



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## TAKE-OFF

Largely devoid of vessels in the offseason, the Ocean Pines Yacht Club Marina provides an ideal site for a great blue heron to survey land and sea on Saturday.

## Board to discuss conduct complaint

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) Following two closed session discussions last week tied to an ethics and conduct complaint against a yet-to-be identified member of the board of directors, the Ocean Pines Association board

scheduled a third special meeting for today at 10 a.m.

Last Tuesday, the board held a special meeting after an association employee filed a complaint alleging violations of Resolution B-08 - Director and Officer Ethics and Conduct.

Tuesday afternoon discussions

morphed into a second special meeting at noon on Friday.

The agenda for the special meeting this Thursday includes a "B-08 report" from Director Dr. Colette Horn.

The agenda is posted online at [oceanpines.org/documents/10184/4](http://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/4)

See BOARD Page 4

## Management succession plans revised

Not about who next GM is, but employee advancement

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) The Ocean Pines Association's succession planning process for general manager and personnel hierarchy, which was launched last fall, is being revamped based on consultant feedback.

Succession planning began last September, with additional comments coming in recent weeks from Sibson Consulting, Director Dr. Colette Horn said.

"We are incorporating that feedback into a revision," she said.

Horn, along with board members  
See SUCCESSION Page 4



Colette Horn



Frank Daly

## Weeg aims to add ping pong tables to Burbage Park

**By Ally Lanasa**  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) Berlin resident Tony Weeg is establishing the nonprofit organization, We Love Berlin Inc., for town projects such as the proposed skate park at Heron Park on Old Ocean City Boulevard and ping pong tables at John Howard Burbage Park on Williams Street.

Weeg has donated the first \$1,000 toward the nonprofit and said Councilman Troy Purnell has promised

See BURBAGE Page 2



Tony Weeg



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# Burbage Park could get outdoor ping pong

Continued from Page 1  
him another \$1,000.

Private donations and grants will also drive the proposed projects.

“Essentially, we need two concrete pads, we need two ping pong tables ... and a chain-link fence across the front on Williams Street, so that people don’t get hurt running out to trace balls,” Weeg said about the ping pong park.

The estimated cost for the preparation and concrete pad, plus the galvanized steel tables is \$12,224. Weeg has yet to receive an estimate for the fencing.

He has also been in contact with the Asateague Coastal Trust to discuss a permeable concrete pad and landscaping using native plants that will absorb water that runs off the pad.

“It’s really an under-\$20,000 embellishment to a park that a lot of people can use, and a lot of people already play ping pong in their garages in town,” he said about the park in front of the power plant.



Troy Purnell



Zackery Tyndall

Weeg said he was inspired by the movie “The Tables” about the connections a pair of ping pong tables brought to Bryant Park in New York City.

“In Bryant Park, those two ping pong tables transformed an area that was riddled with drug addicts and bums and homeless people and turned it into a vibrant space that now a community [has] developed around these tables,” he said.

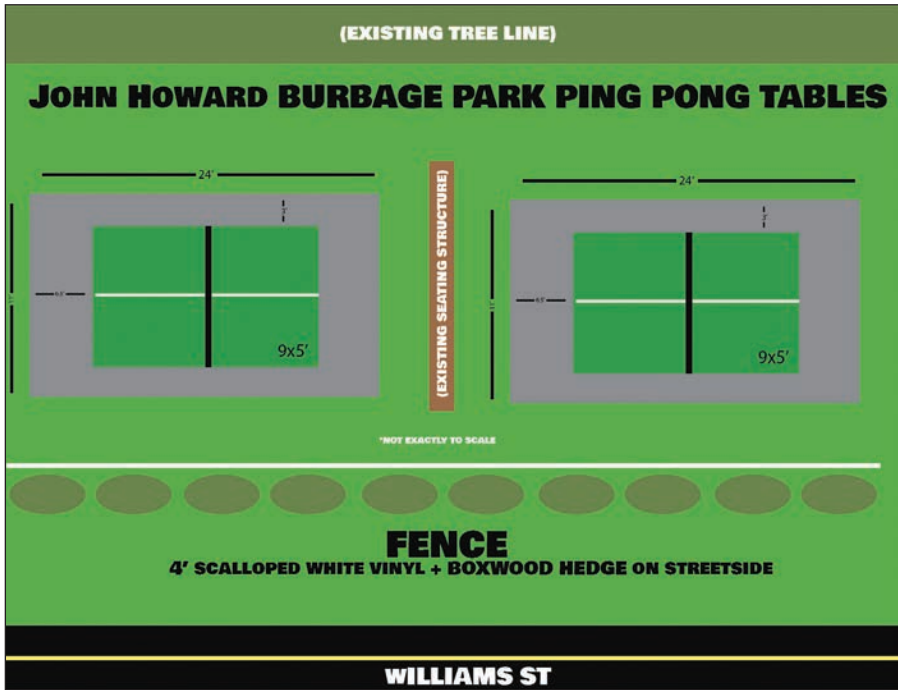
He added that he hopes to encourage the same sense of community at John Howard Burbage Park in Berlin.

“It’s a unique way to get people to meet each other where they’re not sitting on their phone,” Weeg said. “They need to walk to the park or bike to the park. They’ve got to bring a paddle ... it’s a good way to get some energy out, play for a half-hour and then talk and just have fun.”

Weeg presented the mockup to Purnell, who advised him to add fencing and rearrange the direction of the ping pong tables.

Purnell said on Monday that he thinks it is a great idea, whether the tables go at John Howard Burbage Park or another space in town.

Mayor Zackery Tyndall said on Tuesday that he supports the improvement of parks and open spaces



PROPOSAL COURTESY TONY WEEG

Berlin resident Tony Weeg has proposed a ping pong park to town staff in an effort to improve John Howard Burbage Park in front of the power plant on Williams Street.

in town. Currently, John Howard Burbage Park only has a bench.

With the park being named after the former and longest-serving mayor of Berlin, Tyndall hopes to see more information provided to the public about Burbage at the park, through an interpretive sign or gar-

den plaque.

He added that he supports boards and commissions fulfilling their purpose, and Weeg’s proposal will have to go before the Parks Commission.

Weeg is expected to present his ping pong proposal to the Parks Commission at its March 2 meeting.

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6 Feet Apart



# OPA reserve study undergoing review based on assets

By Greg Ellison  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) The Ocean Pines Association will be updating its reserve study to track account balance percentages and revise the fixed assets list to reflect recent capital building projects.

During the Budget and Finance Committee meeting last Wednesday, General Manager John Viola discussed plans to revise the study, which was updated two years ago following its creation in 2015 by Richmond-based Design Management Associates.

Viola said the update is being undertaken partially at the behest of the Budget Committee.

Six years ago, the OPA board paid Design Management \$31,800 to ascertain what level of reserves it should maintain based on assets.

Doug Greene, a partner with the Richmond firm, presented an initial report to the board in April 2016, with a follow-up review conducted in 2018.

Viola said Public Works office manager Linda Martin is assuming lead on the project that will begin this month.

"She will meet with each department head to review the fixed assets register for updates," he said.

Martin will be working with Viola, Director of Finance and Operational Logistics Steve Phillips, Accounting Manager Julia Johnson and the Budget and Finance Committee.

The new data to be considered includes the capital building projects completed over the past few years.

"She will summarize all those changes," he said.

Viola said once changes to the fixed asset register are compiled, both he and Phillips would consult with Greene.

"I did tell him a couple years ago we will use his proprietary software to do all the calculations," he said.

Viola described the latest reserve study as "DMA Lite," which should cost roughly half of the initial investment in 2015.

"We'll do all the legwork," he said. "He will do all the calculations and provide overview, like he did last time."

When the process is completed, the OPA is planning a town hall meeting to present the findings.

"To review how much we have in the reserves and to see where we stand," he said.

Viola was serving on the Budget and Finance Committee in 2018, See RESERVE Page 4



John Viola

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# Succession planning gets revamp

Continued from Page 1  
Camilla Rogers and Frank Daly, are conducting a related work group.

Horn acknowledged that so far only one internal candidate had entered the process to be considered for general manager.

The sole applicant reportedly withdrew their name from consideration this week.

“We don’t have a lot of people coming out of the woodwork wanting to jump into this process,” she said.

Horn also said pending revisions to the succession planning process are not related to recruitment matters.

“It’s not because we haven’t gotten interest and it’s not because we’re trying to attract more candidates,” she said. “It’s because we’re trying to develop a good process.”

Daly is chairing the succession planning work group, according to Horn.

“Frank is chairman of the work-group because recruitment of executives is his field,” she said. “He is driving the process, but I’m doing the mechanics.”

Daly said the board is restricted

from discussing personnel issues or identifying candidates evaluated.

“Its not position-specific or person-specific,” he said. “It’s important to understand the whole idea of this thing is to develop level one and level two employees to enhance their careers.”

He said the goal is to empower association employees to advance by identifying areas of strength and weaknesses.

“We’re always working with people to make them more productive ... and to feel more accomplished in the work they’re doing,” he said.

Daly said the succession planning process goes beyond finding candidates for general manager, and that professional development of personnel is part of the program.

“They’re working with level two [staff] to move up,” he said. “In some cases employees may not be interested in moving to the next level ... but may be interested in improving their skillset so that they can do something else or do what they do better.”

Horn said no timetable has been

set to implement the process.

“The next step is for me to share with the board my suggestions how it should be incorporated,” she said. “Then [the workgroup] will come up with a draft for the board to review.”

Horn said the consultants took a different perspective on the succession planning effort.

“It wasn’t as developed as it needs to be was the feedback we received,” she said. “We thought we had a decent ... and well-thought-out process, but they felt otherwise.”

Daly said Viola has provided no indication if he would be interested in remaining as general manager beyond his current contract.

“It’s June of 2022 that his contract expires,” he said. “If John wants to extend I would be personally the happiest guy in Ocean Pines.”

Horn said with more than a year remaining on Viola’s contract, time is not of the essence.

Daly also added there are few, if any, reasons to rush evaluations.

“We’re not in any jeopardy whatsoever,” he said. “It’s a forward-looking process.”

## Reserve study getting updated

Continued from Page 3  
when the reserve study was reviewed and the committee agreed that the reserve account should contain a minimum of 22 percent of assets.

“We had dipped down to 17 percent but we showed over two years how we would get back there,” he said.

While the same range of 22-28 percent was agreed to for replacement reserves, other accounts were treated differently last time around.

“Bulkheads and drainage are separate and we didn’t give percentages,” he said. “The feeling back then for bulkheads was that we had enough to do the next year plan and a cushion of a couple hundred thousand,” he said.

Viola said bulkhead reserves have averaged about \$1.4 million the past few years.

Although not addressed in 2018, drainage reserves are slated for greater attention in the next reserve study.

“I anticipate more on drainage for this time around with the DMA Lite.”

Included in the fixed asset registry are buildings, furniture and equipment, along with depreciated values for each.

“When we update our fixed asset register, that effects the depreciation,” he said.

Depreciation is calculated on the useful lives and amount of assets.

“Part of what we are updating is the new buildings and for this budget we had agreed with Budget and Finance to review to reflect the depreciation,” he said. “Normally, the fixed asset register is updated by the accounting firm at the end of the budget year.”

## Board sets third special session about complaint

Continued from Page 1  
6 5 0 2 / 2 - 4 - 2 0 2 1 + Special+Mtg+Agenda.pdf.

The public can provide comment during the meeting, or by emailing [directors@oceanpines.org](mailto:directors@oceanpines.org).

Video of the meeting will be posted to YouTube with links listed at [oceanpines.org](http://oceanpines.org).

To view the meeting in real time use link: [teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_N2RkZDQ4MGEtMjM5OCooYTY1LWEwMGtNmMzNjE4NDA4ZWJj%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22TiD%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbe60bd4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_N2RkZDQ4MGEtMjM5OCooYTY1LWEwMGtNmMzNjE4NDA4ZWJj%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22TiD%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbe60bd4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d).



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# Berlin PD to contribute funds for skate park

Heron Park considered for designated site to resolve issue of safety downtown

By Ally Lanasa  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) Berlin's elected officials began discussing the concept of a skate park years ago as one way to resolve the safety issues with skateboarders downtown, and now the Berlin Police Department has voiced its support.



Chief A. Downing

Police Chief Arnold Downing said local children need a safe place to skateboard and that there has been an influx in complaints regarding skateboarding. With many children engaged in remote learning during the pandemic, they have more idle time to skateboard. However, there isn't a designated space for skateboarding in town.

Currently, a remedy is for Berlin officers to confiscate skateboards. When children and their parents come to the department to retrieve the skateboards, they're advised of the law, which states they cannot skateboard on state roads or downtown.

"I think every one of the young

people understand the law for sure now, but they still have the question of, 'What can we do and where can we do it,'" Downing said. "And we've made the commitment, we've said we're willing to go ahead and put up funds if they want to use Heron Park or any other designated place that someone starts a program."

He added that the town could pursue grants for the park.

"The police department has the first \$1,000," he said. "We'll go ahead and ask the businesses downtown to go ahead and help support any program that will go ahead and bring forth safe activity for our children. We support the Little League, we support youth football. We support all those. We can do the exact same thing with the skateboard situation."

Councilman Jack Orris began the discussion about a skate park during the Town Council meeting on Jan. 25

"I know it's a tough situation, the parents are at a loss. Kids just want to have fun and be kids and it's no secret that we've been talking about a skateboard park for years, but ultimately safety is our number one responsibility," he said.

Mayor Zackery Tyndall suggested creating a map where skateboarding can be done in town currently. He also recommended the town contact the group that previously offered pop-



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing told the Berlin Mayor and Council on Jan. 25 that the police department would contribute funds for a skate park at Heron Park on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

up skateboarding activities at Heron Park. Ivy Wells, the town's economic and community development director, said last Friday that the group and town staff are discussing the matter.

Tyndall added during the Town Hall meeting that metrics about skateboarding and bicycling could help the town if it sought funding in the future for a skateboarding facility.

Responding to Councilman Jay Knerr about the cost of a skate park, Downing said the town has contacted Ocean Pines and Ocean City about their parks in the past.

"My big thing is don't let the numbers scare you," he said. "All kids need is a trash can and a ball, and they can have fun. Understand that concept. If they have the place to do it, and they have the support system, they can get a lot of things done."

Councilmember Shaneka Nichols commended the police department for its support of children's activities and its efforts to ensure a safe place for children to skateboard.

Councilman Troy Purnell expressed his support of a skate park

See POLICE Page 6

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# Town responds to PCAC concerns

By Ally Lanasa  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) As Berlin residents take to social media to express concerns about an increase in their electric utility bills, Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood explained the factors that produced the recent charges.

“What is the power cost adjustment? The electric bill you receive every month lists several individual charges or line items that add up to the total amount of your bill,” Fleetwood said. “One of the items that goes up or down is the power cost adjustment, sometimes called an energy cost adjustment or a fuel cost adjustment. Since the PCA changes from month to month, it is important to realize that it is not due to a change in your electric rates, but it’s due to the changing costs of fuel to generate electricity that you use.”

Fleetwood said individual consumption also affects the power cost adjustment charge. So, the more electricity a home used, the higher the power cost adjustment charge would be.

“Another thing I would add is cost of renewables has gone up and that is a major factor when you talk about the PCA,” he said.

The Berlin Mayor and Council support Senate Bill 0677 and House Bill 1392 and are providing a financial share for a lobbyist to help pass legis-

lation to cap the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards for the five municipal electric utilities.

The town could save more than \$2 million from 2021 to 2030 if the legislation passes.

According to the town’s website, the cost of fuel to generate the town’s electricity varies.

“This variation in fuel cost can cause the cost of purchasing electricity from outside power companies to vary as well. The Power Cost Adjustment Charge (PCAC) is a calculated dollar amount per KWH to be added or deducted from the customer’s billing each month, reflecting the increase or decrease in the fuel cost of generating or purchasing power that can be passed on to the customer,” the website states. “The Maryland Public Service Commission reviews the PCAC calculation and collection on a monthly basis.”

Fleetwood added that the town’s electric consultant, Booth & Associates, also reviews the power cost adjustment charge on a monthly basis.

Fleetwood reminded electric customers that the town’s electric utility is a not-for-profit utility.

“The PCA line item on your bill passes these costs onto you,” he said. “The electric utility does not make extra revenue from this item. This is a pass-through cost.”

During the Town Council meeting on Jan. 25, Fleetwood added that Berlin is not the only electric supplier that has a power cost adjustment charge.

Councilman Jack Orris asked at the meeting if there was a way for residents to be notified of potential increases in the power cost adjustment charge to help budget for it. Finance Director Natalie Saleh replied that the rate itself varies only by a minute amount. The increase in cost was caused by the amount of kilowatts being used by the household.

She added that the December-January bill was for 35 days, a longer time

period than the average bill.

Saleh and Mayor Zackery Tyndall mentioned that the town offers a budget billing program, which allows residents to pay a fixed amount each month based on previous usage and settle the difference at the end of the year.

Berlin’s Electric Department asks customers to voluntarily conserve or limit energy usage depending on the weather when customers would typically use the greatest amount of electricity.

“If anybody’s interested, that is a program that we have,” Tyndall said, adding that residents should call town hall and request the form for the program.

The town’s Tweak Our Peak program alerts customers of peak times are when Berlin Electric is purchasing wholesale power at the highest prices.

Fleetwood said with the colder weather the peak times were from 6-10 a.m. Jan. 29-31. The town’s website states that Berlin customers can save money by reducing their energy consumption during these peak periods by delaying the usage of major appliance such as dishwashers, washing machines and clothes dryers. Other steps customers can take to lower their electric bills include delaying the use of hot water, closing window shades and adjusting thermostats down three degrees during these peak times.

In addition, the U.S. Department of Energy recommends covering drafty windows, adjusting the thermostat temperature during the day and night, sealing air leaks around utility cut-throughs for pipes and reducing heat loss from the fireplace to save energy during the fall and winter.

Energy saving tips will also be included in the February electronic newsletter, said Administrative Manager Kelsey Jensen.

“For anyone out there with a utility bill, it could be water sewer or electricity, if there’s a concern or question please dial 410-641-2770, and I will guarantee you will get personalized attention,” Fleetwood said during the Town Council meeting last week.

# Police dept. will provide \$1,000 for skate project

Continued from Page 5  
and said Heron Park would be the ideal location.

“I know there’s a whole lot of underground local momentum that really wants to see something happen,” he said.

Purnell added that the skate park could be built in phases.

“Yeah, it’s going to take some money and we’re going to have to determine a space for it, but I think it’s definitely necessary,” he said. “There’s more young kids in town than I’ve ever seen in my life ... Skateboarding is a good thing, not a crime. Put them in the right spot, it’s a great thing to have.”

Resident Tony Weeg, who has been pushing for a skate park since moving to Berlin almost three years ago, said hearing that the police department supports the project validates his effort.

“One of the things we were missing is a skate park and one of the things we have a lot of are skaters,” he said in an interview on Jan. 29. “There’s a lot of space for it, but there’s nothing set up for it.”

Weeg added that he helped fund nearly \$10,000 over three years for the skate park in Salisbury.

“The beginning stages of a skate park really involve a good partnership between the town and the skaters,” he said. “First thing we need is just the space where we can skate and not get in trouble, and then from there, we’ll blossom and grow just like a farm does.”


Once Weeg finishes setting up his nonprofit, We Love Berlin Inc., the police department will contribute \$1,000 for the incremental skate park project.

Purnell is expected to contribute a small ramp from the Dew Tour in Ocean City to the park.


Private donations and grant funding will also drive the project.

“I plan on using the social networks to build this and to let it grow through word of mouth,” he added.

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# OPA seeks funds for flood-prone properties

Homeowners would have to foot bill for engineering solutions to be reimbursed

By Greg Ellison  
Staff Writer

(Feb. 4, 2021) In addition to investing in expensive stormwater runoff solutions, the Ocean Pines Association is looking for grants to help property owners resolve their own flooding problems.

Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips said General Manager John Viola and Public Works Director Eddie Wells have talked to more than a dozen homeowners whose properties flood frequently, sometimes leaving them with standing water for prolonged periods.

“There have been numerous visits to people’s homes and reach-outs from people who have flood issues in their yards,” she said.

Phillips said unlike the Bainbridge Pond drainage project, many properties suffering from drainage problems aren’t legally accessible by the association personnel.

“Part of the problem is in a lot of these places Ocean Pines doesn’t own an easement behind the house, so we’re not able to go on the property,” she said.

In these instances, property owners would have to foot the bill to develop and deploy their own solutions, although certain rights to adjacent properties could help in some instances.

“Some people have a ditch behind their homes,” she said. “If it’s owned by Ocean Pines, there could be something we could do to alleviate water in the backyard.”

Phillips said in some locations surrounding properties exacerbate the problem.

“Sometimes it’s just where people are located,” she said. “Some homes sit in a bowl where everything drains down into their home.”

Other factors at play include increasingly prevalent rainstorms.

“When you have the storms that we had ... two months ago, where you get five to six inches of rain,” she said. “In those type of events it’s hard to find any type of solution that’s going to help.”

The association is working to assist property owners cover the costs to complete projects to regain regular use of their yards and to reduce flood-related property damage.

“The first question would be is there anything that can be done to alleviate the water?” she said. “Second, are there any types of grant funding

See OCEAN Page 8



The Ocean Pines Association is working to develop a partnership to reimburse upfront costs for homeowners with flood-prone properties.



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# Ocean Pines looks to source grants for waterlogged lots

Continued from Page 7  
for homeowners dealing with these issues to help with expenses?”

Phillips said investigations of stormwater issues generally begin with a site assessment from Worcester County. That could lead to the possibility of an engineering study.

“When you’re dealing with water, you have to have a place for it to go,” she said. “Ideally, an engineer can suggest projects and costs, [which] homeowners would then have to pay.”

To that end, the association has budgeted \$20,000 to pay back costs for engineering studies on private lots.

“What Ocean Pines would do at the conclusion of the project, we would look at reimbursing the cost of the engineering fees up to \$5,000 per project area,” she said.

Phillips said while the Pines allotment would not apply to project expenses, research is underway to locate grants to help cover the cost of the improvements.

In addition to getting help identifying potential grants from Maryland Coastal Bays Program officials, federal and state agencies are also being contacted.

“It’s a collaborative team effort on many different pieces that are working to see what we can do to help this

problem,” she said.

Poorly graded locations prone to standing water can ultimately affect the larger environment.

“One of the biggest things where water stagnates is it suffocates trees,” she said.

Phillips said this negative impact beyond a private lot’s boundaries could open the way to alternative funding sources.

“That’s the piece that helps us be able to start looking at the funding possibilities,” she said.

While the issues and answers affecting individual properties might vary, all locations do share some common problems.

“The bottom line is there are flooding issues and a lot of standing water,” she said. “People’s yards get ruined and some ... foundations get ruined.”

In many cases, residents are uncertain where to start in addressing flooding problems.

“The idea was to work with them to develop plans,” she said.

Phillips said initial conversations with flood-prone property owners trace back nearly a year.

“It’s not a quick process,” she said. “Some of them have had issues for decades, it’s just now things are getting worse.”



PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL PARK SERVICES  
Rangers Logan Tucker and Kelly Taylor are Assateague Island National Seashore's 2020 Superintendent's Award recipients.

## Assateague Island rangers earn superintendent's award

(Feb. 4, 2021) Kelly Taylor and Logan Tucker are the recipients of the 2020 Assateague Island National Seashore Superintendent's Award.

This year's Superintendent's Award was given to two employees who have provided outstanding support to park visitors, park staff and the National Park Service.

“Through a year which included an extended shutdown due to covid-19, budget uncertainties, our inability to hire a full complement of seasonal staff, a phased covid-19 reopening, operating during a pandemic, and record visitation, Kelly and Logan demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication,” said Superintendent Hugh Hawthorne. “Both rangers assisted other park departments accomplish goals, offering solutions to the unique problems of 2020 and going above and beyond.”

Taylor, Assateague Island National Seashore's Maryland District supervisor for interpretation and education, was recognized for her

outstanding service during the 2020 season.

With visitor centers closed, all ranger-led programming cancelled, and staffing levels at a minimum, Taylor and her interpretive staff redirected their work efforts to support the campground and entrance station operations.

Tucker, a law enforcement ranger in the Maryland District of Assateague Island National Seashore, assumed tasks and responsibilities that supported all other divisions in the park.

His high-quality enforcement, public safety and emergency services protected park visitors and island resources during a challenging and difficult season.

Rangers Taylor and Tucker demonstrated initiative far surpassing their routine duties. Their hard work and innovative solutions to the unique challenges of the 2020 season have made a significant, positive difference at Assateague Island National Seashore.



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See MCBP Page 11



# Berlin Mayor and Council Briefs

**By Ally Lanasa**  
Staff Writer  
(Feb. 4, 2021) The following took place during the Berlin Mayor and Council meeting on Jan. 25:

## FY22 budget schedule

The FY22 budget schedule has been forwarded to the councilmembers and uploaded to the town's website for the public's view. On Feb. 8, the Town Council will review the general fund and enterprise funds. Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said the schedule details when public com-

ment is welcome. For more information, visit <https://berlinmd.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Town-of-Berlin-Budget-Schedule-FY22.pdf>.

## Electric Department

The Berlin Electric Department has received approval from the Maryland State Highway Administration to begin relocating the poles for the Route 376 and Route 113 project, said Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence. On the Dollar General side of Route 376, new poles will be set. Some poles on the other side of the road will be re-

placed. Lawrence said the project could take three to four weeks.

## Peak shavings

Lawrence said if Berlin hits all five peak periods throughout the year with no maintenance issues, the town can save nearly \$560,000 annually.

"That includes the maintenance on the engine that's all calculated into it, the maintenance on the building [and] the employees' time that they're there running the generators during peak shaving," he said.

During high demand time, the transmission rates of power are higher be-

cause of transmission congestion. "By starting the generators, we're basically shaving the town's demand," he said.

Lawrence encouraged Berlin's electric customers to follow the CodeRed alerts about peak shaving to conserve energy and save money.

## CodeRed system

Berlin residents can sign up for CodeRed alerts on the town's website by clicking on the CodeRed icon in the top right corner or through the monthly electronic bulletin.

# AGH Blue Distinction Center again

(Feb. 4, 2021) Atlantic General Hospital has been recognized, once again, by CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield (CareFirst) with a Blue Distinction® Centers+ for Bariatric Surgery designation, as part of the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.

Blue Distinction Centers are nationally designated healthcare facilities that show a commitment to delivering high quality patient safety and better health outcomes, based on objective measures that were developed with input from the medical community and leading accreditation and quality organizations.

The Blue Distinction Centers for Bariatric Surgery program provides a full range of bariatric surgery care; including surgical care, post-operative care, outpatient follow-up care, and patient education.

Bariatric surgeries are among the most common elective surgeries in the U.S. — with more than 252,000 performed in 2018 based on a report from the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS).

Furthermore, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that nearly 42.7 percent of

U.S. adults and 18.5 percent of youth are obese and are impacted by obesity-related health conditions.

With obesity reaching epidemic levels among U.S. adults, a significant opportunity exists to improve quality care for bariatric surgeries within the national healthcare system.

Atlantic General Hospital is proud to be recognized by CareFirst for meeting the rigorous Blue Distinction Center quality selection criteria for bariatric surgery set by the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.

"To be re-designated as a Blue Distinction Center+ is a validation of the consistently high quality of care provided by our Atlantic General Bariatric Center's staff," said Matthew Morris, chief nursing officer and vice president of patient care services at Atlantic General Hospital. "I'm proud of them and the health benefits they have been able to help our patients achieve."

Bariatric surgery is the most effective treatment for severely obese patients because it allows for substantial, sustained weight loss, which leads to, improves, or resolves obesity-related co-morbidities like type 2 diabetes.

On average, healthcare costs were reduced by 29 percent within five years following bariatric surgery, due to the reduction or elimination of obesity-related conditions, based on findings by ASMBS.

To receive a Blue Distinction Centers+ for Bariatric Surgery designation, a healthcare facility must demonstrate success in meeting patient safety measures as well as bariatric-specific quality measures, including complication and readmission rate for laparoscopic procedures in sleeve gastrectomy, gastric bypass, and adjustable gastric band.

All designated facilities must also be nationally accredited at both the facility and bariatric program-specific levels, as well as demonstrated cost-efficiency compared to its peers. Facilities designated as Blue Distinction Centers+ are on average 20 percent more cost-efficient in an episode of care compared to other facilities.

Quality is key: only those health care facilities that first meet Blue Distinction's nationally-established, objective quality measures will be considered for designation as a Blue Distinction Center+.

# Berlin campaign next weekend will honor local heroes

(Feb. 4, 2021) The Berlin Chamber of Commerce recently announced the launch of its Hearts for Heroes campaign.

Businesses are being asked to put heart decorations in their windows and around their workplace as a show of support to local heroes and to offer something special during the long holiday weekend of Valentine's Day and Presidents Day, Feb. 12-15.

Heroes can include, but are not limited to, healthcare workers, teachers, grocery store clerks, firefighters, police, EMTs, food service and retail workers, along with visitors and customers who have followed CDC guidelines and continued to safely shop local.

Berlin Intermediate School students will also provide colorful "HEARTWORK" for businesses to use as decorations along with the official H4H poster.

For more information, contact the Berlin Chamber of Commerce at 410-641-4775 or

[chamberinfo@berlinchamber.org](mailto:chamberinfo@berlinchamber.org), or visit its Facebook and Instagram pages.



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# Ocean Pines to host virtual covid-19 Town Hall Feb. 11

(Feb. 4, 2021) Ocean Pines will host a virtual covid-19 town hall meeting on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 6 p.m.

Worcester County Health Department Public Affairs Officer Travis Brown will offer a brief presentation on covid-19 vaccine and testing efforts locally, and he also will be available to answer questions.

Ocean Pines Communications Committee Chairwoman Jennifer Cropper Rines will moderate, and Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino will attend and be available for questions.

Email advance questions to [info@oceanpines.org](mailto:info@oceanpines.org). Questions will also be taken live, during the town hall.

To join the town hall, use the invite link :

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NTY5NmI4YjU0ZWlXNS00ZTNhLWEzYWQ0MGU0MDNhNzk2NmYz%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbee60b-d4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTY5NmI4YjU0ZWlXNS00ZTNhLWEzYWQ0MGU0MDNhNzk2NmYz%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbee60b-d4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d)

For a brief video tutorial on how to join a Microsoft Teams meeting, visit [https://youtu.be/AL-OD3\\_yaOA](https://youtu.be/AL-OD3_yaOA).

The town hall will be recorded and posted to the Ocean Pines website within 24 hours.

For the latest covid-19 news and information as it relates to the Ocean Pines community, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/covid-19-announcements-and-closings>.

# Art Resiliency Grant started to ease impacts of covid-19

(Feb. 4, 2021) In response to the covid-19 pandemic and its severe impact on the community, the Worcester County Arts Council announces the Art Resiliency Grant program.

The Art Resiliency Operating Grant program is intended to support and strengthen Worcester County arts and cultural organizations.

This grant program is administered by the Worcester County Arts Council, a not-for-profit organization. Funds distributed through this program are provided by the Maryland State Arts Council.

The Art Resiliency Grant program was created to provide unrestricted operating support grants to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in Worcester County. An organization may apply for up to \$1,000.

Organizations may use this unrestricted funding as they see fit on an array of expenses, including program costs, salaries, administration, office expenses, technology, or to meet other operational needs.

Due to the limited funding that may be available, eligibility for the Art Resiliency Grant is limited to organizations that were funded by the Worcester County Arts Council through the Community Arts Development Grant program in fiscal year 2020 and 2021.

Eligible applicants must be actively creating or presenting mission-related programming through live, virtual, or other mediums to be considered for funding.

Program guidelines and application form are available on the Arts Council website [www.worcester-countyartscouncil.org](http://www.worcester-countyartscouncil.org). Application submission deadline is Feb. 8.

For more information about this grant program and eligibility, contact Anna Mullis, executive director, at [anna@worcestercountyartscouncil.org](mailto:anna@worcestercountyartscouncil.org).

# MCBP officials meet with Pines

Continued from Page 9

“We all know the situation when Ocean Pines was developed in the 1960s when there was no stormwater management, basically,” he said. “That problem is not going away and it’s only, potentially, going to get worse.”

After highlighting assistance from Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips, along with board of directors members Tom Janasek and Doug Parks, Wolf suggested long-term plans should be developed to assure that the effort to improve the ecosystem continue.

“How do you ... engage to lure in people in the future beyond current people like Colby, Parks and Janasek?” he said. “I want to grow roots that will survive people coming and going from the board.”

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VISIT TO SCHOOLS

(Left) State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Karen Salmon was impressed by the masks for musicians and their instruments when meeting Band Director Pete Mundrick and his class at Stephen Decatur Middle School during her tour of the county school system on Jan. 22. (Right) Dr. Salmon toured the new Showell Elementary School facility off Route 589 in Berlin on Jan. 22. Pictured, from left, are fourth grader Fletcher Chmar, Superintendent of School Lou Taylor and Salmon.

Kiwanis welcomes four members

(Feb. 4, 2021) The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City added four new members in December.

Kiwanis International President Art Riley, during a Zoom meeting hosted by the local Kiwanis Club, inducted Doreen O'Connor, Joan Esworthy, Kathryn A. Hill and Steve Greco.

O'Connor is a retired elementary school counselor from Queen Anne's County, Maryland.

She was responsible for working directly with students and families as well as organizing and administering many of the service projects that the school participated in.

She is currently a substitute teacher for Worcester County, and holds a certification as a yoga instructor.

Esworthy and her husband, Paul, moved to Ocean Pines in 2018 from Sykesville, Maryland.

They enjoy the beach, fishing and all of the activities in the area, and are the parents of four geriatric dogs.

In pre-retirement life, she worked remotely from Sykesville for a Cali-

fornia-based company as an installation manager, responsible for installing GPS equipment in fleet vehicles throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Since their move, Esworthy has been able to connect with many old friends that have moved to the shore and she keeps busy volunteering with the Worcester County Humane Society and is a member of several other organizations.

Hill lived the first 21 years of her life in northern New York.

After college, she moved to Carroll County, Maryland, where she and her husband, Tim, brought up their three boys.

She worked for the Carroll County Family YMCA for about 32 years and Carroll County Public schools for 20 years.

Upon her retirement in June of this year, she and her husband were able to find more time to be in Ocean Pines.

Making jewelry, refinishing furniture, designing flower arrangements, creating mosaic artwork, golfing and

going for relaxing walks are things that keep her busy daily.

She's also a member of the Pine'er Craft Club in Ocean Pines, where she helps set up displays in the gift shop.

Greco and his wife, Trish, have been living in Ocean View, Delaware, since July.

Prior to that, they lived in Sayville, New York for over 20 years.

They have 2 children: Christopher (age 26) and Caroline (age 24), who still live and work in the Greater New York area.

Steve retired earlier this year. Prior to that, he owned Selectro Corporation, a company that supplied automotive lighting products to auto parts stores and warehouses across the USA. He sold the company in December of 2019.

He enjoys running, biking and spending time with family and friends. His dad was a Kiwanian up until his death in May of 2018, and Steve looks forward to continuing his legacy of serving the children of his community through Kiwanis.

Eastern Shore JA Inspire event goes virtual next month

(Feb. 4, 2021) Junior Achievement of the Eastern Shore (JAES) is working on its third annual JA Inspire event, which this year will be virtual.

JA Inspire is a one-of-a-kind career exploration event for students on the Eastern Shore.

Hundreds of local businesses, from across the shore, will be ready to show students what a day in the life of someone with their job looks like, how students can get that job, and what students need to do for the duration of their school career to be successful in that job.

JA Inspire will also feature Eastern Shore colleges, universities, apprenticeship programs, trade schools and internships so once a student is "inspired" they can gather the information they need on how to achieve their goals.

The event will take place over several weeks in March and April to allow students and local job seekers

See JUNIOR Page 13

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## Business Briefs

### Recognition

Debbie Bennington, of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty Ocean Pines Office, has been named to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' esteemed Chairman's Circle-Gold Level for 2020.

The Chairman's Circle-Gold Level is awarded to the top 2 percent of the company's network's sales professionals and is a testament to



D. Bennington

Bennington's dedication to her industry.

"She is knowledgeable, has a strong work ethic and is a natural leader. Debbie strives to provide the best possible real estate experience for all her clients," said Sharon Curtiss, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty.

Bennington entered the real estate industry in 2002 and joined Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty in 2011.

She has been a consistent award winner of the President's Circle and Chairman Gold Circle Award.

## Malinowski to lead Ocean Pines Academy work group

(Feb. 4, 2021) Ocean Pines' Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski is heading a work group charged with creating an Ocean Pines Academy.

The purpose of the academy (formerly known as the "Ocean Pines Residents Academy") is to give Ocean Pines residents and property owners a comprehensive and in-depth look at the many facets of the Ocean Pines Association, to promote a greater understanding and help develop effective leaders in the community.

The academy will include a series of videos and interactive material hosted on the Ocean Pines website.

The information presented in the academy also can be used for board of directors orientation and as a tool to recruit new Ocean Pines advisory committee and board members.

The workgroup will begin filming segments for the academy in February, with a target to release it to the public in March. Other members of the workgroup are Ocean Pines Association President Larry Perrone, Vice President Colette Horn, General Manager John Viola, Senior Executive Assistant Michelle Bennett, Director of Marketing and Public Relations Josh Davis, and community member Jenny Cropper Rines.

"It will be a total team effort," Viola

said during a recent board meeting. "I have complete confidence in this team and, so far, a lot of the stuff I've seen and I've heard is pretty neat."

Viola has also asked Davis to lead the video side of the project, and he said having the academy on video would make it more accessible to the Ocean Pines public.

## Junior Achievement alters event commencing in March

Continued from Page 12

ample time to absorb all of the information.

"We are super excited about JA Inspire being virtual this year," said Lisa Thornton, JAES's development director. "Last year we were able to reach 3,000 eighth grade students. With location not being a factor this year, even more students and businesses will be able to participate."

In addition to 3,000 eighth graders, another 3,000 high school students will also participate in JA Inspire this year. The JAES staff has worked closely with school districts in Accomack, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties to allow access to students across the shore. The event is also going to be open to local job-seeking adults for the first time this year.

"We are using a virtual conferencing platform that actually looks like a convention center when students enter the simulation," Thornton said. "Local businesses will have the ability to provide students with tons of in-

formation regarding their business and their industry, all while being safe at home."

JAES also believes that more local businesses will be able to get in on the action this year.

"Those smaller businesses that may not have the personnel to send to a two-day event, or the ability to close down for two days now have the opportunity to be a part of this event," Thornton added. "Our staff is preparing and training to assist businesses in the preparation of their virtual booths. We are helping our local businesses as much as possible to ensure that the transition to this platform is as seamless as possible."

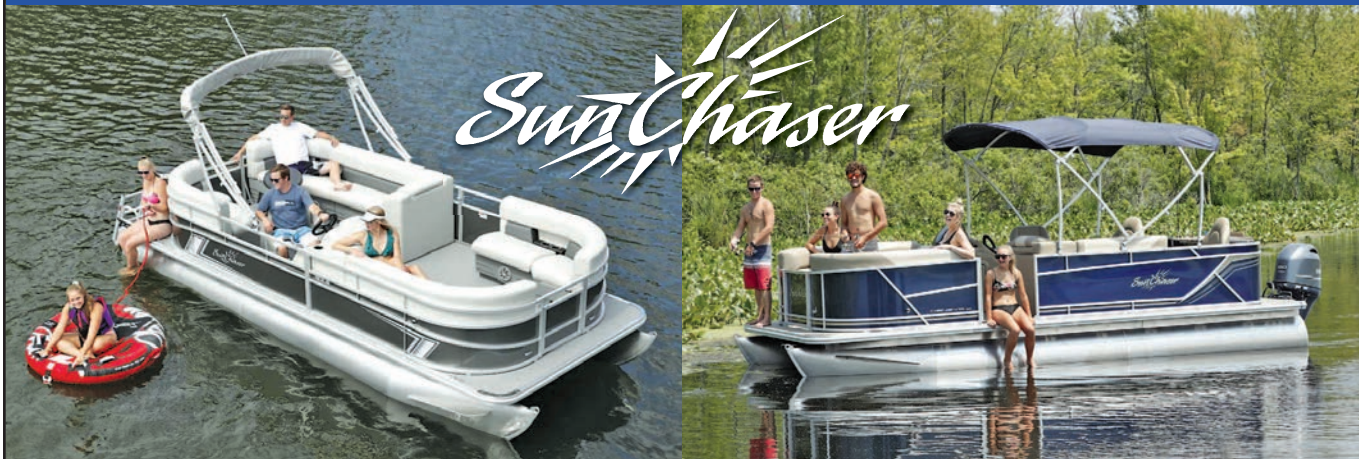
Those interested in learning more or participating in JA Inspire are encouraged to visit [www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-easternshore/ja-inspire](http://www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-easternshore/ja-inspire).

Junior Achievement of the Eastern Shore is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing possibility and powering potential for students, grades K-12, on the shore.

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# Community Briefs

## Board members

The Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County recently announced its 2021 Board of Directors.

They are: Co-Presidents, Susan Hubbard and Joan Roache; Vice President, Laurie Brittingham; Recording Secretary, Deborah Fisher-Reynolds; Corresponding Secretary, Sue Challis; Treasurer, Irene Daly; Members At-Large, Rosie Bean, Becky Simonds and Mary Anne Whitcomb; and Past President, Vicky Wallace.

The new board was sworn in by County Commissioner, District 1, Josh Nordstrom, at the organization's December meeting.

The Democratic Women's Club meets (virtually) the third Monday of each month and welcomes full- and part-time residents of Worcester County and surrounding areas. For membership forms and other information, visit [www.dwcmd.org](http://www.dwcmd.org).

## Dean's List

More than 2,325 students were named to the fall 2020 Dean's List at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, including Makensie Catherine Froman of Bishopville.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, an undergraduate student must be registered for at least 12 credits and have a minimum grade point average of 3.60.

Chadwick Fischer, a Nichols College

student from Berlin, achieved, Dean's List status for the fall 2020 semester.

In order to be included on the Dean's List at the Massachusetts college, a student must have a minimum average of 3.5 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and must have received no grades below B- during the semester.

## Appointment

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan recently appointed Anna G. Newton of Berlin to the board of trustees of Wor-Wic Community College.



Anna Newton

Newton is a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch in Ocean City. She joined the board of directors of the Wor-Wic Foundation in January of 2015 and recently completed her second three-year term.

She was the foundation's treasurer for the past three years and represented the foundation as a member of the college planning council in 2016 and 2020.

She is a member of the Ocean City Young Professionals, and the Ocean City Marlin Club and Auxiliary. She is a past president of the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce and former chair of the Ocean City Young Professionals.

Newton received her bachelor's de-

gree from High Point University in North Carolina.

She and her husband, Zachary, have two children, Kennedy, 2, and Carson, 11 months.

## President's List

Gabrielle Izzett, of Berlin, was one of approximately 470 Shenandoah students to make the President's List for fall 2020.

Students who achieved this prestigious academic recognition attained a grade point average of at least 3.90.

Shenandoah University was established in 1875, and is headquartered in Winchester, Virginia, with additional educational sites in Clarke, Fairfax and Loudoun counties.

## Retired

After 39 years of dedicated service as a member of the board of trustees of Wor-Wic Community College, William H. Kerbin of Pocomoke City recently retired from the board.

Kerbin has the distinction of being the longest serving board member. He joined the board of trustees in 1981 and served as chair from 1984-85 and 1997-99, and as vice chair from 1995-97 and 2015-17.

He promoted the college and the benefits of higher education in his personal life, as well as in his membership in community groups, such as the



Bill Kerbin

MDDC Press Association, the Sinepuxent Lodge AF&AM, the American Legion, the Pocomoke Rotary Club and the Pocomoke City Chamber of Commerce.

Other members of Wor-Wic's board of trustees are Russell W. Blake of Pocomoke City, chairperson, Kimberly C. Gillis, vice chairperson, Andrew W. Booth, Morgan Hazel and Martin T. Neat of Salisbury, and Lorraine Purnell-Ayres of Snow Hill.

## Fundraiser

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City is conducting a fundraiser to support vital community projects.

The club is selling handcrafted masks for \$10 each, or \$25 for three.

Four sizes are available: adult large, medium (for women and teenagers) child (for 7- 12 years old) and small child (3-6 years old).

They are made in Maryland with fabric and supplies from other small businesses in the community. The masks come with an adjustable elastic band.

There are a variety of themes to choose from including sports teams, music groups, nautical and animal motifs. Contact Steve Cohen at 301-667-3099 or [stevecohenjd@gmail.com](mailto:stevecohenjd@gmail.com) for purchase information.





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## A large group of children and two adults are posing in front of a brick building with white columns. The children, mostly in blue and plaid uniforms, are wearing face masks and holding up their Christmas cards. The cards feature various holiday-themed illustrations such as reindeer, snow globes, winter scenes, and the words "Merry Christmas". Two adults, also wearing masks, stand at the back of the group, holding cards as well. The scene is festive and captures a moment of holiday cheer.

A group of seven students and one adult are standing in a classroom, holding up their completed French projects. The students are wearing face masks and holding colorful cards or papers with French text and drawings. The background shows a whiteboard with French phrases and a map of France.

A photograph of two women standing in front of a large, framed award plaque. The plaque is a shield-shaped emblem with a blue top section containing five white stars, a red and white striped middle section, and the text 'All-America City' in blue and '2001' in black at the bottom. The woman on the left is wearing a grey and black plaid blazer over a black top and black pants. The woman on the right is wearing a bright blue jacket over a black top and a black and white patterned scarf. They are both smiling at the camera.

A woman with grey hair and glasses, wearing a black blazer over a light-colored collared shirt and a vibrant, multi-colored floral face mask, stands in a well-lit shop. She is surrounded by various handmade items, including colorful hats, bags, and decorative objects displayed on shelves and racks. The shop has white walls and a large window in the background showing a view of the outdoors.

The Pine'er Craft Club of Ocean Pines has chosen Lois Schultz as the February Crafter of the Month. Born and raised in Finksburg, Maryland, Schultz lived outside of Philadelphia for 23 years before moving to Ocean Pines in 2012. She joined the Craft Club soon after and held the position of vice president for several years. She is now assistant shop treasurer. Her grandmother taught her to embroider in second grade and that started her on the lifelong path to crafting. Over the years, she has done embroidery, cross stitch, beading, Christmas ornaments, screen painting, and many Halloween costumes for her son, husband and herself. Lately, she has been into whimsical crafts, making flower fairies and mermaids from seashells she has collected. Schultz and handmade items by other crafters are available at the Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park, at 239 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines. The shop is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



# Fulton Holland appointed Worcester Co. jail warden

(Feb. 4, 2021) Fulton Holland will be the new warden for the Worcester County Jail, the Worcester County Commissioners announced this week.

“Holland’s strong leadership skills and experience managing operations coupled with his professional and courteous treatment of all staff, inmates, and detainees make him ideally suited for this new role,” Commissioner President Mitrećic said.

Holland, a certified corrections officer with 23 years of experience in law enforcement and correctional services, has a proven record of success overseeing Worcester County Jail operations, a statement from the county said

He is skilled in negotiation, investigation, de-escalation, and conflict resolution and strives to maintain productive communications with inmates and detainees to appropriately review their various needs and make effective recommendations on their behalf.

He is part of the team that has earned the Worcester County Jail a Recognition of Achievement Award from the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards for achieving 100 percent compliance for 18 consecutive years.

“I’m eager to begin my journey as the warden and would like to thank the Commissioners, Chief Administrative Officer Harold Higgins, and retiring Warden Donna Bounds for trusting me to fulfill the duties of the warden,” Holland said. “Thank you to the employees for their willingness to follow me, as I lead them by example

with ethics, morals, and values as the foundation. We are a family, and I will operate the facility as such. I will focus on employee retention, empowerment, and development to ensure that everyone is operating at their full potential for the betterment of the jail.”

In 2019, Holland graduated summa cum laude from East Coast Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice.

He is also Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) certified by the Department of Justice and earned certifications in ServSafe, weapons, first line supervisor, and Live Scan.

He began his career with the Worcester County Jail in 1997, was named Officer of the Year in 2009, and was promoted to assistant warden of classification and correctional services in 2012.

He is the PREA coordinator and investigator for the Worcester County Jail and the liaison between the jail and allied agencies, including the State’s Attorney’s Office, Public Defender’s Office, and criminal court system.

Outside of his professional life, he dedicates his time to family and friends, playing the keyboard, and working on motorcycles.

He is a lifelong Worcester County resident who was born and raised in Bishopville. Holland will take over for current Warden Donna Bounds who will retire this February.



Fulton Holland

# Funding offered for Lower Shore nonprofits, schools

(Feb. 4, 2021) The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore has grant funding available for qualified nonprofits and schools.

A total of \$180,000 is currently available from various grant programs at the foundation, with a variety of focus areas including education, covid-19 impact on non-profit operations and services, and programs serving women and girls.

Education Awards Grant Program: Up to \$75,000 has been made available with emphasis on student needs for online, hybrid, and in-person learning impacted by covid-19.

Teachers of Pre-K through 12th grade in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties at Maryland public schools, or MSDE-approved non-public schools may apply for up to \$1,500 of funding.

In an effort to streamline funding for immediate education needs, the foundation has created a shortened application and expedited review process, with plans to distribute awards by mid-March.

Applications are due by Feb. 28.

“The pandemic has created many new challenges for not only students, but teachers and schools alike,” said Erica Joseph, Community Foundation president. “By creating an application process that is more accessible to teachers, we hope to provide critical education funding where our hands-on educators can create the most immediate impact for students.”

Women’s Fund Grants: \$25,000 is available through the Community Foundation’s Women’s Fund, which

See GRANT Page 18

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ALPACA PRODUCTS

Angela Smithhisler, who owns Marshall Creek Farm in Newark, sells assorted alpaca yarn, alpaca yarn sweaters, alpaca fiber dryer balls and goat milk lotion and soap at Windmill Creek Vineyard and Winery vendors market in Berlin on Jan. 24.



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DINNER SHOW

Brian and Michelle Ferrante, from Baltimore City, enjoy live music over appetizers and red wine at Windmill Creek Vineyard and Winery on Worcester Highway in Berlin on Jan. 23.

Virtual Retirement Bootcamp Series offered

(Feb. 4, 2021) Beginning on Feb. 16, the Worcester County Public Libraries will host a virtual Retirement Bootcamp Series taught by Certified Financial Planner Robert Jeter, CFP, CRPC.

The series of three classes will cover planning items specific to retiree's or those near retirement. Topics covered will include: Planning for

Success in Retirement, Social Security, and Managing Investments in Your Retirement Years.

The instructors, Eric Johnston, CFP® and Jeter, have a combined 35 years of experience in the financial industry. They have a wealth of knowledge and have dedicated themselves to helping people succeed in retirement years.

They currently provide retirement education several times a year to private and public institutions across the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Delaware. Their primary goal is to help make people aware of the challenges of investing in retirement and teach them suitable ways to overcome them.

First Class – "Retirement Suc-

cess/Planning": Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2-3 p.m.

Second Class – "Savvy Social Security": Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2-3 p.m.

Third Class – "Retirement Investing": Tuesday, March 2, 2-3 p.m.

More information on how to register for these classes will be available on <https://worcesterlibrary.org>, or contact

Caitlin Bunting, relationship manager, at [caitlinb@retireinfofocus.com](mailto:caitlinb@retireinfofocus.com), or 410-677-4848.

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Grant applications from eligible orgs due in February

Continued from Page 17 focuses its grant making efforts to address the unmet needs of women or girls in Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset counties.

Each eligible organization may receive up to \$5,000. Letter of inquiry submissions are due by Feb. 22.

COVID-19 Emergency Response Grants: Up to \$80,000 in grant funding is available for qualifying non-profits and organizations, which have been impacted by or assist those in need due to the ongoing covid-19 crisis.

Eligible nonprofits may apply for grants of up to \$5,000 and applications are reviewed on a rolling bi-monthly basis.

For complete additional information, eligibility details, and application deadlines visit [CFES.org](http://CFES.org) or email [hMahler@CFES.org](mailto:hMahler@CFES.org).

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# Opinion

Please send all letters and other editorial submissions to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com) by 5 p.m. Monday.

## ‘Personnel matters’ no catch-all excuse

When local governments convene in closed session, they frequently invoke an exceptionally broad and erroneous definition of the “personnel matters” exemption of Maryland’s open meetings statutes.

The exemption, which is included in the Maryland Open Meetings Act, the Homeowners Association Act and the Condominium Act, is routinely cited when executive bodies want to discuss most any circumstance that involves employees in general.

This might appear to be acceptable, except it isn’t, even if such discussions might cause discomfort among its workers or harm staff morale. This doesn’t mean officials are being purposely evasive. A more likely explanation is they don’t know what the laws mean and aren’t particularly worried about it because the public doesn’t object.

Just to be clear, here is what the Maryland Attorney General’s office says in its current guide to the state’s open meetings act:

“The topics, referred to as ‘exceptions,’ include such subjects as personnel discussions about particular individuals ...”

*Particular individuals.* That’s a specific person or persons, not a department, employees in general or a position to be filled or created.

“The discussion must involve individual employees. Discussions about an entire class of employees, even when the class is small, do not fall within the exception,” the attorney general wrote in 2016.

Citing a ruling by the Open Meetings Compliance Board, he added, “It also does not extend to policy issues such as the method of making the appointment.”

Even though meetings closed because of the “personnel matters” catch-all are rarely challenged, they might be, as people have begin to pay closer attention.

To avoid that embarrassment, executive bodies should ask their attorneys what the laws actually mean. And they can do that, under the law, in closed session.



## Letters

### Citizen thanks Andy Harris

Editor,

Thank you Congressman [Andy] Harris.

Although many people are asking you to step down, I’m thanking you for standing up for millions of Americans who questioned the integrity of this election.

I am puzzled about the lack of cooperation from the states that are in question about the integrity of the election.

If there is nothing to hide, why not cooperate and clear up the evidence that was brought forth?

Why was there a pause in counting votes, why were poll watchers asked to leave and the vote counting continued with no oversight?

This is not transparency. It only erodes the trust we have in our elections. Every American, regardless of your party should question that.

Since Amazon employees are getting ready to vote for unionization, an Amazon spokesperson came out and stated that they believe the best approach to a valid, fair and successful election is one that is conducted manually and in-person.

They want to insist on measures for a fair election. In other words, no machines and no mail in votes.

What I find interesting is how Amazon was for mail-in-votes for our presidential election?

There is much outrage about the mob (which is under investigation) that stormed the Capitol on Nov. 6. I am outraged also.

However, where was the outrage by the media over the violence by Antifa all summer long that resulted in millions of dollars in damage to small businesses and government buildings, deaths and assaults on our police?

Also, I’m very concerned about the censorship that is going on right now on our freedom of speech. If you have a different political opinion you are labeled a racist and you’re spreading hate speech, you could lose your job, be banned from social media, your business threatened or boycotted, be personally threatened or worst yet be labeled a domestic terrorist, a threat to our country and need to be re-educated, just for having a different political view.

This has got to stop. Big Tech, mainstream media and some very outspoken political figures are not in charge of our free speech. This is the last country of freedom. Benjamin Franklin said, “Whoever would overthrow the liberty of a nation must begin by subduing the freeness of speech.”

So, Thank You Congressman Harris for standing up for Voter Integrity and for millions of voices that are now being silenced.

Bonnie Kamm  
Bishopville

### Political fact checking urged

Editor,

Fact – A thing that is known or proved to be true.

For some crazy reason, a lot of Americans are having trouble telling fact from fiction these days. I don’t know why that is, but they are.

Facts are not something to be afraid of; they light the path and show the correct road to travel. More importantly they show us our mistakes so that we’re not doomed to repeat.

So to make things just a

Continued on Page 20

BAYSIDE

GAZETTE

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# Letters

Continued from Page 19  
little bit easier on all of us I put forward a few facts that we should all be able to agree upon.

First, and this will sound silly, I hope, the Earth is not flat, it's round. I read a recent poll where 14 percent of a certain group said they thought it was flat. It's not.

The earth is not 6,000 years old, it's 4.5 billion. And man came along about 65 million years after the dinosaurs died out.

We really did go to the moon, honest. And we left some stuff on its surface to prove it.

Obama is an American. Born and bred just like most of you.

Hillary did not sell babies out of a pizza shop basement.

Democrats and Hollywood folks are not selling babies overseas and they are not eating any of the leftover

ones they did not sell.  
Lizard people from outer space are not walking among us.

Joe Biden won the 2020 election fair and square. Every governor and every secretary of state has said it was fair.

Over 60 court cases have said the same. And there is no evidence to the contrary.

It was MAGA that stormed the capital. No one else, just MAGA. And they were spurred on to do so by Trump and others in the Republican Party.

This is a short fact list and should not require any deep thought. However, if you feel the need to verify any, I beg you to do so. If after that you are still in dispute of any of the above facts than please know, You Are The Problem.

Rex Sawdy  
Berlin

# New advocates sworn in via first virtual CASA ceremony

(Feb. 4, 2021) Three new Court Appointed Special Advocates were sworn in as friends of the court by Judge Margaret Kent and Magistrate Cathi Coates during CASA of the Lower Shore's first-ever Zoom swearing-in ceremony on Sept. 30.

The swearing-in ceremony, which was modified to allow for proper social distancing, was the final step for these community members to become Court Appointed Special Advocates.

The new advocates – Kelley Allmond, Kathleen Taylor Harman and Sanford Abrams – took an oath before the judge following their completion of a 32-hour training course, which covered topics like trauma, resiliency, poverty, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence and the role of the CASA volunteer.

These volunteers are now ready to advocate for abused and neglected children in Worcester County during their time in the child welfare system. Each volunteer will be assigned to an open juvenile case so that they may speak up for and advocate on behalf of the child or children involved in the case.



Kelley Allmond



Kathleen Harman



Sanford Abrams

CASA continues to work on behalf of the most vulnerable children in the community, even during covid-19. While advocates are not currently engaging in in-person meetings with the children on their cases, they are staying in touch with families by phone, FaceTime, and Skype while working remotely to complete court reports.

Because of covid-19, children who are at risk for abuse or neglect are now more vulnerable because of the additional stress that parents are under.

CASA's work is especially important during this time, and CASA of the Lower Shore seeks more community members to become volunteers.

Interested parties are encouraged to visit <https://gowoyo.org/volunteers> and submit a volunteer application. Call 410-641-4598, or email [bnortheimer@gowoyo.org](mailto:bnortheimer@gowoyo.org) for more information.

## Have an opinion?

We invite you to share it, but all letters are subject to verification, so please include your name and phone number. All letters are subject to editing for space and to protect the author and this newspaper from legal action. Email letters to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com). For questions, call 410-723-6397.

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# Puzzles

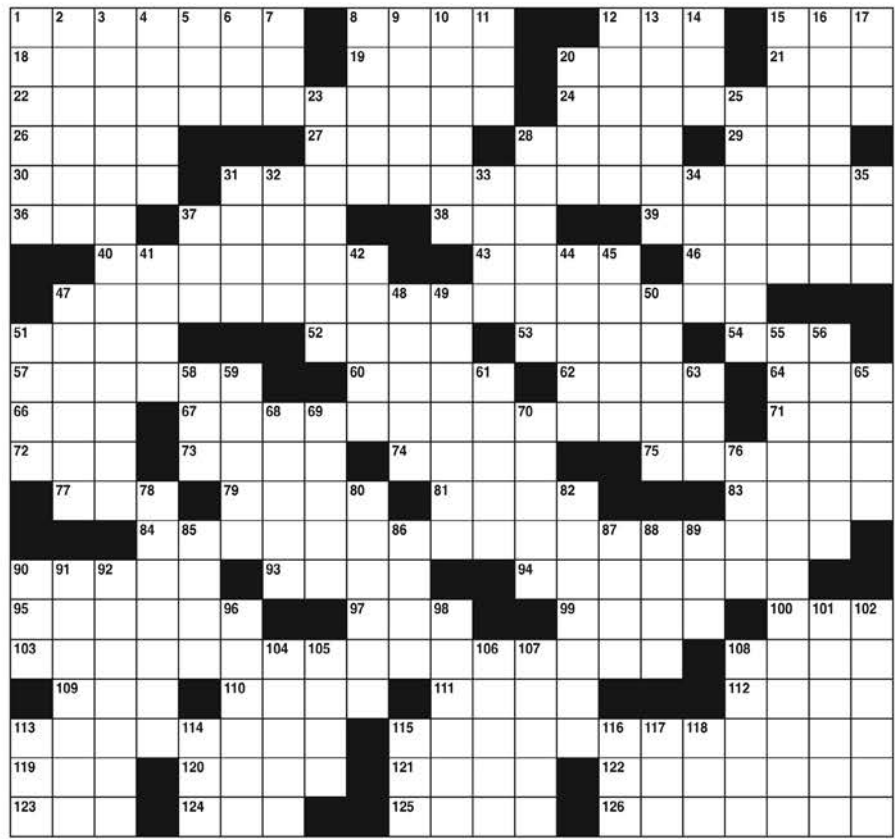
## SUGAR, SUGAR

BY LUCY HOWARD AND ROSS TRUDEAU / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Lucy Howard, of Austin, Tex., teaches therapeutic yoga and does internet marketing. She made her first puzzle as an icebreaker for her wedding last year. Ross Trudeau, of Cambridge, Mass., works for a K-12 education nonprofit. They met online last summer. Ross says, "We quickly bonded over our mutual love of crosswords and rock climbing." They spent many hours together on Zoom making this puzzle. This is Ross's 37th puzzle for The Times. It is Lucy's debut. — W.S.

- ACROSS**  
1 Onetime Sony rival  
8 Off-color  
12 Maker of the X6 and Z4  
15 Doctors Without Borders, e.g.: Abbr.  
18 Deep secret  
19 "\_\_\_\_ Dead?" (Mark Twain play)  
20 Quickly learn one's lesson?  
21 Startling sound  
22 Bookworms call dad?  
24 South Beach and Paleo, for two  
26 Swiss painter Paul  
27 Company whose business is picking up?  
28 Seedy area?  
29 Big Apple media inits.  
30 Depletes, with "up"  
31 A young Justice Ginsburg chuckles?  
36 Signature item  
37 Singer Watson, a.k.a. Tones and I, with the 2019 hit "Dance Monkey"  
38 Apt name for a lawyer  
39 False accusation, informally  
40 Fancy Feast alternative  
43 One "R" in R&R  
46 Hoarse  
47 Do core exercises all day, every day?
- DOWN**  
51 "\_\_\_\_ Brockovich"  
52 Quick drive  
53 Elusive legend  
54 Business for Sanders supporters?  
57 Holiday dish served with sour cream or applesauce  
60 Links grp.  
62 Hard to handle, in a way  
64 Hunky-dory  
66 Response to an order  
67 Burger King binge-fest?  
71 Alma mater for Spike Lee and Donald Glover, for short  
72 Logical connector  
73 With the greatest of \_\_\_\_  
74 \_\_\_\_ golf  
75 Sloped-roof support  
77 Govt. org. with a forerunner known as the Black Chamber  
79 Race units  
81 Dinner-table expander  
83 Hops-drying oven  
84 Supernova in our galaxy?  
90 Follower of word or potato  
93 "Gimme \_\_\_\_"  
94 \_\_\_\_-cat  
95 Numerous  
97 Symbols in Twitter handles  
99 Like \_\_\_\_ of sunshine  
100 Anatomical pouch  
103 When E.M.T.s bring home the bacon?
- ACROSS**  
108 "I mean ..."  
109 A/C spec  
110 Members of the crow family  
111 Heavier alternative to a foil  
112 Guthrie who performed at Woodstock  
113 Cutting edge?  
115 Some astronomy Ph.D.s?  
119 Longtime Japanese P.M. who stepped down in 2020  
120 "Runnin'" team of N.C.A.A. Division I college basketball  
121 Comparable (to)  
122 Disciple  
123 Tarnish  
124 Really good time  
125 Capital near the North Sea  
126 Prepares (for)
- DOWN**  
1 "Prepare for a road trip, perhaps"  
2 End of a threat  
3 Nora Ephron and Sofia Coppola, for two  
4 The land down under?  
5 Walk-\_\_\_\_  
6 Prickly covering of a seed  
7 "\_\_\_\_ the only one?"  
8 Beatles title woman  
9 "\_\_\_\_ your request ..."  
10 Feature of a classical Greek drama  
11 "You betcha!"  
12 "The \_\_\_\_ — is wider than the Sky" (start of an Emily Dickinson poem)  
13 Bit of fill-in-the-blanks fun  
14 Subject of intl. treaties  
15 Compliant sorts  
16 Squalid digs  
17 Sports team V.I.P.s  
20 Corporate money managers, for short  
23 Ancient Egyptians  
25 Result of a breast pocket mishap, maybe  
28 Ally of the Brat Pack  
31 Common baking pear  
32 Sacred cross in ancient Egypt  
33 Chance to go  
34 Preserve, in a way  
35 Only Stratego piece with a letter on it  
37 Sardine container  
41 Studmuffin  
42 Absorb, as sauce with bread  
44 Give extra consideration, with "on"  
45 Idaho, e.g., in dialect  
47 Color marker  
48 Got hip, with "up"  
49 How a door might be slammed  
50 Subcontractor in a bathroom remodel  
51 Gusto  
55 One may be nominated for a Hugo Award  
56 Least forward

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, [nytimes.com/crosswords](https://www.nytimes.com/crosswords) (\$39.95 a year).



- ACROSS**  
58 Palindromic farm animal  
59 "We \_\_\_\_ Overcome"  
61 Stubborn sorts  
63 It helps in passing  
65 Rocker Cobain  
68 Japan's street food mecca  
69 Diarist who documented the Great Plague of London  
70 Gets lost  
76 Eponym of the Detroit Lions field  
78 Any Olympian, once  
80 Drops an f-bomb, say  
82 False fronts  
85 Promises, promises!  
86 Takes steps  
87 \_\_\_\_ avis  
88 Coarse farm sound  
89 Dangerous move on a busy highway  
90 "Blueberries for \_\_\_\_" (kid-lit classic)
- DOWN**  
91 Legendary password stealer  
92 Higher, as ambitions  
96 Build-your-own Tex-Mex dish  
98 Does a dog trick  
101 Declare  
102 Where hangers hang  
104 They go wherever the wind blows  
105 They can be batted and rolled  
106 When high school seniors often visit the colleges that accepted them  
107 Like binary questions  
108 Volt-amperes  
113 Attention hog, maybe  
114 Galoot  
115 Portrait seen on renminbi bills  
116 Car-sticker fig.  
117 "Roses \_\_\_\_ red ..."  
118 Nonsense

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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 9

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

C	L	O	S	E	B	B	C	B	A	T	O	R	A	B	U	T								
R	E	M	I	T	A	L	A	A	R	E	N	A	S	C	A	M	O							
O	V	E	R	H	E	A	R	S	O	N	O	M	A	I	S	P	Y							
W	I	G	E	V	E	R	T	I	M	O	E	G	A	D	S									
E	T	A	R	A	D	I	I	C	A	R	T	E	T	W	O	R	K							
D	Y	S	O	N	V	E	E	S	S	I	D	T	A	B	O	O								
					F	E	S	T	E	R	S	T	A	L	L	S								
					L	E	F	T	T	O	P	L	E	X	E	T	C	H	E	R	S			
					A	I	M	E	E	U	G	E	N	I	E	A	S	E	A					
					G	L	O	R	I	E	R	E	D	K	U	R	D	A	R	C	A	N	A	
					R	A	T	E	D	R	T	I	D	E	P	O	D	M	I	O	T	I	C	
					A	C	E	D	I	T	E	T	O	N	S	T	R	O	B	E	C	T		
										N	O	A	M	P	E	A	S	O	U	P	M	A	H	I
					G	A	S	M	A	I	N	M	E	W	L	D	E	B	A	T	E			
					R	I	C	O	S	T	A	I	D	P	I	N	E	N	U	T				
					A	D	H	O	C	I	R	S	A	O	N	M	E	S	O	N				
					B	A	N	A	R	T	I	S	T	S	V	O	L	G	A	W	O	E		
					O	P	R	A	H	O	A	S	A	D	A	I	R	I	C	E				
					A	C	A	I	R	E	F	U	T	E	D	A	Y	T	I	M	E	S		
					L	U	N	E	E	F	I	L	E	S	E	D	U	D	I	T	T	O		
					L	E	S	S	T	E	A	R	S	S	A	P	E	B	S	E	N			



# Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show Art Contest



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
Worchester Preparatory Lower School students from Rebecca Tittermary's class earned first place in every grade level, kindergarten to grade 5, in the Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show Art Contest.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
Worchester Preparatory Middle/Upper School students in George Zaiser's art classes placed in every age category in the annual Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show Art Contest.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
Worchester Preparatory School senior Hannah Perdue captured the overall Best In Show award with her portrait "Cuddle Puddle," in the Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show Art Contest.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
Worchester Preparatory School senior Hannah Perdue's portrait, "Cuddle Puddle," was named Best in Show and eighth grader Angeline Todorov's portrait, "Reunion," earned High Award of Merit in the Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show Art Contest.



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., Feb. 4

**CPAP MASK FITTING**  
Atlantic 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.

**MERRY MAKERS-KEYCHAIN TO YOUR HEART!**  
Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Join this adult craft group as they use new and recycled materials to create a unique keychain for this month's project. Fifteen kits available for program participants by calling 410-208-4014. Register: [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org) under events.

**OPEN SKATE**  
Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, [aswiger@maryland-scoast.org](mailto:aswiger@maryland-scoast.org), 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

**BOOK DISCUSSION: 'PASSING' BY NELLA LARSEN**  
Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Discussion facilitated by Cynthia Hanged and Gail Sarmis of Salisbury University. Books are available on Hoopla ([hoopla.digital.com](http://hoopla.digital.com)) Register: [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org) under events.

## Sat., Feb. 6

**DRIVE-THRU FRIED CHICKEN DINNER**  
Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 36536 Mount Pleasant Road, 11:00 AM. Menu includes 4-piece fried chicken (breast, wing, thigh and drumstick), green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, apple sauce, roll and cupcake. Cost is \$14 each. Stay in your vehicle and use the east driveway. 410-835-8340

**'CREATIVE KIDS' FREE ART CLASS**  
Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Lindsey Winters, art teacher at Showell Elementary School, will lead children, ages 6 and older, in a fun art making session using a variety of mixed media. All materials provided. Masks required. Advance registration required: 410-524-9433 or [www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/Classes](http://www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/Classes).

**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 goods. Open to the public.

**OPEN SKATE**  
Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, [aswiger@maryland-scoast.org](mailto:aswiger@maryland-scoast.org), 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

## Sun., Feb. 7

**SUPER BOWL SCRAMBLE**  
Eagle's Landing Golf Course, 12367 Eagles Nest Road. The event is a 4-player scramble. A tailgate party will begin at 9 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Cost is \$60 and includes green fees, cart, tailgate party, Throw the Bomb on the third hole and Melanie's Blitz Soup served at half time. Call 410-213-7277 or email Robert Croll at [RCroll@oceancitymd.gov](mailto:RCroll@oceancitymd.gov) to sign up. <http://www.eagles-landinggolf.com/golf-extras>

**OPEN SKATE**  
Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, [aswiger@maryland-scoast.org](mailto:aswiger@maryland-scoast.org), 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

## Mon., Feb. 8

**INTERACTIVE STORY TIME - ANIMALS EVERYWHERE**  
Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Join in the animal antics with Ms. Kathy's favorite animal stories. For children ages 2-5 years. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under events.

**TRAVELING THROUGH BOOKS WITH KIKI AND FIFI**  
Held via Facebook, 2:00 PM. Another fun-filled, laugh-out-load episode of the popular book talk show. Episode 5 takes participants through books to England, New York and Australia.

**TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING**  
Meeting 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.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**PICK-UP GAME**  
Basketball enthusiasts practice inside-the-paint moves on a brisk afternoon at White Horse Park in Ocean Pines last Sunday.

Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

## Tues., Feb. 9

**OPEN SKATE**  
Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, [aswiger@maryland-scoast.org](mailto:aswiger@maryland-scoast.org), 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

**PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP**  
Meeting via video call, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Group provides discussions and mutual support, as well as education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, [kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org), 410-641-4765, <http://www.delmarvaparkinsonsalliance.org>

**SIMPLIFY WEEKLY MEAL PLANNING**  
Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 PM. In this class learn tips, strategies and recipes for delicious weekly meals. Covering stretching meals creatively, flavor combinations, kitchen organization and simple strategies for one or a crowd.

Register: [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org) under events.

**FREE VIRTUAL LUNCH AND LEARN EVENT**  
Featuring "Adventures of Being an Artist" with Joanne Guilfoil, who is featured in the Spotlight Gallery at Ocean City Center for the Arts, January-February 2021. Held 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM. Register: [www.artleagueofoceancity.org](http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org) or 410-524-9433.

## Wed., Feb. 10

**HERBAL HEALING**  
Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Join certified Therapeutic Herbalist Michaela Eggers for an exploration in plant medicine. Register: [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org) under events.

**DIVERSE JUVENILE NON-FICTION BOOK TALK**  
Meeting via Facebook, 3:30 PM. Find out about new, diverse and inclusive juvenile non-fiction books available at the Worcester County Library. For ages 8-12 years. No registration required.

**SIT 'N STITCH**  
Meeting via Zoom, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM. Drop in and join others for an afternoon of knitting, crocheting and other needle arts. Bring your own materials. Register: [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org) under events.



# CLASSIFIED Marketplace

Classifieds appear in Ocean City Today & Bayside Gazette each week and online at [oceancitytoday.com](http://oceancitytoday.com) & [baysideoc.com](http://baysideoc.com)

Call **410-723-6397**  
by Monday 5 p.m.



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**Fax: 410 641-1307**

**Email: [kmumford@bankofoceancity.com](mailto:kmumford@bankofoceancity.com)**

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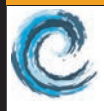
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