



OP town hall on rental regs stays low key

Proponents say enforcing rules job of association

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) Going into its vote on short-term rental regulations Wednesday, the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors gave the public the opportunity to join the discussion at a town hall meeting Saturday.

Director Frank Daly, who has led the multi-year effort to establish more local control over the situation, said even though the Worcester County Commissioners enacted legislation to regulation short-term rentals, the association was told, "this is, at the end of the day, an Ocean Pines problem."

Daly said the board had been examining the short-term rental situation and complaints about parking, noise and littering, but paused that effort after the county imposed its regulations in January 2020.

"The county said it would help, but Ocean Pines would also need to address it within its governance documents," he said.

Daly said discussions with pro- and anti-rental parties led the board to
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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OUTDOOR SCREENING

Dry conditions and pleasant temperatures greeted cinema buffs viewing "Tuck Everlasting" on Saturday during the "Movies of Berlin: Film Festival" held by the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum.

Mayor's budget veto doesn't stand

Council votes unanimously to override Tyndall in favor of its own fiscal package

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) The Berlin Town Council remained united Monday evening after voting 5-0 to override Mayor Zack Tyndall's recent veto of a FY22 budget with amendments proposed by Councilman Jay Knerr and accepted by the rest of the council.

Knerr introduced his amendments to the proposed budget on May 24, and gained the support of the rest of the council. Tyndall, however, opted to veto the measure days later.

The mayor said he had give the council a balanced budget in early May, and his financial plan earmarked

money to build up the town's reserve funds.

"It also had some money available in contingency in case our revenue projections came in under what we thought," he said.

Tyndall said his original proposal also accounted for increased health care costs for staff.

"In FY21 there was an increase in our healthcare premiums that were passed along to our employees and in FY22 I didn't want to do that again," he said.

Knerr's amendment package also removed funds to conduct a feasibility study for a proposed community center on Flower Street, as well as money to develop a strategic plan for Berlin.

By contrast, the budget amendments offered by Knerr included a 1.5 percent salary increase for town staff.

Before voting to override Tyndall's veto, public comments were solicited with Berlin resident Marie Velong first to speak.

Velong voiced support for Tyndall's veto.

"I think his explanation to you all was very informative and informative for me as a resident and taxpayer," she said.

Velong questioned the decision to delay funding a strategic plan.

"You obviously need one because you have no money to do anything," she said.

Velong also raised issue with the inclusion of a minimal raise for town employees.

"As far as the salary increase, you did take away the increase in health-care, which probably is a sizeable

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Director Frank Daly speaks while board member Dr. Colette Horn surveys the crowd during a short-term rental town hall meeting Saturday.



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Rental reg talks see no fireworks

Continued from Page 1

agree to incorporate the county regulations for short-term rentals, along with county litter and noise ordinances, into association declarations of restrictions.

“To put more enhanced enforcement in place,” he said.

Adding the county code requirements to declarations of restrictions would require a majority vote by each neighborhood section, he said.

Daly said in the handful of HOA sections developed after the mid-1990s, all federal, state and local laws apply immediately after passage.

“The board has the ability to level fines with a vote of four ... members,” he said. “We’re trying to adopt for the other sections.”

Pines resident Bill Hayes, however, questioned the town hall panel of Daly, OPA President Larry Perrone, Director Dr. Colette Horn and Director Camilla Rogers.

Hayes, a longtime homeowner who has also been a property manager in Ocean Pines since 1991, said scant input was solicited from rental representatives.

“Nuisance short-term rentals are blamed for what are community-wide problems,” he said. “You think changing a paragraph in the DRs (declara-



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines resident and property manager Bill Hayes argues against singling out short-term rental properties for issues plaguing the entire community during a town hall meeting Saturday.

tion of restrictions) will change the character and atmosphere of Ocean Pines?”

Daly said the consensus is far more short-term rentals exist in Ocean Pines than the 140-odd registered with Worcester County.

Troublesome properties are almost exclusively rented through online platforms such as VRBO or Airbnb, Daly contended.

“The problem is not with properties that have property managers, but with absentee people without contacts and an ability to address problem tenants,” he said.

Daly said although critics have suggested Worcester “should do its job,” the problems stem primarily from less

than a handful of rentals lacking property management oversight.

“The HOA exists for one basic reason, that is to protect the character of the community and homeowner value,” he said. “If we’re not doing that job, we should all leave.”

Hayes said short-term rental owners feel targeted.

“You can’t pick on short-term rentals and not pick on everybody else,” he said.

Perrone said the process for addressing a loud gathering at any property, even long-term rentals or permanent residents, would begin with contacting the Ocean Pines Police Department.

“They can deal with rowdy houses,”

he said.

Hayes said the police are unlikely to remedy trash issues, while also noting the proposed rental regulations would prohibit celebratory gatherings, such as an anniversary or birthday parties.

“We need short-term rentals and all parties at the table,” he said.

Estimating that 7 percent of Ocean Pines homes — roughly 600 residential units — are rented short-term, Hayes said all lot owners should be required to follow the “letter of the law.”

Horn agreed that the regulations should be applied community-wide.

“I see this as a step in that direction,” she said.

Horn said while three rentals with repeated complaints gained public attention in recent years, the issue is broader than that.

“We’ve gotten emails from countless others who are suffering the same difficulty,” she said.

Daly said if the board approves the rental regulations, it should then discuss how to cure rental-related parking problems with the county.

Perrone said the intent is to hold short-term rental owners accountable and not simply trust that county regulations would be followed.

“We have heard from both sides of this argument,” he said. “This is the same issue that’s being addressed in communities throughout the country.”



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Berlin council overrides veto

Continued from Page 1
amount," she said. "So, that's a raise right there."

Town Manager Jeff Fleetwood said insurance premiums did not increase for the town or its employees, but deductible costs could rise.

Fleetwood said the staff's health reimbursement accounts could jump this year.

"Those monies are funded by the employer," he said. "There is the potential for more money to be used as it relates to the deductible, but there's also the potential for that not to change."

Based on the prior five-year average utilization, deductible costs could remain unaltered, Fleetwood said.

"But I can't predict or project when any of our 72 employees are going to need hospitalization," he said.

Ultimately, Fleetwood said, health insurance is a benefit provided to employees.

"If they need to go to the doctor, go to the doctor," he said. "I don't want any employee of this town thinking in the back of their head, 'I better not go to the doctor.'"

Tyndall said the town funds the first \$5,000 for individual HRAs to maintain lower premiums.

"That went up \$1,000 for all," he



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Back to normal procedure following the lifting of pandemic restrictions, a packed room witnessed the Berlin Town Council override Mayor Zack Tyndall's recent veto of an amended FY22 budget on Monday.

said. "We had to fund an additional \$1,000 for employee healthcare costs."

Berlin resident Ernest Gerardi applauded the inclusion of a cost-of-living increase for employees in the amended budget.

Gerardi said during his professional career he worked for a company with thousands of employees.

"In any service or business there is not a damn thing more important than an employee," he said. "If you don't have them in place, and you don't have them working together, not much gets accomplished."

Councilman Dean Burrell said unlike previous budget processes, this year's edition did not include produc-

tive conversations with the mayor.

"We were presented a budget and there was no negotiation [and] no discussion," he said. "We were presented a budget that said to us, 'this is what I want and this is what it's going to be.'"

Burrell said Tyndall vetoed council's budget recommendations.

"The former mayor was receptive to the suggestions of the council and interaction with his staff," he said. "The current mayor is not that receptive."

Burrell expressed surprise and disappointment after previously speaking directly with Tyndall for a half hour by phone regarding budget negotiations.

"I felt encouraged that we were going to be on the right track, but I come to the meeting and find nothing

had changed," he said. "No recommendations that the council had made had even been considered, and I think that's appalling."

Burrell suggested the mayor's proposed budget would harm town services in the long run.

Councilwoman Shaneka Nichols took exception with the mayor's budget not granting pay increases to staff.

"Many do not feel appreciated as employees," she said. "Some of the employees are second guessing being employed by the Town of Berlin following this fiscal year."

In response to Burrell, Tyndall said efforts were made to hold monthly meetings with council members.

"I have reached out, but you do not come or set up a time," he said.

Burrell rejected the mayor's invitation after witnessing scant results following earlier direct conversations.

"It's really simple — what I have to say I will say here in public," he said. "I'm not going to have side conversations and have my words misrepresented."

During her roughly 30 minutes spent probing budget calls, Velong questioned the lack of a working relationship among elected officials.

"It seems like infighting and you guys can't work together," she said.

Knerr disagreed with her read on internal rapport.

"The council seems to work together just fine," he said.

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Pines election forum provides fresh voices

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) Two newcomers, one prior candidate and one incumbent, all jockeying for two open seats, faced off during the Ocean Pines 2021 Board election forum last Wednesday.

The need to incorporate wider community voices was a common thread offered by Stuart Lakernick, Rick Farr and David Hardy, while current Director Frank Daly highlighted financial and infrastructural improvements during the nearly two-hour question-and-answer session.

The evening debate held in the Asateague Room of the community center began with opening statements that started with Daly.

Following an unsuccessful election bid in 2016, Daly made the cut in 2018 and asked voters to award him a second term, saying the “weak business practices” of previous boards had been corrected during his tenure.

Daly, a fulltime Pines resident since 2013, said residents who had lost confidence and trust in elected association leadership regained their faith over the last three years.

In addition to stronger financial oversight and successfully executed capital projects, Daly pointed to other first-term benchmarks such as assessment rates that increased minimally from \$986-\$996 between FY19-21.

Daly also said management of association employees has improved in recent years, with morale and staff retention at all-time highs.

Daly also attempted to differentiate himself from the competition as an independent voice on the board.

“Other candidates will attempt to hide the fact that they get their marching orders from a special interest political action group,” he said.

Daly said his “marching orders” come from the 8,000-plus association members.

“My core values of honesty, integrity and independence focus my efforts not on special interests [but] only on yours, the homeowner,” he said.

Next up was Lakernick, who came in third for a pair of openings during the 2020 board election.

Lakernick, a chiropractic functional neurologist by trade, promised proven leadership and experienced financial management, adding that he had developed “strong listening and communication skills” during his decades of practicing outside Philadelphia

Lakernick also emphasized the need to extend respect and kindness to all. During the past year troubling events have unfolded, Lakernick said, including legal actions against the board and the resignation of a “star employee” due to workplace tensions.

“Do you want this to stop?” he said. “This year, perhaps more than before,

who you elect will determine the long-term success of Ocean Pines.”

Lakernick pledged to provide equal representation for full and part-time residents.

While thanking the 1,100-plus members who supported his board run last year, Lakernick expressed hope others would consider following suit this election.

Offering remarks next was first time board candidate Hardy, a materials scientist and engineer who brings nearly half a century of military and federal government experience to the table.

“I have a number of graduate degrees in the hard sciences,” he said.

Hardy, who was on active-duty with the U.S. Army for half a dozen years starting in 1974, became an active reservist for the remainder of a two-decade military career.

“I was running both a military career as well as a private sector career,” he said.

Hardy also highlighted having launched and operated a number of start-up companies.

“You should run any operation as a business,” he said. “Not everything has to be a cost center ... but you need to keep an eye out for how you’re managing ... because if you don’t live within your budget, you don’t have a business that will last very long.”

Currently, Hardy maintains a foot in

academia as an adjunct professor at Cecil College in Cecil County and is employed as a federal civilian engineer at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Harford County.

“I can’t talk fully about the work that I do,” he said.

Among his clearance-only tasks, Hardy said he has assisted with the covid-19 pandemic response and vaccine rollout.

While nearing retirement, Hardy plans to live full time in the Pines once unencumbered professionally.

“I look forward to being involved and bringing a new perspective to the Ocean Pines community,” he said. “I do believe everyone in the community should have an opportunity to have a voice in what’s done.”

Last to offer opening remarks was Farr, who thanked the nearly capacity crowd for attending on an evening marked by heavy downpours.

After buying property in Ocean Pines more than two decades ago, Farr began full-time residency three years ago.

“I’m a retired U.S. Air Force combat veteran,” he said.

Before retiring in 2007 as a master sergeant, Farr served stateside and abroad for 22 years.

“I was in a number of combat operations around world,” he said.

Farr said his military experience
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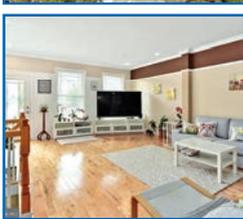
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Board candidates trade outlooks for future

Continued from Page 4
proved invaluable as he moved into the corporate realm.

"I'm currently vice president of human resources for a IT cyber firm out of D.C.," he said.

Farr also highlighted his teaching experience with the Community College of the Air Force.

"I taught leaders how to manage and how to lead people," he said.

Curriculum content included situational leadership, conflict resolution and time management, Farr said.

If elected, Farr promised to bring more integrity to the board.

"I'm not a politician," he said. "I'm here for the people [and] here for the community."

Farr also pledged to represent the ever-increasing number of families living year round in Ocean Pines.

"Our demographics have changed where we have a lot of youth ... that are here going to schools," he said. "We want to make sure that we do everything that we can to make their lives better."

Short-term rentals was the first topic raised among more than a dozen questions posed with candidates selected in random order allotted a two-minute response window.

Lakernick said Worcester County has already enacted rental regulations and expressed opposition to enacting further restrictions.

In terms of enforcement, Lakernick said after conferring with County Commissioner Chip Bertino, he was told the short-term rental regulations include a complaint-driven mechanism.

Lakernick said the county, which collects rental-licensing fees, should be accountable for addressing complaints about rentals, not the association.

Hardy, who acknowledged renting his own property on occasion, has followed county rules and obtained licensing.

"Everyone should comply," he said.

Advocating limiting bureaucratic growth in government, Hardy said he favored exploring ways to help Worcester County enforce regulations.

Noting that problems generally arise from only a small percentage of short-term rentals, he said he doubted that anyone who is not complying with county regulations now would follow added regulations.

Farr said the association should strive to educate residents to assure licensing procedures are clearly understood.

Saying most of the complaints concern parking, trash and noise, Farr told the audience the latter two could be more easily addressed. He recommended instituting quiet hours and holding property owners responsible for rental complaints from neighbors.

Daly, who is a driving force behind the associations' current effort to amend rental regulations, said the goal is not more restrictive rules, but more effective ones.

Daly said one property owner who openly refused to comply was ultimately



Ocean Pines board candidate Rick Farr, flanked by fellow candidates, from left, Stuart Lakernick and David Hardy, shares perspective during an election forum last Wednesday in the Assateague Room of the community center.

GREG ELLISON/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

fined \$500 after renting for an entire season and netting profits in the tens of thousands.

"Worcester County enforcing is a myth," he said.

Candidates were also asked how they might improve the rapport between board members.

Farr replied that personality clashes should never override what serves the best interests of the larger community.

"I'm not in politics, at all, and I don't want to be in politics" he said.

He stressed the importance of board members working as colleagues and maintaining professionalism.

"It's important to have open communication," he said.

Farr said clear channels avoid dysfunction and stories being told outside of the boardroom, "which is extremely unprofessional," he said.

Hardy said his experience has shown that peer-relations reviews were helpful.

"Do you respect what your peers believe to be the truth?" he said.

Innuendo and rumor should never enter the equation when working within a group dynamic, Hardy said.

"You make decisions based upon fact and not near fact," he said.

"You make decisions and, as you walk

away, do not backstab people," he said. "I've spent too many years as a professional."

Highlighting his earlier ties to the Lions Club and Rotary International, Lakernick said Rotary's "Four-way Test" — is it truth, is it fair to all concerned, will it build good will and better relationships, will it be beneficial to all concerned — is the approach he would take as a board member.

Daly disputed the assertion that the current board hasn't been functioning effectively.

"We have two directors on ... opposite
See OP Page 6

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OP Board election forum attracts full house during rain

Continued from Page 5

ends of the spectrum that don't get along real well, if you read the media," he said.

Daly said outside of a pair of 3-4 votes this year, one concerning the removal of a director and the other to release an unredacted B-o8 ethics report, most board decisions have garnered five or more members in agreement.

"That tells you that people that probably aren't on [a] Christmas card list with each other are working together," he said.

By and large, the current board listens to other members and collaborates on issues of importance, Daly said.

"I stay in the middle and work with both sides to accomplish goals," he said. "That's how I survive on the board."

The Ocean Pines Elections Committee is holding a second forum, online, with date and time yet to be determined.

Election ballots, which will be mailed the week of July 12, are due by Aug. 11 to be followed by a vote count on Aug. 13 beginning at 10 a.m.

The OPA Annual Homeowners Meeting takes place on Aug. 14 with time and venue yet to be announced.

For questions about the election, or to submit questions for the second candidate forum email elections@ocean-pines.org.

Delmarva Birding unveils boat trips

(June 17, 2021) Delmarva Birding Weekends has joined Lower Shore tourism offices and seasoned boat captains in the coastal bays, Chesapeake Bay and on the Choptank River to offer a new slate of birding boat trips this summer.

From June 18 to Oct. 2, Sunset Seabird Safaris will traverse the bays behind Ocean City down to Chincoteague Bay. Departing from the West Ocean City harbor, the three-hour evening tours begin with the northern bays, rife with shorebirds, American oystercatchers, skimmers and terns.

After cruising south past the gauntlet of nesting ospreys, Capt. Ricky will pause at a remote Sinepuxent island to look for nesting brown pelicans.

The sojourn ends at sunset at South Point Spoils where participants can witness the feathered embrace of the full complement of colonial nesting birds including cattle egrets, glossy ibis, and tri-colored, little blue, and black-crowned night herons.

In June, the boating bonanza is consummated with baby pelicans near Smith Island. The full-day Smith Island Pelican Tours depart the dock at Crisfield for Smith Island where skiff captains embark with participants on short jaunts to nearby bay islands to see the northernmost

breeding colony of brown pelicans on the East Coast.

In addition to a tour of the Smith Island Cultural Center and Martin National Wildlife Refuge, this trip includes a crab cake lunch and locally made Smith Island cake at Drum Point Market in the village of Tyler-ton.

In July, Delmarva Birding Weekends and Harriet Tubman Tours will lead birding excursions along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway in Caroline County.

During the first two hours of the guided, self-driven tour, guests will learn about the many daring escapes led by the famed freedom seeker and human rights activist known as "The Moses of Her People," Harriet Tubman. In Caroline County, Harriet Tubman found shelter and assistance as she traveled along the Underground Railroad to Delaware.

The driving route courses through the farms, forests and significant Underground Railroad sites of Caroline County until the group arrives at River Run Cruises in Denton, Maryland.

From there, participants will explore the upper reaches of the Choptank River during a two-hour cruise aboard a pontoon boat. Downriver, landings and points along the Choptank served as sites for perilous es-

capades by boat. The shallow waters of the Upper Choptank provided crossings for freedom seekers heading north toward Sandtown, Delaware.

All tours are professionally guided. They do not enter the breeding islands as this would greatly disturb the birds and jeopardize breeding success. Guests can also schedule personalized private group tours.

Guides Dave Wilson and Jim Rapp have been engaging in bird conservation in the coastal bays for more than 26 years, including working with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, Audubon Maryland-DC, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and US Army Corps of Engineers.

Sponsors for the events include the Dogfish INN, Maryland's Coast (Worcester County Tourism), Southern Delaware Tourism, the American Birding Association, the Boardwalk Hotel Group, Jolly Roger Amusement Park, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, and Somerset County (Maryland) Tourism.

Additional sponsor and registration information, field trip descriptions and other resources for Delmarva Birding are available at www.delmarvabirding.com. To become a sponsor or for additional information, call 443-614-0261 or email dmvbirds@gmail.com.

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Councilman Dean Burrell, left, reminisces about the multi-purpose building on Flower Street, while Mayor Zack Tyndall listens, during discussions about forming a community center development committee on Monday.

Berlin approves community center development group

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) Even though it won't pay for a feasibility study for a proposed community center on Flower Street, Berlin Town Council on Monday voted to establish a committee of residents to examine the situation.

Councilman Jack Orris moved to form a Community Center Development Committee, saying, "We all know we would like a center and there are multiple thoughts on what should be included in that facility."

Councilman Dean Burrell said the committee could provide perspective from different segments of the town on how to go about replacing the multi-purpose building, which served as a center for a time until it fell into disrepair.

"We could get input from the various neighborhoods," he said.

Burrell also clarified his vote that evening to override Mayor Zack Tyndall's veto of a FY22 budget that removed funds for a center feasibility study.

"My vote was in no way intended to be in opposition of a community center," he said.

Burrell said the previous town administration had proposed building a new center to replace the aging Flower Street multi-purpose building.

"The town had been putting money in renovating the old multi-purpose building on Flower Street," he said.

In fact, Burrell said the Flower Street site holds special significance for many residents, including his own cherished memories.

"For me that building has a lot of sentimental value," he said. "That is the first place I danced with my wife."

Burrell backed the concept of forming a committee to discuss and develop ideas for a new facility.

"We have talked about it and passed around ideas, but never got community input," he said.

Burrell also noted the location is within close proximity to Section 8 housing, which could prove advantageous financially.

"That would put us in line to apply for grants, the first being for planning and developing that site," he said. "Grant money is out there for this endeavor but we have to do some ground work."

See BERLIN Page 8

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Pines Board election ballot process details

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer



Steve Habeger

(June 17, 2021) To assure their ballots arrive on time for the upcoming Ocean Pines Board election, members of the Ocean Pines Association are being advised that the United States Postal Service continues to experience delivery delays.

Ballots for the 2021 election are scheduled to go out the week of July 12 and are due back by 5 p.m. on Aug. 11.

Elections Committee Chairman Steve Habeger said all property owners would be sent a mailer, with those deemed eligible to vote also receiving a ballot and return envelope.

“Everybody gets the agenda for the

annual meeting and the biographical information about the candidates,” he said. “Ineligible voters get a letter explaining why they didn’t get a ballot.

“The bylaws require every member be advised of the date, time and place for the annual meeting,” he said.

Determining voter eligibility is handled by the association’s Membership Department without input from the Election Committee.

“The bylaws have several requirements for a property to be able to vote,” he said. “Why they’re eligible or

not, we don’t know.”

Ballots can be mailed or delivered in person to a drop box located in the lobby of the Ocean Pines Police building.

Habeger said the latter option might be preferable, as the Aug. 11 cutoff gets closer.

“It was a surprise to us to learn if I drop a piece of mail in a drop box anywhere on the Eastern Shore it goes to Baltimore and then makes its way back,” he said.

Habeger said the association’s drop box option would eliminate the potential for mail delays.

Regardless of where and how ballots are cast, Thom Gulyas with Ace Printing & Mailing oversees the col-

lection of them.

“Our print and mail contractor picks the mailings up either from the post office or from the ballot box,” he said.

After sorting returns to eliminate duplicates, Ace Printing delivers the envelopes to the Elections Committee.

“Then we’ll open, scan and count them and report the results,” he said.

Any ballots containing ineligible marks or selecting more than two candidates are put aside for closer inspection.

“Then the election committee looks at them and makes a decision whether they’re a valid ballot or not,” he said. “It’s a valid ballot and we count it or no it’s not and we don’t.”

Berlin forms community center committee

Continued from Page 7

But before the town begins looking for potential grants, it needs to assess community wants and needs, Burrell said.

“Take everything Dean just said and put my name on it,” said Councilman Jay Knerr.

Tyndall asked Orris to explain the proposed committees’ function in greater detail.

“The goal would be for interested

and concerned residents throughout town to come together and discuss ideas,” he said. “The scope is to investigate what we want as a community and how to get there.”

Orris said the discussions about a new community center have seen the number of amenities included expand from the initial concept.

“From my understanding, the community center started as a meeting

room and some breakout rooms,” he said. “Now on the table are basketball courts, a swimming pool, more meeting rooms and a kitchen.”

While all the proposals sound acceptable, Orris said questions abound regarding costs and financing.

“We need to get community members in a room to discuss these sort of things,” he said.

Burrell said the committee’s primary goal should be to solicit input from residents of Berlin.

“The focus of any committee needs to be as narrow as possible,” he said. “Everybody agrees that the Town of Berlin needs, or should have, a community center, but we don’t know what that should look like.”

Tyndall asked if the final site should be confirmed prior to moving forward.

Burrell said while Flower Street has been proposed as the location, no consensus has been reached on where a new center would be situated.

“The committee could offer insights into locations,” he said. “Then it won’t be what Dean says, what Troy (Councilman Purnell) says or what the mayor says, it would be this endeavor has been developed by the Town of Berlin.”

Tyndall said the feasibility study funding included in his budget and then removed by the council was intended to obtain and catalog opinions.

“You want to capture what people say,” he said. “The best way to do that sometimes is to get focus groups ... to get a cross section of the community.”

Burrell suggested the Berlin Parks Commission could be charged with the responsibility when the time arrives.

“I don’t believe we’re there yet,” he said. “We don’t even know what we want.”

Knerr again backed Burrell’s sentiments.

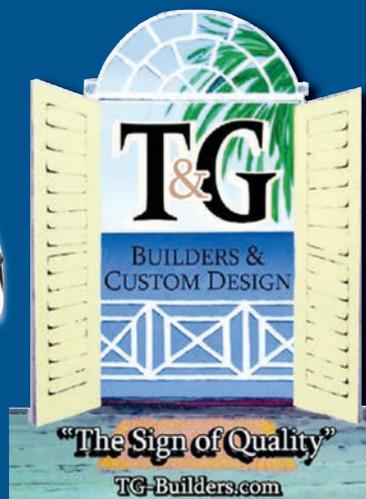
“I think we’re trying to advance this in a direction we don’t need to be in right now,” he said. “You could ask 10 different people within this town what they would like to see ... and you’d get 10 different answers.”

Knerr also proposed that surveying the community could be handled in-house for minimal cost.

“I think starting off small with a committee we could move this thing forward like it hasn’t been in years,” he said.

The council voted 5-0 to develop a committee to review suggestions for a new community center.

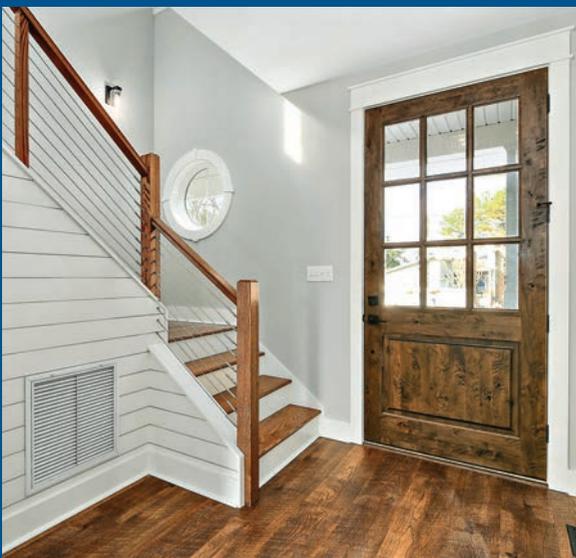
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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club will host its annual Teach a Kid to Fish event at the South Gate Pond near the Worcester County Veterans' Memorial in Ocean Pines, this Saturday.

Teach kid to fish casts off Saturday at pond in Pines

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) As something of a prelude to Father's Day, the annual Ocean Pines Anglers Club "Teach a Kid to Fish Day" takes place Saturday from 9-11 a.m. at the South Gate Pond near the Worcester County Veterans' Memorial.

Ocean Pines Anglers Club member Jack Barnes said the educational offering goes back nearly two decades and was slightly predated by the group's Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest that launched in the late 1990s.

"This is different from the fishing contest," he said.

Barnes said before baiting hooks or casting, participants should check in at the registration tent, which also enters them in a drawing for a free rod and reel.

"We ask them to bring their own rod and reel, but we provide bait," he said. "No pre-registration is required, just come as you are, all ages."

In addition to hands-on displays from the Anglers Club, Department of Natural Resources officials would also be on site, Barnes said.

"They hand out whistles for the kids and brochures with fishing regulations," he said.

Barnes also credited Natural Resources for stocking the South Gate Pond annually with selections including sunfish and bluegills.

Identifying the angler's quarry is also a featured component.

"There's one table where we have a couple of trays with fish in them," he said.

Kids are presented with an array, such as perch or blue fish, and learn to recognize various species.

"It's great because they get to touch them," he said.

Selecting the right lure based on fishing conditions is also covered.

"Then we have a table for lure identification," he said. "It's a big board with a whole bunch, maybe 25-30, fishing lures."

Anglers Club members also operate a casting station to teach kids how to maximize reach without producing snarls and backlashes.

"Sometimes you get these kids that surprise you," he said. "You get some eight-year-old kid just whipping it out 40 feet."

Anglers Club members are skilled at teaching kids and invariably get some amusement out of the youthful reactions.

Barnes said baiting hooks with youngsters never fails to bring a chuckle, with some quick to grab worms while others are more squeamish.

Plans are also being completed to stage the annual Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest in July.

Barnes said the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club has supported both Anglers Club youth fishing efforts every year.

Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks help produce and publicize both affairs.

Participants are advised to bring along sunscreen and drinking water on Saturday.

Barnes said festivities kick off at 9 a.m., before what is expected to be a hot afternoon.

"We should miss the worst heat," he said.

For more information, contact Anglers Club board member John McFalls at 610-505-1697.

Ocean Pines Racquet Sports vets promotions

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) When the Ocean Pines Racquet Sports Committee met last Wednesday, most of the volleying concerned marketing efforts.

Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue gave the committee an update regarding banners being produced to promote the Manklin Meadows Racquet Sports Complex.

Banner design questions yet to be decided include the positioning of the facility logo and sign placement.

"I'm just beginning to figure out locations," she said.

The banners are intended to help people identify the racquet sports complex more easily.

Committee Chairman Rhett Parsons suggested the banners should be less directional-based and serve more to announce the facility.

Parsons proposed placing banners on Route 589 to catch the attention of both residents and visitors.

"Tell people arriving on (Route) 589 it's here," he said.

Parsons also inquired about size dimensions.

Donahue said four-by-eight foot banners were being considered. That would make the banners comparable in size to similar signs promoting the Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market.

Parson agreed the measurements



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Promoting the Manklin Meadows Racquet Sports Complex dominated discussions during an Ocean Pines Racquet Sports Committee meeting held at the facility last Wednesday.

would be sufficient.

"It's just a matter of awareness," he said.

Switching to long-term considerations, Parsons updated committee members on planning strategy discussions during an Ocean Pines Association Executive Council meeting in late May.

Parsons said the meeting was led by Strategic Planning Committee co-chair Bernie McGorry, who presented the executive council, which is comprised of advisory committee chairs, with analysis of the complex' strengths and weak-

nesses.

Parsons asked committee members to return their analyses of the racquet sports complex to McGorry.

Parking and restrooms have been the two biggest weaknesses previously noted by players, Parsons said.

Fencing issues and an overall inconsistent-looking facility were other weaknesses mentioned.

In terms of opportunities, refining facility appearances and advertising the sports complex in national or regional tennis or retirement publications was

also discussed.

Turning to ground level publicity efforts, Parsons presented members with brochures highlighting the Racquet Sports Complex to be distributed at hotels and real estate offices in Ocean City.

The advertisements are destined for front desks at lodging establishments in the event guests inquire about tennis, pickleball or platform tennis options.

Parsons suggested committee members willing to volunteer could cover 10-block sections with the task likely completed sometime next week.

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Lewis Road sewer project funding finalized in 4-3 vote

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) The Lewis Road sewer expansion project, an initiative some 20 years in the making, was finally confirmed after the Worcester County Commissioners narrowly passed a funding proposal from the Department of Environmental Programs on Tuesday.

The \$2.05 million project, which will connect long underserved residents along the road that runs between Sinepuxent Road and Stephen Decatur Highway Landings sanitation service area, will be paid for with a \$1.48 million grant and funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. The ARPA money will be used as a stand-in for a \$500,000 USDA loan.

The project calls for multiple sanitation facilities to be constructed but will also use existing pipelines and a water tower.

Some commissioners felt that Lewis Road residents were already receiving a sweetheart deal with the grant and low-interest loan. Using ARPA money so residents wouldn't see their rates increase with the loan seemed unfair to the rest of the county, they said.

"In the issue of fairness, I just

don't understand why the ratepayers over there wouldn't have to pay for the connection on the road to their house," Commissioner Chip Bertino said. "Why would the county pay for that? We don't do it anywhere else. If it's needs-based, would we apply that to other areas throughout the county?"

Residents benefitting from a similar project in Newark were saddled with higher rate costs, even though they told the commissioners it would be a hardship for them.

"We didn't do anything for them," Bertino said. "Granted, the ARPA money wasn't available then and I understand that, but what is the precedent we're setting (if we adopt this motion)?"

Commissioner Diana Purnell felt that the lengthy time this project has been underway created certain expectations among the public. Bob Mitchell, director of the Department of Environmental Programs, said that Community Development Block Grant money had been considered for the project and that there was an environmental component in researching the proposal to ensure the project doesn't impact local septic systems and shallow wells, but funding options for Lewis Road were limited.



COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The \$2 million Lewis Road sewer expansion project, which has been in the works for 20 years, will connect residents along the two-mile road to the Landings sanitation service area.

"This community is not in a priority funding area so they're not eligible for certain state costs that we could potentially use for another community that you might not even see," Mitchell said.

Commissioner Diana Purnell said that this use of state money is appropriate for the guidelines of how the money is to be spent.

"The money is for infrastructure," she said. "To infer that Lewis Road (is special) — no one is special. We all work in the county together ... This is something that's been in the works for 20 years. You can't tell me that after 20 years of doing water and sewer in this county, there's been a time where we've done anything for this area. ... This is money that's here, that came in from ARPA so we can use it."

"This is in an area that's growing by leaps and bounds all around ... I think we should use the ARPA money for this very much underserved area."

Commissioner Ted Elder was concerned about other uses of ARPA money that the commissioners had

considered, including the countywide broadband expansion project, which he pointed out would also benefit Lewis Road.

"I expected that the biggest part of that money would go towards providing broadband as quickly as we can," Elder said. "It seems that every time something comes up (the money is suggested for other uses.) I think it's a tremendous deal we have here with the grant ... plus the 1.375 interest rate. What else can you ask for? That's why I'm not going to support the motion as it's been made but I certainly support this. This needs to be done."

Bertino added that he was worried about the precedent that could be set by giving what he saw as special treatment to Lewis Road.

"If I were a ratepayer in Newark or any of the other locations (served by) the enterprise funds for our wastewater, I'd have every right to say, 'Well you did it for one and I want a refund or ARPA rates recalculated

See ARPA Page 13

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ARPA money focal point of Lewis Rd. project discussion

Continued from Page 12 (based off X, Y, or Z).’ ”

Commissioner President Joe Mitrecic took an opposite stance to Bertino and said he felt that precedent wasn't as important as considering the merits of the case in a vacuum.

“I've heard the word ‘precedent’ said so many times up here,” Mitrecic said. “We need to take each and every request as it's presented to us and make a decision based off the merits of that request. One request being turned down doesn't make it that every request gets turned down.”

Bertino pushed back. “We become a body that's driven by personality and not by law (by that logic),” he said. “Precedent does have a place in governance. Because then we can throw everything out and then whenever anything new comes up we can just decide what the heck we want to do. We do need precedent and law to guide us to predictability for those of us who govern and those who represent.”

A public hearing will be scheduled next to inform and hear from taxpayers on the specific details of the project.

OP Golf council gives scholarships

Members' group presents funds totaling \$11,000 to five Worcester Co. students

(June 17, 2021) The Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council recently awarded five scholarships totaling \$11,000 to local high school seniors.

The scholarship committee of the Golf Members' Council each year honors students who have exhibited an interest in the game of golf, and who demonstrated exemplary academic and extracurricular records.

Bob Long, scholarship committee chairman, said awards are given on behalf of Ocean Pines Golf Club members that support the fund throughout the year.

He said members have raised more than \$35,000 for scholarships over the last six years.

“This year's \$11,000 amount is by far the greatest and reflects the work put in by Scotty Wheatley who, for many years, chaired the Ocean Pines-Taylor Bank Scramble that helps raise funds for junior golf programs and scholarships,” Long said. “Scotty passed away this past February, and in his memory his friends contributed to the creation on a scholarship in his name.”

Long said awards for Worcester

Preparatory School students were presented during the school's graduation ceremony.

“The members were disappointed that Stephen Decatur was unable to hold its awards presentation night and are hopeful to present awards in person again, next year,” he said.

‘Scotty passed away this past February, and in his memory his friends contributed to the creation on a scholarship in his name.’

Bob Long, scholarship committee chairman

The 2021 recipients of the Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council Scholarships are:

Samantha Herold: Herold is an Ocean Pines resident and attends Stephen Decatur High School. She has played on the golf team for four years and has been a four-year honor roll student with a challenging selection of courses. Her extracurricular work includes music, dance and equestrian interests. She will attend West Virginia University. Herold is the 2021 Scotty Wheatley Scholarship winner and was awarded \$2,000.

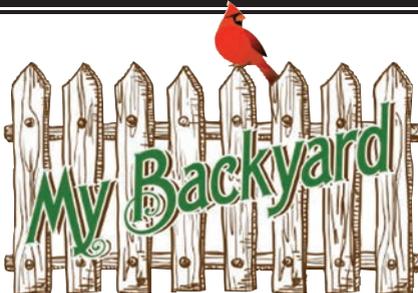
Todd (T.J.) Bescak: Bescak attends Worcester Preparatory School and

lives in Berlin. He is a former resident of Ocean Pines, where he lived off the seventh hole. Bescak is an honor roll student who has also shown an interest in acting and the arts. He is a four-year member of the golf team, and All-Conference golfer, and a team captain. He will attend Arizona State University. Bescak was awarded \$3,000.

Kaden Mault: Mault lives in West Ocean City and attends Worcester Preparatory School. He has been an honor roll student and Advanced Placement Scholar with a mix of non-academic interests. Mault is a four-year member of the golf team. He will attend Indiana University. Mault was awarded \$2,700.

Mason Brown: Brown attends Worcester Preparatory School and resides in Rehoboth Beach. In addition to being on the golf team, Brown was an All-Conference basketball player, and a member of the varsity soccer and lacrosse teams. He is an honor student and will attend the University of Miami. Brown was awarded of \$2,200.

Ryan Brafman: Brafman attends Worcester Prep and lives in Rehoboth Beach. He is an Advanced Placement Scholar and All-Conference tennis player, with an interest in medicine. Last year, he also joined his school's golf team. He will attend Davidson College. Brafman was awarded \$1,100.



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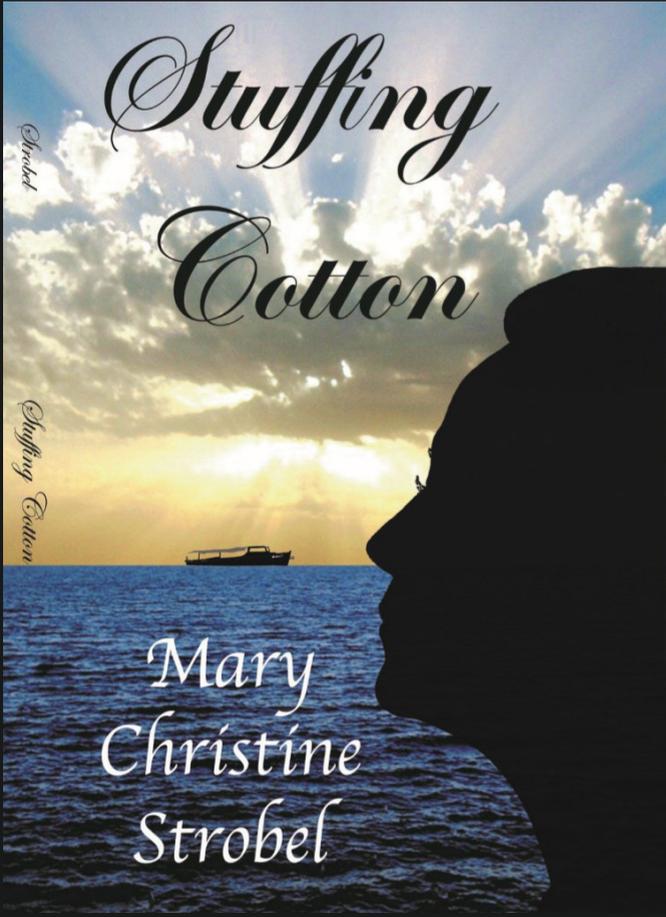
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Pastor Daryl McCready
Sonrise Church



Mary-Christine Strobel, known as Christine is the wife of the love of her life, Michael Strobel. She is the mother of four, stepmother of two, and grandmother to nine. Beginning at an early age, the energetic Christine's love of competitive swimming shaped her into a self-disciplined, driven, and highly motivated individual, preparing her to face a host of rare adversities that few people could withstand. Christine's heart's desire is to share lessons learned on her journey that others can implement, sparing them the heartbreak of trial and error.

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Berlin Briefs

By Greg Ellison
 Staff Writer

(June 17, 2021) The Berlin mayor and Town Council highlighted the upcoming national Pollinator Week and approved emergency generator repairs at its meeting Monday.

National Pollinator Week

To officially unveil the 2021 National Pollinator Week, slated from June 21-27, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall read a proclamation designating the municipality's observance of the annual celebration.

Noting Berlin is an affiliate of Bee City USA, Tyndall outlined the ecological significance of pollen-spreading insects.

Pollinator species, including but not limited to bees, play a vital role, as their natural processes are essential for producing food supplies.

Pollinator species also provide environmental benefits and are an important element for supporting biodiverse ecosystems in urban and suburban areas.

Tyndall's proclamation also highlighted the importance of pollinator species to support trees and plant life, whose presence enhances quality of life and provides recreational economic development opportunities.

Tyndall also said that Berlin could provide landscaping recommendations to residents and housing developers to promote conservation practices in hopes of preserving pollinator habitats.

Economic & Community Development Director Ivy Wells said numer-

ous local businesses would be participating in National Pollinator Week, with relevant information displayed in shop windows.

Generator repairs

Stormwater and Wastewater Superintendent Jamey Latchum updated the council on costs for recent repairs to a town-owned 1,000 KW generator.

"We had a radiator that started leaking," he said.

"We were dumping anti-freeze every week."

The stopgap measure for the large capacity equipment was eating up about a case of anti-freeze weekly, Latchum said.

After conferring with other town officials, Lackey found a less costly avenue than dropping roughly \$48,000 for a new radiator.

"We were able to re-core it, which brought it down to \$21,603," he said.

Other costs incurred during the rehab period included about \$22,000 to rent a standby generator, which is required by state mandates.

"It's repaired, back up and running," he said.

Regardless of the lower price for repair versus replacement, the town still obtained warranty coverage equivalent to buying a new radiator.

"It saved us roughly \$20,000 by re-coring it," he said.

Latchum said the total expenditure was about \$44,000 that would be covered from his departments' FY21 budget.

Councilman Dean Burrell moved to approve the emergency expenditure, and the council agreed unanimously.

Twin recycling dumpsters to be removed at Heron Park

(June 17, 2021) The two large Republic Recycling dumpsters located near the entrance of Heron Park are scheduled for removal the week of June 28, Berlin officials announced this week. The cardboard-only dumpster will remain.

"The two large recycling dumpsters cost the town approximately \$50,000 a year, on top of the cost to the town to provide curbside recycling pickup to our residents and qualifying businesses," Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said. "Non-recyclables are frequently placed in the dumpsters and items are often left by non-residents. Therefore, we made the difficult decision to remove the dumpsters."

Fleetwood reminded town trash customers that free, curbside collection of recycling is provided once per week, along with free yard and bulk

waste collections twice a year. Recycling only needs to be separated by type.

Worcester County also offers free recycling drop off stations at a number of locations throughout the county, including the two nearest Berlin at 9636 Mill Haven Road off of Flower Street, and in front of Wal-Mart off Route 50.

Neither of these locations require a landfill permit and the Wal-Mart location is accessible 24 hours, seven days a week. For more information about Worcester County's recycling program, please visit www.co.worcester.md.us.

For more information about Berlin's curbside recycling, including how to prepare items for pickup, visit www.berlinmd.gov and go to the Public Works page under "Departments" or call 410-641-2770.



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Cornhole event in Snow Hill benefits scholarship fund

(June 17, 2021) The Worcester County Recreation and Parks is hosting the inaugural Toss for Tots Cornhole Tournament at Oaked 110 in Snow Hill on June 19, beginning at 11 a.m.

This inaugural event will include prizes, a 50/50 raffle, food, and fun. Register online at www.playmaryland-scoast.org.

Check-in will begin at 10:30 a.m. that morning. Up to 20 teams will be competing. Each team will play two, random-draw, speed-round, high-point games that will determine seeding in a double elimination tournament.

The cost is \$60 per team, and players must be 18 or older. No experience is necessary. Each player will be permitted to bring one spectator.

First-place tournament winners will receive a \$120 Visa card, and second place will take home a \$60 Visa card.

Drink and food specials will be available throughout the day, and WCRP staff will be on-site selling 50/50 raffle tickets and calling numbers for prize giveaways.

WCRP is partnering with Oaked 110 and Jean's Boutique to host the tournament, and all funds collected will benefit the Worcester Youth Scholarship fund, which assures that no child is ever turned away from participating in a WCRP program due to financial limitations.

For more information, contact Program Manager Hunter Nelson at 410-632-2144, ext. 2506 or hnelson@marylandscoast.org.

Assateague Youth Fishing Derby set for this Saturday

(June 17, 2021) Assateague State Park will host its annual Youth Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This event is free for all; participants must be children 16 and under. Participants will get the chance to learn fishing techniques and try their hand at surf fishing under the guidance and instruction of Assateague State Park employees.

Fishing equipment will be provided, but is limited so participants should bring their own equipment if possible. Prizes will be awarded and covid-19 safety precautions will be followed.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Nature Nook, next to the Day Use parking lot. For more information, contact Emily Jackson at emilyb.jackson@maryland.gov or 410-641-2120.



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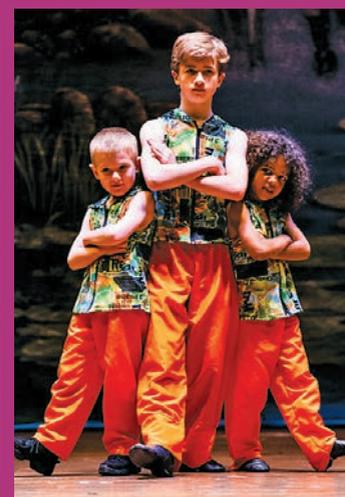
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Bench dedication draws crowd

Jason Werner, the assistant athletic director at the Indian River School in Crownsville, Maryland, spoke on behalf of seven grandchildren who knew Rusko simply as "Pop."

"It's a little bit overwhelming ... seeing his impact in front of me," Werner said, motioning to the large crowd around him. "I think everyone here has [a story about] that moment of when he inspired you."

Werner said Rusko had a rare gift of speaking to people in a way that was both motivational and showed he cared.

"He inspired that confidence in people to just go and be who you want to be [and] be who you are," he said. "I would challenge myself and challenge you to please keep that going."

Rusko's daughter, Elizabeth Werner, talked about her father's upbringing. She said he was raised in Uniontown, Pennsylvania in a big Italian family. He worked in a coal mine during high school and later hitchhiked to college.

His strong work ethic would inspire the family for generations.

She also recalled growing up thinking it was perfectly normal to root for the referee at sporting events.

"I just thought that's what everybody did. Who's rooting for the official? Who does that?" she said with a laugh. "Now, I'm married to an official and my son is an official and my daughter is an official, so we always have to root for the official."

"I think that's a pretty special thing ... I'm definitely proud that my kids and my husband and our family have followed in his path," she added.

Rusko's other daughter, Paula Navratil, said her father's absence could be felt everywhere.

"I think it's clear today that my dad has affected so many lives," she said.

Navratil described her father as a man of integrity, a storyteller, and a devoted husband.

"I've been married 32 years and we all know it's no walk in the park, but we have the gold standard model [as parents]," she said. "And we all look to them ... none of what happened with my parents got lost on any of us."

Rusko's son, Peter, said he and his sisters were always learning from their father.

"He taught me to throw a ball, shoot a basket ... drive a stick shift [and] drive a nail ... but it's the things that he did that are harder to put into words. My dad was a high-character guy," Peter Rusko said. "He was a hard worker, and he was family man without question - all things that I respect and try to take from him."

Rusko was a Baltimore Ravens season ticket holder since the franchise was established in 1996, and Peter Rusko remembers spending quality time at the stadium with friends and family - even though his father often wanted to leave after the third quarter.

"The thing I'll take away ... is the emphasis that he put on family," he said. "I'll never not miss him."

Barbara Rusko spoke last, and she thanked everyone for traveling from as far away as Annapolis and Pennsylvania for the occasion.

"I feel like Paul is here someplace. I feel like he's with us today. He might be somewhere here among us on the ground, or he may be up there in the beautiful, blue sky that's coming through the clouds," she said, just as the day's first few strands of sunlight peeked through.

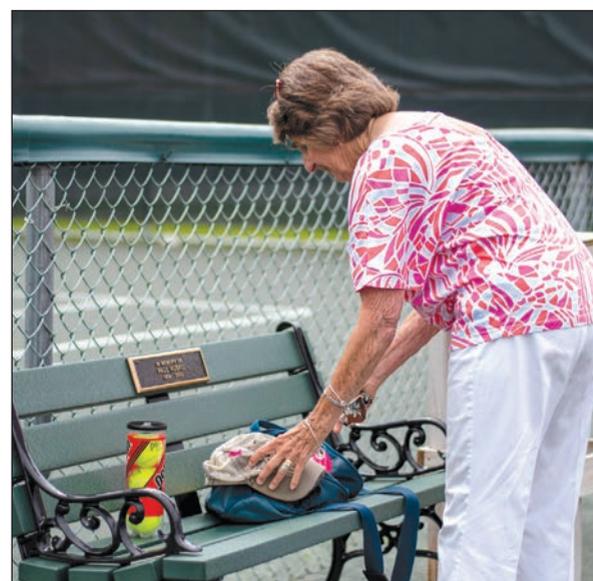


PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

A crowd gathered at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on Saturday to remember Paul Rusko as a teacher, mentor and a dedicated family man who affected countless people both locally and throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. His widow, Barbara, is pictured with the bench that now has a plaque in his honor.

"Wherever he is, he is so pleased and so proud ... of all the wonderful things you said about him," she continued. "Let's all take all that ... and remember him as you remember him."

Through 63 years of marriage, three children and seven grandchildren, Barbara Rusko said, "we were blessed, and we knew it every day."

"We didn't take anything for granted," she said. "We ... made a wonderful life, a lot of good friends, and a marvelous family."

"I love you, Paul. You're my heart," she added.

To view a video of the dedication, visit <https://youtu.be/RSn87qCSxxk>.

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COURT ACTION

Ten and under Maryland Pumas players swarm the ball while competing against the Berks Warriors from Reading, Pennsylvania, during Premier One Events "Battle at the Beach" tournament match at the Ocean Pine Community Center on Saturday.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FILM BUFFS

Attending the Taylor House film festival, from left, museum president Melissa Reid, Berlin Councilman Jack Orris, Jack Gerbes with Maryland Film Office, Heather Nottingham and Donna Main.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BISTRO

Summer warmth beckons patrons to savor cuisine and drinks while occupying outdoor tables at the Sterling Tavern on Main Street in Berlin.

Boggs leaves legacy of community service

(June 17, 2021) Judith O'Hara Boggs of Ocean Pines, Maryland, passed away peacefully in her home on June 12, 2021.

Judith, or Judy as she was known, was born on Jan. 26, 1940, to James T. and Neva (Gerber) O'Hara.

She was married for 60 years to her husband, William "Bill" Boggs, who preceded her in death.

She is also preceded in death by her father and sister, Veronica O'Hara Robinson.

She is survived by three children, four grandchildren; son-in-law, Jeffrey Gary; daughter-in-law, Donna Marinelli; and a host of extended family and friends.



Judith Boggs

Dedicating decades of her life to public service, Judy was elected to represent the newly established Ocean Pines District in 2002 and served a member of the Board of County

Commissioners from December 2002 to December 2014.

Throughout her long public service career, Judy was a member of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Association of Counties, past president, Board of Directors of the Ocean Pines Association, and established and served as first president of the

Worcester County Commission for Women in 2005.

Judy was named Worcester County Commission for Women's "Woman of the Year" in 2020 and in 2005, the Maryland Daily Record named Judy one of the 100 most powerful and influential women in the state.

She also served on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, Worcester County Board of Health, Worcester County Health Planning Advisory Council, Worcester County Social Services Board, legislative committee for the Maryland Association of Counties, board of the Worcester

County Developmental Center, and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines/Ocean City.

Prior to moving to Ocean Pines full-time in 1992, Judy retired from her position as healthcare administrator for Church Home and Hospital Health Centers in Baltimore.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date in the early fall.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the Community Church of Ocean Pines. Arrangements are in the care of The Burbage Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent to the family via www.burbagefuneral-home.com.

Obituaries

RICHARD R. CROTSLEY

Easton

Richard R. Crotsley, formerly of Easton, Maryland, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 8, 2021. He was 88.



Richard Crotsley

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, on April 20, 1933, he was the son of the late Raymond Crotsley and Rose Crotsley.

Richard graduated from Paterson Park High School, class of 1952, and began

working for Waverly Press in Baltimore, Maryland.

On July 20, 1952, he married Vera Taylor, of Baltimore, Maryland. In 1961, they moved to Easton, Maryland.

Richard continued to work for the same company for over 45 years and retired in 1996.

In 2004, he and his wife moved to Ocean Pines, Maryland. While living in Ocean Pines, Richard enjoyed his retirement spending time with family at the beach, working on the Boardwalk trolley and eating crabs.

He was a member of the Lafayette Lodge AF&AM in Baltimore, Maryland.

Since 1972, Richard was both an officer and volunteer for the Easton

Waterfowl Festival (until he moved to Ocean Pines) Richard was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, the Elks Lodge, the Lions Club in Easton, Maryland, and the American Legion in Ocean City, Maryland.

He is survived by children, Mark Crotsley (Kandy) of Tuscola, Texas, and Valerie Haddaway (Tom Marx) of Easton, Maryland; three grandchildren, Megan Schulte (Dave), Mark

Crotsley Jr. (Brittany) and Eric Crotsley (Christi); four great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Evelyn Krebs (Charles) and Ruth Diblasi.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Vera Crotsley, and their son, Brian Crotsley, as well as daughter-in-law, Wendy Lyn Crotsley.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, June 20, 2021 from 12-1 p.m. at

Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A. 200 S. Harrison St. Easton, Maryland 21601. Burial will follow at the Oxford Cemetery in Oxford, Maryland.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Waterfowl Festival, 40 S. Harrison Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

For online condolences, please visit: www.fhnfuneralhome.com.

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Opinion

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

Veto's message sets tone for Town Hall

Berlin Town Council members this week not only delivered the most complete defeat of Mayor Zack Tyndall's short political career so far, but they also set the tone for how municipal affairs are going to be handled from now on.

By voting unanimously to override Tyndall's budget veto, the council sent a message that says it's going to be an active participant in determining the course of local government.

Obviously, this council is populated by some independent thinkers, who aren't going to be relegated to a subservient role by this or any other mayor.

Only time will tell whether their reconfiguration of the mayor's original budget is the better of the two fiscal plans, but they have served notice that they can act boldly as long as they work together.

That said, council members also are letting Tyndall know that he needs to work with them as full partners of the governmental process to avoid future showdowns.

Of course, that same rationale applies to the council, which probably would agree that working with the mayor for the benefit of all citizens would be far more preferable than working without him or against him, and then having to round up the votes to make it stick.

It's highly unlikely, and maybe even impossible, that council members will agree on every major issue that comes before them, and for that reason the mayor's involvement will be critical to the decision-making process.

As it stands now, however, council members and the mayor know that the power to direct local government smoothly and efficiently resides within them all.

Drawing each other a little closer to the campfire in future discussions of major issues will allow for a better exchange of ideas while helping elected officials get more of what they want without having to go to the mat over it.

If there's one thing that residents can feel good about in all this, however, it is that they have a deeply engaged and vigorous bunch in Town Hall, and no matter what the topic might be, it's going to get everyone's full attention.



"Pssst ... Eight foot 2" x 4"s. Five Bucks each."

Summer reading challenge kicks off

Worcester Co. Library 'Tails and Tales' will run June 21-Aug. 6

(June 17, 2021) School is almost out and that means it's time for Summer Reading at Worcester County Library.

From June 21 to Aug. 6, Worcester County Library encourages reading by providing prizes and special activities to keep kids and teens engaged and entertained during those long summer months away from school.

This year's theme is "Tails And Tales," with stories and activities focusing on animals and the natural world.

"Reading together as a family helps prevent summer learning loss and encourages strong communication and bonding," said Assistant Director Rachael Stein. "In addition, we're thrilled to be able to offer a variety of outdoor activities at our library branches this year."

The event kicks off with walk-up registration events throughout the week of June 21. Families that register at

these events will go home with a T-shirt and a swag bag full of goodies (while supplies last).

Snow Hill Branch— Monday, June 21, 10:30 a.m. to noon, or 5-6:30 p.m.

Ocean City Branch— Tuesday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. to noon, or 5-6:30 p.m.

Berlin Branch— Wednesday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. to noon, or 5-6:30 p.m.

Pocomoke Branch— Thursday, June 24, 10:30 a.m. to noon, or 5-6:30 p.m.

Ocean Pines Branch— Saturday, June 26, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30.

Families can also register at <http://worcesterlibrary.beanstack.org>, or by visiting any library branch after June 26.

There are two ways to participate in the program: Paper Activity Sheets: Pick up an activity sheets at any branch during walk-up registration or at any branch of the library after June 26. Each activity earns a free book and an entry in the grand prize raffles.

Each time readers earn a badge, they should take their

activity sheet to the library to pick up a free book.

Online with Beanstack or with Beanstack Mobile App: Log the books or minutes read to earn badges. Each badge earns a free book and an entry in the grand prize raffles. Earning a badge means a free book.

There will be live in-person events at each branch this summer, and the more popular virtual events will be continued as well. Registration is required for all events, live and virtual, at worcesterlibrary.libcal.com

Families should bring a blanket to sit on at the outdoor events. Guests are responsible for their own safety and social distancing at these gatherings.

Summer Reading: Tails and Tales is sponsored by DelVecchio's Bakery, The Island Creamery, The Coffee Beanery, The Snowball Stand, Christmas Sweets, Delmarva Shorebirds, the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library, the Worcester County Library Foundation, and Eastern Shore Regional Library.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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The Bayside Gazette is published weekly by FLAG Publications, Inc. at 8200 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Md. 21842. The Bayside Gazette is available by subscription at \$75/year or \$40/6 mos. Visit us on the Web at www.baysideoc.com. Copyright 2021

We invite you to share you opinion. 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. For questions, call 410-723-6397.

OPGMC hosts 'Sunday Golf Social'

Snow Hill house fire linked to kid lighting fireworks

(June 17, 2021) Local golfers are invited to take part in a special "Sunday Golf Social" hosted by the Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council on Sunday, June 20 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

grams," organizer Walt Lischak said. "All members of the Ocean Pines community are welcome to play."

The Sunday social will use a "best ball scramble" format with a shotgun start scheduled at 4:15 p.m. The event will also include prizes for the team with the best overall score, and closest-to-the-pin prizes for ladies and men.

"This is a four-person team event, so you may sign up as a foursome, a twosome or a single and we will do our best to match you up with partners," Lischak said. "Each team must

include at least one male and one female golfer."

The cost is \$22.50 per person and the fee includes a light-fare boxed dinner of chicken, tuna, or chicken salad wraps with chips and sodas or iced tea. A cash bar will also be available. Cart and greens fees are the responsibility of each participant.

The fee for nongolfers is \$17.50.

For more information or to sign up, contact Lischak at wblischak@yahoo.com, or call the pro shop at 410-641-6057.

(June 17, 2021) A juvenile igniting fireworks inside his home led to a fire last Wednesday evening in Snow Hill, the Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office reported.

Snow Hill, Newark, Girdletree, Stockton and Pocomoke City volunteer fire departments responded to a report of a residential structure fire at 5:31 p.m. at 108 Purnell Street.

Firefighters arrived on scene and brought a fire in a second floor bedroom under control quickly. The home is owned by Mohammad Ijaz of Snow Hill and was occupied by two adults and six children under the age of 14.

No injuries were reported and no working smoke alarms were present in the home.

With a second fire in just over a week from juveniles fire play, the Worcester County Fire Marshal urged all parents to have discussions about fire safety with their children and the dangers of playing with fire.

Mask nabs Wor-Wic faculty honors

(June 17, 2021) Brooke Mask of Berlin, an honors student at Wor-Wic Community College, is this year's faculty honors scholarship winner.

cerns at home.

Mask's award-winning essay called "To Mars and Beyond" argued that we already have programs exploring the world and working on bettering it, and we are doing no harm by further researching the universe.

A dean's list student, Mask said that she has had the opportunity to see people who were a part of the honors program grow immensely, and she wanted to be able to see that change in herself as well.

"I feel that the honors program is pushing me to reach my full potential.

The work can be challenging at times, but it is quite rewarding, and I feel that anything worth having requires hard work," she said. "This program has been beneficial to me in so many ways ... being surrounded by peers who share the same goal-oriented mindset, being able to see what I am capable of, and of course, the generous scholarship opportunities. Having the privilege of being a part of the honors program has demonstrated that hard work and determination do pay off."

After receiving her associate degree from Wor-Wic, she plans to transfer to

a university to earn her bachelor's degree in psychology and then pursue a career as a therapist, psychologist or behavioral analyst.



OPEN HOUSES

JUNE 17 - JUNE 24



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



Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

STUDENT-ATHLETES

Fourteen Stephen Decatur High School student-athletes will be taking their games to the next level in a variety of sports. The student-athletes were recognized in a small signing ceremony in the school gymnasium on May 5, along with family members and coaches. Pictured, from left, back row: Koby Higgins (lacrosse - Hartford Community College), Riley Rayne (lacrosse - Randolph Macon), Eric Cropper (baseball - Hood College), Evan Truitt (baseball - Charleston Southern University), John James (lacrosse - Hampden Sydney); middle row: Rafe Parsons (football - Bridgewater College), James Parana (wrestling - West Colorado State University), Adison Hommel (lacrosse - Weber International University), Patrick O'Halloran (soccer - Goucher College); and in front: Katie Davis (golf - Hood College), Brooklyn Pagner (volleyball - Washington College), Brittyn Leonard (lacrosse - Frostburg State University), Juliana Fohner (lacrosse - Shenandoah University) and Victoria Mueller (lacrosse - University of Mary Washington).



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ATTENDEES

The Maryland State Society Daughters of the American Revolution (MSSDAR) recently held its 116th state conference in Ellicott City. Attending from the local area were General Levin Winder Chapter Regent Gail Weldin, left, and Recording Secretary Pat Arata. Also during the conference, Arata was elected to office of State Editor for the 2021-2024 term.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

YOUTH TALK

Adriano "Bubba" Almony, celebrity bodyguard; chairman for Bodyguards Against Bullying, a global personal safety and anti-bullying organization; and Founder of Bubba's Celebrity Basketball Game that raises awareness and proceeds for cancer, mental health and bullying, recently spoke to local youth about bullying, respect and pursuing their dreams. Almony, back left, spoke to the Berlin Heat Dance Team at the Berlin Police Department.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

INDUCTED

Due to safety protocols, families were unable to attend the Worcester Preparatory School National Art Honor Society April 8 ceremony, however, one senior was allowed a guest. NAHS inductee Ava Gerachis poses with her uncle, George Zaiser, who is the WPS Middle/Upper School art teacher and NAHS sponsor.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MOVIE MAKING

Berlin Intermediate School student Delaynie Kerrigan creates a movie using the Stop Motion Studio app. Students have been working to plan their movies by creating story boards and then filming their movie frame by frame using animation techniques. Their final steps will be to create title and credit sequences and then bring everything together in iMovie, including adding voice narration and sound effects.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SHRED IT

Bank of Ocean City held a Shred It event on April 21, at its West Ocean City location. Participants were asked to bring canned goods or monetary donations for Diakonia, Inc. Bank of Ocean City President and CEO Reid Tingle presents Executive Director Belinda Miller with a check for \$1,318. The event also collected two van loads of canned goods for Diakonia's Food Pantry. Diakonia is the only comprehensive provider of homeless men, women, families and veterans on the Lower Eastern Shore. Diakonia provides shelter, food, clothing and program services to individuals and families in order to help rebuild their lives one step at a time.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

IN HONOR

The Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club presented Deborah Mullaney with a Paul Harris Fellow in honor of her late husband, Danny, who was a member of the club. Pictured, from left, are Arlan Kinney, rotarian; Mullaney; and Margaret Mudron, club treasurer.

Worcester names Baker as new public works director

(June 17, 2021) Dallas Baker became Worcester County's new director of Public Works on Monday, following his appointment by the county commissioners.



Dallas Baker

"I'm grateful to the Commissioners for this opportunity and look forward to serving the citizens of Worcester County," Baker said.

Baker Brings 21 years of experience to county government, having served as assistant district engineer for project development with the Maryland State Highway Administration and as director of Wicomico County Public Works.

A registered professional engineer in Maryland, Baker earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech in 2000.

Baker takes over for John Tustin, who retired April 30 following a 36-year career with the county.

As director, Baker will provide direct oversight and direction of superintendents charged with the daily operation of the Fleet Management, Maintenance, Mosquito Control, Roads, Solid Waste, and Water and Wastewater Divisions and with indirect supervision of all department staff.

He will also implement policies and approve bid specifications for equipment and capital projects head long and short-term capital work projects, give public presentations about public works issues to the county commissioners and other councils, advisory boards, citizen groups and special meeting. He also will be responsible for the fiscal aspects of all Public Works divisions.

Community Briefs

Graduates

Katie Hofman, daughter of John and Pam Hofman of Johnny's Pizza in Ocean City, graduated with honors from the United States Naval Academy on May 28, 2021.



Katie Hofman

She has commissioned as a second lieutenant officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. She will spend the next six month training at Camp Barrett in Quantico, Virginia, before heading off to flight school in Pensacola, Florida.

Recognition

The Worcester Prep Alumni Association recognized three individuals for the annual Worcester Honors awards



Brad Bebee

this spring, in the categories of Service To Worcester, Athletic Achievement, and Distinguished Alumni.

Honorees are: Brad Bebee '94 / Distinguished

Alumnus, a technology specialist and product manager at Amazon Web Services; Kathy Hagar/Service to Worcester,



Kathy Hagar



Larry Morris

Worcester Prep technology director, as well as a teacher/parent for 37 years; and Larry Morris/Athletic Achievement, former Worcester Prep teacher and coach.



SUNDAYS 9-1PM

Downtown Berlin • Pitts St • Commerce St.

Real Farmers... Real Farmers Market



Photo by Alyssa Molodt

Veggies • Mushrooms • Fruit • Baked Goods
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Mead • Jams • Pickles • Rum • Coffee • Soaps
Botanicals • Teas • Candles • more!

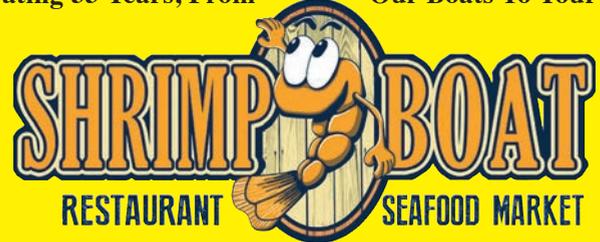
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410-213-0448 • shrimpboatoc.com



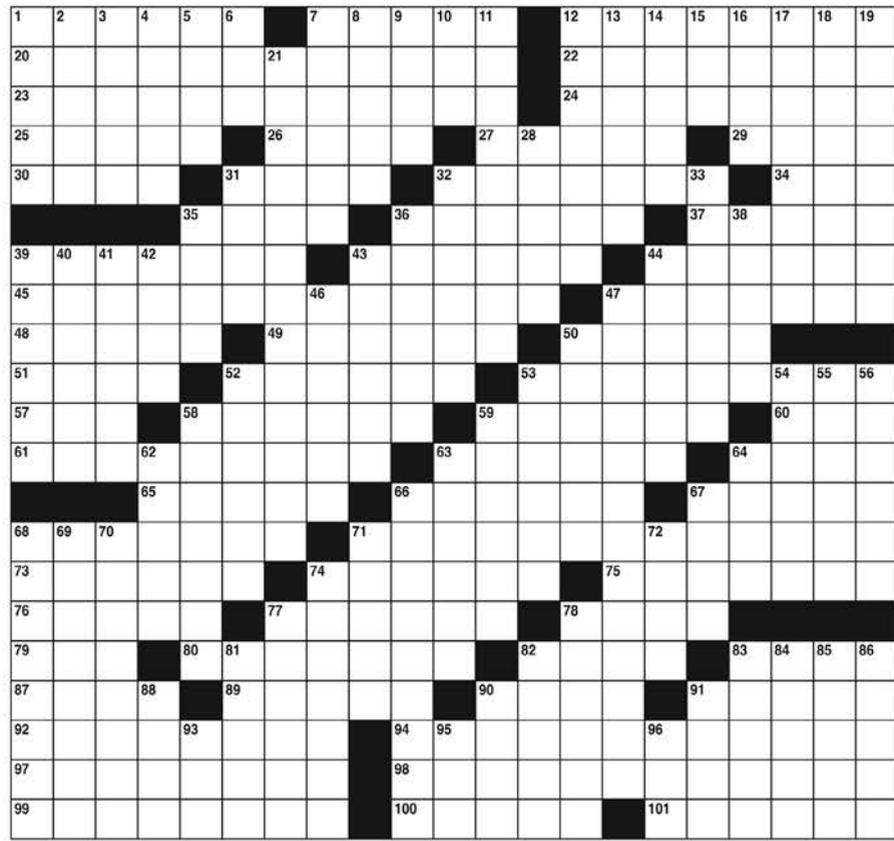
Puzzles

OLIO

BY ROBYN WEINTRAUB / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Robyn Weintraub, of Rye Brook, N.Y., is active in local politics and the League of Women Voters. She started solving crosswords 12 years ago. After a few months she bought some crossword software as a birthday gift for herself and has been constructing ever since. This is her 35th puzzle for The Times. Robyn's specialty is the timeless crosswords (like this), with colorful, conversational entries and very little obscurity or junk. Oh, and she loves twisty clues. (You've been warned.) — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Earners of credits
 - 7 One selling airtime, informally
 - 12 Emulates a chipmunk, say
 - 20 Like a beaming smile
 - 22 Go out to get some juice?
 - 23 Pork-cutting option
 - 24 Ingredient in an Alabama slammer
 - 25 Revise
 - 26 Word with "two" or "three" to describe a sloth
 - 27 Small kitchen knife
 - 29 Abstract artist
 - 30 Thomas Hardy title character
 - 31 Bottom part
 - 32 Traveled like Charon
 - 34 Schedule keeper: Abbr.
 - 35 One for whom underwear is pants
 - 36 "Wait ... what did you just say?!"
 - 37 Fuse
 - 39 Three-dimensional
 - 43 "Have You Never Been ____," No. 1 album for Olivia Newton-John
- DOWN**
- 44 Origami designs thought to bring good fortune
 - 45 One receiving a congratulatory email from eBay
 - 47 Helps secure a loan
 - 48 Recovery center
 - 49 Refused to share
 - 50 Scratch
 - 51 Tablet taken before going to bed, maybe
 - 52 Portrayer of Marvel's Hawkeye
 - 53 Left the harbor
 - 57 Rapper who co-founded Mass Appeal Records
 - 58 Green liqueur
 - 59 Dinosaur of kids' TV
 - 60 It's nothing
 - 61 Host
 - 63 Signaled slyly
 - 64 ____ Top (low-cal ice cream brand)
 - 65 Camaro, for one
 - 66 As one
 - 67 Birth day presence?
 - 68 "All in the Family" subject
 - 71 "Don't dwell on the past"
 - 73 Families-and-friends support group
 - 74 Negotiate
 - 75 Some diners ... and donors
 - 76 Provide a password
 - 77 Was rife (with)
 - 78 Matthew of "The Americans"
 - 79 Save for later, in a way
 - 80 Skewered
 - 82 Like Queen Anne's lace?
 - 83 Traditional accounts
 - 87 Onetime hair removal brand
 - 89 Let out or take in
 - 90 Stage name for hip-hop's Sandra Denton
 - 91 It's all the rage
 - 92 "What-ever" reactions
 - 94 Post-distraction segue
 - 97 Light-filled room
 - 98 Way, way off
 - 99 Hitchcock's forte
 - 100 Clearing
 - 101 Like bison vis-à-vis beef
- DOWN**
- 1 Key for Chopin's "Heroic" Polonaise
 - 2 It might be organized
 - 3 Foundation options
 - 4 Eclipses and comets, perhaps
 - 5 Joy of MSNBC
 - 6 Parked it, so to speak
 - 7 Maximally
 - 8 Pacific birds?
 - 9 Bit of thatching
 - 10 Take sides?
 - 11 Catapulted, say
 - 12 Bird much seen in cities
 - 13 Reply to a ring
 - 14 Not in the dark
 - 15 Adriatique, e.g.
 - 16 Task for a sous-chef
 - 17 Like sirens
 - 18 Be considered perfect
 - 19 More than just clean
 - 21 Shopping in order to improve one's mood
 - 28 Fire
 - 31 They might be wireless
 - 32 Desktop icon
 - 33 Surname of Harry Potter's adoptive family
 - 35 Pop star nickname, with "the"
 - 36 Bet strategically
 - 38 Mythical nymph
 - 39 Reliquary
 - 40 Inspiration for the Frisbee
 - 41 Floored
 - 42 Longtime Ohio State basketball coach
 - 43 Filet ____
 - 44 Stopped smoking?
 - 46 Half of a notorious outlaw duo
 - 47 Added to the language
 - 50 First little piggy's destination
 - 52 Key hit with a pinkie
 - 53 It helps take the edge off
 - 54 Just going through the motions
 - 55 Complete, as a crossword
 - 56 Creations for Mardi Gras
 - 58 Particles composed of two up quarks and one down quark
 - 59 Did a TV marathon, say
 - 62 Start of some no-frills brand names
 - 63 In a lather, with "up"
 - 64 Happy ____
 - 66 Come back around
 - 67 Bits of high jinks?
 - 68 What Mr. Clean, Captain Picard and Michael Jordan have in common
 - 69 Thought expressed in American Sign Language by extending the pinkie, thumb and index finger
 - 70 Compilations of funny film faux pas
 - 71 Soeur's sibling
 - 72 Warehouse loading areas
 - 74 *shrug*
 - 77 "We want all the juicy details!"
 - 78 Maintain, in a way, as a highway
 - 81 Michael whose initials match those of his famous comedy troupe
 - 82 Cut through
 - 83 "____ and Majnun" (Arabic story that inspired a Clapton hit)
 - 84 One of the "holy trinity" ingredients in Cajun cuisine
 - 85 Advice to one in a lather?
 - 86 Very inclined (to)
 - 88 Sting, perhaps
 - 90 Taverna staple
 - 91 Spice related to nutmeg
 - 93 Argentite, e.g.
 - 95 Fifth of eight
 - 96 Show filmed at Rockefeller Ctr.



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HARD - 90

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



Answers to last week's puzzles

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



Cuisine

Watermelon-feta salad summer classic

I lay back in an Adirondack chair on the Lido Deck of the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, an ice-cold cocktail in hand. I believe it's the Lido Deck, as that's what the sign at the bar says. A "Love Boat" aficionado from my youth, it brings me solace knowing that the old days have been recounted, if not just in some small way.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

The salt air blows against my peaked skin, the trademark of towheads the world over. I know that I will burn, as the sun is shining brightly and intensely in the early summer sky as we cross the bay en route to Lewes. But I have lived a life of burning in the sun, notably in tropical and sub-tropical arenas. I just know to pace myself. Still, it's making me hungry.

I am returning from a short jaunt to pick up new equipment on the Jersey Shore, a truly delightful place as long as you don't think about silly reality shows. It is stunning today, and my body welcomes the sunshine and the warming winds. The waves are sizable but at a long enough interval to cause the vessel to sway gently but noticeably from side to side, lulling me to sleep.

Of course, the screaming little heathens running around and falling all over the place are making sure to keep us all up. Where are their parents? Did none of them listen to the captain's announcement to "not let your little bastards run around and scream and ruin everyone else's passage on this lovely day?" It is a different age, to be sure. Alas, sleep is for the dead and weary, and I am neither. I have the energy of a healthy, albeit aging, sloth so I do not need to sleep anymore, or even nap.

I've never been a napper, even as a child. I guess that makes sense, as my four kids, now mostly grown, never



napped a day in their toddler years. It wasn't until their teenage years that napping became a thing, which translated into needing defibrillators to get them out of bed on school days.

But if I yelled "Snow Day!" They would all be down the stairs dressed and ready to make snowmen and terrorize the mailman with an onslaught of snowballs. But on any other day...

No, I will not be able to sleep on this passage, and that is quite alright. I spend my time watching the other passengers, getting up occasionally to watch the dolphins dancing around the hull, as the ferry makes its way and otherwise appreciating this beautiful little treasure that we have here on the Shore.

It has been a couple years since I have taken the ferry, the last time being for a food show in Atlantic City with my girlfriend. While we could easily drive around, that adds an extra hundred miles or so on the Jersey Turnpike and let's face it, this is much more enjoyable.

Gearing up for what will be a busy and understaffed summer, I spend the time reflecting on my stellar crews at both restaurants and the team that we have built. It brings me pride to know that such a group exists. Yes, it was definitely worth the trip on this little tug boat so I could

gather my thoughts instead of worrying about being run down by 18-wheelers on I-95.

Back on land, I make the short trip to see some friends and we go out for a bite to eat. It is not very long before we realize the dire nature of our industry. The first two restaurants that we go to are closed: one for one day per week and the second on Mondays and Tuesdays. They don't have the staff.

This saddens me, especially in our little "make our money in a hundred days" world down here. Staffing has become the number one concern at the beach, and even some of the busiest and largest restaurants and bars are taking a day or two off, so that the employees who are there can get their time. We are in uncharted waters.

If you cannot tell, my mind jumps from one topic to the next, as though I have A.D.D. or something like it. Of course I do. It is a daily struggle to stay on topic and I simply have to redirect myself in order to get things accomplished.

Ok Self, redirect: Summer day, sunshine, no highway, no napping, screaming heathens, snow days... I believe a sloth was in there somewhere, cocktail, my crew, sunburn, dolphins, Lido Deck, salad. Salad?

Excuse me?

Well, it's only natural that after all of these cerebral pushups, that I would be hungry. And I can't wait to get a salad, but not just any salad — truly one of the summer classics.

Watermelon-Feta Salad

Serves 6

- 1 Med. watermelon
- 1 red onion, julienne
- 12 oz. Feta (a pound if you're like me)
- 2 oz. Sicilian Lemon Balsamic (you can find this at Una Bella Salute in Berlin)
- 2 oz. light olive oil blend
- 1/4 c. Shredded mint and/or basil
- Sea salt
- Cracked black pepper

1. Dice the watermelon in large chunks and crumble the feta. Set aside.

2. Make a simple dressing by combining everything else.

3. Make your salad and serve, preferable with a bright sparkling mineral water or a South African high-mineral Sauvignon Blanc.

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

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Calendar

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

Thurs., June 17

CPAP MASK FITTING

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

ZEN DRAWING FOR RELAXATION

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 2-3 p.m. Fun workshop on drawing Zen-tangles. Held outdoors, weather permitting. Register: 410-957-0878, by June 16.

FAMILY BEACH GAMES

Carousel Hotel, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free interactive fun for the whole family. Games include sand castle contests, tug-of-war, relays and more. Parents must stay with their children. Weather pending. <http://www.ococean.com>

Fri., June 18

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., June 19

VIRTUAL WALK WITH A DOC

Join virtual Walk with a Doc on the Atlantic General Hospital Facebook page, 9 a.m. Participants can then walk wherever they like and share a selfie on social media with the hashtag #walkedwithagh.

TEACH A KID TO FISH DAY

South Gate Pond, Ocean Pines, 9-11 a.m. Kids of all ages are invited to learn fishing skills and techniques with the members of the Ocean Pines Anglers Club. Bring insect repellent and a water bottle. Bring own rod. Bait provided.

JUNETEENTH SNOW HILL FREEDOM WALK

Byrd Park, 400 Dighton Ave., Snow Hill, 9 a.m.-noon. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Walk sponsored with partners Snow Hill United, Worcester County NAACP and African American Heritage Society of Snow Hill & Surrounding Areas. 443-944-6701

YOUTH FISHING DERBY

Assateague State Park Day Use Beach, 7307 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free and open to children 16 years and younger. Try your hand at surf fishing. Fishing equipment provided but limited. Prizes awarded. Registration

begins at 9:30 at the Nature Nook.

NAACP TO HONOR JUDY JOHNSON

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, 11 a.m.-noon. Worcester County NAACP will commemorate Negro League Baseball Player, Hall of Famer Judy Johnson in front of the Judy Johnson Memorial. James Knott and Rayner Banks will also be present. 443-944-6701

TOSS FOR TOTS CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Oaked 110 Whiskey & Wine Bar, 300 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, 11 a.m. Check in will begin at 10:30 a.m. This inaugural event will include prizes, a 50/50 raffle, food and fun. Register: www.playmary-landscoast.org. Cost is \$60 per team. Players must be 18 or older.

14TH ANNUAL OC AIR SHOW

17th Street and beach, Ocean City, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Enjoy an encore broadcast of Saturday's performances with the ability to fast forward to your favorites with AirDotShow Livestream.

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., June 20

14TH ANNUAL OC AIR SHOW

17th Street and beach, Ocean City, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Enjoy an encore broadcast of Saturday's performances with the ability to fast forward to your favorites with AirDotShow Livestream.

SUNDAES IN THE PARK

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Enjoy free music and each week children are offered various free activities and entertainment. Ice Cream and beverages available for purchase. Followed by the new drone show. <https://www.ococean.com>.

OC DRONE SHOW

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 9-9:30 p.m. Come experience Ocean City's new drone show. <https://www.ococean.com/events/oc-drone-shows2021>.

BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays through September - Downtown Berlin, 9:00 AM - 1:00 pm. More than 30 farmers, bakers, distillers and more. Live music, live bunnies, real bee hive and free kids art projects. <https://www.berlin-mainstreet.com/farmersmarket/>

SUNDAY GOLF SOCIAL

Ocean Pines Golf Club, 100 Clubhouse Drive. The Sunday social will use a "best ball scramble" format with a shotgun

start scheduled at 4:15 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. All members of the Ocean Pines community are welcome to play. Cost is \$22.50 per person and includes a light-fare boxed dinner. There will be a cash bar. Cart and greens fees are the responsibility of each player. The fee for non-golfers is \$17.50. Proceeds benefit the Golf Members' Council Scholarship Fund and the Junior Golf Fund. wblischak@yahoo.com, 410-641-6057

Mon., June 21

INTERACTIVE STORY TIME 'CELEBRATE DAD'S DAY'

Held via Zoom, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Listen to fun stories about dads. Also, preview this week's craft kit and upcoming programs and events. For ages 2-5 years. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

2021 'TAILS AND TALES' SUMMER READING WALK UP REGISTRATION

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, 10:30 a.m.-noon and 5-6:30 p.m. Register today and get a Summer Reading Swag Bag (free book, T-shirt and more). Register for a library card too.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. Meeting in-person and via conference call. Reservations for in-person: Rose Champion, 443-880-8884. For call-in option, dial 605-472-5789, wait for voice command, then press 944874.

MOVIE ON THE BEACH

27th Street Beach, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring "A Dog's Way Home." Weather pending. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

Tues., June 22

JOB FAIR FOR PHYSICIAN OFFICE POSITIONS

Atlantic Health Center, 9714 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Offers will be made to qualified candidates for medical receptionist and medical office assistant positions on the spot. Free gift card to first 30 participants. 410-641-9612, www.agh.care/careers

DELMARVA HAND DANCE

Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Dance to the sounds of the '50s and '60s music. A \$5 donation to benefit Veterans and local charities. Members and guests welcome. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 443-783-4872, <https://delmarvahanddancing.com>

2021 'TAILS AND TALES' SUMMER READING WALK UP REGISTRATION

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30 a.m.-noon and 5-6:30 p.m.. Register today and get a Summer Reading Swag Bag (free book, T-shirt and more). Register for a library card too.

FAMILY BEACH GAMES

27th Street Beach, Ocean City, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free interactive fun for the whole family. Games include sand castle contests, tug-of-war, relays and more. Parents must stay with their children. Weather pending. <http://www.ococean.com>.

Wed., June 23

FIRST STATE DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, noon. Any Marines and Navy Corpsman who have served in our Corps, living in Worcester and Sussex counties, are welcome. 410-430-7181, websergeant@first-statemarines.org

2021 'TAILS AND TALES' SUMMER READING WALK UP REGISTRATION

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 10:30 a.m.-noon and 5-6:30 p.m. Register today and get a Summer Reading Swag Bag (free book, T-shirt and more). Register for a library card too.

TEEN CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP WITH HONOR MCELROY

Meeting via Zoom, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Bring your poetry, song lyrics, drawings women with words, stories or anything that defies categories. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under event.

FREE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5:30-7 p.m. Providing participants hope for the future and the skills to help find their way. Reservations required: Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725 or gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org.

FREE PLATFORM TENNIS CLINICS

Ocean Pines Racquet Center, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines, 7-8 p.m. Platform tennis combines elements of tennis and racquetball. Organizers will supply all the necessary equipment. www.oceanpines.org, 516-508-0313

MOVIE ON THE BEACH

Carousel Hotel, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring "The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part." Weather pending, Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

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



The Castle in the Sand Hotel & the Barefoot Mailman Hotel

are currently seeking applicants for the following positions for the 2021 season:

- HOUSEKEEPING • NIGHT AUDITOR
- FRONT DESK ATTENDANTS

Experienced applicants are preferred, but not required.

We require a satisfactory pre-employment background check by all applicants.

Please contact Bob at 410-289-6846 for further information or to schedule an interview.

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Part-time position in law office. Proficient computer skills, Word Perfect, Dictaphone, telephone and light bookkeeping required. Familiarity with E-filing a plus, but will train.
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FALL SPORTS COACHES

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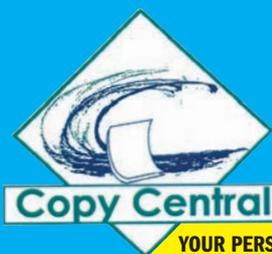
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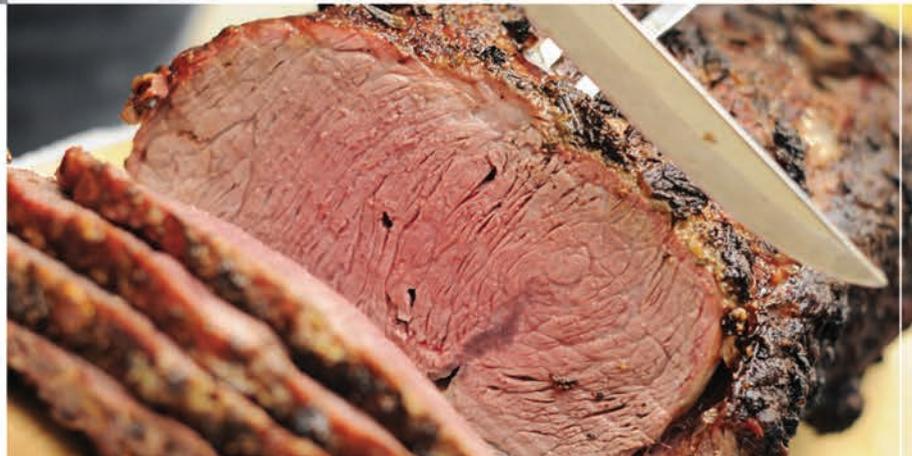


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