



MAY 6, 2021

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FREE



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PEDALERS

A mob of two-wheeled gear shifters rolls out from the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on Manklin Creek Road to undertake a 14-mile community bike ride sponsored by the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition last Saturday. See story on page 5.

Berlin's Jazz, Blues Bash returns

After pandemic closed it last year, annual music fest ready for high notes

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) Returning after a hiatus in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic, a scaled-back version of the Berlin Jazz & Blues Wine & Brews Festival will take place on Main Street this Friday through Sunday.

Initially launched by the Berlin Chamber of Commerce in 2008 as the Jazz & Blues Bash, the event was renamed in 2019, with this year's iteration, tagged the Jazz & Blues, Art & Booths because of health safety adaptations.

Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells, who helps promote the shindig, said the Berlin Chamber of Commerce focused on producing a safer version of the annual event.

nual event.

"We're really happy to bring live back to downtown Berlin, especially when it involves art and live music," she said. "I'm looking forward to see what they have planned."

Berlin Chamber officials worked with local restaurants and live-music venues to flesh out details for this year's gathering.

In a change from past festivals, organizers said safety concerns left them unable to sponsor outside food and beverage vendors or stage live music outdoors.

Despite the limitations, live jazz and blues performers are scheduled to appear on stage at a number of indoor venues over the three-day festival.

On Saturday, a one-day art show and sale is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. that will bring retailers and artists to display offerings in 10 x 10 tented booths on Main Street and several adjoining side streets.

Organizers have requested restaurants and food establishments to expand outdoor seating into closed roadways, while adhering to CDC and

See JAZZ Page 4



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Although not able to stage music outdoors, the Berlin Jazz & Blues, Art & Booths event this weekend includes numerous live performers at a number of indoor venues.

Crash throws toddler in bay, hero jumps in

Two-year-old recovering from 25-foot fall into water

By Greg Wehner
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) A 2-year-old toddler is safe after being ejected from a car and into Assawoman Bay during a multicar crash that left one vehicle dangling over the side of the Route 90 bridge on Sunday.

As horrific as the accident sounds, there were no fatalities reported thanks to the quick response of EMS crews and of a Good Samaritan, who jumped 20-25 feet down into the water from the bridge to save the child's life.

Ocean City Police officials said this week that the man who jumped into the four to five feet of water immediately began to administer "life-saving" measures to save the child. They added that the man wishes to remain anonymous. The child, who was flown to Johns Hopkins hospital, has since been released.

On Sunday, at approximately 2:47 p.m., crews from the Ocean City Fire and Ocean City Police departments were dispatched to an accident with

See HORRIFIC Page 2



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Horrific crash on Rt. 90 bridge ends well

Continued from Page 1
injuries on the bridge.

A Worcester County fire marshal who arrived at the scene early reported that one vehicle was halfway over the bridge guardrail and that several people had suffered injuries, according to a press release from the Ocean City Fire Department.

A child, who was restrained by a car seat, fell into the bay from a pickup truck, according to police.

The Good Samaritan immediately jumped off the bridge into the water to save the toddler and was able to get it onboard a pontoon boat nearby.

Ryan Whittington, a spokesman for the department, said the child was flown to the pediatric unit at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore.

Seven other people injured in the accident were taken to area hospitals — Atlantic General in Berlin and Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury — for treatment.

Whittington said other children were on the scene, though exact details were still being compiled.

Officials said the bridge was closed for six hours after crews arrived on the scene.

During an Ocean City Council meeting on Tuesday, Mayor Rick Meehan praised the quick actions of



PHOTO COURTESY ROB KORB

Disaster was narrowly averted on Sunday due to the selfless actions of an anonymous hero who dove off the Rt. 90 bridge to rescue a child ejected into the water following a vehicle crash that stopped traffic for roughly six hours.

the “humble hero,” adding that although the accident was tragic, it had a happy ending.

Meehan also said the accident brings to light an even more pressing issue, which is to dualize Route 90.

He added if the crash had occurred while trying to evacuate the island, it would have created a “catastrophe.”

Meehan said this near tragedy should help raise awareness of the problems with the two-lane highway

Ocean Pines and Ocean City and bring the issue to the top of the list for state legislators.

No further details about the accident were available, as it is still under investigation.

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One person killed and others injured in two-car collision

(May 6, 2021) One person was killed and several people were injured last Friday night in a two-car collision on Assateague Road and Grey Fox Lane near Berlin.

Maryland State Police from the Berlin Barrack a vehicle with six occupants made a U-turn in front of another vehicle with one occupant around 9:35 p.m.

The driver of first vehicle was taken to the Atlantic General Hospital and pronounced dead, while a passenger in that car was flown to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital by Maryland State Police Trooper 4, and another was flown to R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center by Maryland State Police Trooper 6.

Four other passengers were taken by Berlin EMS, Ocean City Fire and EMS, Showell EMS, and Ocean Pines EMS to TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Medical Center.

Maryland Natural Rescues Police and Worcester County Sheriff's Office assisted with the incident. Assateague Road was closed for several hours due to the collision.

The cause of the collision is still under investigation by Maryland State Police.

Berlin businesses asked to take part in 'Suns of Hope'

(May 6, 2021) May is Mental Health Awareness Month and Worcester Youth & Family is encouraging Berlin businesses to support the cause.

In 2019, National Alliance on Mental Health reported that one in five Americans has a mental health condition (www.nami.org/Advocacy/State-Fact-Sheets).

To raise mental health awareness in the community, Worcester Youth & Family will be spreading a little sunshine throughout the town of Berlin with its "Suns of Hope" project.

The organization will provide local businesses with suns that patrons and visitors can purchase and share a word of hope and encouragement to someone living with a mental health condition and their families.

The "Suns of Hope" will then be placed in the windows of the businesses to show support for those living with mental illnesses.

Business owners who would like to participate should call 410-641-4598.

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Jazz, Blues Bash returns after 2020 hiatus

Continued from Page 1
Worcester Health Department health-safety protocols.

Under the amended guidelines, patrons are restricted to consuming food and drinks in designated seating areas provided by eateries, with consumption of alcoholic beverages not allowed off premises.

Tasting, pairing and educational opportunities will be offered by food and beverage retailers over the week-end event.

Attendees are asked to follow all CDC guidance in terms of wearing masks, hand washing, and social distance protocols.

In terms of live music, Friday kicks off with Honey Shine at the Globe Gastro Theater from 8-11 p.m., while Dave Sax in the City plays from 7-9 p.m. at Sisters Wine Bar.

The lineup on Saturday is more extensive, with Fast Eddie & the Slowpokes onstage at the Globe Gastro Theater from 1-4 p.m., Zander Jett at the Atlantic Hotel from 1-5 p.m., Anthony Rosano & the Conqueroos at Burley Oak Brewery from 5-8 p.m. and the Beach Bandits Blues Duo from 7-9 p.m. at Sisters Wine Bar.

Additionally, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bryan Russo will be busking blues on rotating street corners, followed by a performance at Boxcar on



Unlike the 2019 event pictured, the slightly revamped Berlin Jazz & Blues, Art & Booths event this weekend moves live music indoors at a number of venues over the three-day festival.

Main from 5-8 p.m.
The musical cavalcade finishes on Sunday when Dark Gold Jazz play from 3-6 p.m. at the Globe Gastro Theater.

For more information, contact the Berlin Chamber of Commerce at 410-641-4775 or email chamberinfo@berlinchamber.org. Event updates

and more information can also be found on the Berlin Jazz and Blue Bash event page on Facebook or visit www.berlinchamber.org.

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BELATED HONORS
The General Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution annually recognizes a woman, past or present, who has made a difference in her community, and submits a brief biography and photo of the honoree for inclusion in the National Society's Women in American History Project database. This year, the chapter honored deceased member Ann Lockhart Showell. A trailblazing businesswoman who oversaw financial operations at the family's Castle in the Sand Motel, now hotel, Showell helped build the tourism industry in Ocean City. The hotel's Director of Special Events, Patricia Smith, right, accepted the award certificate on behalf of the Showell family from Regent Gail Welden.

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Community bike ride in Pines well attended

Healthy contingent joins in safety-first activity traveling 14 miles throughout area

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) Roughly five-dozen riders suited up for a community bike ride sponsored by the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition in Ocean Pines last Saturday afternoon.

Early arrivals began to cycle in just after 3 p.m. for the 14-mile ride that set off around 4 p.m. from the Racquet Center on Manklin Creek Road.

Pines resident Chris Thomas joined the community event last week and hopes to participate in subsequent bike rides scheduled in Worcester County to commemorate National Bike Month.

“I just moved here last June and this is my first,” he said. “I used to go mountain biking a lot and that got a little rough for me with my age.”

The community ride is part of a series of local events organized by the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition to celebrate National Bike Month in May.

Patti Stevens, with the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition, said rides are planned the next three Saturday’s to raise community

interest in the activity. “It’s a fun way to get around [but also] to remind drivers and cyclists to be ‘streetwise’ and share the road safely,” she said.

Also among the early birds for last week’s bike ride were Ocean Pines residents Roelof “Dutch” Oostveen and Steve Arthur.

“We bike everyday, 20-25 miles back and forth to Assateague Island, and I’m 90-years old,” Oostveen said.

While no longer concerned about maintaining top speeds, Oostveen averages a 12-13-mph clip during the excursions.

Decked out in a safety helmet and spandex bicycle suit, Oostveen noted the shirt bore the logo of a group he helped found many decades ago in Limburg, the southernmost province in the Netherlands.

“This is my bicycle club from the Netherlands and I’ve been a member for nearly 70 years,” he said. “Maybe next year, if I go home, they’re going to celebrate.”

Prior to the throng’s departure from the Racquet Center last week, Stevens reviewed safety protocols, followed by remarks from board of directors President Larry Perrone and Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue.

Helping assure the community bike ride was conducted safely, in ad-



Arriving first for a community bike ride in Ocean Pines last Saturday, from left, are Chris Thomas, Roelof “Dutch” Oostveen and Steve Arthur.

dition to Ocean Pines Police and Volunteer Fire Department personnel, were roughly a dozen volunteers from numerous volunteer organizations, including the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City, Ocean Pines Pickleball Club, the Sierra Club and the Eastern Shore International Mountain Biking Association.

Formed in June 2020, the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition seeks to promote safe walking and biking throughout the region,

along with expanding trails, walkways and recreational facilities to attract tourism, and to offer transportation alternatives for area residents.

According to the coalition, National Bike Month was established in 1956 “to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more people to giving biking a try.”

To mark National Bike Month this May, the coalition is promoting the See OCEAN Page 6

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Grace Center Motherhood Walk in Showell Park, Sat.

(May 6, 2021) The Grace Center for Maternal and Women’s Health will be celebrating motherhood, women and families on Saturday, May 8.

The event will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Showell Park located on Rt. 589 across from Showell Elementary School.

The public is invited to come enjoy a day of fun family activities and celebrate motherhood. The event includes a walk with a choice of several paths to take, vendors, raffles and information about community resources partners from across the Eastern Shore.

Activities geared toward children will include a scavenger hunt, chalk drawing and hula-hoops. Children will also be able to make a Mother’s Day craft to present to their mom.

Pre-packaged refreshments including both food and drinks will be available for purchase. Promotional packages (T-shirt + drink + swag) will be available for \$20 each.

Free will donations to support the cause will be accepted at the walk.

The Grace Center is located in Berlin, on Old Ocean City Blvd. across from Atlantic General Hospital.

Its mission is to provide a safe haven dedicated to improving the maternal health and well-being of women in the community.

The center offers assistance at no cost to participants on many levels including, but not limited to: prenatal and postpartum group and individual classes, parenting and relationship skills, ultrasound examinations, support groups which include addictions and postpartum depression counseling, and an avenue to earn a Maryland high school diploma.

On average, clients receive a minimum of \$500 in services throughout the course of a year.

Advance registration is not required, but participants can do so by calling 443-513-4124 to register or visit www.facebook.com/gracematernalhealth to learn more.



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Ocean Pines bicycle riders join forces for tour de force

Continued from Page 5

following events on its Facebook page:

- On May 15, the Bike Safety and Fun for Kids event takes place at the Worcester Recreation Center in Snow Hill from 9-11:30 a.m.
- Additionally on May 15, the Snow Hill Community Bike Ride launches at 2 p.m. from Sturgis Park.
- On May 22, the Pocomoke City Community Ride starts at noon from Newtowne Park.

Riders in these events will be requested to complete a survey to rate the bike-ability of their community sponsored by Julie Woulfe of Shamrock Realty Group.

The largest area event for National Bike Month, the Maryland Coast Ride, will take place this Saturday, May 8, and starts from the West Ocean City.

With varying ride lengths of 15, 35, and 65 miles, the Maryland Coast Bike Festival will begin and end near the West Ocean City harbor with food, drinks and musical entertainment.

For more information visit marylandcoastbikefestival.com

For more information about the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition, contact Patti Stevens at patti59.stevens@gmail.com or search for "Worcester County Bicycle Safety Coalition" on Facebook.

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Ocean Pines Bylaws and Resolutions Committee members, clockwise from left, Jim Trummel, Keith Kaiser, Lora Pangratz and Bob Hillegass, met virtually last Friday.

OP Bylaws considers amendments

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) The Ocean Pines Bylaws and Resolutions Committee discussed the challenges of forming an Elections Search Committee and the power delegated to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) during its meeting on Friday.

Committee Chairman Jim Trum-

mel presented a pair of concerns raised by a bylaws review work group that is drafting proposed updates to association declaration of restrictions.

The Search Committee conundrum is that even though its job is to recruit candidates for the association's annual elections, the committee hasn't been organized for the past

several years, Trummel said.

"This year there are two members but there should be five," he said.

Committee member Keith Kaiser said recent efforts to fill out that committee have fallen short.

"Obviously, it's not been a fruitful effort," he said.

Kaiser suggested asking the board

See OCEAN Page 8

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Ocean Pines Memorial Day service to take place May 31

(May 6, 2021) The annual Memorial Day service in Ocean Pines will return to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 31, beginning at 11 a.m.

The ceremony this year will feature Salisbury Mayor Jake Day as the keynote speaker.

Day recently returned from a year-long deployment in East Africa with the Maryland National Guard and is one of only three full-time U.S. mayors ever deployed while serving in office.

The music portion of the program will include Frank Nanna and the WWIIunes, featuring Todd Crosby. Randy Lee Ashcraft will perform a new song honoring the recent visit of The Wall That Heals, and the Delmarva Chorus will perform the "Armed Forces Medley," honoring the Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force and Coast Guard.

"We are very happy to be able to return to our normal ceremony, after having to cancel the event last year because of covid-19 restrictions," Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said. "These ceremonies are one of the hallmarks of the foundation, as we have a duty and an obligation to honor our veterans."

Public parking will be available at Veterans Memorial Park on Route 589 and Cathell Road in Ocean Pines. Limited seating will be available during the event and guests are encouraged to bring chairs. For more information on the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, visit www.opvets.org.

Ocean Pines Bylaws delves into work group suggestions

Continued from Page 7

revise or rewrite the related bylaws provision.

"What we have in writing is not what's being accomplished," he said.

With other committee members agreeing that the language of that provision should be changed, Trummel said the recommendation would be sent to the bylaws work group, which would then send its findings to the board.

Trummel said there are varying approaches to remedy the issue.

"One would be eliminating the Search Committee and transferring search functions as an additional duty of the Elections Committee," he said.

One risk Trummel raised with abandoning the Search Committee would be losing person-to-person contact in soliciting board candidates within the community.

"We can legitimately indicate the Search Committee provisions of the bylaws need to be addressed," he said.

The second issue discussed involved the ARC appeal process and general board oversight.

Trummel said the work group worried that the vast majority of the assorted declaration of restrictions within sections of Ocean Pines state ARC decisions are final.

"There's no qualifying statement, decisions are final, period," he said.

Differences abound among the numerous declarations of restrictions, especially those instituted after the mid-1990s, Trummel said.

"In those, it doesn't state decisions are final, but that they are subject to being appealed by a lot owner in accordance with the appeals process in association design guidelines," he said.

"If you look in the ARC guidelines, you don't find an appeals process section of any kind," he said.

Trummel said although appeal processes do exist, the work group has requested instances of inconsistent language be addressed.

Kaiser asked why ARC would be deemed independent from the board.

Trummel said the origins of the power divide trace back to the formation of the HOA half a century ago.

"It's puzzling to me how they could not have seen that they were creating the impression of a committee that acted completely outside of the governance of the association," he said.


Kaiser said the matter of board oversight should be examined.

"Do we want the ARC to be all-powerful and for the board to have no control ... in the event something goes off the track," he said. "We're all subcommittees of the board."

Trummel said the committee feedback would be sent to the in-process work group to further mull which bylaws provisions to recommend modifying.

"We will be proposing a package of amendments to bylaws the board," he said.

When approved by the board, the proposed amendments will require a referendum, with a public hearing and ballots mailed to homeowners.



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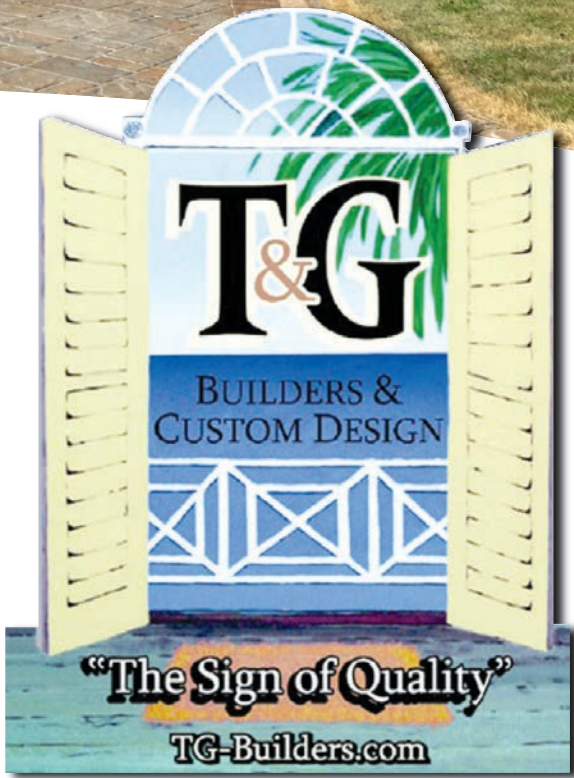
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Berlin Council discusses Heron Park moves

Mayor Zack Tyndall revives topic last examined during March community meeting

(May 6, 2021) The Berlin mayor and Town Council last Monday mulled development plans for Heron Park, including the potential sale of parcels 410 and 57.

Mayor Zack Tyndall revived the issue following a listening session in mid-March when a multitude of opinions were expressed about selling the property or converting the location into an entertainment/recreation venture.

Tyndall asked council members to contemplate the possibilities and asked if members wanted to continue the dialogue with potential development partners.

“We’re not here to decide whether we’re going to sell it or not sell it,” he said.

During the March meeting, the “Better Berlin Group” recommended retaining ownership of Heron Park, so the town could stage events there while having the ability to generate revenue by renting the site for private affairs.

The Better Berlin Group, which



During a public listening session in March, the Better Berlin Group suggested decorating the former Tyson operating plant on parcel 57 at Heron Park on Old Ocean City Boulevard with artwork until it could be demolished.

was formed by Ann McGinnis Hillyer from State Ventures LLC. and Brad Hoffman from LiveWire Media & Events, suggested the town could benefit from having a stage in the park and possibly expanding the footprint for annual holiday and seasonal events.

Councilmember Jack Orris said the sentiment from the March discussions seemed clear that Berlin should keep parcel 410 but explore the sale of parcel 57.

Councilmember Shaneka Nichols

See SENTIMENTS Page 11



Numerous residents have suggested Berlin retain parcel 410 at Heron Park on Old Ocean City Boulevard for development of a skatepark, dog park or entertainment venue, but sell parcel 57.



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“Ann Hillyer and Brad Hoffman came through and wanted to produce a concert series which would produce revenue the town would benefit from [to] help reduce the debt,” he said. “We should consider selling parcel 57 provided we can get the right project for Town of Berlin.”

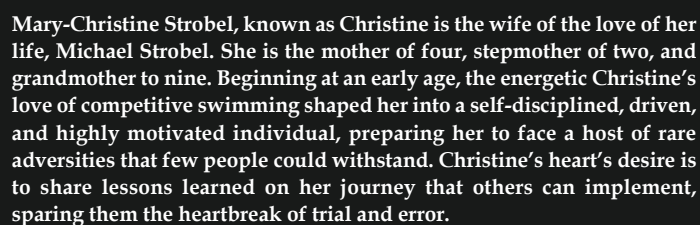
"We need to start framing that because once this budget is wrapped up in May, I'd like to get right into looking at Heron Park," he said.



After several years of nudging from her husband, Michael Strobel, Christine began the long tedious process to turn her timeline into a book. Her motivation was also to share her story with her children, grandchildren, and her family for generations

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Pines Strategic Planning continues evolving

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) The Ocean Pines Strategic Planning Committee continued charting its progress during its most recent meeting in late April.

Co-Chairman Bernie McGorry reviewed the groups' work since it was re-constituted earlier this year.

"We're starting to get our legs," he said.

McGorry said the community lacks a strategic plan on which to plot future moves.

"We're expected to lead efforts for development of recommended Ocean Pines long-range plans," he said. "It's up to us to drive the bus."



Jenny Rines

By April, the committee began soliciting input from Ocean Pines department heads and finalizing benchmarking criteria for comparable communities in Maryland and Delaware.

"We're starting to build momentum," he said.

McGorry said the intent behind establishing benchmarks standards is to examine methods other communities

use that might be applicable to Ocean Pine's pursuit of improvement.

"The point is to compare and contrast," he said.

Committee members were tasked with researching online to identify key differences with nearby HOA communities, with their findings returned to co-chairs McGorry or Moe Delcher by May 14.

Among primary points of consideration when examining comparable neighborhoods are total size, available amenities and if HOA governance is

handled in-house or through a management company.

Board liaison Dr. Colette Horn has talked with President Larry Perrone about how to proceed.

"His preference was to get input from department heads first and then convene an executive council meeting, where we would be getting input from the chairs of each advisory committee," she said.

Horn said an executive council meeting would likely be scheduled later

See OP Page 14

Romersa announces OP candidacy

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) After living in Ocean Pines fulltime for the past five years, Lisa Romersa is running for the association's board of directors, saying she can provide business savvy while building consensus to maintain the status quo in the years ahead.

"I'm looking at this from a business sense because this is a business, as well as a nonprofit," she said.

After working since the mid-1990s as a consultant in the corporate realm, Romersa launched her own business in the recruiting industry in 2004.



Lisa Romersa

"I have my own legal search firm," she said.

After contemplating a board run for over a year, Romersa was motivated to file in recent months following public displays of infighting among directors.

"The association is five miles from the beach," she said. "It's a beautiful area but there's a lot of turmoil in here and it shouldn't be like this."

Romersa said she became concerned as a homeowner by the recent uptick in social media chatter about displays of dis-

sension on the board.

"The most important issue for the board is seven members working together," she said.

Romersa said public perception of subpar board functionality could discourage potential future property owners from settling down in the Pines.

"It is a resort town, but in the last 5-10 years there's been more a shift to full-time," she said.

Even though Romersa has been a resident for a handful of years, she has been visiting Ocean Pines and Ocean City since the late 1980s.

Romersa said it appears that maintenance

See LATEST Page 13

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The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berlin will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Berlin Town Hall Council Chambers, 10 William Street, on Ordinance 2021-02. A copy of the proposed Ordinance will be available in the Mayor and Council Packet on the Town website, www.berlinmd.gov or can be emailed or mailed to you upon request, please call 410-641-2770 or email info@berlinmd.gov to request a copy for inspection.

Ordinance 2021-02

An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of The Town of Berlin, Maryland approving the FY22 Budget as submitted.

OCD-5/6/2t

Latest entry to Pines contest brings election pool to four

Continued from Page 13

nance of the community’s facilities and structures has been less than stellar at times.

“You have to maintain infrastructure,” she said. “You can not change the past but you can learn from it.”

Minimizing a recent trend of increased legal fees stemming from lawsuits against the association is also a priority for Romersa.

Striking a balance between maintaining amenities and assessment fees is also of primary concern.

“You hate to raise fees, but costs do rise,” she said “But, if they’re going upward from unsound financial decisions, that’s not good.”

Romersa supported recent increases to non-resident pool fees to widen the charge differential for resident members.

“It helps both sides,” she said.

In addition to higher profits from visitors, the larger cost variance might serve as an incentive for residents to purchase pool memberships.

“Are there other balances with other amenities?” she said.

As for making sound financial decisions for the community, Romersa said, “We need to seek out cost effective improvements for the betterment of the community,” she said.

“You have to look 5-10 years ahead,”

she said.

She said her purpose in joining the board now would be to make decisions based on current circumstances with future considerations in mind.

“You don’t step in and say in a week you’re going to change it or you’d be lying,” she said. “People need to understand things won’t be fixed overnight, especially coming out of a pandemic.”

Romersa said the lingering coronavirus pandemic adds another layer of difficulty for campaigning.

“You can’t make promises because you don’t know what next year’s going to bring,” she said.

Unknowns also affect revenues from amenities this year as pandemic restrictions continue to lighten.

“What you can and can’t do is the fine balance and that’s changing daily and weekly,” she said. “I think everybody is ready to go forward.”

Romersa recently joined the Ocean Pines Bylaws & Resolutions Committee, a position she would abandon if elected to the board.

Noting the well-publicized board divisions over the last half-year, Romersa said the question boils down to the result.

“Are you working for the betterment of the community collectively as a whole?” she said. “Stop the nonsense and lets just ... work together.”



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OP Strategic Plan group weighs next moves for future

Continued from Page 12 this month

“After the executive council meeting, the board will review a synopsis report,” she said.

The goal is to review the information from association staff and the executive council to identify common themes.

“The board will likely prioritize items, as all will have a dollar figure associated,” she said.

Committee member Wes Blackley expressed mixed sentiments.

“I feel really confident we will develop a strategic plan,” he said. “My lack of confidence — is it going anywhere?”

Committee member Jenny Cropper Rines concurred that the success of the planning effort will be contingent on engagement.

“The key to it leaving our group and being used is going to take buy-in from the board and the staff,” she said.

Rines said success will depend on conveying the need to follow the plan to subsequent board members of newly hired association staff.

“New people should be informed to know it’s something that needs to be perpetuated,” she said.

The committee’s next meeting is May 27 at 9 a.m.



Worcester Prep teachers wear “Stay Positive” T-shirts in support of two freshmen, adopted brothers from Russia, Dylan and Hunter Simons, of Ocean City and Seaford, Delaware, who created Only Positive Stories website about spreading positivity.

Simons brothers promote positivity

Student-created website looks to publicize uplifting stories to counter negativity

(May 6, 2021) Worcester Prep faculty and students wore “Stay Positive” T-shirts to school recently in support of two freshmen who created a website about spreading positivity.

Brothers, Dylan and Hunter Simons, who split their time between Seaford, Delaware, and Ocean City,

are co-founders of a motivational new website, Only Positive Stories: www.onlypositivestories.com.

The boys developed the concept to inspire the global community to share uplifting stories by encouraging people to focus on the positive and making a difference.

Their optimism is even more compelling given they were once orphans in Siberia Russia who were adopted at age 2 by Dr. Richard and Sharon Simons.

After reading about their family’s incredible journey of trials, tribulations and determination to navigate international adoption on their website, it is no surprise the boys wanted to share their experience of positivity with the world.

To enhance their Only Positive Stories mission, the scholar-athletes launched a coordinating “Find Your Strong” (in you) merchandise line to

See YOUTHS Page 15

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Worcester Prep freshmen, adopted brothers from Russia, Dylan and Hunter Simons, of Ocean City and Seaford, Delaware, created a website about spreading positivity.

Youths push inspiring message

Continued from Page 14

Furthermore, the brothers most recently teamed up with the Worcester County CASA/Mentoring Program where they are implementing the “Find Your Strong” campaign to help local youth and encourage more students to join them on this new venture.

Boating Safety Course May 8

(May 6, 2021) The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering a one-day virtual Maryland Safe Boating Course on May 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A Maryland Safe Boating Certificate is required for all boat operators born after July 1, 1972, and is awarded after successful completion of the course.

The class includes piloting in local waters, tying nautical knots, foul weather tactics, legal issues, updated Maryland regulations, and common

marine maintenance.

The cost is \$20. Register or get more information by calling Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807, or email: cgauxoc@gmail.com.

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Additional course are scheduled June 1-3, July 12-14, Aug. 7 (all day) and Sept. 7-9.

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Berlin Youth Club’s summer camp activities in person

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) The Berlin Youth Club summer camp will return to in-person activities this summer, after employing a virtual format last year because of the covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. Jennifer Leggour, executive director of Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services, provided the Berlin Parks Commission an update on 2021 program plans during its meeting on Tuesday.

“Last year because of covid-19, we had to do our first virtual camp for the summer,” she said.

With CDC guidelines becoming more relaxed, Leggour told the commission, “We think we can do a very small in person camp this summer.”

The camp’s schedule will be similar to that of its predecessors, with the eight-week summer camp being held from the first week in July through the end of August for children between ages 6-12.

“What we plan to do is have groups of no more than 10 children at a time in outdoor locations,” she said.

Maintaining past summer camp tradition, each week will feature a new theme.

Leggour said the activities on tap this summer would be held in one of several outdoor locations within walking distance from Worcester Youth and Family and suitable for social distancing.

“We did get conformation from the Taylor House Museum to use their lawn,” she said.

Other nearby outdoor locations the camp will use are Buckingham



Jennifer Leggour

Presbyterian Church and the Berlin Library.

“We have three different locations we can rotate the children,” she said.

Besides finding physical space to accommodate the camp, organizers also worked with other agencies to identify children-friendly activities.

“The Worcester County Arts Council has access to some local artists, so we could do art week,” she said.

Other ventures planned are fitness week, with OC Beach Yoga lined-up to provide an introduction to body-balance techniques.

Mind expansion is also on tap with Salisbury-based M4 Reactor group, which offers STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) instructional programs for children and adults.

Leggour said M4 Reactor offers mobile STEM activities for nearby locations.

“We’re trying to get creative and come up with the theme of the week,” she said. “Then we can start promoting the different activities.”

Leggour also credited Carol Rose for providing networking assistance.

“She helped us make connections to find safe spaces,” she said.

Although changes could occur during the lead-up to summer camp, whatever CDC health restrictions remain will be honored.

“We will follow all guidelines in place at the time,” she said. “I wish we could do it like we normally do, but I’m happy to provide anything.”

Apparently, the public also has been happy with whatever Leggour and the service could provide.

“Last year, even with the virtual camp, people were so grateful,” she said. “There’s a lot of gratitude we’re seeing, even for little things that we do in the community.”

Parks Commission vets disc golf course pitch for Berlin

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(May 6, 2021) The Berlin Parks Commission vetted a proposal this week from local disc golf pros Austin Widdowson and Shawn Johnson to install an 18-hole course at Stephen Decatur Park.

Widdowson and Johnson, both members of Eastbound Disc Golf, presented initial plans to enhance Stephen Decatur Park during the commission meeting on Tuesday.

Widdowson told the commission several dozen Berlin residents regularly play the game, which has rules like golf except players throw discs at a target.

“We need it in this area,” he said. “We’re looking to provide a free service to the community.”


Prior to developing their proposal, the disc-golf advocates toured several locations in Berlin with Mayor Zach Tyndall and Councilmember Troy Purnell.

After concluding Heron Park would be cost-prohibitive, and peripheral space at the Northern Worcester Athletic Complex lacked community connectivity, Widdowson said Stephen Decatur Park presented an ideal scenario.

“When we [went] to it, we realized the outer rim of the park is not being

See DISC Page 18

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CRAFTER OF MONTH

The Pine'eer Craft Club of Ocean Pines has announced Carol Brown as the May crafter of the month. Brown was born and raised in Catonsville, Maryland. She and her husband, Frank, moved to Anne Arundel County and raised two daughters there. The family frequently spent weekends at the beach in Ocean City and, in 2005, they bought a home in Ocean Pines and lived there part time. By 2013, they retired and moved to Ocean Pines permanently. Brown began crafting at age 5 when her grandmother taught her how to embroider. She has made pillowcases and dresser scarfs. Brown also served as a "craft mom" for both of her daughter's Girl Scout troops. According to Brown, her true love is working with flowers, and she enjoys doing arrangements and making wreaths. Her mini arrangements in teacups and cork trivets are on display with the Craft Club. View Brown's projects and other handmade items at the Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines. The shop is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Disc golf course proposed for Stephen Decatur Park

Continued from Page 16

utilized," he said. "The infrastructure currently being used is a small portion of the park."

Johnson, a Snow Hill native who returned to the area last fall, helped establish a disc golf club at Kinder Farm Park in Millersville, a 288-acre site operated by Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks.

"We established a 501c3 that had over 100 members the first year," he said.

Johnson was also a former member of the Mid-Delmarva Disc Golf Alliance.

"The group structure was not well defined," he said. "The current board of directors and I decided to rebrand as Eastbound Disc Golf."

Johnson said the group is focused on promoting practices and standards for installing disc-golf courses.

"I'm hoping this will be a test run for disc golf in the area," he said. "Since covid, it's been an activity that most people agree is safe."

Widdowson said course employs tee pads and distanced sticks no more than five feet tall that support chain-link baskets.

"There's no actual permanent in-

frastructure," he said.

Courses are also easy to adapt and reshape if needs arise.

"There is no real extra maintenance after it's put in," he said.

Course hole poles would be placed in unobtrusive spots.

"You'll barely even notice it's there," he said. "We'll also put up signage, 'Be aware you're now entering a disc golf area.'"

Widdowson said Stephen Decatur Park would provide sufficient space for two courses, for both beginner and advanced players.

"We're not asking for anything; we're hoping to donate this in full," he said. "Our goal would be to get this breaking ground ... this summer."

Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said the mayor and Town Council would require a formal agreement to move forward.

"You probably would not get very far with grant funding if you didn't have a formal agreement in place," she said. "Typically, they like to know you have permission to be on the property."

Bohlen said the proposal would be added to the agenda for a mayor and Town Council meeting, possibly later this month.

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Flags for Heroes returns to Pines Veterans Memorial

(May 6, 2021) The Rotary Club of Ocean City/Berlin and the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation are partnering to offer area residents a unique way to honor a “hero” in their lives.

On Armed Forces Day, May 15, through the Fourth of July, a colorful display of flags will fly in Veterans Memorial Park along Route 589 in Ocean Pines. Each flag will honor a local hero.

“We all know a hero, someone who has impacted our lives,” Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said. “Perhaps there was a teacher, physician, mentor, family member or friend who has inspired you. Perhaps you wish to honor someone who has served or is serving in the Armed Forces.”

Flag sponsorships are \$50. Each flag will include a medallion with the sponsor’s name and the name of their chosen hero. The cutoff date to sponsor a flag is May 10 and all orders must be received by then.

Make checks payable to: Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, with “Flags for Heroes” written in the memo line. One check may be written for multiple flags at \$50 each. Mail checks to WCVMF, P.O. Box 1576, Ocean Pines, Maryland 21811.

All proceeds will benefit student education and outreach projects, community charities, and the Rotary Club’s Scholarship fund.

Flags for Heroes also includes multiple sponsorship opportunities, and all major sponsors will be named on a large sign on Route 589, near the flag display.

“Any project like this needs funding,” Gilmore said. “We are hoping that our community business partners would want to join with us and make this effort a success. We hope that you will want to be part of this very moving tribute to local heroes.”

For more details, email cliff0917@aol.com.

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Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DOCTORS' DAY

On Doctors' Day this March, Atlantic General Hospital's Medical Staff decided to share the recognition with all clinical and support staff within the organization. Dr. Cory Carpenter, emergency department physician and chief of the medical staff at Atlantic General, presented employees with a hero pin to honor them for their hard work and sacrifice during the pandemic. Doctors' Day is a national day of recognition celebrated each year on March 30. Atlantic General Hospital Medical Staff kicked off Doctors' Day by thanking their co-workers with a special presentation of hero pins. Pictured, from left, are Sharon Zimmerman, Anna Oberste, Michael Geeseman, Tonya Givens, Mark Scott, Michael Downes, Carpenter, M.D., Ingrid Cathell, Janice Novak, Ann Bergey, Glenn Lebedz, Kelly Lund and Alvin Tilton. (Right) Carpenter, MD is pictured presenting a hero pin to Bryauna Menafee, housekeeping supervisor.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

POLICE VISIT

As part of an ongoing safety initiative and to maintain strong relationships with local law enforcement, Worcester Preparatory School invited Berlin Police Det. Cpl. (and WPS parent) Jessie Collins and Sgt. Larmore of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office to bring their explosive-scenting police dogs, Dock and Simon, to a meet and greet. Cpl. Collins introduces her dog, Dock, and answers questions from WPS first graders. (Right) They are joined by WPS Head of School Dr. John McDonald.



BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Members of the Worcester County Garden Club recently tended to the Ruth Bowie Butterfly Garden at Snow Hill Elementary School. The club has an ongoing partnership with the school and a memorial stone honors member Ruth Bowie, now deceased, who provided the leadership to establish the garden in 2003. Her vision was to provide not only a place for native plants, butterflies and birds, but also a learning space for children. Pictured, from left, are Worcester County Garden Club members Ginny Lane, Glenda Clarke, Christina Hulslander and Suzy Young.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MATH STARS

WPS MATHCOUNTS coach/math teacher Hunter Causey, left, is pictured with teammates, from left, seventh graders Anisha and Ansh Batra, Sydney Todorov and Tyler Netting, and eighth graders Allen Zhang, Lydia Schwartz and Savannah Palmisano, and coach/math teacher Linda Bragg. Not Pictured: seventh graders Catherine Cullen, Jude Damouni and Lena Parker.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ten Worcester Prep Middle School MATHCOUNTS team members virtually competed in the annual MATHCOUNTS Regional Competition on Feb. 5. Two of those students, seventh grader Ansh Batra, left, and eighth grader Allen Zhang, qualified for the Chapter Invitational level by Zhang ranking third and Batra fifth out of 57 competitors. In the Chapter Invitational on Feb. 25, Batra placed first and Zhang second out of 16 competitors, advancing them to the state level. On March 25, the duo competed in the state competition, where Zhang placed 22nd and Batra 31st out of 45 competitors.

Open Air Job Fair provides wealth of positions May 19

(May 6, 2021) Meet prospective employers from across Worcester County and choose from hundreds of seasonal and year-round jobs at the Open Air Job Fair, Wednesday, May 19, at Sturgis Park Pavilion in Snow Hill from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. Employers offering competitive wages and signing bonuses will be accepting applications and hiring onsite.

Social distancing is in effect, and all participants are asked to wear face coverings. Training and transportation resources will be available.

This event is being hosted by the Town of Snow Hill, Worcester County Chambers of Commerce, Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, and Worcester County Tourism and Economic Development.

Unavailable to attend? Please visit the following sites for online job postings:

- <https://worcesterhr.co.worcester.md.us/>
- <https://mwejobs.maryland.gov/vosnet/Default.aspx>

Space is also available at no cost for employers who would like to participate. For more information, contact WCTED Workforce Engagement Specialist Jackie Trieu at jtrieu@co.worcester.md.us or at 410-632-3110.

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LISA CAPITELLI/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

TOASTY
Jeff Smith roasts coffee beans at his Iron Skillet Coffee table set up during Berlin's first 2nd Friday of the season, April 9.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Georgia Veals, left, and Vivian Cropper, both of Salisbury, along with William McAllister of Bishopville, work together to build a Lego Mindstorms Robot during their Summer Scholars course, "Rev Up Your Robots," at Wor-Wic Community College.

Wor-Wic provides summer courses for gifted students

(May 6, 2021) Parents of gifted and talented children entering the third through ninth grades in the fall of 2021 can register their children for Summer Scholars courses being offered on campus and online by Wor-Wic Community College this summer.

These half-day courses are held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30-4:30 p.m.

One-week courses are offered on campus Monday through Friday, beginning July 12 and ending Aug. 6. Students can take full- or half-day courses.

Full-day courses are held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch. Half-day courses, which are offered from 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m., can also be taken back-to-back to create a full-day schedule.

The courses are designed for public, private and home-schooled gifted and talented students.

A student's gifted and talented status is determined by the school they attend, based on the student's abilities in the areas of general intellectual capabilities, specific academic aptitudes, or the creative, visual or performing arts.

Space is limited and financial assistance is available. For more information, visit www.worwic.edu/SummerScholars or call 410-334-2815.

Virtual one-week courses are offered Monday through Friday, beginning June 14 and ending Aug. 13.

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Fifth grade students at Berlin Intermediate School have been learning about the importance of conserving the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Students will create a service learning proposal where they partner with a nonprofit organization in order to conserve and protect the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. On Earth Day, Susan Cropper's class picked up trash around the school yard.

"Thank you so much for the generous donation to Phillip C. Showell Elementary School," said Principal Christy Kerr. "This donation will be used to help fund our S.T.E.M. initiatives, including our robotics program. We are incredibly thankful for our partnership with Cato Gas & Oil."

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ON STAGE

Surrounded by a limited number of family and friends in socially-distanced seating pods, Worcester Preparatory School hosted back-to-back live performances of its spring musical revue, “A Taste of Broadway,” in the Athletic and Performing Arts Center, March 10-11. Seventeen Upper School thespians and artists combined music, dance and sketches, while performing 15 renditions of songs from nine Broadway musicals. It was led by Director Paulette DeRosa-Matrona, Music Director Christopher Buzby, and Art Director George Zaiser. Cast members are: Chris Todorov, Cayden Wallace, C.C. Lizas, T.J. Bescak, Natalie Foxwell, Grace Baeurle, Moorea Phillips, Brooke Phillips, Sara Frieh, Sydney Lamson-Reich, Faith Sens, Waverly Choy, Reagan Sterrs, Lexi Willey, Hannah Perdue, Anders Taylor, (not pictured: Bryn Elliott).



Buzby and DeRosa-Matrona



“What Baking Can Do” from “The Waitress” performed by senior lead Waverly Choy.



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“Money, Money, Money” from “Mamma Mia” was performed by senior lead C.C. Lizas (center).



Sophomore Cayden Wallace and his backup dancers perform “Singing In The Rain.”



Seniors, from left, T.J. Bescak, Lexi Willey, Natalie Foxwell, Hannah Perdue, and C.C. Lizas, bring the house down with their final WPS stage performance of crowd favorite, “Mamma Mia’s” “Dancing Queen.”



Junior Sydney Lamson-Reich and freshman Sara Frieh performed “Defying Gravity” from “Wicked.”

Pines Chamber's flounder event to take place Aug. 7

(May 6, 2021) The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce has announced its 14th annual Flounder Tournament and Auction will take place on Saturday, Aug. 7. The Ocean Pines Association and Gateway Subaru are the main sponsors this year.

The tournament will have larger cash prizes and calcuttas, according to the chamber. Participants must be registered by noon, Friday, Aug. 6. Weigh-in will take place at the Ocean Pines Marina and Yacht Club. Sponsorships are available.

All information and registration can be found at <https://business.oceanpineschamber.org/events/details/14th-annual-flounder-tournament-12667>, call the Ocean Pines Chamber at 410-641-5306 or email info@oceanpineschamber.org.

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Opinion

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

Berlin getting back in swing of things

The return of the Berlin Jazz & Blues Bash this weekend is a bright note indeed for the region, which, like most everywhere else where reasonable people are in charge, has been enduring a 12-month trudge through pandemic safety restrictions.

It couldn't be helped, but now, with Worcester one of the state's leaders in percentage of the population vaccinated, it's time to loosen up ... to a degree.

This year's edition of the music festival acknowledges the continuing presence of covid-19 and, consequently, won't be as wide open as its predecessors. Still, hearing music after all that silence represents one more step towards normalcy.

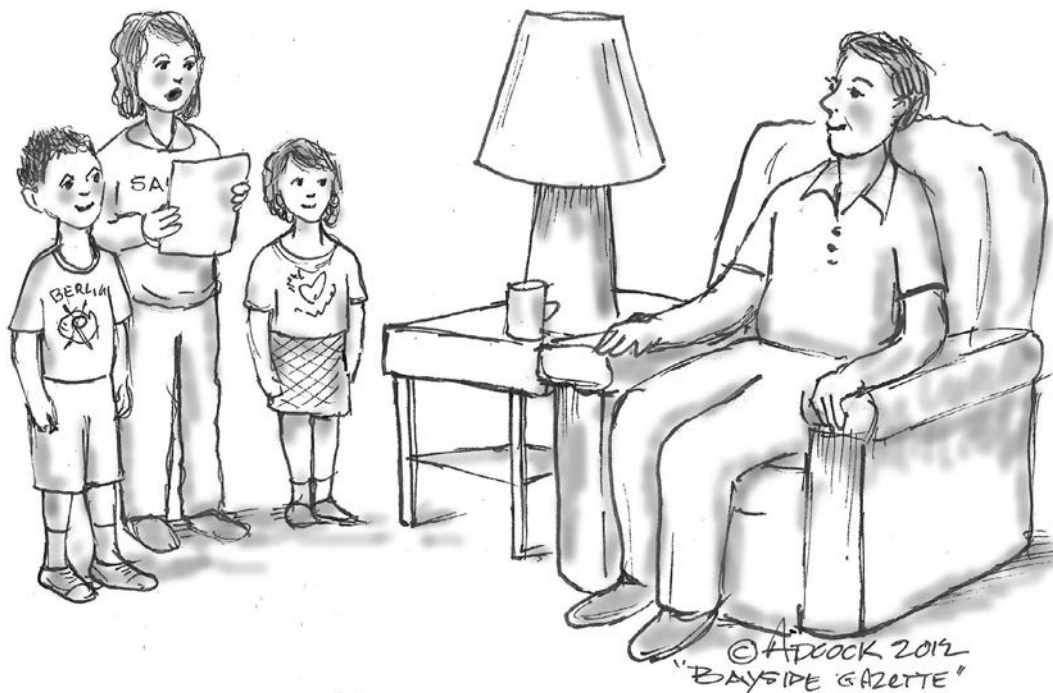
In other words, the blues this weekend will be songs, rather than a human condition.

Hats off to event organizers, local officials, businesses and the health department for coming up with a way to make this work. Arranging a crowd-drawing event under the current circumstances is a great deal more serious and complicated than saying, "Hey, gang, let's put on a show," as the early swing era trope goes.

The real measure of success, however, will be how the audience responds to the health safety provisions that will still be in place. There will be no drinking in the streets and no wandering here and there with food. These things must be done on the premises of the establishments offering that service.

The other thing patrons must be aware of is that some people will be more cautious than others, and there will be a need to respect that. The idea is to have a good time, which means helping everyone be as comfortable as possible.

Besides, regardless of what temporary limitations might be in effect, they're not as important as the music. It's like music publisher, promoter and Duke Ellington's manager Irving Mills said, "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing."



"Dad, we have saved some of our allowance and would like to give Mom a Progressive Dinner for Mother's Day. Appetizer: Giant Pretzel from the Yacht Club. Entree: 3 steamed crabs from the Shrimp Shack and Dessert: a slice of Key Lime pie from the Marlin Moon Restaurant."

Letter

EMS Week

Editor,

In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate EMS clinicians and the important work they do in our nation's communities.

This year, May 16-22, has been designated EMS Week. This year's theme is "This Is EMS: Caring For Our Communities."

This theme is particularly meaningful now, to remind people that we have been there for them this past year, and we are still here to re-

spond, support, and care for the needs of our community.

[The year] 2020 presented us with unprecedented challenges as EMS clinicians learned to navigate caring for patients amidst a pandemic.

Despite the unknowns and risks to their personal health and safety, our EMS clinicians responded day in and day out to treat the Ocean Pines community.

Our members trained, prepared and adapted to the "new normal."

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department responded to 1,949 calls for

service in 2020, every one of them different from the last.

We are proud of our paramedic/firefighter clinicians, and the outstanding care they provide 24/7 to our community.

We salute our clinicians for being ready every day and preparing for the challenges of the future.

Please join me in thanking our EMS for the exceptional work they do and wishing them a Happy EMS Week!

Steven Grunewald

Fire Chief

Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Parker Foundation funds Wor. GOLD

(May 6, 2021) The Parker Foundation, a family foundation committed to supporting grassroots groups that directly benefit humans and animals in communities they live in, recently awarded \$10,000 to Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity).

This was the 10th consecutive year the Parker Foundation awarded \$10,000 to the local organization.

GOLD, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that provides emergency

assistance for urgent needs like housing, utilities, and basic needs for children and vulnerable adults, is grateful for the years of support from the Parker Foundation.

"It's difficult to put into words how impactful this level of support is for our Emergency Services Program," said GOLD Executive Director Nicholas Cranford. "Without dedicated community members like Bob and Marsha Parker of the Parker Founda-

tion, GOLD could never keep up with the level of need our neighbors are currently facing. On behalf of those we serve, all of us at GOLD want to offer our deepest appreciation to the Parker Foundation."

In 2020, GOLD assisted 59 families, including 82 adults and 64 children with funding provided by the Parker Foundation.

For more information about GOLD's programs and services, visit www.Worcester-GOLD.org.

Calendar

Thurs., May 6

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.

SPRINGFEST ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Celebrating its 30th Anniversary, the festival will feature more than 250 vendors selling art and crafts, live outdoor musical entertainment and delicious offerings from famous Eastern Shore delicacies to a wide assortment of food, beer and wine. Admission is free. The Coastal Highway Beach Bus and the Town's Park & Ride in West Ocean City will be in operation from 6:20 a.m. to 11:35 p.m. Cost is \$3 for all day boarding. Transportation info: 410-723-7606. Masks are required and guests must be seated on public transportation and while enjoying their food and beverages. Rain or shine. 410-250-0125 or 800-626-2326, <http://OCOcean.com>

MERRY MAKERS - COLORFUL CANS

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. The May program uses cans and magazine pages to craft a flower pot/upcycled pencil holder. The kits will provide everything participants need, except for glue. Reserve a kit: 410-208-4014. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'YOURS TRULY' BY AI WEIWEI

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Books are available on Hoopla (hoopladigital.com). Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

Fri., May 7

SPRINGFEST ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Celebrating its 30th Anniversary, the festival will feature more than 250 vendors selling art and crafts, live outdoor musical entertainment and delicious offerings from famous Eastern Shore delicacies to a wide assortment of food, beer and wine. Admission is free. The Coastal Highway Beach Bus and the Town's Park & Ride in

Continued on Page 30



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FRESH ADDITION

The Sterling Tavern, located at 119. N. Main Street in Berlin, officially launched operations on Tuesday with a full compliment of staff on hand.

OPEN HOUSES MAY 6 - MAY 13

DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday, 11am-2pm	4 Cape May Place, The Parke - Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$414,900	Debbie Bennington/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Saturday, 1-3pm	4603 Coastal Hwy., Unit 203	3BR/3BA	Condo	\$695,000	Anne-Marie Bouse/ReMax
Saturday Noon – 5	419 14th St. 69J, Harbour Island	3BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$870,000	Denise Milko/Holiday Real Estate

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Cuisine

Suplee offers recipe for ‘best wings ever’

I am pensive as I pull the succulent meat off of my chicken wings after a small catering function.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

I am bound and determined to make this summer an epic season. After last year, many of us are simply burnt out; defeated in many ways. In an industry that was decimated by the pandemic, hospitality lead-

ers and managers are fighting hard to regain at least some ground in the battle against the government shutdowns. And then this happens.

First, we started with a threat to our crab meat supply, and that is indeed very real, my good people. Crabs are being purchased fresh off the dock at a whopping \$400 per bushel.

Even wholesale jumbo lump is expected to hit upwards of \$40 per pound. In the industry, we are getting to the point that items that use crab may have to come off our menus for a spell, unless we can convince our guests to spend upwards of thirty dollars for a crab cake sandwich.

And last week it was announced that chicken wings are coming into short supply. Excuse me? Chicken wing and crab shortages? At the onset of what will probably be the busiest tourist season in 20 years on the island? Will this madness ever end?

Someone has got to be joking. It is an understatement to say that restaurants and hotels have had a hard time over the past 14 months.

It would also be an understatement to claim that so many of us are ready to throw our hands up and run away to Mexico to live out our years in an obscure village somewhere in the mountainside. Wait, did I just write that? I really need to work on my inner-monologue.

When I moved my daughters to Boston in February, it truly saddened me to see how many restaurants had shuttered their windows for good, never to reopen.

They were devastated up there, but those politics shall be saved for another day. But I could tell that it has been even more of a bitter fight up north than it was down here, and rest assured, none of us had fun down here during this mess. Alas, I go off the point. Back to the task at hand.

Two of the most important, or at least most popular products in Ocean



City are now scarce and at a premium. This is a death knell to anyone who relies solely on these products and while I am sure that such operators will be creative as we all had to be last year, it will definitely leave another indelible mark on our collective souls as we work through this newest of crises.

Sometimes I wonder how this will all end. With the season starting a bit earlier this year due to what can only be recognized as COVID-Fatigue, we are seeing an influx of tourism which is a staggering indication of Summer 2021.

And have I mentioned the labor crisis? Oh, I haven't? At present, it is impossible to find enough staff for local restaurants and hotels. In fact, one hotel group has been bringing people up from Texas in an effort to at the very least create a skeleton crew to pull off the impossible.

Add to this the mind-numbing concept that national chains are offering signing bonuses and egregious starting wages to unskilled laborers, and you can see that small restaurants are finding themselves doomed from the start. However, with this

being said, we survived 2020, so we can pull off the impossible again, right? We shall see.

In one of my restaurants, I already closed two days per week, and who knows what will happen with the other if we don't get more people in the workforce? Hopefully, we can maintain our seven-day schedule, but with modern dilemmas afoot, everyone will have to make adjustments. Hopefully, our customers can appreciate that. Fingers crossed.

So, in earnest I beg of you to take care of any chicken wings and crab meat that you may get your hands on. Take care of this precious gold. It is not to be taken for granted.

The Best Wings Ever

Makes 20 wings

- 20 Chicken wing segments
- 1 c. Italian vinaigrette
- Salt & Pepper, as needed
- 1/2 c. Basil puree (recipe follows)
- 1/2 c. Hanks™ Hot Sauce

1. These wings are made in stages, so read through the recipe and time it out properly.

3. Marinate the chicken wing seg-

ments in the dressing for at least forty-five minutes.

4. Season with salt and pepper and place on a hot grill. The wings will char a bit as they cook, but that is what we are looking for. You want that lovely Cuban Wing feel to them.

4. Remove from the grill and let rest for about forty minutes (or refrigerate for future use, but they're better day-of). This step sets these wings apart from others, as when they go through the final step, the meat falls off the bone.

5. When it's go-time, roast the chicken wings in a 450F oven for about ten minutes.

6. Toss with the basil puree and hot sauce and serve immediately.

7. Shed tears of pride and sadness, knowing that you have created such a lovely gift while knowing that you might not be able to find enough wings for your next shindig. Blast you, supply chain. Blast you!

—Paul Suplee is a Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College and owner of boxcar40.

Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

Puzzles

STRETCHING EXERCISES

BY JEREMY NEWTON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Jeremy Newton, of Austin, Texas, is a software engineer who makes mobile games. Titles he has worked on include Crosswords With Friends, Zynga Poker, Dragon Academy and many others. He has been a puzzle enthusiast since he was a child, when a grandmother got him hooked on Jumble. As a crossword constructor, Jeremy says he likes “wacky themes” (as a glance at today’s grid might suggest). This is Jeremy’s 14th Sunday and 21st Times puzzle over all. — W.S.

ACROSS
1 Muhammad Ali’s “Me! Wheel!” e.g.
5 “S.N.L.” alum Hartman
9 Start off on the wrong foot, maybe?
13 Contaminate
19 What may be in a star’s orbit
21 Throw with power
22 Alleviate
23 Sheep’s milk product that’s often grated
25 Classic name for the land north of England
26 Course taken in shorts, often
27 “Ya don’t say!”
28 765-foot-long “water coaster” on Disney cruises
30 Countertenor
31 SWAT team or Navy SEAL group, e.g.
34 Name that sounds like two letters of the alphabet
37 Epitome of smoothness
39 “Roots” author Haley
40 Shocker, at times
41 & 44 It goes around every hour
46 Gaming novice, slangily
48 Secured skates, with “up”
50 Float component

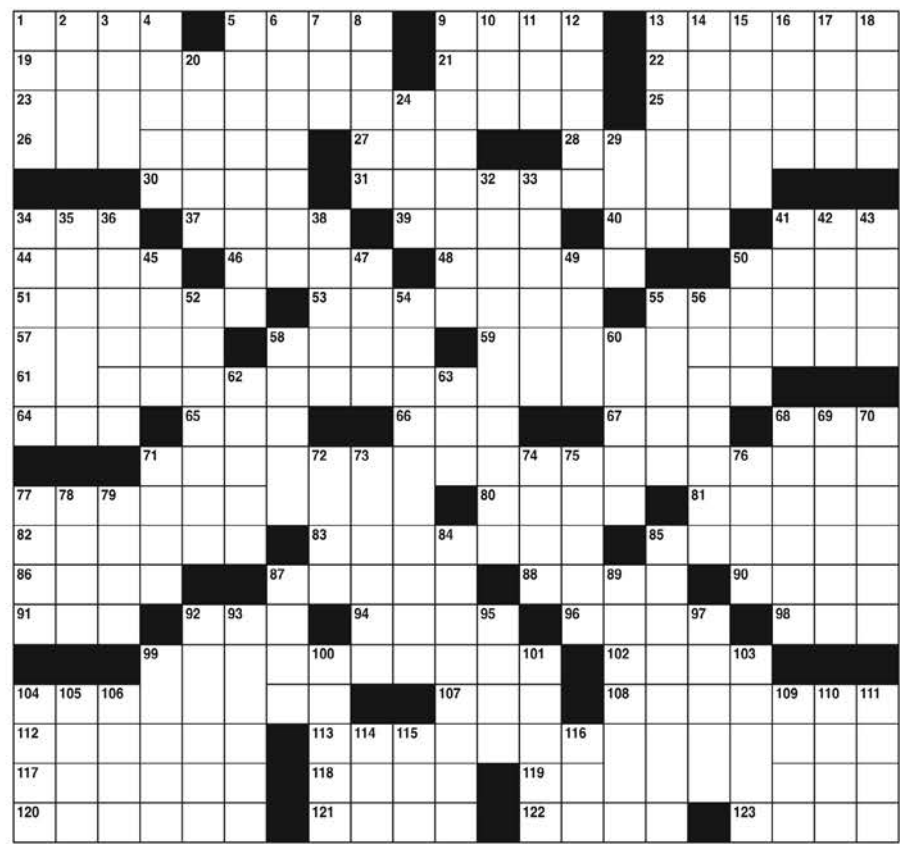
DOWN
1 Verve
2 It’s 50/50
3 “That kinda stuff”: Abbr.
4 Buckaroos
5 Mint
6 Fictional pilot with the line “You like me because I’m a scoundrel!”
7 “Here ____ again”
8 Milk for un café
9 Onetime MTV reality series filmed near Hollywood
10 Recall regretfully
11 Auditing org.
12 Courtroom statements
13 Bone to pick

ACROSS
51 Act as a blueprint for, as DNA for proteins
53 Brawled, in the backwoods
55 “Howdy, everybody!”
57 Withstand
58 Fly off the shelves
59 Like bread made from almond flour
61 “Oh, hell yes!”
64 Turn red, say
65 Certain formal duds
66 Nice round number?
67 Bollywood megastar Aishwarya ____
68 “My dear man”
71 Grammy category won multiple times by Kendrick Lamar
77 Racy selfie posted for likes on social media, in modern lingo
80 Not a problem
81 Kennel club category
82 Makeup table
83 “Dead serious!”
85 “And, uh, that about covers it”
86 Supporting role
87 New students at Princeton or Yale in 1969
88 There’s a famous “half” one in Yosemite National Park
90 Vessel protected by Hera
91 Uninteresting
92 Encouraging cry
94 Bottom
96 Saves, with “away”
98 “Ain’t dead ____!”

DOWN
99 They often come to professors with excuses
102 Hoodwink
104 Get snake eyes, say
107 Lacking experience
108 Aligns, in a wood shop
112 Set straight
113 Oscar winner for his role as a Mexican narc in “Traffic”
117 Price to pay, informally
118 Major piece
119 Miniature for a World War II buff
120 Were running mates?
121 Quite a jerk
122 Make an appearance
123 Recess for prayer

ACROSS
14 Lighter than lite
15 Word after soul or solid
16 “You, too?!” playfully
17 Smart
18 Wood that’s resistant to warping
20 Mountain chain that stretches from Kazakhstan to the Arctic
24 Do a waving motion by the ocean, say
29 “That proves it”
32 Shade similar to verdigris
33 Distinguish oneself
34 Positioned to win
35 Shared with for quick feedback
36 Cut into
38 Region with a Unification Flag for sporting events
41 Pen pa?
42 Just hanging out
43 It really blows
45 Knucklehead
47 Flinch (at)
49 Ending for a dean’s address
50 Cable network with movies like “Sharktopus” and “Mansquito”
52 Least klutzy
54 Made a boo-boo
55 “I won’t ____ it!”
56 Pending
58 Risqué communiqué
60 Ancient home to Priam’s Treasure
62 Out of practice

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



- 63 Quick refresher

68 Visibly scornful

69 Cold that just won't go away?

70 Superpopular

71 Goopy spread

72 Where gymnast Simone Biles won four golds

73 One-celled organism

74 Enter unannounced, in a way

75 Photog's setting
- 76 Name of the girl on "Game of Thrones" who said "A girl has no name"

77 Spot between programs, e.g.

78 Beehive material

79 Annual May race, informally

84 One of three characters in "M*A*S*H"

85 Ones behind the scenes

87 Consider, with "on"
- 89 High-priority item

92 Vocalist's asset

93 Directly criticized on Twitter with an "@"

95 Gillette razor name

97 Literature Nobel list

99 Bit of faulty logic

100 Sandwich supposedly named after low-income New Orleans workers

101 Begins a triathlon
- 103 Like the clue for 103-Down?

104 Teased incessantly

105 Kind of cavity

106 Hard vehicle to park

109 Telenovela, e.g.

110 Some drink dispensers

111 Extend (out)

114 Org. with lots of money to waste?

115 Order member

116 "Ver-r-ry interesting!"

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su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 96

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

Calendar

Continued from Page 27
West Ocean City will be in operation from 6:20 a.m. to 11:35 p.m. Cost is \$3 for all day boarding. Transportation info: 410-723-7606. Masks are required and guests must be seated on public transportation and while enjoying their food and beverages. Rain or shine. 410-250-0125 or 800-626-2326, <http://OCOcean.com>

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Glen Riddle War Admiral, May 7. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Cost is \$125 per player or \$500 per team and includes golf, cart and lunch. All proceeds benefit the Life Crisis Center. Register: <https://www.lifecrisis-center.org/notices/2021-Golf-Tournament.htm> or Tina Ciarmoli, 410-749-0632.

FIRST FRIDAY ART OPENING

Held 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM at the Ocean City Center for the Arts as well as at the Art League’s new satellite gallery locations at the Princess Royale and Coffee Beanery. Masks are required and open to the public. Featured artists include Jim Rehak, Alison Leigh Menke, Dale Ashera-Davis, Lisa Marie Penn, Paul and Andrew Nebb, David Simpson and Rebecca Morgan. The Art League’s new monthly online exhibit at ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/online-exhibits/ features art by students of all skill levels created during the Art League’s online Zoom art classes. All show will be on display until May 29. 410-524-9433, <http://www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org>

JAZZ & BLUES, ART & BOOTHS

Honey Shine (Dirty Boogie Blues) will be at the Globe Gastro Theater from 8-11 p.m. Live entertainment will also be at Sisters Wine Bar from 7-9 p.m. chamberinfo@berlinchamber.org, 410-641-4775, <http://www.berlinchamber.org>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

Fridays - Columbus Hall, behind St. Luke’s Church, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. Masks are required while moving around inside. 410-524-7994

Sat., May 8

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Downtown Pocomoke Farmers and Flea Market Lot, 3 Market St., 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The event will follow all of the proper CDC guidelines. Rain date is May 15. Pocomoke City Hall, 410-957-1333, Ext. 6

NAUTICAL FLEA MARKET

Ocean City Marlin Club, 9659 Golf Course Road, 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM. Boat parts, fishing gear, accessories and everything nautical.

YARD SALE

St. Matthews By-the-Sea United Methodist Church, 1000 Coastal High-

way, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Crafts, jewelry, books, baked goods, basket drawing and Soup to Go. Masks and social distancing required.

VIRTUAL MARYLAND SAFE BOATING COURSE

Held 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. A Maryland Safe Boating Certificate is required for all boat operators born after July 1, 2972, and is awarded after successful completion of the course. Cost is \$20. Register: Barry Cohen, 410-935-4807 or CGAUXOC@gmail.com.

3RD ANNUAL MOTHERHOOD WALK

Showell Park, 11281 Racetrack Road, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. The event includes a walk with a choice of several paths to take, vendors, raffles and information about Community Resources partners from across the Eastern Shore. Children’s activities include a scavenger hunt, chalk drawing and hula-hoops. Children will also be able to make a Mother’s Day craft. Food and drink available for purchase. Promotional packages (T-shirt, drink and swag) will be available for \$20. Free will donations will also be accepted. Proceeds support the Grace Center. 433-513-4124, <https://www.facebook.com/gracematernalhealth>

FREE FAMILY ARTS DAY

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Barbara Buford will instruct this class. For the whole family, so children must be accompanied by an adult and adults must be accompanied by a child. All materials provided. Masks required. Advance registration required: 410-524-9433 or www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/Classes.

SPRINGFEST ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Celebrating its 30th Anniversary, the festival will feature more than 250 vendors selling art and crafts, live outdoor musical entertainment and delicious offerings from famous Eastern Shore delicacies to a wide assortment of food, beer and wine. Admission is free. The Coastal Highway Beach Bus and the Town’s Park & Ride in West Ocean City will be in operation from 6:20 a.m. to 11:35 p.m. Cost is \$3 for all day boarding. Transportation info: 410-723-7606. Masks are required and guests must be seated on public transportation and while enjoying their food and beverages. Rain or shine. 410-250-0125 or 800-626-2326, <http://OCOcean.com>

JAZZ & BLUES, ART & BOOTHS

Featuring a one-day Art Show and Sale and various other retail sellers and makers of fine goods on the streets of downtown Berlin from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bryan Russo Blues busking on corners from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fast Eddie & the Slowpokes (Blues) at The Globe Gastro Theatre from 1-4 p.m. Zander Jeff at the Atlantic Hotel from 1-5 p.m. Anthony Rosano & the Conqueroosm (Blues) at Burley Oak Brewery from 4-7 p.m. Bryan Russo at Boxcar on

Main from 5-8 p.m. chamberinfo@berlinchamber.org, 410-641-4775, <http://www.berlinchamber.org>

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.

Sun., May 9

SPRINGFEST ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Celebrating its 30th Anniversary, the festival will feature more than 250 vendors selling art and crafts, live outdoor musical entertainment and delicious offerings from famous Eastern Shore delicacies to a wide assortment of food, beer and wine. Admission is free. The Coastal Highway Beach Bus and the Town’s Park & Ride in West Ocean City will be in operation from 6:20 a.m. to 11:35 p.m. Cost is \$3 for all day boarding. Transportation info: 410-723-7606. Masks are required and guests must be seated on public transportation and while enjoying their food and beverages. Rain or shine. 410-250-0125 or 800-626-2326, <http://OCOcean.com>

JAZZ & BLUES, ART & BOOTHS

Dark Gold Jazz will perform at The Globe Gastro Theatre, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. chamberinfo@berlinchamber.org, 410-641-4775, <http://www.berlinchamber.org>

BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays through September - Downtown Berlin, 9:00 AM - 1:00 pm. This is a producers market only featuring produce, flowers, baked goods, art and homemade products. <https://www.berlinmainstreet.com/farmersmarket/>

Mon., May 10

RELAY FOR LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Glenn Riddle Golf Club’s War Admiral Coures, May 10. Featuring a four-player “scramble” format, and is open to players of all skill levels. Info: Bobbie Dickerson, 410-548-1100, Ext. 18109.

INTERACTIVE STORY TIME ‘THINGS THAT FLY’

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Children, ages 2-5 years, are welcome to join the group for interactive stories, songs and rhymes. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Meeting in-person and via conference call. Reservations required for in-person: Rose Campion, 443-880-8884. For call-in option, 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.

Tues., May 11

33RD ANNUAL OC CHAMBER CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT

Ocean City Golf Club, May 11. Check in and breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. with tee off at 9 a.m. Register to play or volunteer: <http://bit.ly/ChamberCupSignUp>. To donate prizes, call 410-213-0144, Ext. 104. Purchase balls for the Helicopter Ball Drop for a chance to win cash prizes. Cost is \$15 per ball or 4 for \$50.

FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIP

Meeting via video call, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Join the Faith Partnership: A cooperative effort for local Worship Centers and Atlantic General Hospital & Health System to increase health awareness, education and healthy living incentives. Gail Mansell, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-9725

LUNCH & LEARN ON HOLISTIC HEALING

Held via Zoom, 12:00 PM. Ash’iz, new Art League Fellow for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, is a full-time holistic and certified alternative health practitioner. She mixes alternative health with spoken word poetry and counseling. There is no charge to attend and the public is invited. Register: ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/upcoming-events/.

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@atlantic-general.org, 410-641-4765, <http://www.delmarvaparkinsonsalliance.org>

FENG SHUI

Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 PM. Find out how Feng Shui, the art of placement, can bring you happiness, love, even wealth. Draw a sketch of your home and join the group for this interactive workshop. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

Wed., May 12

ZEN DRAWING FOR RELAXATION

Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 6:00 PM. A fun workshop on zentangles. The program will be held outside, weather permitting. Register: 410-957-0878.

SEASONAL MOCKTAILS: THE ART OF NON-ALCOHOLIC MIXOLOGY

Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 PM. Learn how to create flavorful and sophisticated non-alcoholic drinks for entertaining and everyday enjoyment. The group will discuss making drinks, syrups, infusions and edible garnishes. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

Classifieds appear in Ocean City Today & Bayside Gazette each week and online at oceancitytoday.com & baysideoc.com

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



HELP WANTED

Holiday Inn Pool Bar
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delmarva@screenmobile.com

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Classifieds 410-723-6397

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Bartenders, Barbacks,
Prep Kitchen,
Maintenance Staff,
Head Distiller, Painter,
Carpenter & Barback.
Apply in person or online
at seacrets.com

HELP WANTED

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Pocomoke City location!
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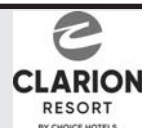
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