GAZETTE BAYSIDE AUGUST 20, 2020 **BERLIN • NORTH WORCESTER COUNTY • OCEAN PINES**



WELCOME ... AT A DISTANCE

PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Superintendent Lou Taylor delivers welcoming remarks to new teachers on Monday at Worcester Technical High School in Newark, as they prepare to work under circumstances that no one could have anticipated and was illustrated by the spread-out seating arrangement. The schools will operate according to a revised "Responsible Return" model. See story on page 2.

Perrone says fiscal matters will be priority

Coronavirus plays havoc with OP's revenue sources

By Greg Ellison Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Newly ensconced OPA President Larry Perrone highlighted the importance of fiscal mat-

ters as he attempts to guide the board of directors through challenging budgetary decisions.

'The number one priority ... this year is trying to understand the impact of covid-19 on our financial reLarry Perrone

sults," said Perrone, who had been serving as the association treasurer. The budget picture will begin to

come into focus when amenity revenue figures are available after summer winds down.

See BUDGET Page 14

Split vote elevates Perrone to pres.

OPA treasurer gets post by 4-3 margin, as Tuttle declines to return as VP

By Greg Ellison Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Split camps were evident during the post-election OPA Board organizational meeting last week, following a 4-3 vote to select Larry Perrone as association president.

Besides appointing other officers, the board also established a meeting schedule for the next 12 months during the meeting held last Wednesday at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse.

The secret ballot vote for president saw Director Tom Janasek nominate now former Vice President Steve Tuttle, while Director

Colette Horn put forth Perrone for the position.

After the Tuttle nomination for president fell one vote shy, Janasek moved to reinstall him as vice president.

"He's held that position very well," he said.

For his part, Tuttle declined the nomination to return as vice president.

"I'm not taking it, sorry," he said.

Camilla Rogers then moved for Colette Horn to take the role, with the sole nomination for vice president unanimous.

Seemingly returning the favor, Horn then nominated Rodgers to remain as secretary, a role she assumed during the recently completed election cycle.

See DIRECTORS Page 15



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OPA Board member Tom Janasek hands Director Camilla Rogers ballot slips selecting the annual association president during an organizational meeting held at the **Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse last Wednesday**

Dist. 3 gets first candidate with **newcomer Packey**

By Ally Lanasa Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Daniel Packey, Ph.D., a retired economics professor,

became the first candidate to file for the District 3 council seat in Berlin on Aug. 11 for the fall municipal election.

Packey, who moved to Berlin a little over a year ago, said he decided to run for council to ensure the town remains a safe



and prosperous place for his young grandchildren to live. "I think the town is wonderful, and See ECONOMICS Page 14



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August 20, 2020

WCPS presents revised return model for fall

By Ally Lanasa

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) The Worcester County Board of Education reviewed the revised "Responsible Return" model that it had to turn into the Maryland State Department of Education by last Friday during its meeting on Tuesday.

day. "It was a draft. We had several things that we were in the process of doing to bring this draft to fruition," Superintendent Lou Taylor said. "The state required that this draft turn into a plan document by [Aug. 14] of which we had ours in in time."

The original model featured five areas of focus: operations and safety, instructional program, distance learning, communication and stakeholder feedback.

Now, the "Responsible Return"

model has been condensed to three topics: instructional program, operations and safety, and communication.

"As Mr. Taylor said, one of the biggest portions that we value the most out of coming together for this 'Responsible Return' model, was to get stakeholder input," Denise Shorts, the chief academic officer for grades PreK-8, told the board. "Some of our biggest changes that have happened since we last presented to you in July were due to the feedback that we received from stakeholders."

Stakeholders — students, parents and faculty — were invited to participate in three surveys regarding transportation, continuity of learning and the full community.

Nearly 63 percent of families reported that they were comfortable using school bus transportation. However, the majority of the 2,924 did request modifications to transportation.

For the continuity of learning survey, 64.2 percent of families of 1,049 responses reported favorably about their child or children's overall experience with continuity of learning.

Lastly, 68.2 percent of stakeholders reported that they are "neutral," "satisfied" or "extremely satisfied" with the initial "Responsible Return" model out of 3,171 responses.

As Taylor announced at his Aug. 6 press conference, the administration has added a phase to the instructional program based on stakeholder feedback.

Students are scheduled to return to school with distance learning, or Stage One, on Sept. 8. The board of education hopes to transition into Stage Two, which is hybrid learning with a tiered support model, by Sept. 28 with health

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and safety conditions permitting.

Stage Two will be prioritizing students who qualify as Tier 2 or Tier 3 because of academic, social-emotional, connectivity or attendance and engagement needs.

"So, principals are really looking at a variety of indicators to determine which students they bring back in small groups to begin with on Sept. 28," Shorts said.

She added that principals should be compiling their lists of students as well as how those students can be transported to schools.

Another factor of the recovery plan that has changed is the attendance policy for students in distance learning.

This fall, students are required to be in the synchronous sessions and/or have participated in asynchronous learning.

"Students will reply to daily attendance discussion in Schoology, and they will be marked present each day," Shorts said. "Elementary and middle school students only need to do it one time."

High school students will have to reply to the daily attendance discussion for each class period to be considered present.

In addition, the school system has determined the number of hours per full day for each grade level.

Dr. Annette Wallace, the chief operating and academic officer for grades 9-12, said students in the pre-kindergarten half-day program are expected to complete two hours of work each day and students in the prekindergarten full day program are expected to complete four hours of work each day.

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade are assigned four hours of work per day, students in sixth through eighth grades are assigned five to six hours of work per day and high school students are assigned six hours of work per day.

Wallace said the hours include completed offline work and do not have to be consecutive.

Dr. Dwayne Abt, the chief safety and human relations officer for the school system, gave a presentation on the updated operations and safety section.

With the announcement that the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association has postponed fall and winter sports until further notice, Abt said the school system is waiting for more guidance from the state about how athletics may proceed during the 2020-21 academic year.

Abt also said the transportation part of the recovery plan has been modified to reflect a word change from "face masks" to "face coverings."

The safety portion of the "Responsible Return" plan has been updated to define more accurately the processes in place for proper ventilation and the establishment of isolation stations in all nursing areas.

Attendance policy for students with distance learning

Continued from Page 2

The school district has taken another safety measure by closing all water fountains until further notice.

"We will establish protocols to ensure that all water systems are safe to use after the prolonged disuse," Abt said. "Also, students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles. However, food service will be able to provide water for students that do not bring their own water."

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM UPDATES

ATTENDANCE FOR STUDENTS ENGAGED IN DISTANCE LEARNING CONT.

Grade Level	Hours per Full Day of Attendance (inclusive of work completed offline)	Hours per Half Day of Attendance* (inclusive of work completed offline)		
Pre-Kindergarten – Half Day Program	2 Hours			
Pre-Kindergarten – Full Day Program	4 Hours			
K-5	4 hours	2 hours		
6-8	5–6 hours	2.5 hours		
9 – 12	6 hours	3 hours		

Time does not have to be consecutive

The revised "Responsible Return" model for Worcester County Public Schools determines the expected hours of work to be completed per grade level for a full day of distance learning.

PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

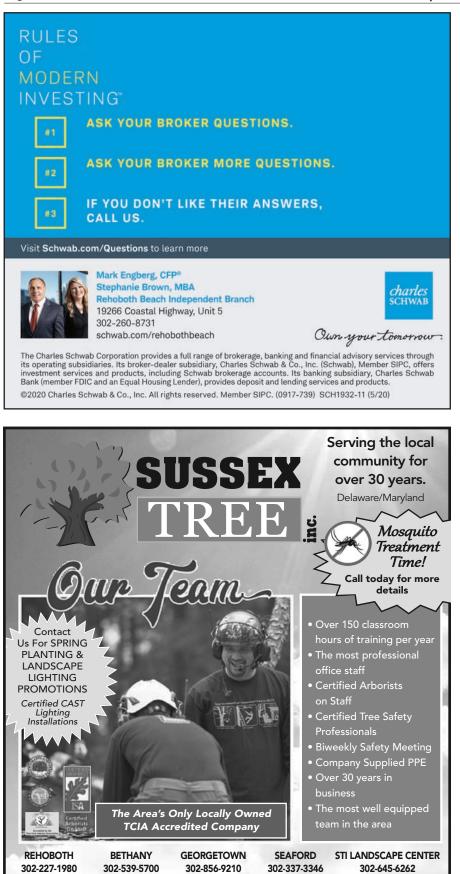


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OP Board debates closed or open discussion on Monday

By Greg Ellison Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Sparks flew during a hastily convened OPA Board meeting on Monday due to media reports a day earlier that insinuated General Manager John Viola put his thumb on the scale to influence the vote for president the previous week.

What was intended for, and eventually went into, closed session, kicked off with a contentious 20-minute exchange on published comments by Director Tom Janasek claiming a last-minute change of heart by Director Camilla Rogers nixed an earlier agreement to support Director Steve Tuttle as president.

The eventual vote for president during the OPA Board organizational meeting last Wednesday was split 4-3 in favor of Director Larry Perrone.

Tuttle opened the proceedings on Monday with a motion to enter into a closed session. Janasek instantly objected.

"We don't do a discussion before a closed motion," he said.

Perrone, who conducted the meeting as newly appointed president, insisted a discussion about the motion would occur prior to voting to enter closed session.

"I'm running the meeting and this is how I'm going to run it," he said.

Board member Colette Horn, who was named vice president during the earlier organizational meeting, suggested the need to enter closed session was negated after text messages exchanged between Rogers and another Pines resident were leaked to the media.

'The subject of this motion, if we're to believe the press, has already been made public," she said.

According to news reports, Rogers had texted a friend and fellow association member, claiming to change positions from supporting Tuttle's nomination as president after consulting with Viola shortly before the selection process.

Horn was vehement in her defense

of Rogers.

"The press said this was a discussion of general manager conduct," she said. "What was reported was an action by a sitting director [where] she requested information from our GM to help her decide how she might vote on an initiative, which is within her right."

Director Frank Daly asked Tuttle and Janasek about the accuracy of the news reports in question.

Tuttle declined to comment, while Janasek claimed to have not read the news article.

Daly said after reading the newspaper article it was not evident Rogers had violated any OPA bylaws.

"It appears that [Rogers] in violating no rules of the association ... asked John Viola a question or an opinion [that] John, in violating no issues with the association ... answered."

Daly suggested the matter should be vetted in public.

"This is not an issue for closed session. I want this discussion out in the open," he said.

For her part, Rogers expressed frustration with the developments and also opposed entering closed session.

"This has been a very disappointing couple of days," she said. "I have received 15 negative and hurtful emails."

Rogers said she would be willing to share the entirety of the text thread that was leaked to media sources with fellow board members.

"I interviewed both Steve and Larry [and] asked them what the priorities were for our organization," she said. "Both were open and honest with me."

Rogers said the conversations were aimed at assessing both board members' leadership abilities.

"I did due diligence on this," she said. "I'm a lawyer; it's what we do."

Disputing any impropriety, Rogers said the reported text exchanges were innocuous

"I want to make it clear that John Viola did not tell me who to vote for," she said. "He would not interfere like See TENSE Page 5

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Tense special meeting in Pines

Continued from Page 4 that."

Expressing strong support for Viola, Rogers said she called to gain his perspective after realizing she would likely cast the deciding vote for president.

"When I called him I said, 'I'd like to talk to you about this election because I am apparently the swing vote," she said. "I don't take this lightly."

Rogers said Viola expressed ambivalence.

"John said to me ... 'I can work with any of them," she said. "There was no undue influence."

Rogers alluded that other issues were at play and expressed fear that a "witch hunt" was underway.

"I think this is an attempt to squeeze John out for whatever other agenda exists out there and I think I know what it is," she said.

While expressing a preference for the board to work in unison to resolve the underlying issues, Rogers also admitted exploring other legal avenues.

"I hired private counsel [who] has said to me you've got a good case in defamation," she said. "I'm not going to do that [because] I'm above that."

Perrone expressed concern the reported comments could open the OPA up to allegations of implicit or actual defamation by either the GM or a sitting board member. "Director Janasek discussed with the press an alleged performance issue with an employee of the association in violation of our code of conduct and the bylaws," he said.

In response, Janasek said regardless of media reports, there were other issues at stake appropriate for discussion in closed session.

"You have no idea about the issues we're going to speak of in closed session," he said. "It's not just about [Viola's] conversation with [Rogers] zero hours before the vote for presidency."

Janasek said he first learned of Rogers' text messages from media reports the day before, where he had expressed disappointment that an earlier agreement to support Tuttle's nomination was reversed at the last moment.

"I was told what the vote was suppose to be and it wasn't," he said. "I see where it's going [and] the 4-3 [split] that's going to happen for the next year."

Parks, while initially in favor of the closed session motion, changed course during the back and forth discussion.

"I'm not going to have the media dictate whether or not we go into closed session," he said. "We're setting a bad precedent if we let that happen."

Still, Parks agreed with Janasek's earlier sentiments regarding unknown variables.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OPA Director Camilla Rogers, center, comments about her recent vote to appoint Larry Perrone, seated to her left, as association president, and reported influence by General Manager John Viola, seated front, while newly-elected Vice President Colette Horn and Attorney Jeremy Tucker observe the conversation.

"I don't have any personally, but there might be some information that's probably relevant to a closed session," he said.

Tuttle also mentioned there was more at play than the issue of Rogers and Viola conferring about the vote for president.

"I will not discuss it in an open session but there is a second issue that is of concern to me that I would like us to talk about as a team," he said. "I think it effects how we move forward as board."

Tuttle also expressed overall sup-

port for Viola.

"It's not a witch hunt on my part," he said. "I've worked with John over 18 moths and I deeply appreciate the work he's done."

The board then voted unanimously to adjourn to closed session and issued a statement later that day.

"The board of directors has complete faith and confidence in our general manager and his management of Ocean Pines," the statement read. "After adjournment, the board discussed matters concerning ... policies and procedures."







ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The homeowner of 205 Franklin Avenue in Berlin is in violation of town code for having building materials, which are classified as junk, on the private property.

Berlin resident violates town code with building materials

By Ally Lanasa Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Planning Director Dave Engelhart told the Berlin Planning Commission last Wednesday that the homeowner of 205 Franklin Avenue is in violation of town code for leaving building materials, described as "junk," outside on the property.

Berlin's town code defines junk as "refrigerators, stoves, water heaters, furniture and all other similar household-type appliances and furnishings; all types of building material, such as lumber, concrete products and other such type materials; all types of paper goods, including discarded newspapers and magazines; all types of cloth material, goods or discarded clothing; and any other type of material generally classified as junk."

The section also states that it is unlawful to maintain junk on public or private property in the town.

"[It] doesn't matter how neatly they're stacked, doesn't matter how usable they are," Engelhart said. Dave Engelhart

"They're there for an extended period. They are junk, so they need to be removed."

Anyone who violates this code will receive a notice of violation and given 20 days to remove the

materials before being issued a civil citation, according to town code.

"The next step, as I addressed it in the letter, was to say that 20 days is Sept. 2, and that's when the fine of \$100 a day and \$200 a day for each subsequent day that the violation continues will start," Engelhart said.

Construction on the Franklin Avenue property began with the previous homeowner, but there was a fire before it was completed.

Engelhart said the current homeowner was issued a building permit in July to complete the project.

Following the Planning Commission meeting, Engelhart met with the homeowner who promised to remove the materials.



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Berlin apartment complex concept reviewed

By Ally Lanasa Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) The Berlin Planning Commission reviewed a concept plan to develop a luxury apartment community at Arden Canton on North Main

nity at Arden Center on North Main Street in walking distance to the Berlin Town Center. Attorney Joseph Moore and John Salm, the engineer and co-owner of the

Saim, the engineer and co-owner of the 7.21-acre property on the east side of Route 818, sought comments on a plan for an apartment community to be called Victorian Oaks Manor.

Moore said the intent is to have a mixed-use development for primarily residential uses.

According to the concept, Victorian Oaks Manor would be a residential planned unit development (PUD) and have 80 flat-style residences, ranging from 1-bedroom to 3-bedroom. All the rental residences will be served by interior elevators.

Salm said the community will also feature a dog park, a swimming pool and a children's play area. In addition, a separate access off Route 818 would be created.

"I think there's a real, real need for quality multi-family housing in close proximity to the center of town," Salm said. "We would take a portion of this property that is on the north side of the power lines, and I've gone ahead and I've laid out two multi-family buildings for 80 units."

The community would have 160 parking stalls for an average of two cars per unit.

"I've worked it out so about 40 percent are going to be available in garages, and the other 60 percent are going to be available outside," Salm said.

Salm also emphasized that the project will cultivate connectivity between North Main Street and downtown, saying he plans to have a shared use path in front of the property.

The main reason Salm said he is coming to the town for the project is because Berlin has the sewer capacity and the necessary services for multifamily housing. If he were to develop the property in the county, it would have to be for commercial use.

"The only way I could have even contemplated this is the provision of public water and sewer," he said.

Salm said he and his wife purchased the property in 2007 and moved their engineering office there. They've also built some self-storage units and leased office space on the site, including a veterinarian's office and Assateague Coastal Trust.

Currently, the property is zoned as C-2 (commercial) in the county, and it would need to be annexed into the town for residential development.

"We have all of the required prerequisites for requesting [an] annexation," Moore said. "We comport with the comprehensive plan. Most importantly, we comport with the future land use plan in the town, and we are already in a growth area."

Located in Growth Area No. 3 of Berlin's Comprehensive Plan, the property can be annexed into town.

"As you all are aware, we have to be in a growth area under the provisions of the municipal government article of the annotated code to request an annexation into town," Moore said.

Moore pointed out that Growth Area No. 3 is the largest growth area and is recommended for residential development in the comprehensive plan.

The location of the proposed Victorian Oaks Manor is between U.S. Route 113 and U.S. Route 50.

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"If we proceed with a notion that annexation can be considered, we would provide as part of our annexation request a traffic study, showing the impact of the potential development on traffic," Moore said. "It is important to know when you look at the county existing zoning, it is all C-2 commercial, and as we all know commercial uses are high trip generators. Residential uses are not."

If annexation is approved, a rezoning to R-4 would be requested to allow for a residential development.

Before beginning the annexation process, Salm asked for the commission's opinions of his proposal. Commission member Newt Chandler said the density of a four-story building was too much.

"It's just a huge building on the skyline over there," he said. "I just think it's a lot of people. Where are they going to go? What are they going to do here?"

Moore argued that there is plenty to do with the close proximity to downtown.

Commission member Matthew Stoehr said he believes the project is necessary in the area, especially for the younger generation.

"Housing is skyrocketing in Berlin," he said. "Most people can't afford to See BERLIN Page 8





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Berlin Planning Commission provides feedback on project

Continued from Page 7

move to Berlin, and I know people who want to live in downtown. They enjoy downtown, but they just can't ... To me, this is something I've been waiting for Berlin to look at for a while."

Stoehr added that a critical component of the development would be pedestrian access to downtown.

"We see this as a starter for people wanting to come, for people who want to work in restaurants," said Salm, who has previously owned several multifamily housing developments with his wife.

Salm added that the residences would also be ideal for young families with the elevator service for strollers.

Commission member Ron Cascio said the proposed project is similar to Oceans East.

"I'm totally against annexation for residential use that the town's people will end up subsidizing," Cascio said. "That's exactly what happens with residential subdivision when it's out of town. We end up subsidizing.

"This is just one more step to Berlin becoming Salisbury. That's how I feel," he continued.

With sewer capacity on the project, Salm said the property will be developed one way or another.

The types of uses in the county that

can be developed based on the current zoning and sewer capacity are contractor shops, storage, warehouses and small retail shops, Salm said.

Cascio said his opposition is on behalf of the people he represents.

'At some point, Berlin is not going to be the town that people want to come to anymore," Cascio said. "I know people who are ready to move out because of some of the stuff that's going on."

Moore said residential development at the property would result in less traffic than commercial development.

We want proximity, we want connectivity, to the center of town," Salm said. "Putting this out somewhere else doesn't seem to make sense."

Salm said he has already selected the architect and the housing façade will match the Victorian style of the town

Chair Chris Denny asked if Salm was dead set on four-story buildings. Salm said changing the building size would impact the economics of the project and he would have to rework the plans.

"I suggest you head in that direction," Cascio said.

Stoehr asked about the economics of constructing townhomes.

"The townhomes just can't be built

FLAT - STYL \odot VICTORIAN OAKS

Property owner John Salm presented a concept plan for an 80-unit luxury apartment complex on North Main Street in Berlin to the **Planning Commission on** Aug. 12. PHOTO COURTESY JOHN SALM

affordably," Salm responded.

With the proposed layout, Salm said he would have to build the entire residential community at once.

"I can't have people living there with that type of disruption," he added.

Cascio said he would not support the annexation that would be the first step of the development process. "Maybe I can wow you with my footwork, Ron," Moore joked.

"Start dancing, Joe," Cascio replied. Commission members Pete Cosby, Phyllis Purnell and alternate David "DJ" Lockwood were not present for the meeting.



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Poll workers needed in state for Nov. presidential election

By Ally Lanasa

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Responding to a severe shortage of election judges for the Nov. 3 general election, the State Board of Elections is going to Maryland high schools and urging students to consider serving. ______ In a letter to high



school students throughout the state, State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Karen Salmon issued an unusual appeal to fill thousands of positions that are now vacant, partly as a result

of covid-19 concerns.

"I am calling on you and your peers to consider serving as an election judge this November to ensure that Marylanders have access to polling stations and are afforded the opportunity to vote without undue delay or interference," Salmon wrote. Nearly all 24 local election boards

Nearly all 24 local election boards in Maryland are experiencing serious shortages of election judges, said David Garreis, president of the Maryland Association of Election Officials.

"Given the election judge shortages, including 14,832, an increase of 1,303 vacancies since the governor asked state employees serve as election judges, the election judge problem is a significant failure point for the general election," Garreis wrote in an Aug. 5 memorandum to election board Chairman Michael Cogan and elections Administrator Linda Lamone.

"Additionally, 99 locations have declined to allow their facilities to serve as polling places on election day," he said.

State and local officials are also pressing Gov. Hogan to adopt more voting centers to operate from Oct. 29-Nov. 3.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, voting centers are alternatives to traditional polling places and allow voters to cast their ballots on election day at any voting center in the jurisdiction, regardless of their residential address.

Although the Worcester County Board of Elections reportedly is not suffering as much as other county boards, any interested residents are encouraged to apply.

Typically, Worcester County has 200-220 election judges.

Maryland law states that an election judge must be 17 years or older, be a registered voter in Maryland, be physically and mentally able to work at least a 15-hour day, be willing to work outside one's home precinct, be able to sit and/or stand for an extended period and be able to speak, read and write English.

If any 16-year-olds are interested in serving, they must demonstrate that they meet the requirements for an election judge to the satisfaction of the county board of elections and receive permission from at least one parent or guardian, according to the state election board's website.

The website also states that candidates or anyone who currently holds a public or political office, including state and county political party central committees or chairmen, campaign managers or treasurers for a political or candidate committee cannot be election judges.

In addition, some polling places may require election judges to lift boxes and other items weighing 10 to 25 pounds.

No experience is required to apply to serve as an election judge. The Worcester County Board of Elections will provide comprehensive mandatory training.

"Thank you for helping to provide all Marylanders with full, equal and unfettered access to vote in November," Salmon wrote in her address to students.

Maryland voters will be able to cast their ballots by mail during the eight days of early voting from Oct. 22-29 or in person at their designated See HIGH Page 10





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Bayside Gazette

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Berlin Planning Commission reviews plat for Oceans East

By Ally Lanasa

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Attorney Mark Cropper, Blair Rinnier of Rinnier Development Company and engineer Brock Parker met with the Berlin Planning Commission last Wednesday for a preliminary plat review of the Oceans East subdivision off Seahawk Road.

"We are reworking the lot lines around Oceans East Phase One now that we know where all the construction has been built," Parker said. "And we're also dialing in the subdivision lines in accordance with what we're proposing in Phase Two."

The planning commission approved the proposed second phase site plan at a meeting on June 10.

Basically, a lot will be created for each phase of Oceans East and then the remainder of the property will be one large parcel where additional subdivisions may be built in the future.

Rinnier said Phase Two of Oceans

East will comprise of both townhomes and apartments. Parker added that the cost of rent per residence ranges based on amenities.

Although the townhomes have not been built, the monthly rent will likely be between \$1,800-\$1,900, Parker said.

"For all those units out there, you don't hear any drama out there," said Commission member Newt Chandler.

The building from Phase One is full of residents with a variety of professions from teachers to retail workers, Rinnier said.

"I really expected when I was here in 2013 that we would have a lot more seniors from like Ocean Pines and some of the older housing ... it's absolutely diverse," he continued.

The commission had no objections to the plat at the time. Attorney Mark Cropper, Blair Rinnier of Rinnier Development Company and Engineer Brock Parker will return for approval of the finalized plat.

High school students urged to serve as election judges

Continued from Page 9

polling place on Election Day. The Town of Berlin is also seeking

election day workers for its municipal election on Oct. 6.

Applicants must be Berlin residents, be registered voters in the town and be at least 18 years old as of Oct. 6.

The one-day employment opportunity provides a flat-rate stipend. Visit berlinmd.gov or contact Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen via email at mbohlen@berlinmd.gov to apply by Sept. 18.

For more information about becoming an election judge for the general election, visit https://elections.maryland.gov/get_i nvolved/election_judges_form.html.



Bayside Gazette

WYFCS hosts 'Back to School' drive

(Aug. 20, 2020) Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services has begun its yearly "Back to School" drive to benefit children in Worcester County unable to acquire necessary materials for the upcoming term.

WYFCS Executive Director Dr. Jennifer Leggour stressed the importance of the drive to the community.

Children will need supplies whether they are attending school at home or physically attending school," Leggour said.

Over 200 backpacks filled with supplies were donated to students at local schools in 2019.

"The school supplies program is extremely important to the children and families in Worcester County," she said. "A significant number of families in the county live at or below the federal poverty level.

70 percent of the children fall into this category, about half of the families in Snow Hill and roughly 30 percent of the families in the Berlin area struggle financially," Leggour added. "In addition to those living at the poverty level, many more families are living paycheck to paycheck. The stress and loss of income with the pandemic has only added to this need.

Providing school supplies can be a tremendous help to these families, she said. School supply requests are also intended to aid teachers who sometimes use their own money to help the children.

Deborah Smullen, billing and insurance specialist for WYFCS, said that all participants in the organization's youth programs would receive backpacks.

Youth Club, SAGES and SABERS

quest form for their child at any time."

Smullen requested that donations be made by Friday, Aug. 21. Supplies may be dropped off at the agency's main location: 124 North Main Street, Suite C in Berlin.

School supplies being requested are: one, three and five subject notepencil glue sticks, pouches/cases; colored pencils; composition books; Crayola crayons; dividers; Ziploc bags (all sizes); highlighters; hand sanitizer; notebook paper; scissors (blunt end); pencils, #2; white paper plates; pencil sharpeners; tissues; wipes (Clorox or Lysol); plastic two-pocket folders; ear buds; large pink erasers; and dry erase mark-

Additionally, monetary contributions can be made to Worcester Youth and earmarked for the back to school drive. For more information, visit Smullen at

books; 'Bags are provided to our Berlin ers.

gowoyo.org, call 410-641-4598, or contact

members and their siblings, as well as our Family Connections families," she said. "We also donate boxes of miscel-"Pocomoke schools report roughly laneous school supplies to area schools directly to lift the burden from teachers and administrators. Members of the dsmullen@gowoyo.org. public are invited to fill out a bag re-

Donations sought for teacher bags

(Aug. 20, 2020) After a successful first year, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services in partnership with the Greater Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Berlin and Snow Hill chambers of commerce, are asking for donations to fill bags for the new teachers of Worcester County.

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services is encouraging local businesses and non-profits to provide items intended for the use of teachers this coming school year.

Many of these teachers are new to the area and Worcester Youth thinks it is important to make them feel welcome and introduce them to area businesses and the community at-large. This project also serves as a free advertising campaign for businesses choosing to donate.

Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services is requesting 100 items per business to place into the bags. Accepted donations include advertising pieces, coupons, promotional products, or goods with a company logo. Other items that teachers find very useful include hand sanitizer, magnets, binder clips, Post-It notes, Command Hooks, planners and Ziploc bags.

It is suggested that submissions be physical items rather than paper products as teachers find them more useful.

Those interested in donating should deliver items to the Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services offices no later than Friday, Aug. 21. The offices are located at 124 North Main Street, Suite C, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

For more information, contact Debbie Smullen at 410-635-4034 or email dsmullen@gowoyo.org.

Those seeking to donate may also contact their local Chamber of Commerce: Berlin: 410-641-4775; Greater Ocean City: 410-213-0552; Snow Hill: 410-632-0809; Ocean Pines: 410-641-5306.





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Ocean Pines and three other libraries now booking appts.

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Since opening by appointment for limited services last Monday in Ocean Pines and Pocomoke, the Worcester County Library this week doubled the number of branches involved, while continuing to monitor pandemic trends.

Worcester County Library Director

Jennifer Ranck said the initial branches selected for the "Library By Appointment" alternative, which supplements the "Library-To-Go" contactless material pick up option, were based on geography.



Jennifer Ranck

"I was trying to get them on different sides of the county so that we can serve as many people as possible," she said.

Presently limited to once weekly per person, appointments include basic services, such as registering for a library card.

"The services we're offering are computer appointments for 45minute sessions and the ability for people to come in and make copies," she said.

Photocopies are limited to 20 duplicates of original documents, with appointments made by calling individual branches.

"This week we opened up two more of our branches in Berlin and Snow Hill," she said.

Appointments, which must be scheduled in advance, are available Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at all four branches, with Ocean Pines, Berlin and Pocomoke offering Saturday hours from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

"We do have a screening form that we ask people to fill out and ... are asking people to wear a mask when they're inside the building," she said.

Ranck said Ocean City is slated next to join the pack providing appointments, but cautioned changes are contingent on continued progress during Maryland's Roadmap to Recovery.

Services not currently available by appointment include: browsing collections, computer assistance, fax services, children's areas, water fountains and meeting room reservations.

We're sorry we can not allow browsing at this point, but it helps limit the number of people that come in," she said.

While counterintuitive to traditional literary pursuits involving timeless moments perusing stacks, access to reading or listening materials remains available in a contact free manner.

"People are still using our library pickup service, so if they need books or audio books they can request those items either by giving us a call or ordering on the website," she said.

Library-To-Go contactless pick up is available at all Worcester County branches Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Because of quarantine requirements, returns should be made at outdoor book drops.

Ranck said meeting rooms have been momentarily repurposed as quarantine zones for returned items.

Health safety guidelines in place for those entering library buildings include: required use of facemasks for staff and patrons age 2 or older, six-foot social distancing, with computers and tables disinfected following each use. Anyone running a fever or feeling ill is asked to avoid visiting facilities.

Ranck said appointment call-in procedures allow staff an opportunity to apprise patrons of health safety guidelines.

"We have a chance to go over the rules with folks first and let them know what to expect ... because it is very different," she said. "Normally we'd like to encourage everyone to come in.'

For more information, visit worcesterlibrary.org.





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Budget work will encounter many unknowns

Continued from Page 1

"We'll be doing a closer analysis in September and October to try to figure out where we're going to be by the end of the fiscal year [on] April 30," he said.

Unknowns also abound for longsought drainage infrastructure improvements at Bainbridge Pond, which appeared to take a significant step forward last month with the award of a Department of Natural Resources grant.

"We did get a grant initially approved for about \$550,000," he said.

The original grant request, which was worked through the Chesapeake & Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund, was for roughly triple that sum and intended to cover the cost of reducing flooding in Bainbridge Park by retrofitting Bainbridge Pond.

"Since we only got about a third of what we thought we might get, we have to go back and take a look at the scope of the project and financing," he said. "Things are changing daily as we progress with this project."

Already anticipating profit and loss statements to skew negative, the possibility of tapping reserve funds for the Bainbridge project could become an issue.

"Where is the money is going to come from and ultimately what is the impact on homeowners?" he said.

Last fall, Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips and Public Works Director Eddie Wells began working with Vista Engineering consultants and established a drainage workgroup with support from General Manager John Viola and the board.

The eventual grant application was facilitated through Worcester County since Ocean Pines is a homeowner's association and not a municipality.

In addition to county officials, Kevin Smith and Steve Farr with Maryland Coastal Bays have consulted on the upcoming project, along with engineers Rich Polk and Eric Jones from Vista Design.

"We're going to have a presentation made at the September [board] meeting about the team's recommendation," he said.

The next regularly scheduled OPA Board meeting is Sept. 9 at 7 p.m.

After being selected as president by his board colleagues during the annual organizational meeting for officer selections last week, Perrone said prior committee involvement was helpful.

"Being involved in the budget and finance committee was a good education for me regarding what goes on in the community and then being [board] treasurer last year," he said. "This is not a small business anymore, we're about a \$15 million operation."

Perrone said a detailed knowledge

of the association's finances plays a critical role in leading the board, and by extension the community.

"That's all in the interest of protecting the homeowners because [they] are the ones who have to come up with the assessment dollars," he said.

Perrone said regardless of his new title, he remains one of seven equally empowered board members.

"We all have the same authority and we're all just directors," he said. "The only difference being the president is that the general manager reports to you directly."

Perrone said the president is primarily tasked with leading the board through decision-making processes in pursuit of consensus.

"It doesn't mean my opinions on everything is the way that things have to go," he said. "That's why we have seven people on there so we get a lot of different views."

Economics prof files for Berlin Dist. 3 seat

Continued from Page 1

I'd like it to be that way into the future for them," he said.

Packey, 68, said his campaign will focus on the economics and finances of the town, drawing on his experience as a professor in the field.

"I think that's particularly important now that we're in the middle of the covid pandemic, and I want to make sure that things are dealt with in a way that when we come out of it, we're healthy and able to prosper in the future," he said.

Previously, Packey served as the head of the Department of Mineral and Energy Economics at Curtin University in Bentley, Western Australia for about 10 years. He also served as the head of the Economics and Finance Department at Gulf University for Science and Technology.

In addition, he worked at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory based in Colorado, the D.C. Public Service Commission, and as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Energy. His extensive resume also includes work with the Environmental Protection Agency and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Regarding the current mayor and council discussions about the sewer fund debt and general fund reserves policy, Packey said there appears to be some confusion in the funding issues. "I think that one of the things that would be good would be a little bit more clarity and transparency in the budget itself, especially in the funding of the sewer and water in general," he said. "I also have read a little bit about setting aside a reserve fund, which I think is a very good idea."

Packey said he is in the process of developing a platform for Berlin citizens to learn more about his campaign.

Currently, there are nine candidates in the Oct. 6 election. Incumbent Mayor Gee Williams, Councilman Zack Tyndall, Jennifer Allen, Bill Todd and Ron Bireley are all running for mayor. Jay Knerr and Tony Weeg are running for the at-large council seat. Jack Orris, who is running for the District 2 seat, and Packey are unopposed thus far.

The town's filing deadline is Sept. 4. The town is encouraging absentee ballot voting amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, but citizens can still vote in person. This year's polling locations are Buckingham Presbyterian Church for Districts 1 and 2 and the Berlin Police Department for Districts 3 and 4. The town is taken preventive measures to ensure the safety of all polling workers and voters by enforcing physical distancing and face masks.

For more information, visit berlinmd.gov.



Bayside Gazette

Coach Benson earns Sam Wilkinson Award

Long-time soccer mentor recognized for his devotion to helping young players

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) After dedicating the past five years as a volunteer coach for youth soccer programs in Ocean Pines, Eric Benson was honored last week with the annual Sam Wilkinson Award.

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue announced the accolade and presented to Benson a commemorative plaque during the OPA Board meeting last Wednesday at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse.

Established in 2003, the award pays respects to the memory of Sam Wilkerson, 8, who died during a water accident in Ocean City.

Directors wrap up appointments, set meeting schedule

Continued from Page 1

The trend of sole nominations continued with Doug Parks being selected to serve as treasurer.

Board-approved appointments included Michelle Bennett returning as assistant secretary and Steve Phillips remaining as assistant treasurer.

Potentially finding new legal counsel was also debated.

Although ultimately voting to retain current Bethesda-based law firm Lerch Early and Brewer, future changes were considered.

Horn, while in accord with the nomination, suggested researching alternatives to the present firm.

"They have been retained for a number of years," she said.

New OPA President Perrone proposed delaying the selection of legal counsel until the next board meeting on Sept. 9.

"At the September meeting, we can discuss whether or not we want to move forward with looking into any separate counsel," he said.

Parks suggested the ideal procedural move would be to retain current counsel, while noting the board could later opt to direct General Manager John Viola to issue a RFP for alternatives.

"It should be pointed out that we do use Joe Moore and his firm here locally as well," he said. "Although they're not our primary legal counsel ... a lot of local matters are parsed out to them, especially CPI violations and other things of that nature."

Lastly, the board meeting schedule was set through July 2021, with the next gathering planned for Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. Sam Wilkerson had participated in youth soccer under the watchful eye of his father, Bob, a volunteer coach in the Ocean Pines Recreation Department.

Donahue said one volunteer is selected for the annual award based on the time and effort spent helping children develop on-field skills.

A native of England, Benson was indoctrinated as a Manchester United Football Club devotee from an early age.

"He is a lifelong Manchester United fan and would regularly go to watch the games as a youngster," she said.

The childhood fascination with soccer, or football outside of the U.S., grew into a lifelong passion that Benson eventually brought full circle after becoming a youth coach.

Donahue said in addition to being licensed as an instructor by the United States Soccer Federation, Benson previously was honored as national "coach of the month" by the U.S. Youth Soccer program.

"Prior to retiring ... he coached several competitive travel youth teams in Virginia for over 20 years," Donahue said. "Two of which were state champions and regional finalists."

Benson and his wife, Nina, married 36 years ago and raised two sons, who continue residing in Virginia. Besides an affinity for competitive sports, Benson is a musician who played keyboards for opening acts suppporting English rock luminaries such as The Who and the Kinks.

While accepting the honor last week, Benson thanked Donahue, Recreational Supervisor Katie Goetzinger and soccer coach Joe Monteverde, who is a prior Wilkinson Award winner.

"Thank you for this award," he said. "It's quite an honor to receive it."

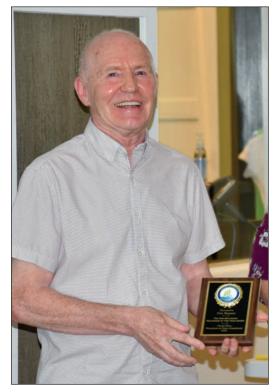
Benson said that e n thusiasm, honesty and humor are core elements of his coaching philosophy.

"Players pick up on the passion that I give," he said. "It's the things that give me the most enjoyment, when a player responds and just enjoys the game."

Benson also paid credit to his spouse for accommodating his time commitment to instruct youth soccer players.

"Our theory is, I could be doing worse things," he said.

Benson said the time and energy devoted to coaching has been reward-



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines volunteer soccer coach Eric Benson beams after being awarded the annual Sam Wilkinson Award last week during the Board of Directors meeting at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse.

ing.

"It's fun to see them improve [and] to enjoy the game," he said. "That's been my one aim in life."

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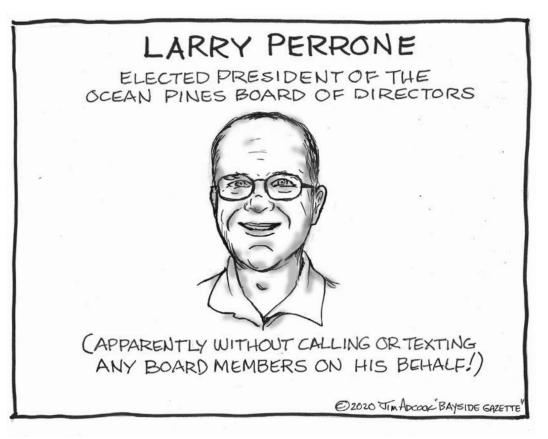


Family-Owned, Private Cremation, Not Outsourced... The Difference is Peace of Mind

Opinion

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



Tangled baby heron rescued in Pines

By Greg Ellison Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Quick action by wildlife enthusiasts helped rescue a baby heron that was tangled in discarded fishing line last month along the banks of South Gate Pond in Ocean Pines.

Ocean Pines resident Cathy Kiesewetter headed out on July 31 to meet a friend for a nature walk around the pond despite dreary wet weather.

"It was about halfway between the Sports Core and the dirt lot," she said. "I look up and there was a heron and he was bound by his feet."

Kiesewetter and her regular hiking partner, who wishes to remain anonymous, had spotted a pair of baby blue herons days earlier in the lower brush around the banks of the pond.

"They didn't go up high," she said. "I think they didn't know how to fly."

After sighting the fledgling herons on Monday of that week, the women were aghast to discover that one of the pair was in dire straits that Friday. "His feet were tangled and he was hanging upside down," she said.

Upon closer inspection, it was evident fishing line was also hampering wing movement, essentially trapping the heron in place roughly 20 feet in the air.

"He was hanging and was just fluttering and panicking," she



Recognizing quick action was in order, but uncertain how to proceed, the duo went to the

nearby Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department seeking assistance.

C. Kiesewetter

"We took off running towards the fire station," she said.

In short order, both Capt. Harvey Booth and Public Information Officer Melissa Bragg were apprised of the animal emergency

"We talked to Melissa and Harvey and explained there was a baby blue heron caught in fishing line and dangling from a tree," she said.

While fire department of-

ficials attempted to contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources the women raced back to the scene to try to help.

"He was starting to slow down and I was afraid he was dying," she said.

Fearing time was limited, Kiesewetter slipped off her shoes to try and climb up to where the bird was trapped. "It was pouring rain and

really slippery," she said.

Despite the weather conditions, Kiesewetter felt confident the roughly 45-degree angled tree was scalable.

"I could see the fishing line and it was going from branch to branch with the bobber on it and everything," she said.

After some effort Kiesewetter appeared to be on the verge of success.

"I finally got a hold of one of the lines and I pulled it and he went up to a branch," she said.

The positive development proved to be short-lived.

"He kind of got himself up on top of a little branch but then it broke and he fell back down," she said.

By this point, Booth and Bragg arrived on scene to as-See DISCARDED Page 17

Maybe board division wasn't sign of trouble

Ocean Pines residents would be excused if they begin to wonder whether Monday's special meeting of the OPA Board of Directors might have hinted at the beginning of a here-wego-again division on the board.

After three years of infrequent blow-ups and mostly collegial interaction among board members under the leadership of then President Doug Parks, the split vote last Wednesday to install Treasurer Larry Perrone as OPA president suggests those days could be on the wane.

This doesn't mean that Perrone won't do a good job — as the former treasurer, he clearly understands the association's financial workings — but it does indicate that the directors aren't quite as united as they might be on what the board's agenda should be this year, or what changes might be under consideration by the majority.

Maybe it's nothing more than a matter of personalities and the board will continue to conduct association business in the agreeable manner that was the hallmark of Parks' administration. Residents should hope so, because all those preceding years of factionalism and bitterness on the board got the community nowhere but in deep trouble.

Hopefully, that will not be the case this year, as dealing with and overcoming the problems posed by covid-19 and its related issues will be difficult enough without also having to conquer board conflict to get the job done.

Considering all the directors' accomplishments of the past few years — crawling back from the nearly disastrous financial hole they inherited would be the most notable — it would be a shame to fall back into those old rancorous ways. Maybe that won't happen, and that little crack in the veneer of the board's generally unified approach was just a blip on the screen.

Obviously, everyone will be waiting to see what happens next, if anything at all.

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Discarded fishing line poses threat

Continued from Page 16

sist after confirming DNR was not responding.

"At this point I got hold of a line that could pull the bird up and down but he didn't have control of his feet because they were bound together," she said.

Kiesewetter said fire responders suggested cutting the line to see if free flight could be achieved.

"I didn't want to cut the line and then have him get caught again even lower," she said.

Taking a chance, she opted to cut the fishing line loose from the tree.

"I tied it around my wrist so that I ... had more control and wouldn't lose it," she said.

Kiesewetter then gambled that she could free the animal.

"I just took my teeth and bit [the line] and he fell into the water," she said.

Kiesewetter's compadre leaped into the pond and swam out to bring the heron back to shore.

"Harvey and Melissa broke out pocket knives and cut him loose," she said.

The rescue ultimately involved more than simply snipping a line free.

"His wing was caught up in it and his little ankles were bound," she said. "There was actually a hook with

a string in his knee."

Booth carefully removed the hook, which caused a small amount of bleeding, and deemed the bird cleared for take off.

"He said, 'OK, he looks good' and then we let him go and he just went," she said.

Kiesewetter said the baby heron was amazingly docile and seemingly sensed those assembled were there to lend aid.

"He was very calm," she said. "He never once tried to fight."

Kiesewetter said during the entire incident parental oversight was occurring from high above.

"Mom and dad were in the air watching all this," she said. "It's almost like they

knew we were rescuing the babies." Kiesewetter said despite the happy

ending in this instance, wildlife getting snagged by discarded fishing line is a regular and unfortunate occurrence at the South Gate Pond.

Several months ago, Kiesewetter and her friend chanced upon a goose having difficulty walking only to discover its feet were tied together by trashed fishing line.



PHOTO COURTESY CATHY KIESEWETTER Quick action by wildlife enthusiasts helped free this baby blue heron entangled by discarded fishing line last month at the South Gate Pond in Ocean Pines.

"It was wrapped around his ankle three times," she said. "We got it off and he got better but we saw him limping for a couple days."

Kiesewetter is hopeful the incident will help anglers realize the threats posed to wildlife by discarded fishing lines and hooks.

"It's ridiculous down there," she said. "People just cut it off and leave it."

Yacht Club brings back live music last weekend

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) After hitting the pause button on live music last month because of covid-19 health concerns, the Ocean Pines Yacht Club struck a full chord last weekend, with further shows scheduled through Labor Day

Matt Ortt Companies cofounder Ralph DeAngelus said performances last Friday by Over Time, followed by Great Train Robbery on Saturday were well received.

"It went well and everybody cooperated with social distancing," he said. "Everybody felt comfortable."

After announcing a full slate of shows running Thursdays-Sundays until Labor Day, following a performance by Beatlegacy on Sat. July 18, those plans were cancelled.

DeAngelus said based on mixed feedback that evening from patrons concerning covid-19 concerns, the company decided to halt shows starting on July 19 with intentions to reevaluate the situation by roughly Aug. 10.

Unlike what proved to be a closing performance last month by Beatlegacy, the concert scene last weekend went comparatively smoother.

"It worked out perfectly and the See YACHT Page 19



Kiwanis fundraises with haircuts

Outdoor trim event Aug. 29 solicits support with club's traditional efforts on pause

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Aug. 20, 2020) Seeking creative means to raise money during the covid-19 pandemic, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City is working with Charity Dudley of Mobile Hair Services to provide open-air haircuts next Saturday with all proceeds to support community projects.

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Steve Cohen volunteered to convert the covered porch at his residence at 98 Ocean Parkway for the hair-trimming event on Aug. 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. "We came up with the idea as a

fundraiser because all the fundraisers we had we can't do for obvious reasons," he said.

Haircuts cost \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for ages 12 and younger, payable by check to the Kiwanis Club. Cash payments will not be accepted.

"There's no hair coloring, just straight cuts," he said. "There's no shampooing or anything like that."

Cohen said tips could be paid separately to Dudley, who can be contacted at 410-533-3788 to schedule an appointment. Masks are mandatory. "Apparently she can cut around the

masks," he said.

For her part, Dudley, who launched mobile beauty salon services five years ago in the region, was quick to lend assistance when contacted by Kiwanis members.

"It's making me feel like I'm giving



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back to basically the community that I'm working for," she said.

With more than a quarter century working the shears in salons, Dudley began offering house calls for the elderly or disabled after helping a close relative in need.

"I started this because I took care of my mother when she was sick," she said.

Dudley said helping her terminally ill parent maintain appearances illustrated the difficulty for caretakers to provide services for patients unable to travel due to health conditions.

"They need other people other than the ones that are aiding them because they're not leaving their homes or meeting new people," she said.

Recognizing an unmet need existed, Dudley began offering mobile services part time, which became a full-time affair in short order.

"I've been able to cut people's hair while they're bed ridden," she said. "If they're smiling when I leave I've done my job right."

Dudley said even those not needing hair attention are welcome to stop by during the event next Saturday and make a donation to support the Kiwanis Club.

Also, clients seeking beauty services beyond a basic trim, including See SHAGGY Page 19



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City will host a fundraiser on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 98 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines. Charity Dudley of Mobile Hair Services will provided haircuts, with all proceeds benefiting the Kiwanis Club. The cost is \$15 for guests 12 and older, \$7.50 for those younger. Masks are mandatory. Call Mobile Hair Services at 410-533-3788 to schedule an appointment. Form of payment: only checks made out to the Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines. Steve Cohen, incoming Kiwanis Club president, whose house the event will take place, is pictured with hair stylist, Dudley.



team member or make a donation at www.relayforlife.org/northworcestermd to be automatically entered

> For more information, email Deb ocdebber@gmail.com or call/text Dawn 443-497-1198



Bayside Gazette

Wersten sentenced for auto death

senger, Michael Lind-

sev Hernandez, of

Berlin, died as a result

of the injuries he sus-

tained in the collision.

the state filed a notice

with the court, which in-

Prior to sentencing,

(Aug. 20, 2020) Bryan Lee Wersten, 32, of Berlin, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for homicide by motor vehicle in Worcester County Circuit Court during a July 10 hearing before Judge Brian D. Shockley.

Six of those years were suspended, and Western will be on supervised probation for five years after his release from prison.

Wersten was convicted on Feb. 28 of causing the death of a passenger in his pickup truck when he struck a traffic light pole at the intersection of Route 589 and Beauchamp Road in December 2018.

He admitted that he was driving while impaired by a controlled dangerous substance, methadone, at the time of the accident. Wersten's front-seat pas-



Brvan Wersten

creased the maximum penalty for the offense to 10 years' incarceration, because of Wersten's prior conviction for driving under the influence of alcohol.

After the accident, Wersten submitted to a blood test that revealed he had methadone, clonazepam and metabolites of cocaine and marijuana in his system at the time of the collision.

Worcester County State's Attorney

Kris Heiser used the tragic loss of life as a reminder of the dangers of driving while under the influence of any substance.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Hernandez, whose life was unnecessarily taken by the reckless behavior of this defendant," she said. "While no amount of punishment can heal their loss, my office takes our obligation to hold offenders accountable seriously. We will also continue to use these cases as a warning to our citizens of the real and devastating consequences of driving while impaired. Even prescribed medications can impair your ability to drive, and those who get behind the wheel when they shouldn't will be held to account in Worcester County."

Shaggy, unkempt looks remedied by mobile hair outfit

Continued from Page 18

manicures and pedicures, can inquire about scheduling a future home visit

"As long as they've got running water I'm good to go and bring everything else," she said. "If they want that service we can make an appointment and I can talk to them at another time."

Further information is available online at kiwanisofopoc.org or by visiting the Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City Facebook page. To schedule hair appointments for Aug. 29 contact Dudley prior to the event at 410-533-3788.

Yacht Club live music set through Labor Day

Continued from Page 17

bands enjoyed themselves," he said. "Obviously, the crowd was smaller but that's OK, because it went well."

Music lovers mostly abided by the health regulations in place at the yacht club, DeAngelus said.

"My managers weren't caught in the middle of anything," he said. "No one was trying to bring in their own chairs." Despite gloomy skies on Saturday, even Mother Nature failed to stop Great Train Robbery from delivering the goods. "The band played their full set," he said.

The live music continues this weekend with Tranzfusion on Friday and Kittyback on Saturday, with both shows scheduled from 6-10 p.m.

DeAngelus said acts on tap the follow-

ing weekend are Full Circle on Aug. 28, Mike Hines and The Look on Aug. 29.

"Fridays and Saturdays, except for Labor Day weekend when it's Friday, Saturday and Sunday," he said.

The holiday schedule includes return visits by Tranzfusion on Fri. Sept 4, Over Time on Sept. 5 and Great Train Robbery on Sept. 6.

While still tentative, live shows could

Fontainebleau Hotel

First Class, 5-10 p.m.

Aug. 23: First Class, 5-10 p.m.

OCEAN PINES YACHT CLUB

Aug. 21: Tranzfusion, 6-10 p.m.

Aug. 22: Kittyback, 6-10 p.m.

410-524-3535 / www.clarionoc.com

Aug. 24-30: On the Edge, 5-10 p.m.

1 Mumfords Landing Road, Ocean Pines

410-641-7501 / www.opyachtclub.org

Aug. 21-22: Stephen Anthony, noon to 4 p.m.;

continue through the end of September if the circumstances allow it.

"We do have entertainment scheduled and we're going to see how the rest of the month goes before we commit to it," he said. "For now we're running through Labor Day Sunday."

For more information visit online at https://www.opyachtclub.com/livemusic

NOW PLAYING



ON THE EDGE Lenny's Beach Bar: Monday-Sunday, Aug. 24-30, 5-10 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

15th St. & Baltimore Ave., Ocean City 410-289-7192 / www.captainstableoc.com Every Friday & Saturday: Phil Perdue on piano, 5-9 p.m.

COCONUTS BEACH BAR & GRILL

In the Castle in the Sand Hotel 37th Street oceanfront, Ocean City 410-289-6846 / www.castleinthesand.com Aug. 21: Darin Engh, noon to 4 p.m.; Rick & Regina, 5-9 p.m. Aug. 22: Kevin Poole & Joe Mama, noon to 4 p.m.; The Dave Wimbrow Bank, 5-9 p.m. Aug. 23: Nate McCormick, noon to 3 p.m.; Chris Brunn Duo, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 24: AJ and Friends, noon to 3 p.m.; Bob Wilkinson, Joe Smooth & Pete, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 25: Aaron Howell Duo, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Keri Anthony, 3:30-7:30 p.m. Aug. 26: Kevin Poole Solo noon to 3 p.m.; Jack Bannon Solo, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 27: Heather Vidal, noon to 3 p.m.; Chris Diller Duo, 4-8 p.m.

LENNY'S BEACH BAR AND GRILLE

101st Street, Ocean City In the Horizons Restaurant, in the Clarion



FIRST CLASS Lenny's Beach Bar: Friday-Sunday, Aug. 21-23, 5-10 p.m.

SEACRETS

49th Street and the bay, Ocean City 410-524-4900 / www.seacrets.com Aug. 21: Stonewood Duo, 4-8 p.m.; Shake Shake Shake Duo, 8-11:30 p.m. Aug. 22: Stonewood Duo, 4-8 p.m.; Late Last Night Duo, 8-11:30 p.m. Aug. 23: Steal the Sky Duo, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 24: Full Circle, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 25: Opposite Directions, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 26: Full Circle Duo, 4-8 p.m. Aug. 27: John MuNutt Duo, 4-8 p.m.

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., Aug. 20

CPAP MASK FITTING

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

PLANT CLINIC (ADULT)

Ask Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz your questions and even show her your plants via Zoom, 3:30 PM. Register: https://worcesterlibrary.libcal.com/eve nt/6779413.

FREE FAMILY BEACH GAMES

Carousel Resort Hotel and Condominiums, 11700 Coastal Highway, 6:30 PM. Held Thursdays through Aug. 27. Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. https://ococean.com/events/familybeach-games2020Hel

FREE CONCERT IN THE PARK

Cypress Park, 7 Bridge St., 7:00 PM. Music provided by "The Larks," featuring jazz. Pack a picnic, bring lawn chairs and practice safe social distancing. The CDC requires a list of attendees. Email your name and phone number to karah@pocomokemd.gov if you plan to attend. 410-957-1333, Ext. 111, http://DowntownPocomoke.com

SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHTS

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Grab a bite to eat from the food truck and enjoy music by "Full Circle" (classic and modern rock). Admission to the park is free, while beverages, including beer, are available for purchase. It is recommended to bring your own seating. Partakers must adhere to State guidelines in practicing physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. 410-289-2800, https://ococean.com/events/sunsetpark-party-nights020

FREE OC BEACH DANCE PARTY

Caroline Street Beach, 8:30 PM. Each week a new DJ hits the Caroline Street Stage where participants can dance under the lights on the beach. This week features DJ Batman OC's Legendary DJ. The event leads into the fireworks at 10:30 p.m. Partakers must adhere to State guidelines in practicing physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. https://ococean.com/events/ocbeach-dance-party2020

THURSDAY'S DOWNTOWN BEACH FIREWORKS

Talbot Street Beach, 10:30 PM. Partakers must adhere to State guidelines in practicing physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. 410-2892800, https://ococean.com/events/ thursday-s-downtown-beach-fireworks

CHAMBER MUSIC BY THE SEA

Featuring the music of Schubert, plus a selection of popular favorites arranged by Tom Poster, 7:00 PM. Register: https://www.wced.foundation/events.

Fri., Aug. 21

COVER THE CRUISER - TORCH RUN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

N. Division Street, 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM. The Ocean City Police Department will park a cruiser on the boardwalk under the Boardwalk Arch. Any pledge amount or the purchase of Law Enforcement Torch Run merchandise is accepted and will allow participants the opportunity to place a pledge card on the cruiser. The goal is to cover the cruiser with pledge cards. All proceeds benefit Special Olympics Maryland.

CHICKEN SALAD SALE

Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, 10709 Bishopville Road, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Featuring chicken salad sandwich on a roll, bag of chips and a water for \$8 or chicken salad by the pint for \$7 each. Also available will be baked goods, fire department T-shirts for \$20, cookbooks for \$10 and Rada knives. To preorder for the chicken salad sale, call 619-922-9950. For more information about cookbook and knives sale, call 410-251-7234.

FREE OUTDOOR MOVIES

Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, 8:00 PM. Featuring "Toy Story 1." Bring snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, lawn chairs/blankets. Sit in your own family pod. Movies are fee, but donations welcomed. Check for updates at Facebook.com/ccaop.

GREEN MARKET

Fridays through Nov. 20 - Trimper Rides under the Ferris Wheel, 600 S. Atlantic Ave., 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Local Farmers Market featuring fresh everything and more from our local farmers. The market is agriculture based only. There will be live music and weekly drawings. Sally Kneavel, Sally@Trimperrides.com, 4102898617, http://TrimperRides.com

Sat., Aug. 22

ARTX

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Become immersed in unique free artistic activities and other expressive opportunities. Artisans, from around the country and locally, will have work on display and for sale. There will be music, food, beer and wine. Workshops are available for ad-



CONSTRUCTION

Construction crews at the Manklin Station Shopping Center in Ocean Pines continuing toiling regardless of excessive humidity on Aug. 8.

vanced registration through the Art League of Ocean City's website and include a small fee to participate. Familyfriendly event for all ages. Masks are required. Attending is at your own risk. Saturday wil also feature a concert at 8 p.m. 800-626-2326, http://www.OCocean.com

CHAMBER MUSIC BY THE SEA

Explore the connection between music and drawing with this fun concert, fit for the whole family, 10:30 AM. Bring paper and your favorite coloring tools. Register:

https://www.wced.foundation/events.

COVER THE CRUISER - TORCH RUN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

N. Division Street, 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM. The Ocean City Police Department will park a cruiser on the boardwalk under the Boardwalk Arch. Any pledge amount or the purchase of Law Enforcement Torch Run merchandise is accepted and will allow participants the opportunity to place a pledge card on the cruiser. The goal is to cover the cruiser with pledge cards. All proceeds benefit Special Olympics Maryland.

CHAMBER MUSIC BY THE SEA

Featuring Dvorak's beloved Piano Quartet in E-flat Major, plus a new duo for two violins by Lila Wildy Quillin, 7:00 PM. Register: https://www.wced.foundation/events.

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Aug. 23

ARTX

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Become immersed in unique free artistic activities and other expressive opportunities. Artisans, from around the country and locally, will have work on display and for sale. There will be music, food, beer and wine. Workshops are available for advanced registration through the Art League of Ocean City's website and include a small fee to participate. Familyfriendly event for all ages. Masks are required. Attending is at your own risk. 800-626-2326, http://www.Ocean.com

http://www.OCocean.com

ROCK AND RIDE ORIGINAL LIVE MUSIC

Sundays - Trimper Rides, 700 S. Atlantic Ave, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Jessica Bauer, Jessica@Trimperrides.com, 4102898617, http://TrimperRides.com

THE BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays through Aug. 30 - Located on Pitts Street and Main Street, 9:00 AM -1:00 pm. Special senior shopping time from 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM. www.berlinmainstreet.com

SUNDAES IN THE PARKS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, 7:00 PM. Featuring free music by "Among the Stars" (tribute band) and various free activities and entertainment for children. Prepackaged ice cream will be available for purchase. Take a picnic Continued on Page 23 20

21

32 Ire

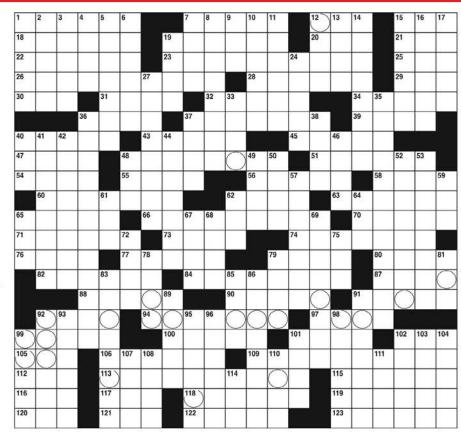
Puzzles

CRAFT SHOW BY RUTH BLOOMFIELD MARGOLIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Ruth Bloomfield Margolin, of Westfield, N.J., serves on the boards of several community nonprofit groups. For the past three years she has given talks at area libraries on crossword construction — lately adding Zoom presentations to her repertoin a crossword for her son's July wedding (now postponed), which included the couple's favor She's revising that puzzle now to feature only "fun" things. — W.S.

ACROSS **48** Winter vacation 99 Buff 1 Front destination 100 First Alaskan o 51 Parades 7 Spanish rice a major U.S. pa ticket 12 Little sucker? 54 Barely beat 101 E-4, E-5 and E-15 Smallish batteries 55 Goals in the U.S. Nav 56 Silverback gorilla, e.g. 18 Like a seacoast after a brief storm, maybe 58 Moreno with an 102 Successors to I Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony 19 Ferris Bueller's 105 Part of Canada girlfriend above Alta. and B. Wells, civil 60 Drag-racing vehicles Sask. rights pioneer 62 "____ trap!" 106 One of the Gan 63 Meager -mo 109 Where to get a mullet trimmed 22 S as in soup? 65 Tired 66 In perfect order ... or, as two words, what's 23 Kind of drawing 112 "____ get it nov 25 Icarus's downfall 113 Civic center formed by applying 26 Skip work for health 115 Colored ring the answers for the reasons five italicized clues 116 Washington's S 28 Words after "Ooh, to the circled letters _ Airport ooh!" 117 Non's opposite 70 Dined at home 29 Beau, to Brigitte 71 More skeptical 118 Ban ... or band 30 Verbal stumbles 73 "Hamilton" actor 119 By and large 31 Baseball catcher Leslie 120 College entran Jr. exam org. ${\bf 34}$ Boy band with two 74 Break down, to a Brit 121 Hosp. V.I.P.s members who 76 Theory 122 Author Zora _ previously starred Hurston 77 Sea on "The Mickey 123 Son of Aphrodit Mouse Club" 79 Prefix with -plasm 36 Little suckers 80 Piece paid by Pisans for a piece of pizza, DOWN 37 Headgear for a previously tailgater 1 Compete in one le modern pentat 82 Safe places 39 One of the Arnazes 84 Multi-episode 2 Loud, as the surf 40 "... but it's up to you" narrative 3 Chills 43 Famously green 87 Crucifix inscription 4 Not incl. shampoo 88 Relentlessly question 45 Rap's Shakur 5 Set the boundarie 90 En ____ (as a whole) 6 Perfect 47 Pope after Benedict IV 91 Having tattoos 7 Smart 92 Event that's a bit off? 8 Painter of the "Fo Online subscriptions: Today's 94 The butler. Freedoms" ser puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles stereotypically 1943 nytimes.com/cr (\$39.95 a year). 97 It gives Ford an "F": 9 Sound from a che Abbr. crowd

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puzzle.

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- scoreboards

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© Puzzles by Pappocom **HARD - 33** 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 re-

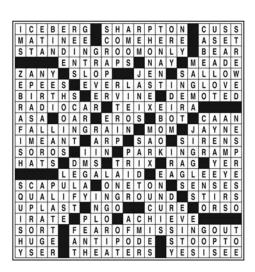
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Answers to last week's puzzles

4	6	9	8	1	5	7	3	2
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5	4	8	3	9	7	6	2	1



Cuisine

Drizzle vinaigrette over watermelon salad

Has anybody else noticed anything strange going on around them? With changes in social practices



Page 22

social practices affecting even the simple task of going to the store, we have seen a massive shift in the manner in which we live our lives.

By Paul Suplee, MBA, CEC, PC-3

And yet, as we get used to this altered way of life, many of us still try to do

the things that made the beach what it is, to make summer what it has always meant, and made the shoulder seasons extraordinarily special to us as locals, whether it be a simple watermelon salad, or eating a big slab at a crab feast in the dead of summer.

And then there's Assateague, our little secret before this summer.

Lay the blame on ennui, or perhaps extra money from the government that allowed people to buy new toys. Resultantly, there were weekends when the OSV was full before 5 a.m. That is much, much earlier than in years past.

And then we have the waterways. Shocking at first were the reports that real estate and boat markets were flooded with buyers.

There are many reasons for this, but there are well-known boat yards sitting on a slight handful of vehicles to sell, their inventories wiped out in the earlier part of the summer.

The almost-daily event of bumperboats has been invigorating to say the least.

I had to sell my boat in January to buy the food trailer, so I have not been able to participate in this newest of contact sports on the water, but I figure by next year, there will be a glut of watercraft on the market, so I will make my move then.

Recently, I had the good fortune of speaking with a younger cook about life in today's world. As they have only been cooking for a couple years, there is little to which to compare this event.

In decades past, we saw a sharp drop in our market (hospitality) after 9/11 and other catastrophic events. These dips would only last a few weeks, though, and we would then pick up the pieces and plug along.

This time we are on month six of limited seating, shutdowns and restrictions. How is one to make a go of it without losing everything they have



worked so hard to build?

The answer, unfortunately, is that many will not make it through this in one piece. Subsidized and unsubsidized loans from the SBA, a grace (at a price) to restaurant and shop owners in a last-ditch effort to remain in place, perhaps shelter in place while we wait out this storm that has already done so much damage to lives, health and the economy.

I for one look forward to the day that we can walk around without a mask on, sit without concern in a restaurant with our friends and family and break bread. I look forward to the day when we can sit with those with whom we vehemently disagree and break bread. Nothing would make me happier.

Until then, we are relegated to this scaled-down version of our spoiled American lives, forced to do more with less and learn how to survive in the most volatile financial conditions that our industry has ever seen.

But, at the end of the day, a great many lessons are to be learned through this trying time. A bit more compassion goes a long way.

For restaurants and hotels, leaving a good review for a restaurant and keeping the bad reviews to yourself (we have been very fortunate on this front, but many restaurants are battling bad reviews on items beyond their control, such as mishaps caused by supply chain disruptions and product availability).

Now, at least, owners can respond in kind, finally stripping online review sites of their power. This is a historical win for us, but that's a story for another day.

And as we sit on our balconies and watch the cacophony of boats bumping into one another on the water, pondering the fate of our new world, we can at least sip our lemonade and eat this delightful reminder that there are many rights in the world today.

Watermelon Salad

serves 6

1 medium watermelon

1 c. Cheribundi Cherry Juice (original)

2 c. Crumbled Feta (good, real Feta) 1 c. Shredded Basil leaves

1 ea. Large red onion, julienne

2 c. Balsamic vinaigrette (recipe follows)

• Peel the watermelon, reserving the rind for pickling if desired

• Cut the watermelon into large chunks, making it as seed-free as possible

• Since the cherry juice is fairly

strong, dilute it with an equal part of water or lemonade, your choice

• Macerate the watermelon chunks in the cherry juice for at least an hour. Watermelon is fairly sturdy, so letting it go longer is OK. (My girlfriend, for example, will soak watermelon chunks in rum overnight for fishing trips. It's a good luck charm, so don't tell anyone)

• Simply assemble the salad on a plate and dress accordingly with the balsamic vinaigrette

• Serve chilled, topping with salt and cracked black pepper to taste

Balsamic Vinaigrette

makes about 2 c.

³/₄ c. Grapeseed oil

³/₄ c. Balsamic vinegar

2 Tbsp. Honey

1 tbsp. Mustard 2 Tbsp. Pineapple juice

2 IDop. I meapple julco

1 shallot, finely diced

S&P to taste • Combine all ingredients in a

blender until smooth

Refrigerate until ready to use

– Paul G. Suplee is an Associate Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College. Find his ePortfolio at www.heartofakitchen.com.

<u>Calendar</u>

Continued from Page 20

basket and beach chairs. The night will end with a fireworks display at 9 p.m. Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326, https://ococean.com/events

Mon., Aug. 24

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

The meeting will be held via conference call, 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Dial 605-472-5789, wait for voice command, then press 944874. TOPS is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Berlin group No. 169. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

FREE DRIVE-IN MOVIE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8:00 PM. Featuring "Sonic the Hedgehog" (99 minutes). Movie audio is via FM radio frequency (monitor your car's battery). Participants are reminded to stay inside their vehicle unless using available amenities. Portable restrooms will be available. All movies subject to weather-related conditions. 800-OC-OCEAN or 410-289-2800, https://ococean.com/events/drive-inmovies2020

Tues., Aug. 25

SEAFOOD NIGHT

Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Call the Knights of Columbus at 410-524-7994 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays to place a take away order of steamed crabs, steamed shrimp and more.

DOC AND TALK: 'WHEN THE WORLD BREAKS' (ADULT)

Beginning at 2:00 PM. View "When the World Breaks on Hoopla," hoopla digital.com, then join the group to discuss this thought-provoking doc about creativity and survival during the Great Depression. Register: https://worcesterlibrary. libcal.com/event/6878719.

YOGA FOR OLDER ADULTS PART 3

Join Natalie Bennett for a 3-part yoga series designed for positive aging, 5:00 PM. Yoga increases flexibility, immunity, sharpness and helps with insomnia. Register: https://worcesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6886339.

FREE DRIVE-IN MOVIE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8:00 PM. Featuring "Grease" (110 minutes). Movie audio is via FM radio frequency (monitor your car's battery). Participants are reminded to stay inside their vehicle unless using available amenities. Portable restrooms will be available. All movies subject to weather-related conditions. 800-OC-OCEAN or 410-289-2800, https://ococean.com/events/drive-in-movies2020

Wed., Aug. 26

ADULT VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB: GOOD OMENS (ADULT)

The funniest book ever written about the Apocalypse. Join the group in discussing "Good Omens: The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter: Witch," 5:30 PM. Register: https://worcesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6918099.

HAMILTON: HOW THE MUSICAL REMIXES AMERICAN HISTORY (ADULT)

Beginning at 7:00 PM. In this talk, University of Maryland historian Dr. Richard Bell explores this musical phenomenon to reveal what this amazing musical gets right and gets wrong about Alexander Hamilton, the American Revolution and the birth of the United States and about why all that matters. Register: https://worcesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6878526.

FREE MOVIE ON THE BEACH

Carousel Resort Hotel and Condominiums, 11700 Coastal Highway, 8:30 PM. Sit in the sand and enjoy a free movie. Featuring "Mulan" (Live Action). Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. All titles are subject to change without notice. All movies are weather permitting. Attendance is at your own risk. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, http://www.oceancitymd.gov

ONGOING EVENTS

KIWANIS 2021 LOTTERY RAFFLE

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City is selling tickets for their 2021 Lottery Raffle. All sales must be completed by Dec. 31 to be eligible. All Kiwanis members have tickets to sell and the club will also be selling tickets at the Ocean Pines Farmer's Market on most Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For only \$20 a ticket, the purchaser get 365 chances to win. Proceeds support local scholarships and youth programs. www.kiwanisofopoc.org, Facebook.com/ Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines/Ocean City.

HARBOR DAY AT THE DOCKS VIRTUALLY

Follow the Facebook page "Harbor Day at the Docks - West Ocean City, MD" for fun videos highlighting local watermen, children's crafts and other activities to celebrate maritime culture. Allen Swiger, 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520, aswiger@co.worcester.md.us. A full list of Worcester County Recreation and Parks programming can be viewed at www.worcesterrecandparks.org.

SUMMER READING 'IMAGINE YOUR STORY'

Through Aug. 21, read as many books as you can. Log your books, attend virtual programs and explore the activities. Virtual badges chart your progress. You earn an entry into the Grand Prize Drawing each time you earn a badge. https://worcesterlibrary.beanstack.org/ reader365



REGISTRATION

Community members and St. Paul United Methodist Church in Berlin held an outside voter registration drive, which was coordinated by Worcester County NAACP President Ivory Smith. The next voter registration will be held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 410 Dighton Avenue, Snow Hill, on Friday, Aug. 21 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Pictured, from left, are Joanne and Greg Grason, Nancy and Steve Tuttle and St. Paul's Rev. Peggy Briggs. For questions, call Smith at 443-944-6701.



COMMENDATION

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Worcester County Commissioners on July 21, present a commendation to Pocomoke Middle School Principal Matthew Record for being named the Maryland Middle School Principal of the Year by the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals.



RECOGNITION

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Worcester County Commissioners present a commendation to Snow Hill High School graduate and Eagle Scout Craig Birckhead-Morton for serving as Worcester County's page to the 2020 Maryland General Assembly. Birckhead-Morton also served as a page to the United States Senate.



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volunteer@habitatworcester.org 410.208.4440

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