businesses.”

But Nordstrom said the county can’t rest on its laurels.

“We have Ocean City, which is great, but we cannot rely on Ocean City and keep our fingers crossed,” Nordstrom said. “We have to be proactive when it comes to our economic development and educating our workforce. It’s not going to happen on its own.”

DISTRICT 3



BUD CHURCH

(Nov. 1, 2018) The job of Worcester County Commissioner for District 3 has become second nature for 77-year-old Bud Church, who is touting his experience in his reelection campaign.

Church, who’s running as a Republican, said the county redistricted several years ago, and carved a portion to create what is now known as District 3.

“I picked up the newspaper, and I looked at the redistricting and I went, ‘Oh my gosh. They cut that out just for me,’” Church said.

Church was first elected to the Worcester County Commissioners in 2002 and said his name recognition in the community was a major reason for his campaign’s success.

“So I just thought, let me try this, and I won, and the rest is history,” Church said.

Church moved from Alexandria,

Virginia to the Eastern Shore in 1959, when his parents bought an oceanfront hotel.

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Three Worcester County Commissioners are running unopposed:

- Diana Purnell, Dem., of District 2 (Central District)
- Madison “Jim” Bunting, Rep., District 6 (Northern District)
- Joe Mitrecic, Rep., District 7 (Ocean City District)

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By Authority: Donna Richardson West, Treasurer

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It is these productive and successful relationships that accomplish our results that you deserve, and it is these proven and effective relationships that I have built that provide for our successes together. I respectfully ask for your continued trust, support and vote this Tuesday, November 6th.

Respectfully,
Senator Jim Mathias

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“They brought me here screaming and yelling, but I wouldn’t move from Worcester County now,” Church said. “I’ve had opportunities, and some of them have been very good opportunities, but I wanted to raise my grandkids [here].”

Church is the president of Coldwell Banker, Bud Church Realty, and prides himself on having a family business.

“We’re a third generation real estate company, and I’m really proud of that,” Church said.

Emergency services, health care and police protection are important issues for Church, but, as a former member of the county board of education, he emphasized education as a priority.

Church said his children and grandchildren attended Worcester County public schools, and stressed the importance of getting a good education.

“I didn’t only do it for my kids, and

my grandkids, but for everyone in Worcester County. I’m a huge believer in education,” Church said. “I think it’s the foundation for their future and our future.”

Church said when he was first elected county commissioner, he was criticized by the environmental community, but eventually gained its support “because in every conservation easement that [came] through to add to our forest[s] and trees, I have either made the motion or supported every single one of them.”

Church owns a farm in the middle of a state forest, and said it’s important to preserve the area’s natural beauty.

“I’m very conscious of our environment,” Church said. “I want to protect our farmlands. I want to protect our forests. I want to protect our streams.”

Looking at the area as an emerging retirement destination, Church pointed to the efforts of Atlantic General Hospi-

tal and its provision of good health care services.

“Folks my age that move into the county are worried about doctors, hospitals, ancillary services ... so that’s very important,” he said.

Church said the influx of housing, industry and tourism contributes to his district’s growth, but it comes with its own set of problems.

“I can tell you District 3 is without a doubt the most intense district in all of Worcester County,” he said.

Church added the present development allows for potential projects in West Ocean City, like the Mystic Harbor Service Area.

“That’s going to be a huge issue — expanding the Mystic Harbor Service Area to accommodate the additional growth,” he said.

“Builders, Realtors and developers have come to me as their go-to person, but the one thing I won’t do is compro-

mise to allow them to do something other than what the regulations call for. No one gets any favors,” he said. “I never ever bend the rules, ever.”



ZACK TYNDALL

(Nov. 1, 2018) Zackery Tyndall, 28, of Berlin, says he’ll shake things up if he becomes the Worcester County Commissioner for District 3.

Tyndall, a Democrat who serves on the Berlin Town Council, graduated from Salisbury University in 2015 and received his bachelor’s degree in management, with a minor in finance. He then obtained a master’s degree in business administration in May.

Tyndall said he’s previously voted for his opponent, Republican Worcester County Commissioner Bud Church, of District 3, but “I have watched his complacency hinder the success of our local economy, negatively impact our education system, and hurt local nonprofits.”

He said he felt it was time for a change, and believes he is the person to do it.

“I was compelled to stand up and represent the people of Worcester County,” Tyndall said in an email.

In getting to know the community, he said he found a common theme: people want action.

“The overwhelming consensus is that residents want a commissioner who will represent the people,” Tyndall said in an email.

Tyndall said he found three issues on the minds of District 3 residents: the economy, public safety and education.

Tyndall also said finding steady employment is paramount to residents.

“People want more year-round jobs, and many are disappointed that they have to seek unemployment during the offseason to make ends meet,” he said.

If elected, Tyndall said he’d strive to make pedestrian safety a priority, and find a solution for the scarce sidewalks throughout his district, which includes West Ocean City.

“As your next county commissioner, I will continue to make sure that Worcester County is a safe place to live, work and visit,” he said.

Tyndall graduated from Stephen Decatur High School and Worcester Technical High School in 2008, and said he strives to continue to push for effective vocational education. He added that he does not believe the technical high school is being used to its full potential.

From a political standpoint, Tyndall said he sees local concerns being nei-

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ELECTION 2018

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ther Democrat nor Republican issues, but matters that affect the citizenry.

Make no mistake: Tyndall said this is an important election.

“This election is critical for Worcester County’s future,” he said, because a key problem in county government is the lack of teamwork with other jurisdictions.

Tyndall said a key problem with the current administration is the lack of teamwork on the part of the commissioners, who he said work separately from other local entities.

“If we are going to continue to succeed, then we need to elect commissioners that are capable of working with leaders throughout the county,” Tyndall said.

When Tyndall isn’t participating in council meetings or campaigning, he enjoys exercising outdoors and being with his family.

“My family plays a huge part in my life,” he said. “I enjoy spending time with my wife, our three dogs and other relatives that live nearby.”

DISTRICT 4



TED ELDER
(Nov. 1, 2018) When Theodore “Ted” Elder, 67, of Whaleyville, isn’t sitting in Worcester County Commissioners meetings, he works as a school bus contractor for the county. It’s something he’s been doing for several decades.

This isn’t Elder’s first campaign. He’s running as a Republican. His first term, but he’s sought the office more than once before winning four years ago. His second time running, he said he lost by 90 votes in a close race, and a big advertising slogan for him is “your vote counts.”

What brought Elder to politics were issues he said he had with the county during a previous business dealing.

“Everybody deserves to have equal ... treatment from their local government,” he said.

Elder said he has conservative views, “but at the same time we have to have the services to the level that the people expect.”

If reelected, Elder said his priority will be to find a solution to an ongoing problem in his district: quality, high-speed internet.

“My district is mostly rural. One of the big problems we have is the broad-
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ELECTION 2018

Continued from Page 7
band, and I know my predecessor had worked on it for several years,” Elder said. “He was commissioner for 16 years, and was not able to get it done, so I’m going to push really hard to try and get something done.”

Elder went on to say many of his constituents work out of their homes, and the lack of efficient internet is a cause for concern. It’s something he says he knows all too well.

“Actually, I don’t have it here at my own home,” Elder said. “I can’t get it.”

Elder said he hopes to work with an IT department “and hopefully we can get something done in the next couple of years.”

When initially pitching a proposal before fellow commissioners, Elder emphasized the importance of doing research and being prepared. However, he said it’s also about compromise.

“The only way you’re going to get anything done is by being a team player with them,” he said.

Elder added as “one vote out of seven,” there are bound to be some disagreements, but the result is usually positive. He’s pleased with their “working relationship,” and their ability to see each other’s points of view.

“I can get on the phone and call any one of the commissioners right now and I feel comfortable calling either one of them about any subject and they’d be willing to discuss it with me,” Elder said.

As for the economy, Elder says the county’s cash cow is farming.

“Agriculture ... is the number one industry in the state of Maryland and Worcester County, [it] surpasses tourism,” Elder said. “It’s an important role in my district. It’s very important to the financial well-being of the whole county.”

Consequently, Elder said another of his priorities is “protecting the farmers” in his district as the county’s housing inventory expands.

“[The farms] come under a lot of pressure from residential growth,” he said.

Elder said people moving into these farming areas may not have realized what comes with the territory.

As a possible solution, Elder said his research suggested a compromise: an agricultural buffer. Elder said the result harmonized the interest of the “residential, the farm and the environment, and we came up with what I think was a very good balance.”

While District 4 is not densely populated, Elder said parts of Berlin and Snow Hill are within its boundaries.

“I think Berlin’s doing real well as far as the things they’re doing,” he said. “Snow Hill is on the uprise. I think it’s going to be a great little town for tourism and small businesses.”

VIRGIL SHOCKLEY

(Nov. 1, 2018) It’s time for a change, according to 65-year-old former



Worcester County Commissioner Virgil Shockley.

“You have no idea the frustration it’s been to sit still for four years and watch opportunity after opportunity not happen in Worcester County,” Shockley said. “And those opportunities are gone. You’re never gonna get them back.”

Shockley said high speed internet is a priority for his campaign.

“Along with broadband comes economic development,” he said.

Accessibility is a key issue for Shockley when dealing with bringing “high speed internet service” to small businesses in existing buildings, not new construction.

“By solving the ... broadband internet problem, you also provide the opportunity for businesses to come in here,” he said.

Shockley pointed out the Eastern Shore of Virginia, an area he says is more rural than Worcester County, has

access to a grant to provide expedient internet service, while the Eastern Shore of Maryland does not.

“Why didn’t someone with leadership skills at the county level go for this grant?” Shockley asked.

If elected, Shockley said he plans to take this issue up with Gov. Larry Hogan, and ask him “who do I talk to about getting this kind of service for Worcester County?”

Shockley said while District 4 is not a populous area, it does account for approximately 45 percent of the county’s total land mass.

Shockley utilized district maps to illustrate how the lack of Wi-Fi surpasses isolated areas. While residents of Worcester County’s towns have access to Wi-Fi and decent internet speed, other nearby areas do not, and the many unlucky have to deal with satellite.

“We pay \$70 a month for internet service, and I’m not talking unlimited ... just basic stuff,” Shockley said.

Shockley said he checks his emails, surfs a few sites, “but I guarantee you by the 20th of the month, I will have used my service up.”

When that happens, Shockley puts up with slow, almost “dial-up” like speeds. He added the weather can make service temperamental.

Providing internet service is also a priority for Worcester public school students, who Shockley said receive tablets

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District 5

Bertino for Commissioner; Susan Bertino, Treasurer

ELECTION 2018

Continued from Page 8

when entering ninth grade.

During his experience as a school bus driver, Shockley noted the time students spent with their technology while on the bus. As his route progressed, he said fewer students could connect to their devices after crossing Route 113, heading toward Stockton.

“If you’re a sixth grader in Worcester County public schools, we’re not training you for today, we’re training you for 10 years down the road, and we have to continue to look at how we train these kids for their life,” he said.

Another priority for Shockley is to develop a closer relationship with Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.

“It’s an opportunity for us to work

with Wallops and say, ‘you’ve got people coming in ... have them live here. What can we do to entice them?’”

If Worcester County can build it, will they come?

“We have a great school system,” he said. “This is a great county to live in.”

Shockley served his district for 16 years, from 1998 to 2014, and cited his previous experience as a qualification to be elected once more.

Shockley was born and raised on a farm in Snow Hill. Agriculture holds a special place in Shockley’s heart, as his family is in its seventh generation of farming. He said he’s been running farms for 53 years.

“When you’ve lived here this long, and established yourself as a family, this

is truly home to me,” Shockley said.

DISTRICT 5



CHIP BERTINO
(Nov. 1, 2018) Chip Bertino, 53, of

Ocean Pines, said if reelected, he’s looking forward to a second term as Worcester County Commissioner of District 5.

“I’m very confident I will be reelected, and I will continue to do what I’ve been doing these past four years,” he said.

Bertino is originally from northeast Philadelphia, but moved to the area nearly 30 years ago, and raised his family here.

“I wasn’t born in Worcester County,” Bertino said. “I got here as quickly as I could, but I wasn’t born here.”

When his District 5 predecessor then-Commissioner Judy Boggs announced her retirement four years ago, he decided to run for the position and was successful.

“I’ll tell you it’s very humbling to be elected by your community, to represent them, and I’ve taken that very seriously,” he said.

Bertino is also the publisher of The Courier newspaper, but stressed the importance of being helpful to the people of Ocean Pines.

“Since then, I’ve worked very hard to be effective and responsive, and because I really don’t want them to exchange their gift come November,” he said.

Bertino’s perspective is that local government shouldn’t indulge in superfluous spending. He’s running as a Republican.

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ELECTION 2018

Continued from Page 10

“I very much believe in limited county government,” he said. “I don’t believe in spending taxpayers’ money unnecessarily; I don’t believe that the county treasury is an ATM.”

Transportation is also an area of great importance to Bertino. He’s advocated for improvements to Route 589 as the area has expanded, transforming the once “small artery” into a “major thoroughfare” that he said requires attention.

“Route 589, dualization of Route 90 and the Route 50 Bridge are three projects that the commissioners feel very strongly the state should move on,” he said.

As for his position on education, Bertino says he is well aware of the schools’ needs.

“I’m a big proponent of education. I’m the husband of a teacher, the son of a teacher and the brother of a teacher,” he said.

Bertino said he believes in the continued support of public schools and the “high caliber of people” working in them.

Referring to school Superintendent Lou Taylor as “an asset,” Bertino said, “as much as I can support his objectives and the objectives of the board of education, I will do so.”

At the same time, however, Bertino said he worked to reduce the Showell Elementary School construction cost by approximately \$14 million. He joined other commissioners to help bring that number down when the original estimate was \$60 million for the new school.

“Taxpayers were not going to fund that level of cost for the construction of this school,” he said.

Bertino said he also backs efforts to solve the county’s internet inadequacies, understands the need to preserve the area’s environment for future generations and touted his approach to learning what else is on the minds of constituents.

“I’m the only commissioner that holds town hall meetings, and I’m very fortunate and pleased that Commissioner Jim Bunting joins me at those meetings,” he said.

JUDY BUTLER

(Nov. 1, 2018) Judy Butler, 70, of Ocean Pines is campaigning for the District 5 seat on the Worcester County Commissioners, and says she has a vision for the future of Ocean Pines.

Butler, who moved to Ocean Pines from Howard County, was a former clinical laboratory scientist. She’s since retired and spends much of her time volunteering with her church, being a docent and working with the Democratic Central Committee.

“Service is important,” she said.

Butler was also health chairwoman of the state’s chapter of the National Parent Teacher Association, and served as the Howard County PTA president.

“You have to start with empowering your youth ... if youth are active, and



feel productive and are learning, then the opioid crisis isn’t going to grab them,” Butler said. “They’ll stay.”

Transportation is a priority for Butler, who is running as a Democrat. She said she wants to fix the controversial and somewhat problematic Route 589.

“It needs to be moved up on the priority list, and it needs to be done,” she said.

Butler said safety is a paramount issue for the connecting road, between routes 90 and 50, and the area’s increased expansion has caused a concern for the heavily trafficked area.

Butler added it’s “nerve-racking” in the summer for students working in Ocean City, because they often rent in Ocean Pines and bike to their jobs.

“Residents are very worried about them because the road is dark and narrow,” she said. “It’s a problem.”

Butler said she also strives to provide accessible transportation for Ocean Pines’ budding senior population.

“We have an older population here and there is no public transportation in the Pines to help people who cannot drive anymore,” she said.

Butler also pointed out an imbalance in the county’s age demographics.

“We are graying in terms of there are more seniors coming than there are youth staying,” Butler said.

She also stressed the need for a solution to a countywide problem: broadband.

“You don’t have to go very far outside the gates of Ocean Pines, or across the bridge from Ocean City to run into these high-speed internet issues,” Butler said.

Butler said the lack of efficient internet throughout Worcester County could be detrimental to the future economic prosperity “because businesses are not going to come if they don’t have high speed internet.”

She also said she has a plan to preserve the natural beauty of the ocean and coastal bays. She added it starts by creating a resilience plan and using environmental technologies including solar, wind and agriculture.

“We can be a shining star to show the way. We have to do this,” Butler said. “We have to have a better plan for our future environment if we want to keep this beautiful environment.”

How can all of this be done? Through teamwork, according to Butler.

“I believe that you have to build coalitions. You have to seek to work

with your fellow elected officials,” she said. “Be creative in what you’re trying to do.”

She added the county needs to work to accomplish its goals by working with officials and other elected leaders.

“We can’t just sit back and just wait our turn,” she said. “We have to make sure people understand what our needs are, and I think that can be done.”

For Butler, she thinks it’s simply time for a change.

“Ocean Pines needs strong representation,” she said. “We need to make sure our voices are heard in the county, and that our commissioners for our districts represent us and work for us.”

Maryland Senate District 38

JIM MATHIAS

(Nov. 1, 2018) Politics could be considered a calling for 67-year-old Sen.



Jim Mathias, who has been involved in them since his pre-teen years.

Mathias spoke fondly of Election Day, 1960, when he handed out flyers for candidates as voters made their way to the polls.

His fascination with politics followed him through the end of the decade, the time of “social awareness” during the

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Vietnam War, and into the University of Maryland Baltimore County, where he earned his degree in political science.

Locally, he began as a member on Ocean City's Board of Zoning Appeals, followed by service on the Ocean City Council and then was elected mayor of Ocean City. He served for 10 years, before making the leap to the state level, where he held this district's seat in the Maryland House of Delegates for several years before becoming the state senator for District 38.

He moved to this area from Baltimore when his father opened a business near the Boardwalk. Mathias said his father died in 1974, but he stayed with his family to work in different businesses.

In the meantime, he pursued his political aspirations, and believes he has a penchant for building relationships, which helped him along the way.

"You're a senator for the entire state of Maryland, and how you do that, and the relationships that you build with your colleagues, and the governor is what deems you effective, and I work hard to make sure I illustrate that to my constituents," Mathias said.

Now he's fighting to keep his position as state senator against current Republican Del. Mary Beth Carozza. Mathias stressed the importance of being bipartisan and feels his record speaks for itself.

"We have that record of across the aisle," he said. "We have that record of earned trust and relationship[s], and, respectfully, that's what I bring to asking people for their continued trust and confidence."

Throughout his terms in state government, Mathias said he has focused on the economy, the opioid crisis and education.

Mathias said if he is reelected, he'll continue to take a preventative approach to confronting the epidemic, but would maintain the area's rehabilitative resources

"Unfortunately, when the person is in the addictive phase of their situation, we [need to] have the rehabilitation and the therapy that is necessary," he said.

Mathias added this opioid issue has a hefty price tag, and said, "As much of

an asset as the poultry industry is ... this opioid-heroin addiction dims that."

Mathias said he follows the advice of his late mother, who said, "Jimmy take care of what you have first." By his reckoning, that means "our cornerstone industries —farming, small business, tourism, agriculture, and commercial waterman — and then make sure to grow out," he said.

To that end, he said has and supported and will continue to support efforts "to make sure that we have a very well trained and educated workforce for ... the vocational opportunities that are here today."



MARY BETH CAROZZA

(Nov. 1, 2018) Delegate Mary Beth Carozza, 57, says it's about public service, not politics.

"I deliberately don't call it politics because that sounds like a game, and I think when you talk about public service, you're letting the voters know that you're in it for the right reasons," she said.

Carozza, a Republican, is the delegate for District 38C of the Maryland House of Delegates, but is running against Democratic incumbent Sen. Jim Mathias for his state senate seat.

She said her interest in public service stemmed from her time at college during the Reagan Era.

"So if you're in the nation's capital, with a strong president who really had the United States as the world leader, and remembering those days when he said, 'tear down that wall,' that had such an impact of my view of America, and sparked an interest in wanting to be part of that and wanting to pursue pub-

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lic [service],” she said.

Carozza has called the Eastern Shore home since her family moved from Baltimore when she was in the fifth grade. She graduated from Stephen Decatur High School, and earned a bachelor’s and master’s degrees in American government from Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

After graduation, she went on to serve in government positions at the state and federal levels. She said she feels her past experiences put her in the best position to help the community.

“With that experience, that really allows you to know the best way to serve your constituents,”

Carozza said she tries to put a personal touch on interacting with voters, and said the economy, health care and education are important issues as part of her campaign.

“I do a lot of door-to-door, that’s my signature mark,” Carozza said.

Carozza praised Gov. Larry Hogan’s efforts as he also runs for his second term. She said she’s “working with Gov. Hogan, who has made jobs [and the] economy [his] top priority.”

Carozza emphasized her backing from several area business associations and said her fondness of local industry came from her parents, who owned a small business in Ocean City.

“[That] had a profound effect on how I approach my public service in sup-

porting and fighting for small business operators and job creators,” she said.

Providing cost-effective health care is also a major concern, Carozza said.

“We have to have both access to quality services and we have to be able to afford it,” she said.

She added she’s pushed for funding of local health departments, as “they’re on the front lines.”

Carozza said she was in communication with partners in Worcester County who suggested providing peer counselors in the Atlantic General Hospital Emergency Room.

“They came to the conclusion that would be the best time that somebody would be most open to seeking assistance.”

Carozza stressed the need to find other avenues to fight the opioid crisis, but took issue with her opponent’s support of monitored heroin injection facilities where addicts might be prevented from overdosing.

“Maybe that’s an approach that works in Amsterdam or maybe even New York City, but certainly does not work locally on the shore,” she said.

Her educational priorities involve funding for area community colleges, mentorship initiatives and vocational training.

“We have incentives to keep teachers in the classroom and not breaking away and going into other parts of the administration,” Carozza said.

Maryland Delegate
District 38A

CHARLES OTTO
By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Nov. 1, 2018) Del. Charles Otto, a third-generation farmer native to Somerset County, hopes to preserve traditional Lower Shore industries and enhance educational and vocational training for area youth.

A Republican, he’s running for a third term in District 38A.

“We’ve got a lot going for us in the district, but we’ve got a lot of challenges as well,” he said.

In 2010, Otto opted to seek office after Del. Douglas Page Elmore died. He fended off four Republican challengers during the primary and then defeated Democratic candidate Michael McCready in the general election.

The following year, redistricting changed the boundary lines for District 38A, which previously included Wicomico County, to encompass Somerset County and a significant portion of southern Worcester County.

“In 2014, I ran in the new district, which is 40 percent in Worcester County,” he said. “It includes all of Pocomoke, Snow Hill and then it narrows down and just goes up [Route] 113 through Newark.”

Otto, who was victorious over former Crisfield Mayor Percy Purnell Jr. during the 2014 election, said Somerset and



Worcester counties are on different footing in some regards, most notably in levels of state education funding.

“One of the big challenges is Worcester County gets the least per pupil spending in the state and Somerset gets the most from the state,” he said. “That’s a challenge to weigh and maybe that’s a good thing.”

Otto graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1986 with a B.S. in Animal Science. He has operated a family-owned farm and worked for Salisbury-based Farmers and Planters Company as a crop consultant since 1995.

“I serve on the Environment and Transportation Committee and that’s very important for our agriculture and natural resources,” he said.

Otto serves on the Maryland Farm Bureau board of directors and is also a member of the Somerset County Farm Bureau, the Maryland Grain Producers

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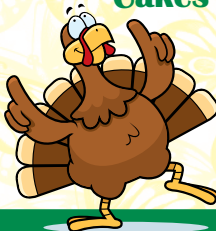
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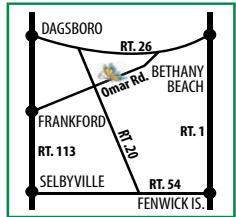
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Association, Delmarva Poultry Industry Incorporated, as well as president of the Wicomico County Farm Bureau.

"We continue to see an overzealous environmental community wanting to dictate everything," he said.

From his purview, Otto questioned the impact of increased regulation on the average farmer.

"Certainly, we need to be stewards and conservationists, and we will continue to do that in agriculture," he said. "Most of our time now is wasted with paperwork and threats of fines."

Noting amenities like the Pocomoke River State Park and the Discovery Center in Pocomoke, not to mention Snow Hill and Berlin, Otto said Worcester County could both cater to residents and lure in visitors.

"Those resources we need to utilize to provide recreation for local folks, as well as draw in more tourists," he said. "We have that big gem of Ocean City that draws a crowd, but not everybody wants to stay on the beach all day."

Looking ahead, Otto anticipates the currently under construction Somerset County Technical High School will re-open for the 2019 school year to replace an older facility.

"We've got an outstanding technical facility in Worcester County," he said. "I hope to match that [in Somerset] to train our young people and have good paying jobs in the area."



KIRKLAND HALL

(Nov. 1, 2018) Dr. Kirkland Hall Sr., the Democratic candidate for District 38A Maryland Delegate, has deep Lower Shore roots and a legacy of civil rights advocacy and community activism that motivated constituents to spark his candidacy.

Hall, a graduate professor and coach at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore for more than four decades, said a contingency of focus groups and coalitions approached him two summers ago to seek help in light of the 2018 election.

"They said, 'We know your reputation and you'll fight for what's right ... you believe in helping people and we want you to consider running,'" he said.

A graduate of Somerset Junior Senior High School (presently Washington High School), Hall joined the Democratic Club of Somerset County in 1986

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seat representing 38C in the Maryland House of Delegates.

Hartman, who is currently serving as a member of Ocean City Council, said he hopes to use “my experience as a small business owner and my experience in elected office and take that combination of experiences to Annapolis.”

He’s originally from northern Baltimore County, but moved to the Eastern Shore approximately 20 years ago. He said the quality of life is the area’s biggest draw.

“I think just the environment creates a friendly atmosphere and just the people are great,” he said. “The opportunities that we have here are enormous,



and our natural surroundings just make for a great lifestyle.”

Hartman, who owns apartment buildings in the area, said mounting tax expenses have affected his real estate dealings, and said that was part of what got him into politics.

“The local government was growing too big, and it was getting too expensive” from a property owner’s perspective, he said. “As taxes increased, it affected me exponentially because of the number of properties that I owned, and that’s what inspired me to get involved.”

Hartman stressed the importance of this year’s election for Maryland’s legislature.

“I think increasing the amount of conservative representation in the House, and creating that balance, I think that’s the best thing that could happen for Maryland,” he said.

Hartman also praised Hogan’s efforts and said he “want[s] to be a part of

the momentum that he’s started.”

If elected, Hartman said his plan is to use his conservative, fiscally responsible, approach to work to fix what’s already broken.

“The big thing is, as a legislator, that I don’t think we need more legislation,” Hartman said. “I’m not in a hurry to go up there and create legislation.”

On the campaign trail, Hartman said he went door-to-door and has heard the concerns of area residents. If elected, he said he’d continue to make himself available to his constituents.

One concern of his, he said, is the area’s growing senior population.

“I want to make sure that we can offer some kind of tax relief to seniors on their pensions so that we retain more seniors here as opposed to them leaving for Delaware or Florida,” he said.

Special event restrictions, small business protections, vocational training, minimum wage issues, and the recently passed paid leave bill also rank high on his list of things to that need to be addressed.

“As far as the business community, it’s been loud and clear that the recently passed paid leave bill is very cumbersome to our business owners,” he said.

What does Hartman see for the coastal Maryland’s future? Tourism and economic prosperity.

“I want to see it continue to grow and evolve as far as a tourist destination,” Hartman said. “I want to make sure that the business community continues to thrive and that we have job creation

and that there are opportunities here.”

He’s not without some competition for District 38C. Ed Tinus, 59, has mounted a write-in campaign as a constitutionalist.

“If Wayne wins, there’s not going to be any change,” Tinus said.

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Political affiliation is hardly an issue in this contest, yet the rules of the ballot require that each party identify candidates.

Republican Terresa “Terri” Delaney Westcott, 54, is looking to move up from her position as chief deputy register of wills under Register of Wills Charlotte Cathell to the post Cathell will be leaving with her retirement at the end of the year. Westcott has worked in this office for 18 years.

She is being challenged by Democrat Nicole Caudell, 36, who also works in the Worcester County Courthouse in Snow Hill, just across the hall as a clerk of the criminal court.

Caudell holds a degree from Temple University and says she hopes to help people gain a better understanding of probate and estate planning.

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EARLY VOTING

Campaign signs litter the landscape during early voting outside of the Gull Creek community, last week.

Polling places and voter info for 2018 midterm election

Continued from Page 2
Girdletree, MD 21829. Call the church at 410-632-1153 for more information.

District/precinct 2-1: Shiloh United Methodist Church, 2655 Worcester Highway, Pocomoke City, MD 21851. Call the church at 410-957-0197 for more information.

District/precinct 2-2: Snow Hill Middle School, 522 Coulbourne Lane, Snow Hill, MD 21863. Call the school at 410-632-5240 for more information.

District/precinct 2-3: Newark Volunteer Fire Company, 8338 Newark Road, Newark, MD 21841. Call the fire company at 410-632-3980 for more information.

District/precinct 2-5: Stephen Decatur Middle School, 9815 Seahawk Road, Berlin, MD 21811. Call the school at 410-632-3400 for more information.

District/precinct 3-1: Ocean City Elementary School, 12828 Center Drive, Ocean City, MD 21842. Call the school at 410-632-5370 for more information.

District/precinct 3-2: Ocean City Lions Club, 12534 Airport Road, Berlin, MD 21811. Call the organization at 410-603-6457 for more information.

Districts/precincts 2-4 and 3-3: Berlin Intermediate School, 309 Franklin Ave., Berlin, MD 21811. Call the school at 410-632-5320 for more information.

District/precinct 4-1: Snow Hill Elementary School, 515 Coulbourne Lane,

Snow Hill, MD 21863. Call the school at 410-632-5210 for more information.

Districts/precincts 4-2 and 4-3: Buckingham Elementary School, 100 Buckingham Road, Berlin, MD 21811. Call the school at 410-632-5300 for more information.

District/precinct 4-4: Showell Volunteer Fire Department, 11620 Worcester Highway, Showell, MD 21862. Call the fire department at 410-352-5916 for more information.

District/precinct 5-2: The Ocean Pines branch of the Worcester County Library, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, MD 21811. Call the library at 410-208-4014 for more information.

District/precinct 6-1: The Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811

Districts/precincts 5-1 and 6-2: Showell Elementary School, 11318 Showell School Road, Berlin, MD 21811. Call the school at 410-632-5350 for more information.

District/precinct 6-3: Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, 10709 Bishopville Rd, Bishopville, MD 21813. Call the fire department at 410-352-5757 for more information.

District/precinct 7-1: Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842

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Authority: Friends of Wayne Hartman, Jay Knerr, Treasurer

OPFD, Beach Patrol help fulfill wish

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Nov. 1, 2018) The Ocean Pines Fire Department and Ocean City Beach Patrol worked together to fulfill a terminally ill woman's wishes to see the beach, Oct. 13.

Kim Eyler, 48, of Ocean Pines was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer earlier this summer. When her husband, Eric Morton Sr., heard her express her desire to see the beach one last time, he immediately went to work to fulfill his ailing wife's wishes.

"This woman is the most caring, heartfelt, ambitious and very loving person you would ever meet," Morton said. "She was a certified med tech, she was also a certified nurse's assistant, and I've known this woman for 13-15 years. I've been with her 10 years. She is all about giving and caring for others. This is an amazing woman and I've been blessed to have her in my life."

Morton reached out to his community in order to make his wife happy.

"She just made a comment to me that she was upset because she was so sick she wouldn't be able to go to the beach, so I ran with the idea," Morton said. "I reached out to the Ocean Pines Fire Department and the lieutenant there said he'd pass my information on to the fire chief."

"The fire chief called me within 10

minutes after I left," he continued. "He wanted to know what was going on and he said, 'I'll see what I can do for you.' In a matter of days, he's back and told me what he's got set up and [asked] what date was good for me."

The Ocean Pines Fire Department reached out to the Ocean City Beach Patrol to arrange transportation and supplies needed to get Eyler on the beach. The Ocean City Beach Patrol provided a handicap wheelchair suited for the beach and a beach chair for Eyler to use.

The entire setup was kept as a surprise for Eyler, who was understandably shocked and excited when the plan was revealed to her.

"We didn't have to do a thing for her," Morton said. "The Ocean Pines Fire Department gave me the time they'd be here and they were right on time. The fire chief walks in and introduces himself to Kim and they took her in the ambulance, and [drove] her to 130th Street. They put her in a handicap wheelchair, wheeled her out and put her in a beach chair."

"These guys were awesome. It was very emotional," he continued. "Steve [Grunewald - Ocean Pines fire chief,] said, 'Take however long you want to take. One hour, two hours, three ... just call me when you're ready.' They did not leave. They stayed there in the parking lot. Before they walked away, I said to

them, 'Hey guys, from the friends and family of Kim, thank you.' From what I gathered, they started shedding tears."

Surrounded by her friends and family, Eyler enjoyed an hour and half listening to the waves, soaking up the sunlight, and celebrating her life with her loved ones.

"She looked good and happy. She looked really at peace," Morton said.

Eyler, Morton and friends and family surrounded her and released purple balloons thanking her for all the memories they had with her. Purple balloons represent the color for pancreatic cancer awareness.

"I spoke up and I thanked her for the nine wonderful years she's given me," Morton said. "I poured my heart out. Everybody went around and said what they wanted to Kim, then it was Kim's turn. She got really emotional, said how she loved everybody, how much she appreciated them and how much she appreciated everybody being there [for her]."

As a result of this event, Morton and Eyler also gained new friends in the Ocean Pines Fire Department.

"At the next company meeting we're going to put a platter together and send it to them," Morton said. "I've called Steve a number of times, we've talked to him since then. He said, 'Eric, I've been

See NOVEMBER Page 21

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Pancreatic cancer patient Kim Eyler enjoys a rare trip to the beach surrounded by friends and loved ones on 130th Street, Saturday, Oct. 13.

PHOTO COURTESY ERIC MORTON SR.



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Special Section

Addressing the Epidemic: Heroin and Opioids

By Josh Davis
Associate Editor

(Nov. 1, 2018) The heroin and opioid epidemic has touched most communities in Worcester County – and in Maryland.

By all accounts, the face of addiction is the face of your neighbor. They are sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, veterans and star athletes. They are without a single race or religion or class.

You can hear their call in an ambulance siren and, during this election cycle, in the daily reminders of campaign ads from both political parties.

After talking with police and politicians, medical specialists and economists, a mother and father who fought the epidemic by starting a movement, and a former addict who has made it his mission to help others, a common theme emerged: there are no easy solutions.

Nevertheless, plenty of people and resources are being directed toward efforts to save lives and to prevent the tide of addiction from continuing to rise.

Just the Facts

The Maryland Department of Health on Oct. 12 released data for unintentional drug and alcohol-related intoxication deaths from January through June, 2018. During that period, there were 1,325 total unintentional intoxication deaths, a 12 percent increase over the same period in 2017. Of those, 1,185 were opioid-related, including 1,038 fentanyl-related deaths.

According to the health department, more than 75 percent of overdose deaths in 2018 involved fentanyl, a widely used synthetic opioid that's used both medically and also made illegally and taken as a recreational drug.

Heroin-related deaths decreased 20 percent compared to the same pe-

riod in 2017 and prescription opioid deaths dropped 7 percent.

However, overall overdose numbers in the state have trended up sharply not only during the last decade, but during the last several years. Unintentional intoxication deaths from January to June totaled 359 in 2008. Since 2012, those have increased each year: 385 (2102); 397 (2013); 528 (2014); 601 (2015); 979 (2016); 1,179 (2017); 1,325 (2018).

Opioid-related overdose deaths numbered 261 in 2008, but shot up to 873 in 2016, up to 1,032 in 2017 and 1,185 in 2018.

There were 13 fentanyl-related deaths during the first half of 2008. The numbers jumped to 469 in 2016, 800 last year and 1,038 during the first six months of this year.

Prescription-related deaths have held more constant: 136 during the first two quarters of 2008, 218 during the same period in 2016 and 199 from January to June of this year.

"Addiction affects families and individuals of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds," Maryland Department of Health Secretary Robert R. Neall said in the report. "The Maryland Department of Health, along with our state and local response partners, will continue to improve and expand treatment and prevention options for all Marylanders. If you or someone you know needs assistance, know help is available 24/7 by dialing 211 then press 1."

Policing an Epidemic: Ocean Pines Police Chief David Massey

David Massey, formerly the police chief in Ocean City, recalled the days when heroin abuse had nearly been eliminated. Now, he said, it couldn't be more present.

"It's unlike anything I've ever seen as far as addiction," he said. "There's no community that's immune from drug abuse ... it's a national problem and various things have been tried."

That includes decriminalization efforts, which he said now means "when we get a call for a drug overdose, police can't make an arrest, no matter what they see." He said there were unintended consequences to that approach.

"The feeling was that it would make people more apt to call the police," Massey said. "The unintended consequences are, when we went to a drug overdose before, and we found drugs and someone was arrested, they ... would get into counseling and drug awareness, or they would go to a facility. If it was serious enough, they would go to prison and be rehabilitated. Now, we're not seeing that."

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In Ecclesiastes 4:9,10 it says:

*9 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.
10 if either of them falls down, one can help the other up."*

In Galatians 6:2 it says:

2 "Help carry each other burdens, In this way you will fulfill the laws of Christ."

And in Proverbs 17:17:

17 "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for time of adversity."

Our family, friends and this wonderful community have shown us the Love of Christ through and through, time and time again. With gracious gifts mailed to us or dropped by the house, donations to and from our church family at Ocean City Worship Center, collections from my work family at OCES, SDHS and Taylor Bank. In addition, fundraisers by Sadie goals for Darin, Friendship United Methodist Men's Group, The "Buzz" Taylor Singers, Jay Whitmeyer at The Sahara Café, numerous cards, anonymous donations, dog and house sitters and countless continual prayers from everyone. We have been truly Blessed and shown the favor of God's Love in so many ways, All of you are truly God's Angels. For we walk by faith; not by sight, we are on the downside of this mountain and with all your continued support, love and prayers.

We will beat Leukemia and Darin will be home soon.

Thank you with much love and Blessing to all of you,

**Darin, Laurie, Devin, Owen
& The Whole Phillips Family**

OPIOIDS

Continued from Page 23

‘subject fallen,’ our firefighter-paramedics respond knowing that today is someone’s bad day and we have to be there for them,” he said. “When it comes to an overdose call, your situational awareness is always something that’s on high alert.

“You’re looking to make sure that you’re not poked with a needle, you don’t kneel on a needle, that if it is laced with something there’s no residue laying around so that you’d don’t inadvertently touch it ... you don’t want it to come through your skin,” Whittington continued. “Your level of awareness is up and you know that, when it comes to an overdose call, seconds matter and you have to be ready to administer your drugs, your oxygen, assist with respiratory efforts – there’s so many things that go on.”

Whittington said Ocean City firefighter-paramedics follow Maryland Medical Protocols, which typically means using Naloxone on overdose victims.

He credited Gov. Larry Hogan’s Heroin and Opioid Emergency Task Force, the interagency coordinating council begun in 2015, with making Naloxone “available to the majority of first responders.”

“That task force has folks from all over the State of Maryland ... all these folks together are able to provide

things not only for first responders, [but for everyone involved],” Whittington said. “Having those addictions experts, mental health professionals, law enforcement, all of those things have allowed the heroin epidemic to be addressed in the State of Maryland.

“The heroin epidemic is one of the things that I really saw unite all public safety, all communities,” he continued. “I really saw so many people come together from all walks of life to say, ‘We can’t let heroin continue to take over our community – let’s step up and unite and get it out of there,’” he said.

Treating Addiction: Worcester County Health Department Public Information Officer Travis Brown and Behavioral Health Director Christina Purcell

Purcell said anyone seeking treatment is welcome at the health department.

There’s a behavioral health intake and walk-in clinic in Snow Hill open Monday through Friday. On the north end of the county, the health department operates the Worcester Addictions Cooperative Service (WACS) Center on 11827 Ocean Gateway in Ocean City, which treats all manner of substance abuse.

The health department also offers free Naloxone training every second and forth Friday at the Snow Hill

Health Department. To preregister, call 410-632-1100.

“We think it’s always good thing that more people have access to this,” Brown said. “It is really a life-saving medication ... Even if it’s not an overdose, applying Narcan or Naloxone can’t hurt them, so there’s really no reason not to be trained and to have it, just in case.”

Brown said the health department also emphasizes drug-abuse prevention through several public awareness campaigns, including promoting Good Samaritan laws, trying to reduce the stigma of entering treatment, and the “Decisions Matter” campaign that focuses on connecting people to local resources.

Last spring, the health department began promoting awareness of workplace addiction, especially in the hospitality industry. Brown said of Worcester County Drug Court cases during recent years, “More than 50 percent ... have been people who are employed in food service, or hotel-motel.” Last year, more than 90 percent of those cases were related to opioid dependency.

All of the programs are part of a comprehensive effort focused on prevention.

“Just in general, we’ve seen that awareness is growing in the community,” Brown said. “We’ve been focusing a lot on challenges like the

preexisting stigma around recovery and treatment, which is something that we are hopefully starting to see the tide turn on ... where people are becoming more supportive, more open, more understanding that this is really a ubiquitous problem that affects everyone.

“It’s not any certain demographic ... it touches on every aspect of people’s lives in the county, every type of class, every type of age, it’s just everywhere,” he continued. “We do like to remind people that those suffering from addiction who might need to get into recovery – they’re your friends, they’re your family. They’re your neighbors and members of your community, they aren’t just a number.”

Brown said there are additional resources on the health department website, worcesterhealth.org. For access to statewide programs and resources, simply dial 2-1-1.

“If someone needs help, we really just encourage you to support them,” he said. “It can be enough just to have a conversation with someone if you think that they might need help.”

In Through the ER: Atlantic General Hospital Vice-President of Patient Care Services Colleen Wareing

Wareing said Atlantic General Hospital staff is attacking addiction and drug abuse on several fronts.

See OPIOIDS Page 28



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Opinion

Please send all letters and other editorial submissions to editor@baysidegazette.com by 5 p.m. Monday.

Our endorsements for the midterm election

As we evaluate candidates for endorsements going into next Tuesday’s election, we consider a number of factors: knowledge of the area, knowledge of government, potential influence to be wielded on the job, vision, the ability to work with the bodies they seek to join, and whether there’s a compelling need to replace an incumbent seeking reelection.

With these things considered, we recommend the reelection of Sen. Jim Mathias. This is a pragmatic choice, rather than a philosophical one, since his opponent, Del. Mary Beth Carozza, also meets many of our criteria.

The plain fact, however, is that a Democratic majority controls the Maryland General Assembly, and the Senate is ruled, in no uncertain terms, by Majority Leader Mike Miller. Mathias, a Democrat, has worked within that framework.

Even though Carozza says she will take a bipartisan approach and reach across the aisle, it’s unlikely, under Miller, that the aisle will reach back. Mathias also works well with Gov. Larry Hogan, who will undoubtedly return to office.

For delegate for Dist. 38A, there is no compelling reason to replace incumbent Republican Del. Charles Otto, while in 38C, we endorse candidate Wayne Hartman, a Republican, who faces no challenge beyond a doubtful write-in campaign.

In the Worcester County Commissioner races, we believe Republican Commissioner Bud Church is the right person to represent District 3, which includes West Ocean City and part of Berlin. He has the experience, the ability and the influence necessary to look after this area’s interests.

For Ocean Pines, District 5, we endorse Republican Chip Bertino, who seems to be in sync with his constituents and whose regular town meetings ought to be emulated by others.

Down the county, in District 4, and a little out of our bailiwick, we recommend the return of Democrat Virgil Shockley to the seat he held from 1998 to 2014. And in District 1, which encompasses Pocomoke and southern Worcester, we recommend Democrat Josh Nordstrom.

In the contest for Register of Wills, we support Chief Deputy Terresa “Terri” Delaney Westcott, who has 18 years of job experience and the endorsement of her predecessor, Charlotte Cathell.



“It’s important that every eligible voter to cast their ballot, Leonard. Voting is a privilege and many people in other states don’t have that.”

Letters

Another opinion on OPA goose problem

An open letter to the Ocean Pines Association General Manager And Board Of Directors, local news media, and any other interested parties
Editor,

I am an Ocean Pines homeowner of more than 30 years and have lived here full time since 2008. I have acquired three homes here over the years, all occupied by family.

I lived in many locations during my life and working career. When the time came that I could buy a vacation home that would eventually be used for retirement, I looked in many places. My husband liked woods and mountains and fireplaces, yet I wanted to be at or near the beach. Neither of us wanted to live in any of the pristine and lovely gated communities we visited over the years – they were all nice, but we were looking for something more natural, more in tune with nature.

One of the qualities that drew me to this community was the abundance of trees and water and waterfowl

and other wildlife here in a sylvan setting where one could be near the shore. Remarkably, in Ocean Pines it was possible to reside in beauty and serenity equivalent to a nature preserve, and daily to walk and drive among trees and water, and observe all kinds of wildlife. A restorative place hidden away from the hustle and bustle of city life and demanding jobs. Each year, I never failed to marvel at all that exists in this beautiful place.

This year, my peace of mind and enjoyment of this community was shattered by the ill conceived and poorly executed decision to massacre hundreds of geese families this spring. I was sickened by this tragedy, utterly shocked and appalled by what occurred. My trust in the OPA leadership and volunteer committees was severely damaged by the secret planning and decision making that occurred with no opportunity for broad community input – especially before taking such a harsh and irrevocable action that destroyed multiple geese families, creatures that I and many other residents

had enjoyed having here so much.


I am sure that the persons responsible for the goose kill felt that they were making a hard decision that was necessary and unavoidable, and that they believed that the unannounced cover of darkness for the killing was appropriate to avoid chaos and controversy. To this, I say, “how sad, and how wrong.”

Because of illness and family commitments, I was unable to attend the open meetings that followed the goose kill. In reading all the news reports and comments, it was clear that a wide range of strong views existed about what happened. As I pondered the situation and waited for my emotions to subside, I resisted writing letters of outrage and disappointment many times in the months that have followed. But today I would like to go on record to express some alternate views that I hope will be accorded respect and consideration. They are as follows:

- The flocks of geese around our ponds and grassy areas in OP are a benefit, not a nuisance. Geese

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BAYSIDE



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Letters

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are large and beautiful creatures who mostly mate for life and carefully nurture and guide their young. The sights of two goose parents protecting their newborn chicks and later leading adolescent goslings in processions with a watchful eye, is something wondrous to behold (and a good lesson for humans). It never failed to bring a smile to my face and a brief feeling of peace and good will as I made my way around the community.

- The restorative power of nature and animals as an antidote for human stress and angst has been well documented in medical studies. Better than Prozac and pill popping and other self-medications, the ability to see and interact with nature is a natural healing resource that should be protected, not eradicated.

- The various reports of pollution and other health concerns that were circulated as justifications for the killing of the geese flocks overstated the problem and ignored alternative solutions.

- Using dogs to harass and chase away the geese won't solve the "perceived problem" that some have expressed. Furthermore, this action continues to interfere with my rights to enjoy the benefits that geese and other wildfowl have provided to me as a property owner. When I drive by South Pond now, instead of the pleasant sight of geese and ducklings bathing and eating and nesting, I am faced with blaring red signs "Do not feed" and barren, sparsely populated shores intermittently being policed by man and dogs. The whole scene is jarring, and ugly, and unnecessary.

Here is what I propose instead: three simple, humane, and safe approaches as follows:

- Be a better steward of life and property by making a paradigm shift in the way that the geese are regarded and managed in Ocean Pines. Recognize that the geese are native creatures and should be here to stay, even in abundance. Understand that they provide substantial benefits to the quality of life here.

- Manage the issue of goose droppings by using a combination of volunteer cleanups and paid custodial work efforts to clean up as needed in areas where humans gather and walk. This is not so difficult as it sounds and would be cheaper and immensely more humane than the ill-advised measures used so far.

- Rather than forbid feeding, resume the time-honored activity of allowing people to see and feed the wildfowl. This activity is something amusing, positive and joyful for both adults and children in today's polarized and often angry, stressed out world. (One of my earliest and most pleasant childhood memories was being taken by my parents to feed the geese who gathered by a large body of water near National Airport in Washington.)

Speaking only for myself, but with hope and some confidence that there are others out there who will agree with me, I would be willing to have a small portion of my association dues be allocated to wildfowl cleanup (just as is done for people cleanup). If this action cannot receive sufficient public support to go forward as a regularly budgeted expense, I would be willing to contribute out of my own pocket to a true "conservation and environmental protection program" that uses a combination of contributed funds, part-time hired help, and common sense cleanup measures rather than a cruel and ineffective program of organized killing and harassment.

I would also be willing to participate in some type of volunteer program that would share the work of cleanup for specified areas. By breaking such yard and walkway efforts into small assigned areas and manageable tasks, OP residents could

both enjoy proximity to nature and carry out truly purposeful conservation activity. Perhaps a few local business might also be induced to participate, as is done for some highway cleaning efforts.

What I am not willing to do is to continue to stand silent in dismay and disappointment while changes are made in this community that affect me and others so negatively. Living here has not been the same since the goose kill. The prospects of ever getting back to the pleasant earlier times seem dim unless all involved

can find a way to recognize that Ocean Pines waterfowl are one of the benefits of living here, not a nuisance, and deal with them accordingly.

I don't want to move away from Ocean Pines in disappointment and disgust – I want to live here and promote a better life for everyone and everything in the community. Persons who wish to work toward this end are invited to contact me with comments and suggestions via email at skoski43@aol.com.

Susan Koski-Grafer
Ocean Pines

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For one, the hospital now uses “care navigators” in the emergency department through a partnership with the health department.

“We are able to utilize their expertise when someone comes in and has any type of addiction – whether it be an overdose, or they may come in for another reason like a cellulitis, but it’s really secondary to needle use,” she said. “That group has been extremely helpful in helping over 200 people since they started back in 2017.

“As a result of their help, as well as other programs, we’re really seeing less of a return to the emergency department,” Wareing said. “In some cases, we can get them into treatment. In some cases, we just plant a seed.”

The hospital has also focused on redefining how its doctors dispense medications that can lead to opiate dependence, including the adoption of CDC standards for safe prescribing and implementing Maryland Hospital Association guidelines for emergency room prescriptions.

“We’re prescribing so few [opioids] in our emergency department now,” Wareing said. “That’s our effort to not contribute to this problem.”

She said membership in the health care company Premier helps to provide benchmarks against thousands of other hospitals, nationally. Additionally, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program overseen by the Maryland Department of Health requires doctors to review a patient’s history before prescribing some drugs, and AGH pharmacists are now required to prescribe Naloxone along with certain levels of medication.

Many, including Wareing, believe the opioid crisis was born because doctors developed a proclivity to over-prescribe.

“I still believe that is happening, but I think it’s improving,” she said. “I think there’s much more awareness of what these drugs can do and how quickly they can cause addiction than ever existed before. And I truly believe the doctors did not know how quickly people could get addicted to these drugs.”

She said ownership of the problem belonged “in many, many areas.”

“I think the manufacturers of these drugs were really pushing [them],” Wareing said. “We got into a belief system that people should not have pain, which was a very patient-centered model, but then there were also these ‘wonderful drugs’ that the drug companies had that would relieve pain ... and it all just snowballs.

“Where did it start – is it the egg or the chicken? I don’t know, but ... I don’t believe that anyone maliciously intended for this to get to where it got to. And I think that our physicians are very attuned to the fact that we don’t want to continue to perpetuate that,” she added.

Wareing said the hospital this year is projecting “a decline in actual opioid overdoses.” She acknowledged that could be because of the availability of Naloxone.

“We really are trying to share a lot of data across different things, so the police have data, the Worcester County Health Department has data, we have data,” she said. “Sometimes it’s hard to interpret this data, but it appears that we’re seeing less in the emergency department.”

She added that anyone who has been given Naloxone should still come into the emergency room for treatment.

“Naloxone may reverse it, temporarily, and then the narcotic will take over again and they could end up going back into an overdose situation,” Wareing said. “Not to mention

sure people have Naloxone so they don’t die before we can get them help – and on and on and on – it’ll take all of those things until we get to a certain mass and then, without a doubt, we should begin to see this hopefully begin to turn a corner backwards,” she continued.

“I don’t think we know the answer to whether we’re making headway or not, but I do believe 100 percent we’re doing the right things,” Wareing said.

On the Road to Recovery: Hope4Recovery Inc. Executive Director Patrice Ottey

“I can’t imagine there’s somebody out there now that hasn’t seen or heard or had a family member or a friend of the family that hasn’t been affected [by addiction],” Ottey said.

Ottey, also an Ocean Pines Police

see them at the height of bouncing back by coming into this home,” she said. “I get to see them starting over, sort of hitting bottom and coming back up, being humble, starting all over, and being thankful. That’s what we’re hoping.”

Hope4Recovery clients are generally admitted after an extended stay in an inpatient facility. Others have been clean for some time, but “need the security of a structured environment,” Ottey said.

All must be drug-tested and have been clean for 30 days. Clients are required to remain drug-free, attend regular counseling sessions, and find employment.

Again, there’s no magic bullet.

“From my experience, there’s not one fix for all – everybody’s journey is a little bit different,” Ottey said. “I will say that the guys that I see that work the steps, go to the meetings and are integrated in that relationship of others in full recovery – they really succeed and they do well.

“I don’t think anybody knows the hard, fast, step 1-25 that’s going to get them where they need to be,” she continued. “But we try to lay the groundwork for what we’ve seen people succeed in. We can only give them the tools.”

By the end, Ottey said clients are hopefully “confident and clean, and a participating member of society.”

“They’re working. They’re giving back. They’re going to their meetings. They’re mentoring ... they’re bringing guys up with them and making sure they stay on track,” she said. “That’s one of the huge things we stress at the Salisbury house – you’ve got to pick up a guy that just came in and take them with you, because they’re looking to see what the right thing to do is.

“And happy – I want to see them leave happy,” Ottey continued. “Luckily, the guys that have left to go to independent living have, so far, been successful.”

To contact Ottey about space in the home, email hope4recovery2017@gmail.com or call 443-523-4459.

Starting a Movement: Worcester County Warriors Against Opiate Addiction President and co-founder Heidi McNeeley and Fundraising Director Jamie McNeeley

Heidi McNeeley helped start the nonprofit Worcester County Warriors two years ago as a way deal with her own struggle as the mother of a heroin addict.

“Having been down that road as a mom, and knowing how devastating and lonely it was for me, I just felt that it was important to reach out to other people in the community,” she said. “I really just envisioned having a group of maybe five or six family members and we’d meet a couple of times and talk.”

About 50 people attended the



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Kim Poole, a behavioral health and addictions program worker with the Worcester County Health Department, administers a dose of naloxone, a drug that helps reverse opiate overdoses, during a training session at the Ocean Pines Library.

then we could link them, hopefully, to some addictions services – if they’re willing to at least consider it.”

Wareing returned to the issue of where and how the resurgence of heroin and opioid abuse started.

“There’s a whole lot of things that caused the problem,” she said. “It’s a multifaceted, epidemic problem and it’s going to take multifaceted solutions to end it. It didn’t happen overnight and it’s not going to change overnight, but it’s like giving an immunization – if you only immunize 30 percent of the patients you’re not going to control the epidemic.

“With what we’re doing and prevention is doing and Worcester County is doing and the [Worcester County] Warriors are doing and the Atlantic Club, and you put all that together and we keep improving the prescribing methods, reducing the need for narcotics in hospitals, making sure people are educated, making

Detective, has a unique perspective on the heroin and opioid epidemic. Last year she opened a recovery house in Wicomico County. On Monday, she opened the Hope4Recovery house in Berlin.

“I think I’ve learned between two different communities the different aspects of how people respond,” she said. “I see in Wicomico, I think because of the population being a lot bigger, that they respond a little bit differently. It’s very upfront and in your face, and I think people are a little more advanced in their thinking or their accepting [of the problem].

“We hope that having a home here will not just help the guys in the house, but it’ll provide another service to the area and it’ll lessen the stigma,” she added.

As a police officer in Worcester, Ottey often sees people at the peak of their addiction.

“It will be a great opportunity to

OPIOIDS

group’s first meeting. A month later, the Warriors swelled to several hundred, and now includes local law enforcement and lawmakers, and regional recovery specialists.

“Our mission statement is to educate, support, provide navigation and resources, and awareness to the people of Worcester County that have been impacted by the opioid epidemic,” Heidi said.

Jamie McNeeley said the community’s response has been incredible, especially when asking for donations for fundraisers.

“Nobody says ‘no,’” he said. “In the last fundraiser we had at the Green Turtle in April, we raised close to \$5,000 in two-and-a-half hours – and that was mainly from silent auction items that were from community members and business.”

Heidi said money raised “helps people overcome financial obstacles to recovery.”

Half of the funds raised during the Third Annual Rock for Recovery event, Nov. 11 at Trader Lee’s in Ocean City, will go toward the Hope4Recovery house in Berlin.

Recovery homes aren’t free, Heidi said, and often require security deposits and weekly fees.

“A lot of the requests are for the first two weeks in a recovery home,” she said. “We’re going to help fund the first Berlin resident [at Hope4Re-

covery] and we’re very excited about that.”

The Warriors have also paid for taxis to treatment facilities in Baltimore and for storage units for people entering recovery. Heidi said the group has helped 52 people receive treatment.

“I think what we’ve learned specifically about helping people is to let all the qualifiers go by the wayside,” she said. “Initially, we said we don’t want anybody with a criminal record, because we didn’t want to help them go out of the county or out of state. We only wanted to help people who were Worcester County residents. We didn’t know about helping people a second time, if they relapsed.

“But, we want to save lives, so who really gives a shit if they’re from Somerset County?” Heidi continued. “We’re still cautious, but I think we just want to help everybody that we can.”

She also changed her opinion on supporting harm-reduction tactics.

“When we first started the Warriors, I would’ve been completely against needle exchanges and safe-injection sites, and now I’m 100 percent for them ... because it’s something that could save someone’s

life,” Heidi said.

“Having been around people who are seriously addicted on a weekly and a daily basis ... what I’ve learned is that these people are beautiful, wonderful, dear, sensitive, incredible people,” she continued. “Just because somebody is addicted to heroin, I don’t want to feel like it’s OK for them to die.”

Heidi said there’s no formula for when and how a drug addict will ask for help. The point is to keep them alive until that moment comes.

“If that magic moment occurs and they say, ‘I’m ready for recovery’ and I happen to be there, I can say, ‘awesome, let’s get you on the path,’” she said.

She also understands there is no stereotypical addict.

“An addict looks like a 9-to-5 businessman in a button-up shirt and tie. An addict looks like the high school football star or the MVP of the wrestling team,” she said. “I think an addict looks like any one of us and many of them come from good, loving families.”

A Former Addict’s Take: Tom Mcgrath

Mcgrath is a former resident at Ottey’s recovery house in Wicomico

County. He’s 29, originally from Baltimore, and a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School.

He and said he was a normal kid growing up, although he never knew his mother and was instead raised by his father and two brothers.

In college, Mcgrath transferred from Wor-Wic to the University of South Carolina, but a loan fell through during his second semester there. He left school and enlisted in the U.S. Navy.

He smoked marijuana and drank a little, but didn’t try any hard drugs until he came back from the Navy and found his friends had gotten into Percocet.

“Just one day, randomly, I was over at a guy’s house and he was prescribed them,” he said. “I guess I didn’t really open my eyes enough to see how it was grabbing people and catching people, because even my friends at the time were doing it every day.”

It also grabbed him. Mcgrath found the pills helped numb everything that had been going on beside him.

“I wish I would have focused more on things that were going on inside of

See OPIOIDS Page 31

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SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay
Ocean City
410-524-4900
www.seacrets.com

Nov. 2: Mardi Gras Prohibition Party, 7-10 p.m.; DJ Tuff, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Flowers for Taco, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Nov. 3: The Freddie Long Band, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Bobby-O, 6 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Steal The Sky, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
Nov. 8: Full Circle Duo, 5-9 p.m.; DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, bayside
Ocean City
410-723-6762
www.skyebaroc.com
Nov. 2: Marcell Peters, 4-8 p.m.
Nov. 3: Aaron Howell, 4-8 p.m.

TRADER LEE'S LIVE

9935 Stephen Decatur Highway
West Ocean City
443-614-4119
Nov. 3: Chest Pains, 8 p.m.
Nov. 7: Open Mic Night, 7 p.m.
Nov. 8: Karaoke Live

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17
Pines Plaza, Ocean Pines
410-208-3922
www.whiskersbar.com
Nov. 2: Karaoke w/Donnie Berkey

OPIOIDS

Continued from Page 29

me, as far as depression and anxiety and just turmoil constantly,” he said. “My head was constantly just going, going, going. I didn’t know how to fix it, so I did drugs.”

He graduated to heroin a few years later when the supply of prescription opioids became scarce. Mcgrath, who sold pot in college, found himself selling heroin to support his new habit.

“I was just trying not to pay \$500 out of my pocket,” he said. “I could sell some and still get high. It was like an avalanche ... it was probably the most powerless and vulnerable I’ve ever been.

“Once it gets ahold of you, that’s when the real terror starts to come, because it’s not just about the physical addiction anymore ... but now it’s in your head,” Mcgrath continued. “Everything snowballed so fast.”

He got busted and charged with distribution, and eventually went to jail. While there, Mcgrath said, the problem only grew worse.

“It kind of multiplied the problem, because then you put me around other people who are addicts and have different connections, and you’re surrounded by that 24-7,” he said. “Once I got released on parole, I went right back to using.”

Within the space of just a few years, two of his best friends over-

dosed and died. Before that, his aunt had overdosed and died in 2012 and a cousin suffered a fatal overdose in 2009.

“I was still using at that point [around 2016],” Mcgrath said. Finally, he checked himself into rehab, but by doing so violated parole and was again sent to jail.

“The day before I got released, my other best friend left to go back to work on a tugboat in Philadelphia. Two weeks later, he overdosed on the boat and he died,” Mcgrath said. “It was a point in my life where I was saying, ‘Am I going to go left or right?’”

The drugs, he said, had become a mask for unresolved issues with his family and friends.

“I told myself I was either going to be a 50-year-old junkie, or I’m going to try and take a second chance at life,” Mcgrath said. “And it was the first time in my life I felt like I got outside of myself – it wasn’t all about me anymore. I could see the pain in my father’s eyes and my brothers’ eyes.

“I couldn’t do it by myself,” he continued. “And [recovery has] been the greatest thing that’s happened to me in my life, because now, in return, I can help other people that were in that position.”

He got into the drug court program, which he’s now nearly fin-

ished, and volunteered to help in several other local groups, including the Worcester County Warriors, that address addiction, depression and anxiety.

“Anything where I can get some personal time, because that’s what I needed,” Mcgrath said. “I needed somebody to get through to me, to pay attention [and to say] ‘I’ve been through it.’ You can have a piece of paper that says, ‘I can help you,’ but you have no idea what I’m talking about, because it’s hell.”

Mcgrath said trying to help someone recover from an addiction is a balancing act. Based on his experience, too much pressure can push someone away, while not enough can make a person feel isolated.

“It’s really individual,” he said. “Really, it’s up to you as far as, ‘Am I tired of this life 100 percent?’ And it can’t be 99, because at 99 percent you’re going to use again. It has to be 100 percent and you have to stay committed.

“You can’t ever stop working, even if it feels like it’s getting better and you’ve been clean for a while ... you still have to work every day to replant the different seeds in your head,” Mcgrath continued. “And it’s impossible to do it on your own.”

Prosecuting the Problem:
Worcester County State’s Attorney
See OPIOIDS Page 32

Ocean Pines Fun Fact

In 1990 the OPA board decided to tackle some revisions to the Declaration of Restrictions, a big task as at least 50 percent of property owners in each section must approve any changes since there were different documents for each, along with one for the entire community which could be approved with an overall majority.

After several attempts the revisions were finally approved, including changes to time-sharing, restrictions on certain size trucks being parked overnight and the amount of interest OPA could charge on delinquent accounts.



Weekly

OPEN HOUSES

Nov. 1 - Nov. 8

DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Daily	Assateague Point., Berlin	1BR/2BR/3BR	Mobile	From \$100,000	Tony Matrona/Resort Homes
Sat-Mon, 11-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Sat. & Sun. 11-2pm	Muirfield Lane., River Run	3-4BR/2-3.5BA	Single Family	\$399,900-\$479,900	Ed Wehnert/Coldwell Banker
Sat. & Sun. 11-4pm	29 Boatswain Dr., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$459,000	Greg Steen/Steen Realty
Saturday 11-2pm	400 142nd St., Ocean City	4BR/4BA	Single Family	\$499,900	Britt's Teams/Keller Williams Realty
Saturday 11-2pm	2 48th St., Ocean City	3BR/3BA	Condo	\$799,900	Britt's Teams/Keller Williams Realty
Saturday 1-5pm	11401 St. Martin's Neck Rd., Bishopville	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$249,900	Bethany Drew/Hileman Real Estate

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OPIOIDS

Continued from Page 31

ney Elect Kris Heiser

Heiser called for a more proactive approach toward the opioid epidemic, and one that transcends traditional roles.

"If I prosecute the case and I win and justice is served and the bad guy goes to jail ... can I go home and sleep at night? Yeah, I can go home and sleep at night. I've done my job, technically speaking," she said. "But, if I'm just banging my head against the wall and we're not getting to the underlying issue and all of the resources are available for me to access and I know the person that needs the help, common sense would dictate that you do a bit more."

There are difficulties in coordination, however, and she underscored the fact that there's no one person to call when battling heroin and opioids in the state. So, those involved often have to get creative.

"I've spoken with Diakonia, I've spoken with Worcester Youth and Family, I've spoken with Worcester Warriors Against Opiate Addiction ... and they kind of agree that there's not really somebody divvying up the resources appropriate and making sure everything is covered," she said. "That's a big part of it."

At the other end, Heiser said, is ar-resting drug dealers who are "pushing the poison." But that can also be tricky.

"There's always another one to topple," she said, adding in 2016 close to 90 percent of Worcester overdoses "were linked to sources not in Worcester County — they were linked to Sussex County."

"We have a multijurisdictional problem, because Worcester County and Sussex County ... don't have a memorandum of understanding as far as that goes," Heiser said. "So, now we're talking about contacting the governor's office and getting Gov. Hogan to contact Delaware's governor to make sure Delaware's problem isn't bleeding into Maryland in a way that we can't manage."

"Identifying the problem is a problem," she added.

There's also the matter of a potentially massive lawsuit Heiser compared to the 1998 "Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement," when 46 states sought to recoup health care costs by suing several of the largest tobacco companies. The settlement in that case included, among other stipulations, more than \$200 billion in payments.

Heiser said pharmaceutical companies were "100 percent" responsible for spreading the opioid epidemic, but "the problem there is how to hold them accountable."

"The fact that the drug manufacturer is pretty much the full basis of information for the doctor is kind of scary," she said. "When you explain that to people they're like, 'well, that doesn't really make sense.' These

people that stand to make a profit are the only ones that are really advising doctors how much to prescribe and when? That seems a little bit crazy."

Washington, D.C. based Principal Law Group is handling the case, Heiser said, and she was told the payout to local governments could amount to a decade's worth of police budgets.

"When they have forensic accountants that are telling us 86 percent of people who overdose on heroin started out by using [prescription] opioids and, therefore, 86 percent of costs of that the government spends to try and contain this problem can be linked back to the pharmaceutical companies and distributors? That's huge," she said. "I don't think it can be overstated."

"I have just been trying to raise awareness that it exists, it's out there, and I don't want Worcester County ... to potentially miss out on something that could be so helpful for all of our citizens," Heiser added.

Assessing the Economics: Dr. Memo Diriker, director of the Business Economic and Community Outreach Network of the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University

During the next several years, Diriker claims, the negative economic impact of heroin and opioids will exceed the positive impact of the billion-dollar poultry industry.

"We did a study on the economic cost of substance abuse in our nine [Eastern Shore] counties," he said, adding that incarceration, treatments and even the prices for Naloxone were on the rise. "Separately, we did a study of the economic value of all resource-based industries in all of Maryland's counties. From that, we looked at the positive economic impact of poultry within those resource-based industries."

The negative dollar-amounts in dealing with the opioid crisis were alarmingly close to the positive impact of poultry, Diriker concluded.

"I don't remember the number off the top of my head, but they were very close to each other," he said. "Given that the impact of opioids continues to grow at a very rapid clip, we believe that within in a few years the negative impact will be a higher number than the positive number for the poultries."

"Obviously they're not related, but the numbers are scary," Diriker added.

So, what do you do with that data? "Nothing, other than you make sure that more counties are doing what Wicomico County is doing, because Wicomico County is one of the few counties that has actually reduced the overdose deaths," he said.

For instance, Diriker said, Wicomico staffed a call center with former addicts to help those in crisis.

"They are encouraged to seek

treatment. It's a nonincarceration, more treatment-oriented intervention service that is delivered primarily by former addicts who have managed to get out of it," he said. "Unless we do things like that to reduce overdoses and overdose deaths, we're going to be in even more dire straits than we are [now]."

Overall, Diriker said, in the nine counties he studied, overdoses were increasing — when he factored in fentanyl.

What's more, he said, the problem was found statistically to be ecumenical.

"All kinds of ethnic and economic backgrounds, all kind of demographic backgrounds [were represented]. You'd never guess who the next person is," he said. "It's something we'd better tackle, otherwise it's going to be keep costing us more and more."

Campaigning for a Solution: District 38 Sen. Jim Mathias and District 38C Del. Mary Beth Carozza

The race for Maryland's District 38 Senate seat has seen both parties trade barbs over policy. Not the least of which was an ad by the Republican Party that suggested Mathias' support for supervised safe injection sites amounted to the incumbent "making it easier to get heroin than ice cream."

Carozza said she "took such a strong position against the bill that would allow for heroin-injected sites paid for by the taxpayers," because it did not have local support during meetings she attended.

"Not one person advocated or supported that approach," Carozza said. "While I understand that the incumbent is making the point that everything should be on the table with the epidemic this severe, I disagree with that approach, because I believe the initiatives that we move forward should reflect local support and local consensus. So, I strongly oppose that bill and will continue to do so."

Instead, she advocates allowing for "a very narrowly drawn privacy exemption" to notify parents of college students in cases where drug abuse is suspected. Carozza said the idea came from a series of community meetings that included the Worcester County Opioid Intervention Team.

"I would not move forward on that initiative unless it had local support, so we took this idea that came from this community event with the families of the addicted, took it to the next OIT meeting in Worcester County ... where the general consensus was that there would be support for moving forward," she said. "I plan to continue to do my research and to introduce a very narrow bill to allow for that notification, because in the end I believe that could save lives."

She said her approach is both comprehensive and "always ties back to the local level." Carozza also sup-

ports increased penalties "for those distributors who are making their money off of the heroin/opioid epidemic."

"I recognize that, along with recovery and treatment, you have to support this piece of it as well," she said.

She credited Hogan for being the first governor to declare a state of emergency because of heroin and opioids, and for appointing former Ocean City official Clay Stamp to the statewide task force.

"I plan to continue to be a leader in working with the locals and advocating at the state level so, in the end, whatever programs and solutions we move forward with truly benefit our local families of the addicted and saving more lives, and I believe we can do so with this local approach."

Mathias likewise praised Hogan's campaign against opiates, but said the problem is getting worse despite those efforts. He pointed to the state statistics that show the significant annual increase in opioid intoxication deaths.

He went on to say it's the job of the legislature to consider any "tools that are proven to be effective — regardless of what that tool is," and shrugged off negative campaign mailers as shock value.

"In this case, that tool was a clean injection site, which was under the auspice of the Maryland Health Department ... and a participating local health department opting in," Mathias said. "We never got to the final lines of this, because of all the furor that was raised."

"We're trying to bring some responsible compassion and some understanding, but it brought the whole stigma back to rest on the families of those who are fighting this addiction issue and those that are in recovery," he said.

Mathias compared the legislature to a workbench where elected officials seek to solve common problems. On the heroin epidemic, he said the statistics show "it's clear that what we have done is not enough."

"It's wholly unacceptable that we have to default to what the traditional means can be, and the traditional means have to fall first before we can start looking at things that are working in other places that are creative," Mathias said. "I was able to make that change in cancer [research]. I'm willing to discuss making that change in addiction."

"I'm going to continue to not wait until something fails first," he continued. "With the increases in the death rate, it's clear that we don't have the full measure that we need and all the toolboxes that we need to effectively address addiction and mental health ... and I'm going to stand up to make sure that we get those."

"I am not going to stigmatize or stymie a creative thought for conversation at the workbench of Maryland," Mathias said.

Puzzles

MATCH PLAY

BY ERIK AGARD / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Chunks of land

7 "Be on the lookout" messages, for short

11 Person to take complaints to, informally

14 Polo of "The Fosters"

18 Popular Dominican dance

20 Leave quickly

21 Musical Yoko

22 Get a _____ on someone

23 Sou'wester

25 Abbr. in many blood type names

26 "Logic dictates ..."

27 It's usually put in the middle of a table

28 Late hours

31 Messes up

35 Downfall in pinball

37 Music export from Tokyo, for short

38 Sciences' counterpart

39 "Jeez!"

41 Princess who says, "I recognized your foul stench when I was brought on board"

43 Campy 1972 vampire film

45 Peace marches

48 Grub

51 Part of a preschool day

52 Opinion

53 Nirvana seeker

56 Sorority letter

57 Forbiddance

58 Masthead list, for short

60 More lit, perhaps

62 "After Earth"

69 Pothead

70 _____ Lama

71 Do the wave?

72 What un-desierto lacks

74 Lyrical lament

75 Not able to catch something

77 Growth ring

80 Farthest point in an orbit around the moon

82 This woman

83 Closure opening?

84 Vote in France

85 Blue swaths on maps

87 They follow oohs

90 Like the simplest instructions

95 Talk show host Cohen

97 Trade punches

100 Hills with gentle slopes on one side and steep slopes on the other

103 Fake

104 Verdi tragedy

105 "Grand Ole" venue

106 Say whether or not you'll attend

108 Blow out

110 Imbroglio

111 Prostates

115 French 101 verb

117 Collaborative site

118 Snatch

119 Game suggested by this puzzle's theme

125 Racer Luyendyk

126 Half of dos

127 Taking care of things

128 Nickel-and-diming sort

129 They might break out in hives

130 Cockapoo or cockatoo, maybe

131 Cpls.' superiors

132 Act obsequiously

DOWN

1 Atlanta-based cable inits.

2 Cold and wet

3 Term in tennis, golf and baseball, all with different meanings

4 Hero interred in Santa Clara, Cuba

5 "Later, luv"

6 Rhyming nickname in Cardinals history

7 Midriff muscles, for short

8 "Oh, quit being silly!"

9 Sailor in the Navy

10 Seatbelt, e.g.

11 "C'mon, be serious"

12 _____ Day vitamins

13 Rémy Martin product

14 Bridge-supporting frame

15 Dulles designer

16 Pasta-sauce brand

17 Longtime singing talent show, familiarly

19 _____-vaxxers

24 Singer Reese

29 Garment worn by John Roberts that's hidden in his name

30 R&B's _____ Hill

31 Bristol, Conn.-based cable inits.

32 Sister and wife of Cronus, in myth

33 Collect from the soil

34 Result of a religious schism

36 Camping need

40 Japanese dogs with turned-up tails

42 Neighbor of Wyo.

44 Commercial rhyme for "Famous"

46 Transmits

47 Part of a Mario costume

49 Part of a "Which came first?" dilemma

50 Comment before "I missed that"

54 Director Van Sant

55 Cross

59 Maker of the game Zaxxon

61 _____ contendere

62 Pad alternative

63 Chinese New Year treat

64 One of the Castros

65 Shed material

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 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132

66 Dwarf planet with more mass than Pluto

67 Good throw?

68 "Get outta here!"

70 _____ Taurasi, all-time W.N.B.A. scoring leader

73 Supplementary item

76 Suffix with methyl

78 Gymnastics flip

79 Arizona capital of the Navajo Nation

81 _____ Germany

86 Relatively cool stellar phenomenon

88 "Come again?"

89 Some bathroom installations

91 Brother of Ham

92 Play starter?

93 Sand-burrowing marine creatures

94 Reasons to do something

96 Quaint demographic grouping

98 No. 2

99 Revved up

101 Timeline part

102 Align

107 "¡Let's go!"

109 Some flight board info

111 Mop

112 Poop out

113 Over

114 _____ interview

116 Coin in Köln

120 Sci-fi C.G.I. creations

121 Debut, metaphorically

122 Dealership expanse

123 I problem?

124 Hem but not haw?

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HARD - 27

Fill in the blank spaces in the grid so that every vertical column, every horizontal row and every 3 by 3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, without repeating any. There is really only one solution to each puzzle.

Answers to last week's puzzles

8 3 4 6 9 5 2 1 7

7 6 2 1 8 4 5 9 3

1 9 5 3 2 7 6 4 8

5 7 6 9 3 2 1 8 4

9 2 3 8 4 1 7 5 6

4 8 1 7 5 6 3 2 9

3 5 9 2 7 8 4 6 1

2 1 8 4 6 3 9 7 5

6 4 7 5 1 9 8 3 2

9 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

1 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

1 8 7 3 1 4 6

5 1 3 5

FIBBER LIBIDO STRAP

AMARNA UNITARDS CHAFE

KIBITZ CROSSBOW RETRO

ENYA OAKEN HIDE ARSON

SNARKY ICET DOME

OTTER ABACUS MENS SHOP

WRENCH REST VINE TORY

LIPO UBER EGAD ASHLAR

SOS ALLA CARDIB LED TO

EBOOK USAUSA ARIES

NOLITA BRATZ DONUTS

BALED THE FBI PARTB

LEDGE SAVEUS USES JIF

INVADE NEWT APSO TATA

GAIN ABEL TRIP SEIZED

HECTARES TOILET SEZME

LUSH PUNT TWITCH

ARBY S EGAN EPSON LAMP

LEAPS SANDRA OH EMINOR

ENNUI THERE I GO POPDUO

STATE MADDOW TOSSED

Calendar

Please send calendar items to editor@baysidegazette.com by 5 p.m. Monday. All community-related activities will be published at no charge.

Thurs., Nov. 1

MAH-JONGG TOURNAMENT
Golden Sands Resort, 10900 Coastal Highway, 10:00 AM. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Entrance fee of \$30 includes a continental breakfast, lunch and door prizes. There will be a 50/50 raffle as well as prizes for the top three tournament point-earners. Register by Oct. 28: Darlene Botts, dbkatt47@verizon.net.

STEM FEST: STORY TIME ‘APPLES’
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

PLAYTIME
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. Learn new skills while playing with the library’s educational toys. For infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

SCULPTING DEMONSTRATION AND INSTRUCTION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Rick Casali will demonstrate the creation of a bust. Participants will then be given the opportunity to sculpt their own art. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

PEPPA PIG LIVE! PEPPA PIG’S BIG SURPRISE
Ocean City Performing Arts Center, Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 6:00 PM. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Join Peppa, George, Mummy Pig, Daddy Pig and more in an all singing, all-dancing adventure full of songs, games and surprises. Tickets cost \$45, \$35 or \$25. VIP package available online only at Ticketmaster for \$125. Tickets: www.peppa-pigliveUS.com. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326.

ANIMATION AFTER HOURS
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. Seth Nedrow will to this educational showcase of rare, classic, groundbreaking and bizarre animation from easy era around the world. Designed for adult audiences. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

OCEAN PINES TOWN HALL MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, As-sateague Room, 239 Ocean Parkway. 7:30 PM. Submit questions, comments and concerns in advance via email to townhall@oceanpines.org. The meeting will be live online at www.OceanPines.org or on Mediacom channel 78.

BEACH SINGLES
Harpoon Hanna’s, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE 19944, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577 or Kate, 410-524-0649. <http://www.BeachSingles.org>

Fri., Nov. 2

FIBER FRIENDS
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Bring your lap work and join this informal group. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcome. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

STEM FEST FOR HOMESCHOOLERS ‘THE MOON’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. From tides to eclipses, learn about our closest cosmic neighbor. For ages 5 to 12. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

FREE FIRST FRIDAY ART RECEPTION
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Free opening reception of the November art shows. Complimentary refreshments served. Featuring the 4th Annual We Cycle & Recycle show, created by 20-plus artists. There will be a public bike ride through Little Salisbury before the reception at 4 p.m. After the reception at 7:30 p.m., the Arts Center will host their monthly Originals Only coffeehouse where young up-and-coming musicians perform. The We Cycle & Recycle show will culminate with a public auction on Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. Proceeds benefit the trail-building and safety programs of the Eastern Shore International Mountain Biking Association and the educational outreach of the Art League. 410-524-9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>.

MARDI GRAS PROHIBITION PARTY
Seacrets, 117 49th St., 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Tickets cost \$35 and include live entertainment, a Chinese, silent and live auction, light hors d’oeuvres, happy hour prices at the bar, beads and all the pageantry of Mardi Gras Street Entertainment with surprises throughout the evening. Win best dressed in ‘30s, ‘40s or ‘50s Madi Gras prohibition attire. Tickets can be purchased online at www.wced.foundation, under events or at Seacrets Boutique. Proceeds benefit the Worcester County Education Foundation. patti@peckmiller.com, 443-880-7795.

SOUTH PACIFIC
Wicomico High School, 201 Long Avenue, 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM. The Community Players of Salisbury will present South Pacific, the famous musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein, Nov. 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 4 at 2 p.m. at the Wicomico High School Auditorium, Matt Bogdan, 443-235-3272, oceancityhappyme@aol.com, <http://communityplayersofsalisbury.org>.

Sat., Nov. 3

OPERATION TOURIST BOOM
Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S Atlantic Ave., 6:30 AM - 6:30 PM. The Town of

Ocean City is teaming up with the Maryland National Guard to host a multi-agency training exercise in the Inlet Parking Lot and the surrounding downtown area. Members from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, as well as dozens of local, state and federal first responders will participate, totally nearly 1,000 training participants. The pubic is encouraged to come out and see their community working together. There will be various viewing areas available for spectators, food and giveaways.

FALL BAZAAR
Friendship United Methodist Church, 10537 Friendship Road, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Featuring breakfast and lunch sandwiches, homemade soups and baked goods. Vendors include Premiere Jewelry, Tastefully Simple, Usborne. Books, LulaRoe and more.

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE
Ocean City Presbyterian Church, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Rain or shine.

WINTER ARTISAN AND CRAFT FAIR
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Featuring jewelry, stitchery creations, beach decor, holiday decoration sand more. The Artisan and Gift Shop will also be open and there will be a bake table as well. Sponsored by Pine’er Craft Club., Carol Quinto, 410-208-4317.

STEM FEST: CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE AND TAKE ‘THE MOON’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Create themed crafts using materials provided by the library. For all ages. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

CUB SCOUT CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. In addition to vendors, there will be Cub made games, face painting, gift wrapping, a silent auction, food, community demonstrations from The Red Doors Community Center, X Squad Dancers and the Ocean Pines Players. Free door prizes and the first 100 people to enter receive 10 free tickets. There will also be pictures with Santa. Proceeds benefit Cub Scout Pack 261.

ANNUAL BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 18 Third St., 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. There will be lots of baked goods, arts & crafts, quilts and various gifts to select from. Admission is free. The luncheon is \$8 and includes. homemade soup, ham biscuits, homemade pie and coffee/tea. There will be free health screens and free flu shots.

STEM FEST ‘ROBOT INVASION’
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM. All middle schoolers and teens are invited to help build and program robots to create a display in the library. [\[terlibrary.org\]\(http://terlibrary.org\)](http://www.worces-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

STEM FEST: ‘THE MOON’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. From tides to eclipses, learn about our closest cosmic neighbor. For ages 5 to 12. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FIRST SATURDAY WRITERS’ WORKSHOP
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The group meets once a month to share their creative writing. New members and occasional visitors welcome. This month’s theme (optional) is beach. Jean Marx: 443-880-0045.

STEM FEST ‘MD MAKER DAY’
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Create an animal out of paper tubes and various craft supplies. All ages welcome. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET
Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 36536 Mount Pleasant Road, 11:00 AM. Menu includes chicken, vegetables, beverages and desserts. Cost is \$14 for adults, \$7 for children and free to those 5 and younger. Bake table and carry outs available. Nelda Dennis, 443-614-9898.

3RD ANNUAL SOUP FOR THE SOUL FUNDRAISER
Brandywine Living at Fenwick Island, 21111 Arrington Drive, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase signature soups and baked goods from popular local restaurants as well as residents and volunteers. Proceeds benefit the Community Food Bank of Salem United Methodist Church. 302-436-0808.

ANNUAL SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA
American Legion Berlin Post #123, 10111 Old Ocean City Blvd., 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Vendors include Mary Kay, LuLaRoe, Tastefully Simple, Simply Said Designs, NYR Organics, Color Street/NuSkin, Scentsy, Keep Collective, Goatopia, Beachbody, Pampered Chef, Pruvit, The Jewelry Gypsy, Plexus, Coastal Creations, Perfectly Posh, Thirty One, Herls Bath Fitters and more.

FARMERS MARKET
White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Locally grown vegetables and fruits, eggs, honey, kettle korn, flowers, artisan breads, seafood, meats and more. New vendors welcome. 410-641-7717, Ext. 3006.

Sun., Nov. 4

HUMANE SOCIETY QUARTER AUCTION
American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Doors open at noon. Featuring many donated items from local businesses as well as some well-known vendor items. There will be home-

Calendar

made desserts, 50/50 raffle, Paw Paddle, money board and raffle baskets. Lite fair and cash bar available. Advance tickets cost \$10 and include one paddle. There is an option to purchase an all-in paddle for \$40 and then there is no need to bring quarters. Tickets are available Worcester County Humane Society Thrift Shop, 12703 Sunset Ave., West Ocean City. For those who cannot attend, consider donating to the Giving Wall. Or participating in several different raffles. Stop by the WCHS Thrift Shop or call Mary Martinez, 410-382-2661. This event is for participants 18 and older.

Mon., Nov 5

MID-ATLANTIC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, 3:00 PM. Stellar Concertmasters, will feature Mozart’s Sinfonia Concertante and Haydn’s Symphony No. 102 with the duo Wyatt Underhill on violin and Jonathan Carney on viola. Tickets: midatlanticsymphony.org or 888-846-8600.

CPAP MASK FITTING
Atlantic General Hospital Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, 12:00 AM. Free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. By appointment only: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

HYPERTENSION CLINIC
Apple Discount Drugs, 314 Franklin Ave., #600, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place the first Monday of every month. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Michelle, 410-641-9268.

AARP MEETING
Ocean Pines Community Center, Asateague Room, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. Social time begins at 9:30 a.m. This month’s guest speaker will be The Giles Group-Merrill Lynch. They will be talking about SSI changes. Also, sign up for the Christmas Party on Dec. 3. 443-831-1791,

LAP TIME
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Children, under 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, games and finger plays. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

POSTURE AND PAIN SEMINAR
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM, Participants will learn how to access their posture, how posture may contribute to pain and whey posture is more than just trying to stand up straight. The seminar is free and open to the public. Advance registration required: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM. The group meets twice a month to discuss both classic and modern reading selections. Lisa Harrison, 410-632-3970, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

LAP TIME
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:30 PM. Children, under 2 years old, will be introduced to songs, games and finger plays. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

THE MOBILE MENTOR
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. Provides one-on-one assistance for those who want to make the most of their tablet or mobile device. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

STEM FEST ‘STEAM PM’
Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:45 PM. A medley of science, technology, engineering, art and math activities. Robotics, coding, wind tunnel challenge and more. For children 6 years and older. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

JAPANESE MARTIAL ARTS COURSE
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM. Participants will advance at their own pace. Break falls, rolls, self-defense and other movements will be taught. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM. TOPS is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Berlin group No. 169. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157.

AGH DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP
St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Open to the public and meets the first Monday of each month. Speaker and education related to diabetes is provided. AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education, 410-208-9761.

DELMARVA A CAPELLA CHORUS
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM. All levels of singers and drop-ins welcome. Carol, 410-641-6876.

Tue., Nov 6

FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIP
Burbage Regional Cancer Care Center Conference Room, 9707 Healthway Drive, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM, A cooperative effort of local Worship Centers and Atlantic General Hospital & Health System to increase health awareness, education and healthy living incentives. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month. Gail Mansell, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-9725.

STORY TIME ‘BABIES’
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. For 2 to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STEM FEST: FAMILY TIME ‘MYSTERY BUILD’
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Join the group for building using surprise materials.

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

THE DUELING PIANOS
Ocean City Performing Arts Center, in the Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM. The Red Doors, a St. Paul’s By-the-Sea Community Center, presents a musical fundraiser featuring local celebrities Shirley Toms Hailey and Elsworth Wheatley. There will be a half hour intermission with hors d’oeuvres included. Cash bar available. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for students and are available at the Convention Center in Ocean City or online at Ticketmaster.com.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING
Worcester County Health Center, 9730 Healthway Drive, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and health lifestyle. jeanduck47@gmail.com.

Wed., Nov 7

GRACE PARKER ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST
First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Eggs any style, pancakes, buckwheat pancakes, sausage, ham, biscuits, hash brown potatoes, grits, coffee, tea. Cost is \$8 to eat in and \$6 to carry out. Milk, soda, orange juice available. 410-289-9340.

FIBER FRIENDS
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Bring your lap work and join this informal group. Knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, etc. are welcome. Victoria Christie-Healy, moonlightknitting@gmail.com, 703-507-0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

STEM FEST: STEAM STORYTIME
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM. Build a house for the 3 Little Pigs. Build a house the Big Bad Wolf can’t blow down. For 3 to 7 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

HYPERTENSION CLINICS
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place at Rite Aid, 10119 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin and at Rite Aid, 11011 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Michelle, 410-641-9268.

ARMISTICE DAY CENTENNIAL DISCUSSION
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Armistice Day, held on Nov. 11 every year, commemorates the signing of the armistice between the Allies and Germany at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

VETERANS BOOK CLUB ‘WORLD WAR II’
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Featuring Goodbye Darkness: a

Memoir of the Pacific War by William Manchester and Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut. For veterans and currently serving service members. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FREE HEALTHCARE LECTURE
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. The Live Well Academy is a free, year-long lecture series on a wide range of healthcare topics. This month’s topic will be PRMC Home Scripts. The lecture is open to the public. Advance registration is required: Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, 410-641-7052.

BOOKS TO BIG SCREEN
Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. A monthly book and film event. Read the book ahead of time (optional) and join the group for a book trivia contest followed by a showing of the movie. After the movie, join the discussion of the film adaptation. Snacks provided. The month’s selection is Everything, Everything by Nicola Yoon. For teens and young adults. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>.

5TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWL PROJECT
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM. The project begins with bowl-making sessions and culminates in a soup dinner. All ages get involved by hand-making ceramic soup bowls during bowl-making sessions held now through February. The cost is \$25 and includes the bowl and admission to the soup dinner on March 29, 2019. A complete schedule of sessions is available at www.artleagueofoceancity.org. Proceeds benefit Diakonia. Open to the public. 410-524 9433, <http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org>.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital, the group is open to the public and meets on the first Wednesday of each month. AGH Diabetes Outpatient Education program, 410-208-9761.

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB
Ocean City Elks Lodge, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Dance to the sounds of the ’50s and ’60s music. A \$5 donation to benefit Veterans and local charities. Dance lessons offered the first and third Wednesday of each month from 5-5:45 p.m. Dancing follows until 9 p.m. Members and their guests welcome. dancedelmarvahanddancing.com, 410-208-1151, <http://delmarvahanddancing.com>.

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC
Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org>.

OC/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING
Captain’s Table Restaurant in the Courtyard by Marriott, 2 15th St., 6:00 PM. cliff0917@aol.com, 302-540-2127.

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Support accounting personnel.
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Yard Sale - Sat., Nov. 3, 7:30-12pm. **10147 Queens Circle, West OC.**

AUCTIONS

The contents of mini storage units will be sold at public auction. Units to be auctioned; B62, B82, B94, B97, O27, O29, O115, O164, O55, O69, O79, O103, O125, O134, O155, O167, S35, S45, S69, S102, S110, S119, S121, S223, S158, S180, S185, S191, S201, S204, S501, S767. Units are being sold due to non-payment of rent. Common items in units are, household items, furniture, tools, fishing equipment, paintings, antique and vintage items.
Date: SATURDAY, November 10th, 2018
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