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## SAFE

Jackson Cheung dives back to first base during the Berlin Little League Junior League All-Star team's state tournament game against Laurel Little League on Monday in Berlin. After three half-hour delays due to lightning, Berlin won 13-2. See story on page 14.

## OPA financial report shows major increases in revenue

Two months into new year, receipts, expenses come in much better than expected

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Two months into its current fiscal year, Ocean Pines Association financials are ahead of budget estimates by more than \$740,000.

Finance Director/Controller Steve Phillips reviewed departmental budget figures for May and June during the board meeting last Wednesday.

The association's fiscal year got off to a strong start in May by beating the budget by roughly \$533,000. Revenue came in \$381,000 over estimates, while spending was \$152,000 less than budgeted.

Beach parking was the most profitable amenity during May, closing at about \$117,000 ahead of budget.

"Pretty much all these amenities

were driven by very heavy membership volume," he said. "We had people coming out in record numbers in May."

Golf operations also hit a high mark in May, ending roughly \$93,000 ahead of budget.

"It was good weather and people came out to play," he said.

Other revenue budget-beaters in May were racquet sports at \$54,000 and aquatics at \$50,000.

Phillips said the aquatics department profited largely from membership sales and entrance fees.

Public works and general maintenance closed May about \$49,000 ahead of estimates.

"A lot related to timing of repairs and maintenance [for] some of the drainage and other non-payroll expenses we have budgeted," he said.

Food and beverage operations reported budget profitability at all three locations during May, including the

See OPA Page 3



PHOTO COURTESY JOSH DAVIS

Berlin firefighters responded to a house fire at 6 Stevenson Lane on Monday evening that started in the kitchen during dinner preparations.

## Family flees fast-moving fire

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Two adults and two children escaped unharmed Monday evening, as Berlin firefighters took more than hour to extinguish a fire at 6 Stevenson Lane. A trio of

felines was rescued later inside the structure.

The incident, which was reported at 6 p.m., displaced Ocean Pines Marketing and Public Relations Director Josh Davis, who lives at the location,

See FIRE Page 3



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Ocean Pines directors have extended contract terms with Matt Ortt Companies for an additional year of food operations at the Yacht Club, Beach Club and Clubhouse Bar and Grille.

# Ocean Pines gives Matt Ortt another year on contract

By Greg Ellison  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Although annual ending numbers were slightly below financial targets, food and beverage contractor the Matt Ortt Companies got another year tacked onto its contract by the Ocean Pines Board of Directors last week.

The Ocean Pines Association signed Matt Ortt Companies to an initial two-year contract in 2018 to operate the Yacht Club and Beach Club, and that was extended for three additional years in Aug. 2019, with management of the Clubhouse Bar and Grille also added.

General Manager John Viola presented a request from Ortt Companies officials to consider approving an automatic fourth-year extension, which is contingent on combined profit from three food operations of \$130,000.

"They came in at \$119,000," he said. "They are asking us to consider approval for that fourth-year trigger based upon the numbers and what happened last year."

Profit margin splits included the Yacht Club at \$14,178, Clubhouse Bar and Grille at \$12,139 and the Beach Club at \$92,687.

Although the company's final figures closed a few percentage points shy of the automatic renewal level, Viola said Ortt management went outside traditional bounds to accommodate the community during the coronavirus pandemic.

"They provided a lot of company service during covid," he said. "They provided low-priced family meals and delivery."

Additionally, Viola said food options were maintained year 'round and Ortt donated to police, fire and EMS responders and nurse stations at Atlantic General Hospital.

"They kept the entire team engaged ... and on the payroll," he said.

Contract terms also provide a fifth-year trigger contingent on reaching a \$160,000 profit margin during the current operating cycle.

Viola said Matt Ortt Companies CEO Ralph DeAngelus has offered to offset the past minor variance moving forward.

"I spoke to Ralph today and they're willing to increase that \$160,000 to \$175,000 the second year to offset for this \$10,000," he said.

Viola said based on current data, the heightened financial mark is attainable.

"They're trending very positive with banquets and everything else," he said. "I am telling you next year they will knock it out of the park."

DeAngelus was enthused to learn the contract extension was granted.

In addition to Viola and board members, numerous community members expressed gratitude for food

See ORTT Page 3

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# Fire grows rapidly, family escapes unharmed

Continued from Page 1  
along with his girlfriend, Morgan Hill, and two children, Robert, 12, and Zooney, 10.

The fire broke out while the family was preparing dinner.

“We we’re going to have burgers and I put a pot of oil for French fries on the back left burner that was pre-heating,” he said.

Davis and Hill, who were sharing cooking duties, both stepped out of the kitchen for a brief moment, which was when the mishap began.

“My daughter knocks on the door and said, ‘It’s smoking downstairs,’” he said. “We go downstairs, and the pot of oil is shooting flames up to the top of the stove vent.”

After surveying the scene for a means to smother the flames, Davis said it was quickly determined an exit was required.

“We had nothing but small dish towels,” he said. “It got out of hand really fast and we got everybody out of the house real quick and called 911.”

Within minutes, Berlin Police were on the scene followed closely by the Berlin Fire Company, with the Worcester County Fire Marshal’s Office also responding.

“They put out the fire pretty quickly but there was so much smoke and there was a second fire in the of-

fice,” he said.

Things got progressively worse when roofing insulation caught flame.

“There’s some holes in the roof that they had to poke in to put out the fire there,” he said.

Once the blaze was brought under control, Davis and Hill went about locating their cat pack.

“We thought the cats either escaped or didn’t make it,” he said.

Once cleared to re-enter their residence by fire company personnel, Davis and Hill went about searching for their pets.

“We went back in and found all three cats hiding under the bookshelf and they were scared,” he said. “I guess they were sheltered in a safe spot.”

With all family members safely accounted for, Davis packed his brood up to head for safe haven.

“We all packed into a car and went to my mom’s place in Salisbury for the night,” he said.

Davis cringed while calling the property owner, as well as rental agent Sarah Bunting with Bunting Real Estate to share the news.

“They were both super gracious and awesome,” he said.

Davis said the family is indebted to police and fire responders.

“They were so fast, kind and help-

ful,” he said. “They tried to calm us down.”

Outpourings of community support quickly surfaced, with a Gofundme page launched by Colby Phillips, along with a local collection effort orchestrated by Berlin Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells.

“I got phone calls and texts all night and all day,” he said.

Wells said more information is forthcoming about a community outreach effort to assist Davis and family.

“I’m mostly asking people for restaurant cards or donations,” she said.

Wells said any assistance could be dropped off at the Berlin Welcome Center and would be distributed directly to Davis.

“We’ll be a collection point if peo-

ple want to help,” she said.

Surveying the damage, Davis said it remains to be seen if the structure is deemed a total loss.

“The fire company did an amazing job containing it, but there was smoke pouring out of it for an hour,” he said.

Davis, who was previously employed as a reporter with Bayside Gazette, said it was unnerving becoming the news focus.

“It’s funny. I was on the other side of this a hundred times and wrote this story so many times,” he said. “Now I’m on this side of it and it’s scary.”

To donate to the Gofundme page visit [www.gofundme.com/f/please-help-my-good-friend-josh-davis?qid=95fadd32926ed9a70926933f1595f2c5](http://www.gofundme.com/f/please-help-my-good-friend-josh-davis?qid=95fadd32926ed9a70926933f1595f2c5)

## OPA in good financial shape two months into new year

Continued from Page 1  
Yacht Club at \$44,000, the Clubhouse Bar and Grille at \$24,000 and the Beach Club at \$13,000.

“Banquets have been huge and were solid for May,” he said. “There’s a lot of money deposited on hand for future banquets.”

Other budget favorability during May included rec and parks at \$31,000, police at \$24,000 and marinas at \$21,000.

While still ahead of estimates for June, overall profitability dropped by more than half.

The Association closed June \$206,000 better than budgeted, with revenues over estimates by \$98,000 and expenses under budget by \$152,000.

Phillips said food and beverage accounted for the bulk of budget favorability in June at \$131,000 over estimates.

Aquatics were the other principal contributor at \$69,000 better than budget in June.

“Aquatics continues to have people come out with cash fees ... at the door,” he said.

Other favorability in June included public works at \$63,000 and golf operations at \$38,000.

Beach parking ended June below budget estimates by \$74,000.

Phillips said the negative beach parking figures from June are mostly due to seasonal timing and overall remain positive when combined with May figures.

## Ortt contract gets year added

Continued from Page 2  
operations remaining intact throughout the pandemic, DeAngelus said.

“People were, by-and-large, just very gracious and appreciative,” he said.

dence the heightened profit margins would be achieved.

“I truly believe we’re going to blow it out the water,” he said. “We’re on a pace to set some record numbers for all of Ocean Pines food and beverage locations.”

DeAngelus also expressed confi-





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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Local nonprofit We Heart Berlin members Tony Weeg, left, and Adrian Bowen Sr., received approval this week from the Berlin Town Council for a community-aided custom paint re-design for basketball courts in Henry Park.

# Henry Park court painting OKed

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Local nonprofit We Heart Berlin members Adrian Bowen Sr. and Tony Weeg received approval from Town Council on Monday for a proposal to repaint basketball courts in Henry Park.

In May, the Berlin Parks Commission gave the proposal a favorable recommendation.

Bowen has enlisted expert guidance from Shelton Hawkins, who has completed comparable projects in Easton and Cambridge.

"I was inspired by Mr. Hawkins," he said.

Berlin native Bowen said the Henry Park courts provided a prime hoops spot in his younger days but has attracted less desirable elements in recent times.

"I started to see the park being used for the wrong things [and] treated disrespectfully," he said.

Recognizing basketball courts were largely underused, Bowen came up with a concept to return life to Henry Park.

Weeg said after learning of Bowen's plans, which happened to coincide with the formation of We Heart Berlin in February, he was invited to become a board member with the nonprofit.

We Heart Berlin quickly added the painting project to its list of initiatives.

"Embellishing existing courts with our installations draws attention and new life," Weeg said. "It gives the kids a new sense of ownership."

Bowen said the intent is to foster a sense of community connection by having residents assist in the beautification.

Hawkins has committed to undertake the project in mid-September, which should take about one month to complete.

"We will go hard to ask the community to help when the time arrives," Weeg said. "It's going to take all of us to paint it."

Total costs are estimated at \$9,000, which We Heart Berlin raised in two equal grant sums from the Worcester County Arts Council and the Artist Tree, formerly the Berlin Arts and Entertainment Committee.

Weeg said an additional \$2,000 was contributed by area residents.

The project starts with Hawkins and an artist assistant drawing a grid over court surfaces with chalk lines, after which volunteers would help add color to each square.

Bowen, who works with Worcester County Parks and Recreation and teaches at Worcester Technical High School, said the larger community, as well as youths, would be tapped for hands-on assistance.

"What I run into a lot is kids that need community service hours," he said.

Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood supported the concept but asked who would be responsible for maintenance.

Weeg said if additional funding is required to maintain the court's appearance, We Heart Berlin would be on board.

See WE Page 5



# We Heart Berlin backs basketball project for youths

Continued from Page 4

“We are a money raising machine that can absolutely drum up the money,” he said.

Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells asked about efforts to gauge community buy-in for the proposal.

Besides positive feedback from numerous youths, Weeg said a multitude of adult Berlin residents who used the courts yesteryear also back the effort.

“They’re super excited,” he said.

Council vice-president Dean Burrell supported the concept and also noted We Heart Berlin was now qualified for tax-exempt status through Maryland.

“I’m glad to hear you received your nonprofit certification today,” he said.

Council member Jay Knerr also applauded the painting pitch.

“This is community involvement at its best,” he said.

Weeg said revamping the basketball courts at Henry Park would serve a larger purpose.

“We know this is going to create attention,” he said. “It’s going to drive interest ... and help us get life to the east side of town.”

# Phillips updates OP finance efforts

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Ocean Pines Controller and Finance Director Steve Phillips updated the Board of Directors last week on a pending reserve fund study and forensic audit, along with continuing computer software challenges.

**Reserve study**

Phillips said the latest study of reserve account balances by Virginia-based firm Design Management Associates is in progress, with a board presentation anticipated in September.

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

At present, an internal review process for the analysis of reserve funds is underway with draft reports recently distributed to department heads.

Updates involve departmental fixed assets, including buildings, furniture and equipment, along with depreciated values for each.

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

Phillips said individual departments should be finished confirming



Ocean Pines Controller and Finance Director Steve Phillips, right, updates several fiscal initiatives underway, under the watchful eye of General Manager John Viola during the board meeting last week.

reserve figures versus assets on hand by mid-August, at which point Green would return to consult with Pines officials.

“He was on site on in April,” he said.

Also in August, the Ocean Pines Budget and Finance Committee will review reserve study data.

“Budget and finance will have a chance to weigh in on the analysis and the numbers,” he said.

General Manager John Viola, who served on the Budget and Finance Committee in 2018, said it was agreed then that reserve accounts should cover a range of 22-28 percent of assets.

“Right now, we’re at 22 percent of the number we believe we need for reserves,” he said. “Over the last three years, we’ve done a lot, and we’ve invested a lot, but we’re still at 22 percent.”

See OP Page 6



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# Atlantic General Hospital to offer job fair this Thursday

(July 29, 2021) Atlantic General Hospital and Health System will be holding a job fair on Thursday, July 29, from 3-6 p.m. to recruit for all open positions within the healthcare organization.

Benefits packages are available for both part-time and full-time positions. In-depth information regarding job descriptions and benefits packages will be shared.

Interviews will be conducted on site for qualified candidates. Interested individuals can register to attend by calling 410-641-9612 or emailing [jobs@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:jobs@atlanticgeneral.org).

The job fair will take place in the James G. Barrett Medical Office Building rotunda, located at the entrance of Healthway Drive on Atlantic General Hospital's campus, 10231 Old Ocean City Boulevard, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

For more information, call Atlantic General Hospital's Human Resources Department at 410-641-9612. Job listings can be found at [www.agh.care/careers](http://www.agh.care/careers).

Atlantic General Hospital has been providing quality health care to the residents of Worcester, Wicomico, Somerset (Maryland) and Sussex (Delaware) counties since May 1993.

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For more information about Atlantic General Hospital, visit [www.atlantic-general.org](http://www.atlantic-general.org).

# OP active financial initiatives

Continued from Page 5

cent.

Forensic audit

Salisbury accounting firm TGM Group is completing a forensic audit of association financials.

Phillips said TGM conducted preliminary investigations of internal fiscal controls during April and May.

"The main message or theme was there was no significant adjustments," he said.

TGM confirmed numerous favorable financials reported by association departments were accurate.

"They came out in the field and tested on site," he said. "The last couple of weeks we've been getting monitored."

TGM is slated to release its report no later than next week and will be on hand to discuss details at the annual Homeowner's Meeting in August.

Northstar

Minor hiccups are continuing to

plaque the association's Northstar IT software that was purchased in Jan. 2019.

Phillips said the most recent struggles are tied to software updates issued right as summer season was ramping up in June.

"Updates have really been the 'bear,' in terms of unexpected issues," he said.

The results have been a recent uptick in "tickets," or problems reported to software designers.

"That's when we really increased our tickets," he said. "We were managing downward to 5-10 but then jumped back up."

At present the focus is improving software update processes with a new Northstar manager brought into the proceedings, Phillips said.

"They need to do adequate testing internally before they turn it over to us for any testing," he said. "We need to test it before we roll it out as well."



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PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION  
Ocean Pines directors approved an emergency expenditure for the bulkhead repairs at the golf course near the third green last week.

# Pines approves emergency golf course bulkhead repair

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Looking to save money and avoid damage to golf course turf, the Ocean Pines Board of Directors on Wednesday approved an emergency expenditure to replace 500-plus feet of bulkhead by the bridge on the third green.

General Manager John Viola presented a request to spend roughly \$198,000 from bulkhead reserves during the board meeting.

"This is scheduled to [repair] in October but we could get in there earlier," he said. "It is pretty bad. Honestly, this should have been done three years ago."

Viola said the bulkhead section, which dates back more than 40 years, has been patched over the decades but never replaced.

Three weeks ago, Viola discussed the problem with Dean Fisher of Fisher Marine, whose firm completed the most recent bulkhead updates.

Fisher estimated repairs would take roughly a month to complete.

"He said he would be able to get right in there if approved," Viola said.

By moving the scheduled work up

a few months, cost savings are obtainable, Viola said.

"He's willing to do it at the same price that he's done it before," he said. "Which is lower than what we would get on the outside and specifically next year."

Fisher Marine quoted \$355 per linear foot of vinyl bulkhead, which comes out to just over \$190,000 for the 537 feet required.

Overall project costs are just over \$198,000, which includes \$8,000 for topsoil and sod.

Timing was another perk highlighted by Viola.

"Normally we shut down the bulkhead replacement because this is the time of year everybody wants to enjoy their houses and waterfronts," he said.

Director Doug Parks was on board with the request.

"I am 100 percent behind it," he said.

Still, Parks raised concerns shared by several waterfront residents needing comparable repairs, who might take issue with the emergency spending.

See BULKHEAD Page 8

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# Viola reviews OP amenity profits

**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Ocean Pines appears to be back on track financially after a year of shutdowns because of the covid-19 pandemic, General Manager John Viola told the OPA Board of Directors last Wednesday. “The bottom line of the presentation is we’re operating on all cylinders,” he said.

Viola said revenue and attendance figures have been strong across numerous amenities including: golf, aquatics, beach parking, recreation and parks, racquet sports and marinas.

Teeing off with the golf course, Viola said fairway action is up with year-to-date figures roughly \$130,000 better than budget.

Despite an uptick in price per round costs, Viola said rounds played have also grown because of a blend of golf members and package players.

Questions about turf maintenance techniques during the peak of summer have arisen yet again, Viola said.

“If I compare that golf course today to the last ... seven years of what’s happened there, we’ve shown some slight situations but nowhere near the amount,” he said.

Steps to adjust greens’ treatments during the summer “stress period,” have included discontinuing sand

applications, or top dressing. The practice will resume when temperatures cool, likely during September.



John Viola

“All the measures that we have taken, whether it’s the fans or watering, it’s working,” he said.

Meanwhile, the aquatics department has reported year-to-date budget favorability of nearly \$120,000.

“Aquatics is ramping up with swim lessons,” he said.

Aquatics have brought three new swim instructors on board this season with one more candidate planned.

“Aquatics is back on track,” he said.

Continuing the trend to a lesser degree, recreation and parks is \$23,000 better than budgeted two months into the current fiscal year.

“They’re at 100 percent with summer camps,” he said.

Viola said a large percentage of

Additionally, greens and fairways are now being walk-mowed several times a week to lessen grass stress, with fans employed to reduce soil temperatures in select spots.

recreation and parks positive revenue returns was tied to a stellar crowd for Independence Day fireworks.

Record-breaking attendance, topping 3,000 people, netted the association around \$14,000 above the budgeted amount.

Racquet sports have also experienced growth, with receipts roughly \$40,000 better than expected through June.

“We are doing work down at racquet sports and we’re trying to increase revenue,” he said.

To that end, the association has hired Darryl and Cathy Noble to serve as tournament directors.

The Nobles have already unveiled an initial pickleball tournament for Oct. 22-24 at the Manklin Meadows Racquet Sports Complex.

“We’re hoping to have a nice increase in revenue, as well as participation for racquet sports,” he said.

After launching strong during May with revenue \$21,000 better than budgeted, Ocean Pines Marinas took a slight dip in June.

“Marinas are doing well. Obviously in May we had record numbers, but it kind of settled down in June,” he said.

Viola said Marina Manager Ron Fisher reported nine small craft advisories were issued during June.

# Bulkhead repairs approved for golf course by board

Continued from Page 7

“They’re going to say, ‘you guys went ahead and spent money on fixing the bulkhead at the golf course, yet my bulkhead is still falling into the canal,’” he said.

Viola said the bulkhead replacement program is on a four-year cycle that winds up in 2022.

“We are working on the next four-year plan where they go out and review everything,” he said.

Residents with failing bulkheads should be included with the next round of repairs, which are priority rated in similar fashion to road repairs, Viola said.

Director Tom Janasek said several waterfront lot owners have reached out regarding other canal repairs.

“I’ve gotten two calls from people in Ocean Pines that are completely silted and can’t get their boat out,” he said.

Janasek, while acknowledging dredging work requires approvals from the Army Corps of Engineers that haven’t been issued for several years, questioned the optics of the emergency action.

“We’re heavy on golf,” he said.

Viola countered, “This has nothing with golf, this is a bulkhead.”

“We’re doing emergency work on the bulkhead for the golf course, so we don’t lose land on the golf course,” Janasek replied. “That’s basically what the bulkheads do.”

While not minimizing the importance of replacing the failing bulkhead near the golf course, Janasek said other emergency issues also warrant attention.

Dredging canals for excessive silt deposits has been sidelined due to permitting delays, but remains a project on the horizon, Viola said.

“We’ve put in for it ... but there has been a hold-up on it,” he said. “If I can do it, we’ll do it as soon as it opens up.”

Association President Larry Perrone concurred with Viola’s assessment.

“We can’t just go in and dredge,” he said. “It all has to go to [Corps of Engineers] and we can’t do anything until they give us the permit.”

Viola noted the section of bad bulkhead is being supported by temporary pilings.

“We do have money in the budget,” he said.

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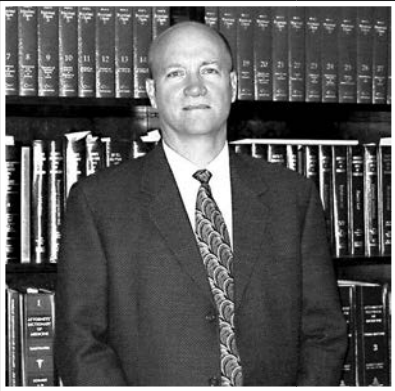
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# Pines property owner survey final revisions near complete

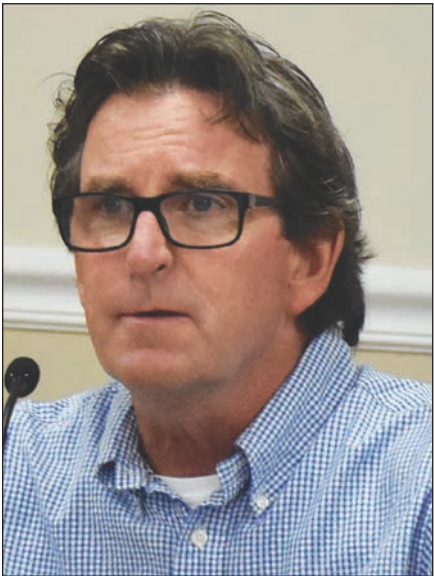
**By Greg Ellison**  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) The survey of Ocean Pines property owners set to go out the end of the month came into sharper focus last Thursday during a meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Committee Co-chair Bernie McGorry, who presented an update on the group's work during the board meeting the previous evening, said the level of professionalism displayed by directors was impressive.

"It was a positive experience last night," he said. "It was good to get them engaged."

McGorry added that the additional feedback for the survey was incorporated since the group's last meeting on June 24.



Bernie McGorry

Last conducted in 2018, the Ocean Pines property owners' survey seeks comments from residents on the development of long-range planning and establishing priorities.

Starting with the draft introduction, committee members considered numerous language revisions for the final version.

Committee member Rebecca Colt-Ferguson questioned the inclusion of the term "budget process," in the survey's introduction.

After brief discussion, the committee agreed to change "budget process," to "decision making."

Another item discussed was the use of "other," as an answer to numerous questions.

McGorry said the 2018 survey included an "other," reply, which in some instances failed to generate useful information.

"I don't want 'other,' to be something where we get 300 responses ... because you can't tabulate ... a bunch of words," he said.

Committee member Wes Blackley liked the "other," selection, contending that there might be enough similar answers "to give us some other things people might not have looked at," he said.

Committee ultimately agreed to retain the non-categorized reply.

Looking at the community values section of the survey, McGorry said the list was compiled without comments from residents.

"We didn't do a survey on those.

We made the decision these are what the values should be for the company," McGorry said.

The committee also weighed wording for a question about how well board members worked together.

Board liaison Dr. Colette Horn said past feedback has indicated the community has concerns about directors collaborating effectively.

"We heard loud and clear in the last survey — that belongs here," she said.

McGorry said while the matter is outside budgeting concerns, it does merit attention.

"It's not a cost issue ... but it needs to be addressed," he said.

Horn also noted the board has discussed the importance of establishing community values to guide long-range planning.

"Strategic planning is about tangibles, but it's also about initiatives," she said. "It's not just buildings, infrastructure or amenities."

McGorry said the survey revisions would be updated overnight, with the final version ready by the end of July.

"We can release it anytime after that," he said.

McGorry said prior to providing Pines residents an online link to the Survey Monkey-generated inquiry, a test run would be completed.

"We just want to make sure the wording is simple," he said. "You want to get 10 to 20 responses before you release it and get 2,000."

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# Berlin Fire presentation brings up questions

Council members suggest detailed financial figures should be shared with town

By Greg Ellison  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Town Council members raised concerns over scant details for future funding assessments during a quarterly update from Berlin Fire/EMS companies on Monday.

Berlin Fire President Dave Fitzgerald reviewed response times and budget highlights for Berlin's emergency responders for this April through June.

Starting with fire statistics, Fitzgerald reported response times averaged 3.48 minutes, which is below the six-minute minimum standard required in Worcester County.

Fire response times have averaged 3.57 minutes during the current contract year beginning in June 2020.

Fire company responses in town during April to June totaled 31 or 40 percent of all calls.

Looking at EMS services, Fitzgerald said response times have averaged 1.27 minutes during the three-month interval, compared to 1.13 minutes for the year-to-date starting in June 2020.

EMS providers responded to 255 calls in town versus 195 out of town incidents from April to June.



Town Council Vice President Dean Burrell explains the importance of detailed financials to Berlin Fire President Dave Fitzgerald, left, and Chief Robert Rhode, during a quarterly update from Berlin Fire/EMS companies on Monday.

Year-to-date dating to June 2020, EMS responses have totaled 979 in town and 740 out of town.

Turning to finances, Fitzgerald said fundraising endeavors have resumed in the wake of covid-19, with \$1,100 sourced from a chicken barbeque and \$5,000 netted from staging the Delmarva Fire Association event earlier this summer.

On the expense side, Fitzgerald noted \$14,000 was invested to replace a 13-year-old computer server, along with \$16,000 to replace a 16-year-old

HVAC system, followed by a \$10,000 tab for engine light tower repairs.

Looking ahead at capital budget expenditures, Fitzgerald said the fire company would need updated breathing apparatus, while EMS providers would need to replace end-of-life cardiac monitors at a cost of \$85,000-\$100,000.

Council member Jack Orris asked if covid-relief funding could cover the cost for cardiac monitors.

Fitzgerald said fire officials have researched the viability of qualifying for

American Recovery Act funds, with both Berlin and Worcester County about to be contacted.

"The town will be getting a letter and the county will be getting a letter asking for some of those funds," he said.

Council member Jay Knerr questioned the lack of detailed budget figures.

"Besides the highlights you've provided I've noticed there's no financial report with this presentation," he said.

See FIRE Page 12

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# Pines Bylaws cmte. reviews election issues

By Greg Ellison  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) The Ocean Pines Bylaws & Resolutions Committee discussed the ongoing viability of the Search Committee during its meeting last Friday.

Committee Chairman Jim Trummel said a bylaws review work group has delved into section 5.02 related to formation of a Search Committee, which is tasked with finding board candidates for annual elections.

“They said if the Search Committee is no longer a viable option section [5.02b/c] should be removed and more appropriate language added that promotes advertising for candidates for the board,” he said

During the most recent bylaws work group meeting a suggestion to dissolve the Search Committee was weighed and forwarded to the Bylaws Committee for input.

“There are two options I see, one is take out the section ... or look for means to make the Search Committee more viable,” he said.

Despite the work group espousing elimination, Trummel questioned the move.

“I’m going to suggest that’s not the right approach for us to take,” he said.

To launch the investigation, Trummel previously sent a series of related questions to the Search Committee, as well as the Elections and Communications committees.

“Each has responded,” he said.

Trummel said the Search Committee reply was part of an annual report outlining its actions due by June 30.

Trummel said both the Elections and Communications committee’s responses indicated a preference to limit their role to present duties.

Additionally, Trummel said the Communications Committee indicated a willingness to participate in election efforts but not as a substitute for the Search Committee.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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

The Elections Committee sought to deal solely with conducting the contest, while not soliciting candidates to avoid any suggestion of conflict.

Further, Trummel said the Search Committee’s reply recommended deleting the group due to an expectation of continued difficulties with recruiting board candidates.

Committee member Lora Pangratz recommended requesting the Search Committee compile additional options.

“If we’re saying we’re not going to accept dissolving this committee,” she said.

Trummel questioned that approach, noting the Search Committee, which is mandated for five members, has a mere pair of participants this year.

Bylaws provisions mandate the association president appoint the committee by Feb. 1 each year.

“Not to disregard those two people but it is less than a full committee,” he said.

Prior to 2008, when the Search Committee was created, association bylaws included a provision for a Nominating Committee.

In recent years, the Search Committee has not functioned efficiently, either not forming or having less than the mandated five members.

“The Search Committee has been dysfunctional the last several years,” he said.

Committee member Keith Kaiser said the ultimate decision should fall to the bylaws work group and the Search Committee.

“We’re not suppose to be making the rules, we’re just suppose to be documenting them,” he said.

Trummel offered to compile the groups’ discussion points into an email to solicit next steps from the work group.

“When it’s finalized between us we will forward to the bylaws work group,” he said.

## Fire officials give quarterly update to Berlin Council

Continued from Page 11

Fitzgerald said precise ledger numbers would be forthcoming in September when the fire/ems annual contract is renewed.

“This is the last quarter report for the current contract,” he said.

Council Vice President Dean Burrell also probed for clarity.

“You’ve said some things I wonder about,” he said.

Among expense issues noted by Fitzgerald were increased fuel costs.

“I would like to see actuals as to what you have ... spent for gas as compared to the same time last year,” he said.

Burrell also questioned staffing expenses.

“You talked about overtime and had a figure of \$20,000,” he said. “I would like to see specifically what has been spent for overtime, when, how much and the related benefits associated.”

Burrell suggested moving forward exact dollar figures should be presented for the town to accurately gauge equitable funding for fire and ems services.

“We need to be specific as possible when it comes to allocating taxpayer money,” he said.



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# Berlin Mayor Tyndall attacked by dogs off leash in Salisbury

By Greg Ellison  
Staff Writer

(July 29, 2021) Berlin Mayor Zach Tyndall is on the mend after being attacked by a pair of loose dogs last Thursday morning in Salisbury.



Zach Tyndall

Tyndall, who serves as an instructor at Salisbury University, was on campus after receiving a bi-weekly covid-19 test when tragedy struck.

“I was outside and rounding the turn of one building and then I was attacked by two dogs off their leash,” he said. “I had two dogs on top of me.”

Tyndall said the canines’ owner was nearby and attempted to pull the dogs away after he got free but was only partially successful.

“Once they attacked me, I was able to get them off and then the owner came over and attempted to get the dogs under control,” he said. “Then one of them managed to escape her control and come over and attack me a second time.”

The attack left Tyndall with left leg muscle damage, with the animals subsequently placed under quaran-

tine by the Wicomico County Health Department.

Tyndall said it’s difficult to speculate what was going through the dog owner’s mind while allowing their aggressive dogs free rein in public.

“I’ve had dogs my entire life and the important thing is that if you’re not in a fenced-in backyard or property, then your animal really needs to be on a leash,” he said. “They are animals, so you do need to keep them on a leash.”

Although the incident occurred in Salisbury, Tyndall said the same cautionary advices apply in Berlin or elsewhere.

“Berlin does have a leash law and pet owners should have their animals vaccinated and remain up-to-date on those vaccinations,” he said.

Tyndall hopes the unfortunate event provides an educational moment for dog owners.

After news of the attack spread, Tyndall said a wealth of well-wishers made contact.

“The community continues to reach out and wish me well and that means a lot more than I could ever express,” he said. “It was not a fun experience nor anything that I was expecting.”

# OC Art League soliciting Harbor Day poster entries

(July 29, 2021) Harbor Day at the Docks will take place in the West Ocean City Commercial Harbor on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Art League of Ocean City is issuing a “call for entries” for original artwork to be used on the 2021 official event poster.

Located along Sunset Avenue in West Ocean City, this annual waterfront festival celebrates the area’s rich history and maritime heritage, as well as the sport fishing and commercial fishing industries.

Highlights of the day include seafood cooking demonstrations, crab picking contests, fish cleaning demonstrations, local fisherman displays, nautical artisans, educational exhibits, entertainment, food, activities for children, and a traditional Blessing of the Fleet.

Poster artwork must pertain to the West Ocean City harbor and/or local fishing industries. All media will be accepted, including photography, painting, drawing, mixed media, etc., and the artwork must be an original image

produced by the submitting artist.

The Art League will award \$250 to the winning entry, which will also be professionally printed and sold as a signed, limited edition poster at Harbor Day.

The deadline to enter is July 30. Entries must be submitted as digital files to Art League Gallery Director Katie Brown at [katie@artleagueofoceancity.org](mailto:katie@artleagueofoceancity.org) along with name, address, phone number, e-mail address, artwork title, and medium. Images submitted must be suitable for printing, at least 300 dpi at 11x14 inches.

More information is available from Brown at 410-524-9433 or [katie@artleagueofoceancity.org](mailto:katie@artleagueofoceancity.org).

The Art League of Ocean City is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. Financial support comes primarily through membership dues from individuals and corporate sponsors. More information is available at 410-524-9433 or [www.artleagueofoceancity.org](http://www.artleagueofoceancity.org).



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# Berlin Junior League All-Star team battles in state tourney

By Lisa Capitelli  
Managing Editor

(July 29, 2021) With a 2-1 record, Berlin's Little League Junior League All-Star team was still in contention for a state title as of Tuesday evening.

Berlin, the District 8 champions, is hosting the state tournament this year. The local squad opened double-elimination tournament competition on Saturday against Talbot Little League of District 6.

Berlin scored one in the first, but Talbot answered with five in the second. Berlin plated six in the bottom of the second to pull ahead, 7-5. The team added another run in the fourth to take an 8-5 lead.

Talbot scored two in the fifth, three in the sixth and two in the seventh to gain a 12-8 advantage.

Berlin made it 12-9 in the bottom of the seventh, but was unable to regain the lead.

"It was a great game. Back and forth," said Manager Mike Gaylor. "Ethan Cowder, our left-handed pitcher, pitched phenomenal. We had them rattled all night. It was just one of those games; timely hits on their part, and we couldn't score."

Gaylor praised the defensive effort of Spencer Gaylor, Mason Edelmann and Jackson Cheung, who turned

three double plays.

Berlin battled back with a vengeance the next day, trouncing District 5 representative, Rising Sun, 20-1, in four innings.

Berlin scored six in the first, nine in the second and five in the third to take a 20-0 lead. Rising Sun knocked in its lone run in the fourth.

"We had a meeting before the game and I told them, 'I'm not done. Let's show everybody what we can do,'" Gaylor said. "The boys fed off that."

Tony Martin only allowed two hits in the game and struck out four.

"He threw 40 pitches in four innings," Gaylor said. "We hit really well. The whole team, from top to bottom, everyone hit."

Berlin scored 20 runs on 15 hits.

Cheung had three hits and Johnny Hobgood recorded five RBIs.

Berlin's game on Monday against Laurel of District 4, was a marathon, with the first inning lasting about 45 minutes.

Laurel put two runs on the board in the top of the inning. Berlin answered with three in the bottom of the first.

"We were a little flat at the beginning," Gaylor said. "I told them, 'The game is important. You play until you lose.' That woke them up and they put



LISA CAPITELLI/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Nate Berzonski starts on the mound for the Berlin Little League Junior League All-Star team during its state tournament game against Laurel Little League on Monday in Berlin.

it together."

Berlin tacked on five in the second to pull ahead, 8-2.

The game, which started at 6 p.m., was then stopped three times for lightning. Each stoppage was 30 minutes, so when the game was finally over – with Berlin coming out on top, 13-2 – it was about 10:30 p.m., Gaylor said.

The contest ended in the fifth inning, because Berlin had a 10-plus-run lead.

Nate Berzonski, Cheung and Edelmann combined to hold their opponents in check, allowing no hits. They had two, three and two strikeouts, respectively.

Cheung also had two hits and two RBIs. Berzonski chipped in with three RBIs.

Berlin had Tuesday off and was slated to play District 7 St. Mary's on Wednesday.

If Berlin won, the team would play again on Thursday.

Berlin advanced to the state tournament by winning the District 8 championship. The squad received a first-round bye, then hosted West Salisbury on July 14. Berlin earned a 18-3 victory in five innings (10-run rule). On July 16, Berlin outscored Delmar, 19-1, in four innings on the road to claim the title.

The Berlin Major League All-Star team finished runner-up in its state division last week in Davidsonville.

The team was undefeated going into its match with District 2 MoCo LoCo (Montgomery County Lower),  
See BERLIN Page 15

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# Berlin LL Major League all stars finish 2nd in Md.

Continued from Page 14 last Thursday.

MoCo LoCo won 6-0. Since Berlin hadn't lost a game in the double-elimination state tournament, the two teams met again on Friday. MoCo LoCo came out on top, 11-3, to win the state title.

"In the first game, they got a quick lead, and we just didn't hit," said Manager Barb Kohut. "On Friday, MoCo LoCo came out and tore it up. They just hit better than us. They just fielded better than us. We made more errors in that game (four) then we had all season. We had some opportunities, but it was too late and the lead was too large to overcome."

Despite the two losses, the Berlin squad has a successful all-star season.

"It was a spectacular season," Kohut said. "They fought hard, they played hard and we won a lot of games. It was not an easy road. We won a lot of hard games. The kids worked hard and it showed on the field."

The team finished with a 7-2 record.

"Second in the state is nothing to hang their heads about," she said. "As much as I wanted to be in Bristol [Connecticut, for the regional tourna-



The Berlin Little League Major League All-Star team finished runner-up in the state in its division.

PHOTO COURTESY BARB KOHUT

ment], second is a pretty big accomplishment."

During state competition, Berlin shut out District 6 champs, South Caroline (Preston), 10-0, then edged out MoCo LoCo, 2-1. The team then outscored District 1 Conococheague, 5-4, to set up the championship match-up with MoCo LoCo.

The Berlin team advanced to the state tournament after winning the District 8 title. During district compe-

tion, Berlin earned wins over Fruitland, 10-3, Snow Hill, 13-0, and West Salisbury, 12-2. Berlin pulled out a 5-4 victory in extra innings to clench the district title.

"We have a lot of 11-year-olds on the team and they'll get a second chance at the Little League World Series next year," Kohut said. "There's more in their future, and the future looks bright ... Berlin will still be solid, no matter what level."

# Md. Basic Boating Safety Course to be offered Aug. 7

(July 29, 2021) The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering the Maryland Basic Boating Safety Course on Aug. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Library.

This class is designed for boaters who are not able to attend the three-evening courses.

The Maryland Boating Safety Education Act requires that anyone born after July 1, 1972 must possess a Maryland Basic Boating Safety Certificate to operate a boat in the state of Maryland.

Those attending the class, and passing the test will receive a Maryland Boating Certificate which is NASBLA approved and valid in all states.

The cost is \$20. The library is located at 11107 Cathell Road in Ocean Pines. Register or get more information by calling Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807, or email [CGAUXOC@gmail.com](mailto:CGAUXOC@gmail.com).

Checks should be made payable to: USGCAUX 12-05 and mailed to: USGCAUX 12-05, P.O. Box 1682, Berlin, Maryland 21811. Payment via PayPal is also accepted.

The next three-evening courses are scheduled for: Sept. 7-9, Oct. 5-7, Nov 2-4

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BALLOTS DUE  
AUG 11

ANNUAL MEETING  
AUG 14



## Recreation staff to host Showell Park movie night Aug. 6

(July 29, 2021) Worcester County Recreation & Parks staff invite the community to participate in a free outdoor movie night on Aug. 6, at the Showell Park ball fields.

Festivities and concessions for snack and drink purchases will open at 8 p.m., followed by a ribbon cutting for the new concession stand at 8:30 p.m., with free popcorn to be passed out.

At 9 p.m. the movie classic, "The Sandlot," will play on a 40-foot screen and be followed by a laser show.

Families should bring chairs or blankets to sit in the outfield.

Showell Park is located at 11281 Racetrack Road in Showell, Maryland.

For more information, contact Allen Swiger, at 410-632-2144, ext. 2520 or [aswiger@marylandscoast.org](mailto:aswiger@marylandscoast.org), or visit [www.marylandscoast.org](http://www.marylandscoast.org).



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# Chamber Music event held virtually

### Eastern Shore festival now in sixth year providing joy with array of performers

(July 29, 2021) Chamber Music by the Sea is set to deliver a flurry of excitement since nothing can stop the Eastern Shore's premier chamber festival from sharing its annual dose of inspiration, joy and fun to communities, connecting through the power of music.

With uncertainties remaining about indoor venue capacity and travel for the international roster of musicians, this summer's festivities once again will take place virtually.

In its sixth season, Chamber Music by the Sea will introduce audiences to the dazzling artistry of the Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective, co-founded by violinist and festival artistic director Elena Urioste and pianist Tom Poster.

Described by The Arts Desk as "a sparky, shape-shifting ensemble of starry young musicians" and lauded by The Times for its "exhilarating performances," Kaleidoscope was recently selected as an Associate Ensemble of London's legendary Wigmore Hall.

The acclaimed group makes its debut for U.S. audiences with three live-streamed festival performances,

each preceded by the opportunity to mingle virtually with the artists.

Programming highlights for the 2021 festival include Mendelssohn Sextet, Amy Beach's sensuous piano quintet, and the piano quintet of Florence Price, which receives its world premiere recording on Kaleidoscope's soon-to-be-released debut CD, "American Quintets."

Returning audiences know that no Chamber Music by the Sea festival would be complete without the arrangements of pianist Tom Poster.

In addition to Urioste and Poster, the Kaleidoscope festival roster includes several returning favorites: violinist Melissa White, violist Rosalind Ventris, cellist Laura van der Heijden, and tenor Karim Sulayman.

New to the festival in 2021 are violinist Savitri Grier, violist Stephen Upshaw, cellist Zlatomir Fung, and double bassist Joseph Conyers.

This group of artists includes Grammy Award winners, the first prize laureate of the international Tchaikovsky Competition, recipients of the Sphinx Medal of Excellence, and BBC New Generation Artists.

This year's virtual festival will run from Aug. 3-7 and includes three evening concerts plus a free, interactive Saturday morning mini-concert suitable for children of all ages, all streamed online.

### 2021 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE:

**TUESDAY, AUG. 3, 7 P.M.:** ticketed concert streamed on Zoom

**THURSDAY, AUG. 5, 7 P.M.:** ticketed concert streamed on Zoom

**SATURDAY, AUG. 7, 10:30 A.M.:** free family concert broadcast live on Facebook

**SATURDAY, AUG. 7, 7 P.M.:** ticketed concert streamed on Zoom

Additional details, including ticket and artist information, as well as a full list of Chamber Music by the Sea's sponsors, can be found at [www.chambermusicbythesea.org](http://www.chambermusicbythesea.org) or [www.wced.foundation](http://www.wced.foundation).



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# Pines unveils next short-term rentals move

(July 29, 2021) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors this week released a statement about its next steps in the process for short-term rental reforms:

At the June 16 meeting of the board, a motion was passed to incorporate the Worcester County Code regulating short-term rentals, litter and noise into the Declarations of Restrictions for all Ocean Pines sections, with the exception of sections 15B,16,17,18 and 19.

The declaration of restrictions for those sections already provide that all lots are subject to "... all federal, state or local laws, rules or regulations, specifically including without limitations, the Worcester County Zoning Ordinance ..."

The restrictions in these sections also provide for fines. The motion passed on June 16 would also incorporate fines in all sections.

The various declarations of restrictions require the vote of a majority of the property owners in each separate section to vote to amend the provisions of the Restrictions. According to a legal opinion from attorney Joe

Moore, "It is to be noted that the requirement is the majority of all property owners in the section, not just the majority of all votes cast."

The Ocean Pines staff will note the vote in each section and if the majority of property owners in each section vote in favor, the amendment will be noted in the Land Records of Worcester County.

The initial mailing to property owners will begin in the fourth quarter of this year. The specific question to be will be whether "To incorporate the Worcester County Codes for Short Term Rentals (ZS1-351), Litter (PH1-106) and Noise (ZS1: III-46) into the Declarations of Restrictions in all sections of Ocean Pines. For repeat violations of these codes, to suspend a member's ability to engage in short term rentals of their dwelling for periods up to sixty days. To establish a formal method to advise Worcester County of unlicensed rental properties. To require that occupancy limits, noise, trash, and parking restrictions stated in our Declaration of Restrictions and County Code be posted in a conspic-

uous area of Short-Term Rental Properties. And to levy fines for violations."

Asked to explain how the provisions will be enforced if enacted, the board statement said short-term rentals (ZS1-351) will be administered and enforced by the Compliance, Permitting and Inspections Department (CPI).

At this time, it is envisioned that those homeowners applying will be required to submit the documentation that they submitted to the county for their short-term rental license, along with a copy of the license. No additional documentation or inspections will be required to obtain the Ocean Pines Rental License.

The fee will be what we charge for a home-based business (\$35 initial application: \$15 annual renewal). Once the OP license is obtained, the homeowner will be required to post it next to the county license in a conspicuous area of the rental.

Litter (PH1-106) will be enforced by the CPI Department. Enforcement will be complaint-driven. When complaints are received, the CPI depart-

ment will investigate.

Noise (ZS1: III-46) will be enforced by both the CPI and Ocean Pines Police Departments to provide 24/7 coverage. Both departments will have the equipment and training to monitor, measure and record noise levels to the county code.

Current plans are to procure this equipment, conduct training and to begin enforcement of the county code upon completion of the training required to use the equipment.

Additional information will be sent to each homeowner as the declarations are voted upon. The board's intent is to have these regulations in place by summer 2022 and to have 24/7 enforcement of the regulations in place at that time.

## Town of Berlin Public Notice



### NOTICE

Pursuant to the Code of the Town of Berlin Section 108-165, "Variances", the Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals will consider a request for a Variance received from Erving and Christina Truitt of 2 Nelson Street, Berlin, MD to construct a covered front porch addition which would represent an encroachment of 6 feet into the prescribed front yard setback, during its meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 5:30 PM in the Mayor and Council Chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD.

OCD-7/29/1t

# Pines FY20-21 budget adjustment

(July 29, 2021) The Ocean Pines General Manager's Office announced on Monday a change to budget favorable for fiscal year 2020-2021.

In the April 2021 financial report, Ocean Pines announced a positive operating fund variance for the year of \$1.243 million. That number has since been revised to \$1.445 million, favorable to budget.

General Manager John Viola said more money than usual was put aside last year for a provision for bad debt

from assessment collections, because of situations related to the covid-19 pandemic, including the later-than-usual assessment date.

When a portion of that money set aside was not needed, the provision was released.

"Obviously, with covid, we didn't know what would happen with the economy, and this approach was discussed during board and budget meetings," Viola said. "We provided more for bad debt than we did in the

past because of what we thought might have happened, but that didn't happen."

Viola said he spoke with Finance Director Steve Phillips and auditor Chris Hall from the TGM group, who agreed with the approach of releasing an additional \$200,000 and revising the positive operating fund variance.

"I'm very comfortable with this approach, and so is Chris Hall and so is Steve Phillips," Viola said.

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### NOTICE

Pursuant to the Code of the Town of Berlin, MD Section 108-165, "Variances", and Division 3, "Off-Street Parking", Section 108-788(4) "Requirements", the Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals will consider a request for a Variance to reduce the required number of parking spaces for a Distillery/Tavern received from EJF Real Estate, LLC and Forgotten 50 Distilling located at 10103 Old Ocean City Boulevard, Berlin, MD at its meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 5:30 PM in the Mayor and Council Chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD. The request represents a reduction from the required 34 parking spaces to 25 parking spaces.

OCD-7/29/1t



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**FIRE HONORS**  
The Worcester County Commissioners presented commendations on June 1 to representatives from the Berlin Fire Company, Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, Showell Volunteer Fire Department, and Willards Volunteer Fire Company for responding to reports of a house fire on Donaway Road in Whaleyville. They also honored Berlin Fire Company Chief RJ Rhode and Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company Associate Member Bob Rhode who rescued a female occupant trapped in the house.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

# AGH virtual autism conference held Aug. 10

(July 29, 2021) Atlantic General Hospital is sponsoring the fifth annual Autism Awareness Conference on Tuesday, Aug. 10, from 4-6 p.m.

This event is free to the community; internet access is required to join the conference.

Katie Dorsch, registered dietitian at Atlantic General and the Regional Cancer Care Center, will be discussing "Autism and Nutrition."

Maureen van Stone, Esq., director of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD) at Kennedy

Krieger Institute, will discuss "Return to School during the covid-19 Pandemic for Students with Disabilities."

Dr. Deepa Menon, assistant medical director at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) at Kennedy Krieger Institute, will lead "School Re-

Entry Post-Covid: Supporting Families and Children with Autism."

Advance registration is required by Aug. 9. Call 410-641-9268 or email [gblake@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:gblake@atlanticgeneral.org) to register. The Autism Conference is free of charge.

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# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## RECOGNITION

Atlantic General Hospital and its President and CEO Michael Franklin have been recognized by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) with the Patriot Award. The award is bestowed by ESGR, a Department of Defense program, to supervisors and managers for support provided to an employee serving in the National Guard or Reserve. Franklin was nominated by Dr. Charles Hickok, a lieutenant commander with the Navy Reserve and anesthesiologist at Atlantic General Hospital. This is the second time Franklin has been the recipient of this award. Pictured, from left, are Hickok, MD, Franklin and Bill Peters, local representative for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## CELEBRATION

Commissioner Josh Nordstrom presents a proclamation to Worcester County Recreation and Parks Director Kelly Rados, during the group's meeting July 6, recognizing July as National Recreation and Parks Month.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## AWARDED

The Republican Woman of Worcester County's 2021 Future Success Award for Snow Hill High School was presented to Jakhi Blunt, who plans to attend the Advanced Technology Institute in Virginia Beach, Virginia, in the fall. The award is given each year to students who show remarkable personal growth and achievement during high school. Pictured, from left, is Dr. Scot Tingle, assistant principal of Snow Hill High School; Blunt; Liz Mumford; and Yvonne Babcock, RWWC Literacy Committee.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## SUPPORT

The Delmarva Hand Dance Club donated \$1,000 to the Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173 in Bishopville, on July 6 for the Welcome Home Veterans Program. Pictured is Charles Derrickson, exalted ruler, left, and John Falcone, president, Delmarva Hand Dance Club.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS

## DONATION

Judy Nelson recently donated an array of trophies to the Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City Kiwanis Club in memory of her late husband, Bill, who was a founding member of the Ocean City Cruzers. This donation also celebrates the club's first car show, held on July 24, at the Ocean Pines Veterans Memorial Park. Pictured is Nelson with Steve Cohen, president of the Kiwanis Club.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## FUNDRAISING

The Ocean City Knights of Columbus Council #9053 continues to support the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin. During the month of March, the Life Program of the Knights combined two efforts into one program and between March 1 and 31 a total of \$645 was collected in the form of gift cards, checks or cash. Pictured, from left, are Jackie Failla, nurse manager at the center; Kevin Hughes, Life Program director for Council #9053; and Jasmine Dennis, Grace Center executive director.





**ANNIVERSARY FUNDS**  
The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation held its Anniversary Celebration on May 21, to commemorate 28 years of service to the Eastern Shore community. Due to covid-19, this year's theme was, "The Party To Which You Give But Don't Go." Although not able to celebrate in person like previous years, the foundation raised \$196,000 with the support of 146 sponsors and an auction. Pictured, from left, are Jessica Jersey; Gail Whaley; Toni Kelser, AGH vice president public relations; Lisa Cook; Kam LaBrunda, AGH development analyst; Steve Green, foundation board chair); Sara Hambury and Emily Tunis, committee co-chairs; and Caroline Phillips, AGH development officer. Committee members not present: Christine Glick, Aaron Finney, April Gershenfeld, Ellen Waters, Dawne Pappas, Basil Hanlon, Jessica Hales, JL Cropper, Kathy Marshall, Kevin Myers, Karen Tomasello, Laura Mathabel, Madalaine How, Morgan Fisher, Pam Adkins, Eileen Taglienti, Sonia Baker, Steven Sweigert, and Joy Stokes, AGH special events coordinator.  
SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

# ‘Volunteer Spirit’ awards nominations sought

(July 29, 2021) To honor volunteers whose contributions help improve the quality of life locally, Worcester County residents are invited to nominate individuals, organizations and businesses for the Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County awards.

The nomination period is open now through Friday, Sept. 17, at 11:59 p.m.

“Since we were unable to host the volunteer spirit awards program last year, Worcester County will be recognizing volunteer contributions that took place between March 2020 and June 2021,” Human Resources Specialist Kelly Brinkley said. “This year we have also added a special category – pandemic response champion – to honor those who have made extraor-

inary contributions that have aided in the local response to the covid-19 crisis.”

Volunteer Spirit nominations will be accepted for each of the following nine categories, with one winner to be chosen from each: paramedic response champion, emerging leader, faith-based, lifetime achievement, veteran, local business, group/team, individual, and nonprofit volunteer program.

Nominees should reside in and represent the volunteer spirit of Worcester County. Nomination forms may be filled out and submitted online at [www.worcestervolunteer.org](http://www.worcestervolunteer.org). Once there, click on “News.”

Hard copies will also be available at all five branch libraries, the County

Administration Office in the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill, or by contacting Brinkley at 410-632-0090 or [kbrinkley@co.worcester.md.us](mailto:kbrinkley@co.worcester.md.us).

To highlight the outstanding services of the volunteers, the Worcester

County commissioners will host a recognition ceremony for nominees selected as award winners on Oct. 21. The Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County takes place in cooperation with the annual Governor’s Service Awards program.

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**NEW MEMBERS**  
The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City recently inducted nine new members. Six attended the July 14 meeting to be ceremoniously inducted. The other three will be recognized soon. Pictured, from left, are inductees Jim Maratea, Holly and Arnie Popkin, Doreen O'Connor, Sandy McAbee and Elena McComas, with Membership Chair Shelley Cohen and President Steve Cohen.  
PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS

# Worcester GOLD soliciting school supplies

(July 29, 2021) Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is seeking donors and sponsors for its upcoming School Supplies for Students program.

The program provides backpacks filled with school supplies to K-12 students in Worcester County who, financially, would have a difficult time getting the supplies.

Many students have begun, or will soon begin, the transition from virtual to in-person learning. By providing backpacks filled with grade appropriate supplies, GOLD is seeking to make the transition easier and less stressful on families and students in need.

Last year, GOLD provided filled backpacks to 288 students and is anticipating a greater need this year with students returning to school.

For more information or to donate, visit [www.WorcesterGOLD.org](http://www.WorcesterGOLD.org). The deadline for donations and sponsorships is Aug. 27.

Worcester County GOLD, Inc. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, provides financial aid and basic needs items for Worcester County residents living in poverty and low-income circumstances.

It believes no member of the community should suffer without access to basic needs like housing, utilities, food, clothing, and items for children and vulnerable adults. In addition to emergency services, GOLD offers special programs such as summer activities for at-risk youth, School Supplies for Students, Thanksgiving turkey meals, and Helping Hands for the Holidays.

For more information, contact Nicholas Cranford, executive director, at [Nicholas.Cranford@maryland.gov](mailto:Nicholas.Cranford@maryland.gov) or 410-677-6830, visit [www.WorcesterGOLD.org](http://www.WorcesterGOLD.org), email [WorcesterCountyGOLD@gmail.com](mailto:WorcesterCountyGOLD@gmail.com), or call 410-677-6830.

Visit [www.facebook.com/worcestergold](https://www.facebook.com/worcestergold) on Facebook and [www.instagram.com/worcestercountygold/](https://www.instagram.com/worcestercountygold/) on Instagram.

# Platform Tennis Club tournament Sept. 25

(July 29, 2021) The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Club will host its third annual benefit tournament on Sept. 25, at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

The club has dedicated this year's tournament to Jim Freeman, an active platform tennis member who passed away on March 15 after a battle with cancer.

Freeman served the U.S. Marines with honor and later worked for 31 years as a seventh-grade science teacher at Keith Valley Middle School in Horsham, Pennsylvania. He retired to Ocean Pines with his wife, June, and became an active member of the platform tennis community.


The Platform Tennis Club will donate all tournament proceeds to Semper Fi & America's Fund, a nonprofit "dedicated to providing immediate financial assistance and lifetime support to combat wounded, critically ill and catastrophically injured members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families."

"Our friend Jim was a proud Marine, and a multi-term president and passionate advocate for our Platform Tennis Club," tournament co-organizer Karen Kaplan said. "He is sorely missed. We respectfully request that all entry fees, donations, and sponsorships be donated in honor of Jim to the Semper Fi & America's Fund Charity, which provides many vital layers of services to members of all service branches and their families."

All platform tennis clubs in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania may compete. Individual players may also enter.

The entry deadline is Sept. 11, and the entry fee is a \$50 donation, per player.

Checks may be made payable to See OP Page 24




**Habitat for Humanity®**  
of Worcester County

**APPLY BY JULY 31 FOR A HABITAT HOME**

Visit [habitatworcester.org](http://habitatworcester.org) to find out if you qualify, then email an inquiry to [families@habitatworcester.org](mailto:families@habitatworcester.org) by July 31. Please note that 3rd party approval is required and construction will not begin until 2022.

Qualified Habitat homebuyers are: in need of better housing, able to qualify for an affordable mortgage, willing to partner with Habitat and contribute sweat equity, and subject to credit and background checks.

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Bank of Delmarva

Cambridge VFW Post #7460

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Holloway Funeral Home

JoAnne Jackson

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Jim and Jan Perdue

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**The Late George Hannaway**

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Walter Cary Adshead

**Kent and Robin English**

Kimberly Nisbet

**The Late Richard T. Johnson**

Shirley K. Johnson

**The Late Sheryl Mitrecic**

Joseph Mitrecic

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a.s.a.p.r. ink!

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**IN HONOR OF**

**The Late Cindy Anderson**

Alane & Ralph Capen

**Lauren Blair**

Your Friends and Family

**The Late John Michael**

"Mickey" Brown, Jr.

Robert & Paula Purcell

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**Coastal Hospice Safe Harbor**

**Team & In Memory of**

**Eleanor Smith**

The Family of Eleanor Smith

**The Late Judy Godwin**

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Mitchell

**The Late Terry S. Lankford**

American Legion Post #237

**The Late Parker Nicholls**

Claudia Nicholls

**Donna Oursler**

The Karolenko Family

**The Late Ron Potter's Birthday**

Ann T. Moore

Wayne and Sandra Potter

**Don Richardson**

Donna Richardson

**Barbara Stephens' Birthday**

Dr. & Mrs. Charles H. Twilley

**Anna Smith & In Memory of**

**Joseph N. Dyer**

Pat Dyer

**The Late Harry C. & John D.**

**Williams**

Darlene Onley

Coastal Hospice is a not-for-profit agency. Our patients' needs always come first, regardless of the ability to pay. It's because of our sponsors and donors that we are able to continue to promote dignity and quality of life for patients and families who face life-limiting conditions.

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[www.HonorAnAngel.com](http://www.HonorAnAngel.com) | email [tpatrick@coastalhospice.org](mailto:tpatrick@coastalhospice.org) | ph 410-742-8732 | text ANGEL to 345-345



# Worcester Youth collects supplies for new teachers

(July 29, 2021) Worcester Youth & Family Counseling Services will be collecting donation of supplies for new teachers in the county school system.

The 2021-2022 school year will include many changes. New guidelines and restrictions will mean adjustments for the students, teachers and staff.

For a new teacher, having to make sure they have everything needed to start the school year off can be stressful. Worcester Youth & Family wants to help the new teachers in Worcester County schools get off to a good start.

Together with the Board of Education and local business it will provide each new teacher with a bag filled with supplies. Donations can be brought to the Worcester Youth office, 124 N. Main St., Suite C, Berlin, Maryland, through Aug. 13.

# OP Platform Tennis honors Freeman in Sept. tournament

Continued from Page 22  
Semper Fi/America's Fund, "in Memory of Jim Freeman," mailed with an entry form to Michael Petito, 4 Long Court, Ocean Pines, Maryland, 21811.

To download an entry form, visit <https://oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/SemperFi.9.25.21.3.pdf>.

The Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Club is also seeking sponsors for the event. For questions or more information, email [oppaddle2020@gmail.com](mailto:oppaddle2020@gmail.com).



The Ocean Pines Anglers Club hosted its annual Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest on July 17 at the South Pond in Ocean Pines. Pictured are the first-place winners.



Second- and third-place winners in the annual Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest are pictured.

# Pines Anglers Club youth fishing event nets over 150 fish

(July 29, 2021) The Ocean Pines Anglers Club hosted its annual Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest on July 17 at the South Pond in Ocean Pines.

The event drew 64 contestants, ages 4-16, and at least that many adults. A total of 155 fish were caught and submitted to the judges.

Trophies, prizes and rods and reels were given to first-, second- and third-place winners in each age group for largest and most fish. Every youth entered received a prize, courtesy of the Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club.

Largest fish first place were: age 4-7, Pierson Parrish; age 8-11, Anthony See TOURNAMENT Page 25

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302.537.2441





A drawing was held for two grand prizes. Kylee Middleton won the fishing trip aboard the Angler and Sydney Fowler took home the Vitak custom rod and reel. They are pictured with Mike Vitak, who donated one of his handmade custom rods and reel.



Anthony Giannotta shows off his 17.5-inch bass, which earned the largest fish award in the 8-11 age group of the tournament.

Obituary

Tournament draws 64 junior anglers

**ARDENE MONTE**  
Ocean Pines

Ardene Monte died peacefully at Catered Living of Ocean Pines on Saturday, July 3, 2021. His goal was to reach 100 years and he was very close at 99.5 years.

He was born on Dec. 3, 1921, in Farmington, Illinois, to Cleto and Nora Monterastelli.

Ardene's wife, Helmi, asked him to shorten his last name to better fit her diminutive size. His adventure with his name lasted his entire life as his nicknames included Dean, Slim, Stretch, Monte, Grandpa Monte, and Chunks.

He was a retired accountant with Hughes Grocery Chain but he much better enjoyed golf, swing dancing, karaoke (signature songs: "My Way" and "Kansas City"), poker, his many friends, and his family.

He is survived by a son, Paul Monte; one granddaughter, Lea Wulfschle; and two great-granddaughters, Josephine and Antonia Wulfschle.

He is in Heaven now with Helmi and his other son, Alan J. Monte, probably raising a ruckus.

He will be remembered for his honesty, generosity, humor, love of Swiss Steak, and willingness to break into song.

He was an amazing human being, father, grandfather, and friend. We miss him.

A Celebration of this extraordinary man's life will be held in the fall. Zoom will be offered.

[www.baysideoc.com](http://www.baysideoc.com)

Continued from Page 24  
Giannotta; age 12-16, Trey Prozzillo. Most fish winners: age 4-7, Reid Landis; age 8-11, Joey Davis; and age 12-16, Connor Rarrick.

A drawing was held for two grand prizes. Rich Patschorke se-

cured a deep sea fishing trip aboard the Angler, and Mike Vitak donated one of his handmade custom rods and reel.

Kylee Middleton won the fishing trip and Sydney Fowler took home the Vitak custom rod and reel.

The Anglers Club also appreciates the support of the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks, Department of Natural Resources and all members of the Anglers Club who donated their time and resources to make this a successful event.

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# Opinion

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

## Farr, Lakernick appear best board candidates

This year’s Ocean Pines election has no bad choices among the four candidates seeking seats on the board of directors, but we are recommending Stuart Lakernick and Rick Farr as our top picks.

Our main concern with current board member candidate Frank Daly is his dogged decision to push forward on a costly effort to change the DRs in neighborhoods, which could open the door to fining property owners. Daly is also proposing to add some monitoring of compliance on short-term rentals to the police department. That is not their responsibility, and only serves to take away from their important role of community safety.

Certainly, compliance enhancement on the handful of problem short-term rental properties needs to be done, as neighbors should not have to suffer through a summer season of disturbance to the quiet enjoyment of their home. However, it is better addressed by working more diligently through the county and Ocean Pines CPI department, which already handle those matters.

While Daly does have board experience, Ocean Pines elections have a 2-3-2 three-year board cycle which allows new members to come into the mix and get up to speed their first year, making progress a non-issue.

Additionally, putting Lakernick and Farr on the board will provide a better balance of golfers to non-golfers. The golf course is one of the community’s largest amenities, and one of the costliest to maintain and operate.

Currently six of the seven board members are golfers. Although this year the course is ahead of budget, that has not always been the case and even over budget it still costs every property owner additional funding over income to operate each year. Having some board members who can review decisions for the course from a non-golf property owner’s viewpoint would be best.

We also feel this past year’s board in-fighting, over-stepping board responsibilities, and minimizing members not in the majority will benefit from having two moderately tempered new members in Farr and Lakernick.



*“This is embarrassing. Dogs go to Obedience School. Why don’t dog owners like mine go to Obedience School to learn to obey the laws?”*

## Letters

### NAACP hosts Berlin forum

Editor,

On July 19, the Worcester County Branch of the NAACP hosted a “Race Relations Forum,” which was held at the Duncan Showell American Legion Post 231 in Berlin.

This was a very informative meeting and an important step in the ongoing process of understanding the importance of building good community relationships.

I want to thank our moderator Rev. James Jones, and panelists Pocomoke

Councilman Todd J. Knox, Berlin Councilwoman Shaneka Nicholas, community representative Dee Davis, and former Worcester County Commissioner James Purnell.

Organizations with representatives attending included Caucus of African-American Leaders, United Black Clergy, Maryland Freedom Riders and Delegate Sandy Bartlett, Honorable Carl Snowden, Maryland State Conference NAACP President Willie Flowers and Jackie Allsup, Salisbury University Chapter NAACP President Dorien Rogers, Wicomico County

NAACP President Amanda Hopkins, Somerset County NAACP President Kirkland Hall, Bishop Antonio Palmer, and Darius Stanton.

Thanks to all for traveling to Worcester for this historic event.

I especially want to recognize Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan for attending, listening and answering questions from the group. This effort is a great starting point to build positive working good relationships with local community leaders and other stakeholders across the state of Maryland.

*Ivory Smith President  
Worcester County NAACP*

BAYSIDE

GAZETTE

P.O. Box 3500, Ocean City, Md. 21843

Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

EDITOR ..... Stewart Dobson

MANAGING EDITOR ..... Lisa Capitelli

STAFF WRITERS ..... Greg Ellison, Greg Wehner,

.....Jack Chavez, Mallory Panuska

ASSISTANT PUBLISHER ..... Elaine Brady

ACCOUNT MANAGERS ..... Mary Cooper, Vicki Shrier

CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS MANAGER .... Nancy MacCubbin

SENIOR DESIGNER ..... Susan Parks

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## OP ballot delivery concerns subside

(July 29, 2021) The Ocean Pines Elections Committee released a pair of statements on Friday about board election ballots being delivered and in response to concerns about translucent envelopes.

On ballots being delivered, the committee said it has received numerous reports of election materials being received. Apparently, the mailing logjam was

ashort-term event.

Committee members encouraged association members to vote for the future leadership of Ocean Pines Association. Ballots must be received by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 11, either at the Berlin post office or in the ballot box located in the Police Department lobby.

As for questions about the translucent envelopes, the

committee said, all ballots that are received will be counted. Should OPA property owners be concerned about ballot security, a ballot can be folded once (either along the short axis or the long axis) or wrapped in a blank piece of paper.

The scanning and counting process will accept ballots that have been folded once.



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., July 29

**BLUE SKY PUPPETS OUTDOOR PROGRAM**  
Sturgis Park Pavilion, Snow Hill, 10:30-11:30 a.m. The Three Little Pigs and other animal friends learn sharing and taking turns while they act out their favorite scenes from favorite fairy tales. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under events. 410-632-2600

**BLUE SKY PUPPETS OUTDOOR PROGRAM**  
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 2-3 p.m. The Three Little Pigs and other animal friends learn sharing and taking turns while they act out their favorite scenes from favorite fairy tales. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under events. 410-632-2600

**CONCERT IN THE PARK**  
Cypress Park, 7 Bridge St., Pocomoke City, 7-8:30 p.m. Featuring "Live & Dangerous." Pack a picnic and bring lawn chairs. Admission is free. [downtown-pocomoke.com](http://downtown-pocomoke.com), 410-957-1333, Ext. 111

**ATLANTIC GENERAL HOSPITAL JOB FAIR**  
James G. Barrett Medical Office Build-

ing, 10226 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 3-6 p.m. Recruiting for all open positions within the healthcare organization. Interviews conducted on site. Register: 410-641-9612, [jobs@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:jobs@atlanticgeneral.org).

**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>

**SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHTS**  
Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Featuring "Full Circle" (modern/classic rock). Admission to the park is free, while beverages, including beer, are available for purchase. Bring your own seating. <http://www.ocdc.org>, 410-289-7739

**OC BEACH DANCE PARTY**  
Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7:30-9:30 p.m. A DJ hits the Caroline Street Stage where attendees can dance under the lights on the beach. Followed by the new drone show at 9:30 p.m. 410-250-0125

**OC DRONE SHOW**  
North Division Street Beach, North Division Street, Ocean City, 9:30-10 p.m. Come experience Ocean City's new drone show. <https://www.ococean.com/events/oc-drone-shows2021>

**SNOW HILL FARMER'S MARKET**  
*Thursdays through October* - Sturgis Park Pavilion on the Pocomoke River, noon to 5 p.m.

## Fri., July 30

**MOVIE ON THE BEACH**  
27th Street Beach, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring "The Secret Garden (2020)." Weather permitting. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

**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. More than \$1,000 paid out each night plus an opportunity to win a \$1,000 jackpot at the end of the night. 410-524-7994

## Sat., July 31

**MARGIT NOVACK BOOK SIGNING**  
The Greyhound - An Indie Bookstore and Fine Art Gallery, 9 S. Main St., Berlin, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Featuring Novack's new, life-affirming book, "Squint: Revisioning the Second Half of Life." [www.margitnovack.com](http://www.margitnovack.com)

**PORTERHOUSE STEAK DINNER**  
American Legion #123, 10111 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 4-7 p.m. Featuring 16 oz. butcher shop porterhouse steak with baked potato, salad and roll for \$20. Public welcome. 410-641-3760

**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., Aug. 1

**BOOK SIGNING**  
Bethany Beach Books, 99 Garfield Park-  
Continued on Page 28



# OPEN HOUSES

## JULY 29 - AUGUST 5



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday, 2-4pm	38414 Walnut Lane, Selbyville, DE	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$989,900	Lauren Bunting/Atlantic Shores



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# Calendar

Continued from Page 27  
way, Bethany Beach, 7-8:30 p.m. Author Dana Phipps will be signing her sequel to “Murder in Ocean Pines” titled “Pursuit in Ocean Pines.” [tdbeachnut@aol.com](mailto:tdbeachnut@aol.com)

### SUNDAES IN THE PARK

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Enjoy free music. 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.berlinmainstreet.com/farmersmarket/>

## Mon., Aug. 2

### 48TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Enter to win or come to view the spectacle of the World’s Largest Billfish Tournament. More than a million dollars in prizes. Open to all anglers, no age restrictions. <https://whitemarlinopen.com>, 410-289-9229

### MARLIN FEST

Third Street Bayside Ballfield, Third Street, Ocean City, 3-9 p.m. Watch the White Marlin Open weigh-ins in real time on the big screen in a festival atmosphere. Vendors, food, drink and entertainment for the entire family. Admission is free. <https://marlinfest.com>, 410-289-9229

### 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. For call-in option, dial 605-472-5789, wait for voice command, then press 944874. Support and educational group. Rose Campion, 443-880-8884

### MOVIE ON THE BEACH

27th Street Beach, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring “Frozen.” Weather permitting. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

## Tues., Aug. 3

### 48TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Enter to win or come to view the spectacle of the World’s Largest Billfish Tournament. More than a million dollars in



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

### COMMENDATION

During the June 1, 2021 meeting, the Worcester County Commissioners, who were joined by State’s Attorney Kris Heiser, presented a retirement commendation and thanked Office Assistant Lorraine Mack for providing 15 years of dedicated service to the Worcester County State’s Attorney’s Office.

prizes. Open to all anglers, no age restrictions. <https://whitemarlinopen.com>, 410-289-9229

### CRAFT MORNING

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. A variety of craft tables will be set up for the creation of visual tales. Ruby with hedgehog will visit until 2:30 p.m. All ages welcome. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under events. 410-632-2600

### SALISBURY 2002U

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 2 p.m. Typically there will be a bird, a mammal, a reptile and either an amphibian or an invertebrate. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under events. 410-632-2600

### MARLIN FEST

Third Street Bayside Ballfield, Third Street, Ocean City, 3-9 p.m. Watch the White Marlin Open weigh-ins in real time on the big screen in a festival atmosphere. Vendors, food, drink and entertainment for the entire family. Admission is free. <https://marlinfest.com>, 410-289-9229

### KOFC SEAFOOD NIGHT

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 5-6:30 p.m. If you would like steamed crabs or shrimp, you must pre-order on Monday or Tuesday morning between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Pre-

order: 410-524-7994.

### 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 permitting. <http://www.ococean.com>

### CHAMBER MUSIC BY THE SEA

Worcester County. 7-8 p.m. Ticketed concert streamed on Zoom. Ticket and artist information: [www.chambermusicbythesea.com](http://www.chambermusicbythesea.com) or [www.wced.foundation](http://www.wced.foundation). Suitable for children of all ages.

### DELMARVA HAND DANCE

Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. [delmarvahanddance@gmail.com](mailto:delmarvahanddance@gmail.com), <https://delmarvahanddancing.com>

## Wed., Aug. 4

### 48TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Enter to win or come to view the spectacle of the World’s Largest Billfish Tournament. More than a million dollars in prizes. Open to all anglers, no age restrictions. <https://whitemarlinopen.com>, 410-289-9229

### STORY TIME ON THE BEACH!

Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel - Oceanfront, 10100 Coastal Highway,

Ocean City, 10-11 a.m. Meet on the beach and listen to stories read by the Ocean City Beach Patrol. Learn water safety tips and see a lifeguard flag demonstration. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under events. 410-632-2600

### MARLIN FEST

Third Street Bayside Ballfield, Third Street, Ocean City, 3-9 p.m. Watch the White Marlin Open weigh-ins in real time on the big screen in a festival atmosphere. Vendors, food, drink and entertainment for the entire family. Admission is free. <https://marlinfest.com>, 410-289-9229

### MOVIE ON THE BEACH

Carousel Hotel, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring “Shrek.” Weather permitting. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

## ONGOING EVENTS

### OC LIFE-SAVING STATION MUSEUM FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS

Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum, south end of the Boardwalk, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., Monday through Saturday, 10-10:30 a.m., through Aug. 31. Featuring “History of our Surferman” on Mondays, “Beach Safety” on Tuesdays, “Knot Tying” on Wednesdays, “All About Sharks” on Thursdays, “Land, Sky & Sea” on Fridays, and “Aquarium Feeding” on Saturdays. [www.ocmuseum.org](http://www.ocmuseum.org).



## Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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



# Cuisine

## Suplee's recipe for cheese-wrapped eggs

Is there anything better than, well, absolutely anything wrapped in toasted golden cheese? This was a



By Paul Suplee,  
MBA, CEC, PC-3

new thing for me in Domini- cal, and I spent a few weeks try- ing to conjure up the courage to attempt it. When I experi- enced it, my mind went in a million differ- ent directions, and I was left both satiated and disappointed that I had not thought of it myself.

One of our favorite breakfast spots was a brewery specializing in de- sayuno tipico, a dish that I did not personally get but that I sampled every day that someone else did. It was rice and beans, wrapped in a crusty golden cheese wrap with scrambled eggs on the side. We were not expecting it on day one. Someone merely ordered it thinking that it sounded interesting, and we all sat around the breakfast table wondering what had just happened to our lives.

As we ventured through our Cen- tral American trip over the eight days that we were there, we tried a great many things. Zip-lining was much better than it was in Kauai years ago, and that was breathtaking to say the least. The hiking was glorious, al- though our host told us to be careful in the jungle as the venomous vipers had made their way down due to the rainy season.

That little piece of knowledge put us on edge, especially as one had been killed a few days earlier on the property and one was lying dead in the road, a car having veered out of its way to dispatch the creature. Ap- parently, without the antidote, a bite from one of these little bastards means death within 30 minutes. Needless to say, we were vigilant as to where we were walking.

One of the best parts of the trip for me was seeing the monkeys that I had heard on a previous trip but had never laid eyes on. The howler mon- keys and Panamanian white face monkeys were delightful to watch. If you have never heard a howler mon- key before, look a video up online. With their enlarged esophagus, they make a horrifying noise, mimicking a dinosaur. It is more of a constant roar. You can hear them for miles.

We heard them most of our trip, and it wasn't until my daughter woke



us up from a nap abruptly that we ac- tually got to see them in person. As we walked outside, groggy from the midday slumber, we could tell that they were close. We snuck to the jun- gle's edge and then we saw branches rustling. Gathering our safari-like wits about us, we slowly worked to- wards the beasts, they themselves staying ten yards up in the trees but moving across the horizon. And the growling; wow, the growling. It was electrifying, as it sounded so powerful so close to us.

The cartload of monkeys moved from tree to tree, making their splen- did noise and paying us little mind. We watched them for about forty minutes, and then they made their way back up the mountain to their humble abode.

Later in the day, three of us went on a hike next to the property, and that is when we saw the Panamanian monkeys, or capuchins. These are the monkeys that are typically used as 'organ grinder' monkeys. They were immensely cuter than the howler monkeys. At the last restaurant in which we dined before coming home, the capuchins came out of the forest at sundown and walked around, wait-

ing for guests to feed them bananas and pineapples. It was quite the show to go along with dinner.

Throughout our trip, my girlfriend was impressed that I was able to mimic the howler monkey's call. I be- lieve that she said it was proof posi- tive that I must be much more closely related to them than most people.

Either way, I was happy to have the breakfast that we did to sustain us through our adventures.

Things wrapped in golden, toasted cheese; what will they think of next?

### Cheese-wrapped Eggs

serves 2

- 6 ea. Large fresh eggs
- 2 Tbsp. Whole butter
- 1 c. garden-fresh heirloom tomatoes
- 1/2 ea. Red onion
- Fresh basil, as needed
- Chilies, as needed
- 2 c. Shredded Cheddar cheese
- 4 slices provolone cheese

1. Whisk the eggs in a bowl and season to taste. Set aside while you prepare the rest of the dish.

2. Heat the butter in a pan and sauté the tomatoes and onions until most of the water has cooked off.

3. Add the chilies and cook for a couple minutes, and then finish with the basil, seasoning the mixture to taste.

4. Add the eggs to this and finish the scramble. Keep warm while you make the cheese 'wrap.'

5. In a non-stick pan, add some pan spray and evenly spread out half of the cheddar cheese.

6. Top with 2 slices of provolone and cook as though you are making a parmesan crisp for a salad. The cheese will bubble, and you are look- ing for the 'wrap' to start taking a shape of its own. You want it to hold up as you wrap the eggs.

7. Carefully slide the cheese wrap onto the service plate and top with half of the scrambled egg mixture.

8. Wrap the whole thing up with the cheese, and place is seam-side down on the plate.

9. Serve with fresh tomatoes, melon and anything else that your heart desires.

—Paul Suplee is a Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College and owner of boxcar40. Visit him at [www.boxcar40.com](http://www.boxcar40.com).



# CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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

Call **410-723-6397**  
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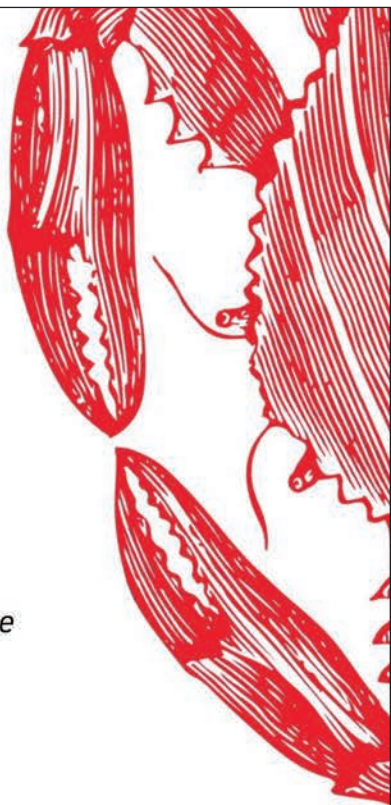
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