



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FESTIVE CELEBRATION

Twinkling lights illuminate throngs of Christmas fans during the "Ice Ice and Tree Lighting" event in front of the Atlantic Hotel in Berlin on Friday. Below, Annapolis town crier Frederick Taylor rings out an announcement to commence the ceremony.

Parade still makes spectacle of itself

Berlin's extraordinary holiday procession draws huge crowds and will again tonight for its 50th anniversary

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Billed as the "largest holiday parade on the Eastern Shore," Berlin's 50th annual Christmas Parade will wind its way down Main Street tonight beginning at 7 p.m.

Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells said spectators will be treated to more than 80 floats, dance teams, marching bands and fire companies, culminating with the arrival of Santa.

"It's the golden anniversary of the

parade so there's going to be a lot of golden-themed floats," she said.

Wells said the judges' stand will be situated toward the north end of the parade route, much the same as it was in 2019.

"The last parade was the first time we had moved the judging stage down to Baker and West [streets] and it worked out well, so we're doing that again this year," she said.

Starting at 7 p.m. from the Berlin Welcome Center, parade floats and participants will head north up Main



Street and wind up at the Berlin Fire Company.

Wells said many parade enthusiasts don't realize the event involves two sets of judges.

"There's the official band judges, which actually come all the way from Pennsylvania to judge the band, then we have our local judges for the rest

See SPECTACULAR Page 4

OP courses, courts, pools surge ahead

After years of bad results, amenities beating budget

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Halfway through the fiscal year, Ocean Pines' ledgers show that increased profitability at the golf course, racquet courts and swimming pools has combined to put these amenities a half-million dollars ahead of budget estimates.

General Manager John Viola attributed this strong financial performance to proper oversight from Ocean Pines Association leadership and staff efforts.

"It's a reflection of the managers or directors at all three amenities," he said.

In addition to PGA Director of Golf John Malinowski and Aquatics Director Kathleen Cook, tennis pro Terry Underkoffler and facilities manager Tim McMullen operate the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

Through October, this year's net operating figures have beaten the budget by \$271,000 in golf, \$204,000 in aquatics and \$34,000 in racquet sports.

"It's organic revenue growth," he said. "Obviously, we haven't had any price increases."

At this point in the last fiscal year, golf operations was ahead of budget by \$198,000, while both tennis and pool facilities were under budget by \$23,000 and \$116,000 respectively.

Viola said improved aesthetics at the golf course and racquet courts have helped draw more players at both locations.

"We are getting very positive feedback," he said. "It's the maintenance

See VIOLA Page 4

'It's a reflection of the managers or directors at all three amenities.'

General Manager John Viola



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Berlin partially rolls back office closings until Jan. 3

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) After closing town government office buildings last month in the wake of several employees tested positive for covid-19, Berlin officials announced last week that Town Hall would reopen to the public on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Jan. 3.



Zach Tyndall

Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said the intent was to ensure public safety by limiting exposure.

“We’ve had several positive cases in the last few weeks,” she said.

Berlin also re-opened the Planning Department and the Visitors Center last week, but opted to limit public access to Town Hall to one day a week for the rest of the year.

“This is the building with the most public exposure,” she said.

Mayor Zach Tyndall said town officials have consulted with the CDC and Worcester County Health Department for health safety advice throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

“There’s not much guidance about closing buildings,” he said. “They really leave that up to individual munic-

ipalities.” Tyndall said options were limited after the recent rash of positive covid tests.

“We had to close down all office buildings to get staff tested,” he said.

As results returned, unaffected staff began trickling back to regular office duties.

Tyndall said residents needing assistance paying utility or other bills could contact customer service staff.

Payments can be made in person at two drop-off boxes in Town Hall on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or online by visiting berlinmd.gov and clicking “online payments” on the top right.

“We’ve been able to meet all those operational needs because of the precautions we’ve taken,” he said.

Public meetings scheduled in December will be held with in-person attendance limited and masks required.

Tyndall said department heads would only attend meetings as needed and only for the relevant portion.

Tyndall applauded staff efforts to maintain operations despite safety precautions.

“Staff members rose to the occasion to deliver top customer service despite staffing challenges,” he said.

Berlin holding free curbside yard waste pickup Dec. 8, 15

(Dec. 2, 2021) The Town of Berlin will hold free curbside yard waste collections in December for improved, occupied residential properties.

For those neighborhoods that have Tuesday and Wednesday trash collection, yard waste collection will be on Wednesday, Dec. 8; for Thursday trash collection customers, yard waste collection will be on Wednesday, Dec. 15.

It is not necessary to notify the town of items for collection ahead of time, but items must be at the curb by 6 a.m. on collection day.

Residents should place leaves, grass clippings, pine needles and cones, and garden waste in a paper or plastic bag and cut brush into 4 feet lengths and bundle no larger than 18 inches in diameter. They are not to include animal waste, stones, rocks, metal, other inorganic matter, dirt, sod or other materials.

More information is available online at berlinmd.gov under “Departments/Public Works” or by calling 410-641-2770, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The town has also announced trash and recycling schedules for the

Christmas and New Year Holidays:

Christmas: Town offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 23 and 24. For regularly scheduled trash collection for Thursday or Friday, trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 22 along with regular Wednesday collection. Recycling collection for Friday will be on Monday, Dec. 27 along with regular Monday collection.

New Year: Town offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 30 and 31. For regularly scheduled trash collection for Thursday or Friday, trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 29 along with regular Wednesday collection. Recycling collection for Friday will be on Monday, Jan. 3 along with regular Monday collection.

Live-cut Christmas trees will be collected for disposal on Wednesdays, Jan. 5 and 12. Trees must be at the curb on either of those dates by 6 a.m. and free of all decorations. Artificial trees and live trees in pots or “balled” and intended for re-planting will not be collected. Trees should not be in disposal bags at the curb.

Pines breakfast with Santa set for Saturday

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Children can confirm Christmas gift requests during Ocean Pines annual “Breakfast with Santa” on Saturday from 8-11 a.m. in the Assateague Room at the community center.

Recreation Supervisor Katie Goetzing said in addition to providing kids facetime with St. Nick, all ages can partake of breakfast selections including pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, coffee, pastries and fruit.

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City members will be handling food production.

“We’re excited Kiwanis is helping us in the kitchen,” she said.

Breakfast prices are \$5 for ages 4-10, \$7 for ages 11 and up, with children 3 years of age and under eating for free.

Goetzing said Santa Claus is slated to arrive at 8:30 a.m. festooned in red and white and ready to account for who’s been naughty or nice.

For a \$5 donation to support Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks programs, Santa will pose for pictures with kids.

In the spirit of giving, guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy or non-perishable food item for area families in need.



PHOTO COURTESY OPA
The initial deadline to register for the annual “Light Up the Pines” outdoor decorating program sponsored by Choptank Electric Cooperative is Friday.

After canceling the Santa breakfast last year because of covid-19, organizers are anticipating a return to the sizeable crowds that attend the event in previous years.

“We’re hoping for a big turnout,”

she said.

On other Yuletide fronts, the initial deadline to register for the annual “Light Up the Pines” outdoor decorating program is Friday.

Choptank Electric Cooperative is

again sponsoring the community campaign to spread watts of Christmas joy.

An online map of participating homes may be viewed at

See STILL Page 4

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Viola credits staff for big budget turnaround

Continued from Page 1
and the appearance of the golf course that's doing it ... and same thing with racquet sports.

The feedback is obviously in the revenue and in the rounds," he said. "Maintaining the appearance of the tennis courts has helped to generate revenue."

Viola said budget cuts to golf maintenance and inferior course conditions in past years cost the operation revenue.

"I'm actually in the process of going through what it costs to maintain other golf courses versus what we're doing and we're kind of on the favorable side," he said.

Sufficient funding for turf maintenance yields dividends, Viola said.

"We have brought up the course conditions and it's showing up in the numbers of people coming out to



John Malinowski



John Viola

play," he said. "It's a reflection of the investment we've made at the course."

Viola said numerous golfers who had been steering clear of Ocean Pines have changed their tune.

"Now they're like they can't wait," he said. "They want to come back and they're telling their friends."

Turning to aquatics, Viola said despite numerous limitations tied to covid-19, Cook has navigated to profitability.

"It's still organic revenue," he said. "They're finding revenue there you didn't find before."

While ahead of budget at the half-



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Rounds play has been steady at the Ocean Pines Golf Course, with General Manager John Viola reporting generally positive feedback regarding recent turf conditions.

point in FY21/22, aquatics was operating \$116,000 under estimates to

close last October.

"Aquatics has been good," he said.



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Santa and Mrs. Claus end the 49th annual Berlin Christmas Parade sitting atop the Berlin Fire Company's antique truck as it drove along Main Street in 2019.

Spectacular parade marks 50th

Continued from Page 1
of the parade," she said.

Local judges are Shenanigan's Irish Pub owner Greg Shockley, Worcester County Public Schools Superintendent Lou Taylor, Elaine Brady, who recently retired as Bayside Gazette publisher, retired Berlin mailman James Tingle, and newcomer Gregory Purnell.

Floats will be judged in four categories: children's themed, commercial entities, nonprofit agencies and fire companies.

The return of the Christmas Parade this year will have one notable difference.

"Big Al Reno is the emcee, taking over for Wayne Cannon, who passed away this year," she said.

Wells said Cannon had handled parade announcement duties as long as anyone could recall.

"He's always been the guy," she said.

Due to overflow crowds, remote parking and shuttle service will be available at Berlin Intermediate School.

"Come out, come early and enjoy," she said. "Bring a chair and have a seat."

Wells said after the annual holiday extravaganza was shut down in 2020 because of covid-19, organizers are anticipating record attendance this year.

"There's going to be so many people there this year, because it was cancelled last year," she said. "Plus the weather looks warm [and] that will bring more people out."

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Continued from Page 3
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Participating homes will be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$50 bill credits donated by Choptank. Also, the first 25 registered participants will receive a small goody bag courtesy of Choptank.

Households wanting to participate should submit their names, address and phone number via email to info@oceanpines.org or call 410-641-7717 ext. 3014.

For more information about Breakfast with Santa call Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks at 410-641-7052.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Garrett Neeb tractors the more than half-century-old “Kringle Kottage” down Main Street last month to its ultimate destination in the Berlin Welcome Center parking lot, which serves as a holiday village during Merry Marketplace weekends through Dec. 19.

Christmas events occurring in droves in Berlin on Sat.

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Berlin will host a wealth of Christmas events on Saturday, starting with Buckingham Presbyterian Church’s “Grinch Fest” at 9 a.m. and concluding with a “Holiday Cocktail Open House” at the Taylor House Museum beginning at 5 p.m.

From 9 a.m. until noon, Buckingham Presbyterian will stage its “Holiday Grinch Fest,” with free crafts, donuts and juice for children at its 20 S. Main St. location.

In addition to a free hot chocolate booth, breakfast sandwiches will be available to purchase.

Craftspeople will be on hand to provide unique gift selections, and face painting will be available for kids.

All funds raised will be used to assist community members in need during the holidays, and to purchase supplies for the Samaritan Shelter.

Next up, Stevenson United Methodist Church will hold its Christmas Bazaar from noon until 2 p.m. at its 123 N. Main St. location.

Guests can peruse items from vendors such as Kork’s Corner Crafts, Velda Creations, On What Grounds, Mary Kay, Norwex, Doterra, Usbourne Books, Thirty-One, Scentsy, Pampered Chef, Just Saying, Jabb’s Seasonings, Art by Kaylyn and Homemade Soups.

Fresh baked goods will be available to purchase, along with cookbooks to replicate culinary delights at home.

Those in need of more substantive nourishment can also purchase vegetable beef soup and pulled pork sandwiches.

In addition to a silent auction, event organizers will provide a “white elephant table” for additional shopping options.

Also on Saturday, Berlin’s Merry Marketplace will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Merry Marketplace will operate on Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 19.

Hot chocolate will be available, with proceeds being used to support Berlin nonprofits.

During Merry Marketplace, the Welcome Center parking lot will be transformed into a holiday village that will include a “Kringle Kottage” plus artisans and food vendors.

Bob Palladino will provide live music and Berlin Commons will be vending hot cider and mead.

No-cost horse-drawn carriage rides will be available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Also, kids can send a letter to Santa and receive a letter back with a coupon for a treat. North pole-bound correspondence can be dropped off at a special holiday mailbox located inside the vestibule of the Berlin Welcome Center.

The festivities on Saturday in Berlin wind up with a “Holiday Cocktail Open House” at the Taylor House Museum from 5-7 p.m.

Heather Nottingham, with the Taylor House Museum, said the open house is a revised version of a previous classical music event.

“In the past, we sold tickets,” she said.

The reimagined event on Saturday is free to attend with a violin and cello duo providing background music.

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin officials held a ribbon cutting for the Mermaid Museum in the spring. The attraction has garnered national attention, including a USA Today contest.

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Mermaid Museum in Berlin places in USA Today contest

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Since opening at 4 Jefferson St. in Berlin earlier this year, the Mermaid Museum has established a reputation for the unusual and has now earned a spot among best new attractions in the 2021 USA Today 10 Best Readers' Choice contest.

Museum proprietor Alyssa Maloof said the contest nomination was a surprise.

"It was really cool because the editors picked the top 20 new attractions in the U.S. and now we have a chance to win," she said.

Online voting runs through Dec. 20 at noon, with winners unveiled on Dec. 31.

"You can vote every day to keep us on the map for new and unusual attractions," she said.

Among the various sights held upstairs at the historic Odd Fellows building in downtown Berlin is an authentic Fiji mermaid and a fish-monkey hybrid creature made infamous in traveling sideshows operated by P.T. Barnum.

As of Tuesday, the Mermaid Museum was ranked eighth among 20 new at-

See CONTEST Page 7

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Wor. Goes Purple holds ‘Find Your Strong’ contest in Dec.

(Dec. 2, 2021) Worcester Goes Purple (WGP) continues to champion that “Recovery is Possible” and Only-PositiveStories, founded by Dylan and Hunter Simons, encourages everyone to “Think Positive.”

The two local organizations are joining together to sponsor a writing contest entitled “Find Your Strong.” They are encouraging members of the community who “found their strong” to share their story of strength to inspire others.

Applicants of all ages and from all walks of life are asked to answer the questions: “How did you find your strong in 2020 & 2021? Did you ‘find your strong’ in your faith, community family, or your passion?” in 250 words or less.

The first 25 submissions will receive “Find Your Strong” T-shirts.

Two weekly winners will each receive a “Find Your Strong” sweatshirt and the grand prize winner will be presented a \$250 Amazon gift card.

Submissions may be made from Dec. 1- 31 at onlypositivestories.com/submit-your-story; or mailed to WGP, P.O. Box 593, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Any questions, contact Debbie Smullen at wgpwarriors2021@gmail.com or 410-870-5161.

Berlin welcomes first ‘Ugly Sweater Run4Recovery’ Sat.

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Looking to increase support for people battling addiction, local nonprofits Hope4Recovery and Worcester Goes Purple will host their first “Ugly Sweater Run4Recovery” on Saturday in Berlin from 9 a.m. to noon.

Patricia Ottey with Hope4Recovery said the “family fun” 5K run begins and ends in front of the Atlantic Hotel on Main Street.

“It’s a fun run [for] families, kids and dogs,” she said. “No one is trying to reach their personal best.”

Ottey credited Debbie Smullen, who works with Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services and also founded Worcester Goes Purple, for envisioning the event to raise backing for the local recovery community.

“She was the brains behind the fundraiser,” she said. “She approached us about doing a co-fundraiser.”

While not required, organizers encourage participants to come decked

out in unfashionable holiday sweaters.

“There will be prizes for best costumes,” she said.

The cost for individuals is \$15 and \$35 for families up to four.

Day of registration begins at 8:15 a.m. but participants may also pre-register online by visiting hope4recoveryberlin.org/upcoming-events.

Fruit snacks and hot coco will be available.

Ottey said while not intended as a competitive race, medals would be awarded at the conclusion.

“The first 100 people receive a bag with a T-shirt and candy,” she said.

Red Sun Custom Apparel provided event T-shirts to support the charitable endeavor.

Ottey said organizers would have a handful of tables where substance-abuse recovery literature would be available.

“It’s equally to raise awareness and let people know about both groups,” she said.

Contest voting ends Dec. 20

Continued from Page 6

tractions included.

“It’s just fun to be nominated and recognized for doing something new and unusual,” she said.

USA Today’s annual 10 best contests give readers insights regarding experiential travel destinations in the U.S. and internationally.

“I just want to keep it in the top 10 so it can show up on the list of top attractions,” she said.

To learn more details or vote visit 10best.com/awards/travel/best-new-attraction/

Berlin overflows with events Sat.

Continued from Page 5

Open house attendees can nibble small bite selections donated by Baked Desserts and sip adult beverages while listening to music and taking a self-guided tour of the museum.

“We’re trying to loosen it up a little bit,” she said.

Nottingham said the open house would provide a prefect segue to dinner at one of Berlin’s numerous restaurants.

“We’re trying to get people to take a look at the museum and return later,” she said.



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Ocean Downs approved for sports betting

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2 2021) Sports betting is officially greenlit at Ocean Downs Casino. According to a wire story from The Center Square, the Maryland Sports Wagering Application Review Commission approved in-house sports betting licenses for five Maryland casinos, including the Berlin gambling facility, on Nov. 19. Ocean Downs General Manager Bobbi Sample said in an email that John Martin, the director of the Maryland Lottery & Gaming Control Agency, has estimated that the casinos that were approved by the lottery commission and awarded by the application review commission — including Ocean Downs — will be up and running with in-person sports wagering within 30 to 45 days.

“He has also estimated that online sports wagering in the state will be available roughly six months after the brick and mortar facilities are open,” she said.

The Center square story said the other four casinos approved for licenses last week, out of the 30 cleared to apply, were Horseshoe Casino, Live! Casino in Hanover, MGM National Harbor in Oxon Hill and Hollywood Casino in Perryville.

The approvals come on the heels of pressure from Gov. Larry Hogan to launch sports wagering in the state as soon as possible. Maryland is losing revenue to neighboring states that already have both in-house and mobile sports betting in operation.

“It’s clear to me the public wants casino gambling, they want sports wagering,” Committee member Randy Marriner said during last week’s meeting. “I think it’s our duty to do the job. Every day that we don’t pass ... the state of Maryland is losing revenue because those gamblers are going to West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware D.C. and not only doing sports wagering but while they’re there they’re spending money in the casino.”

Not everyone was on board with the approvals, though.

The Center Square story said that because no minority- and women-owned businesses have their applications ready



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN DOWNS CASINO

Ocean Downs Casino in Berlin will soon welcome an in-house sports book after members of the Maryland Sports Wagering Application Review Commission approved its application last month.

for approval, two committee members were leery of approving the other licenses.

“It would be in our best interests if, for no other reason but for perception only, to wait until some of these other applicants have been vetted by the lottery commission and so when it comes to our commission we now have a more diverse population and we are approving these

licenses at the same time,” Committee member Cassandra Stevenson said.

She and member Frank Turner voted against the approvals.

Voters approved sports betting in Maryland last November, and lawmakers ironed out the details during the 2021 session. The legislation allows 60 online operators and 30 retail sportsbooks — including casinos, professional sports

stadiums, small businesses and others — to obtain licenses.

Ocean Downs applied for an A-2 license, which carries a \$1 million application fee as well as costs for background investigations.

Officials initially hoped to launch sports betting operations in time for the start of the NFL season, but the timeline was pushed back.

AGH receives digital health award

(Dec. 2, 2021) Atlantic General Hospital has earned the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives’ 2021 Digital Health Most Wired recognition as a certified Level 8 institution, receiving awards for both acute care and ambulatory settings.

This year’s recognition is the sixth time in recent years that AGH has been named a Most Wired organization — recognized for its successful application of information technology solutions that positively impact

the quality and safety of care, as well as improving the overall patient and family experience.


CHIME’s Most Wired program conducts annual surveys to assess how effectively health care organizations are applying core and advanced technologies to their clinical and business programs in order to improve care for their patients.

“We’re honored to have received Most Wired recognition once again,” said Jonathan Bauer, AGH’s vice president of information sys-


tems. “It takes hard work and dedication from our IT team, medical staff, plus employees from the front lines to the executive suite to implement information technologies initiatives that improve the quality of the care we commit to deliver every day.”

A total of 36,674 organizations were represented in the 2021 Most Wired program. Just over 1.5 percent of these organizations achieved Level 7-10 distinction.

See AGH Page 10



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PHOTO COURTESY CHOPTANK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Choptank Electric Cooperative representatives, Worcester County residents and local officials pose before Worcester County Commissioner Ted Elder cuts a ribbon celebrating the first customers to be connected to the Choptank Fiber broadband network in Worcester County on Nov. 16. The ribbon-cutting was held at Chesapeake Bay Dairy in Berlin.

Choptank Fiber cuts ribbon for first internet customers

(Dec. 2, 2021) Choptank Electric Cooperative and its subsidiary, Choptank Fiber, held a ribbon-cutting for its first customers connected to its high-speed internet service in Worcester County on Tuesday, Nov. 16.

Local elected officials, members of the community and Choptank representatives gathered at the Holland family's Chesapeake Bay Dairy to celebrate the milestone and to partake of locally produced ice cream.

Staff were available to review information about Choptank Fiber and help community members enroll in service.

Laura Holland, owner of the ice cream operation, said she was thrilled with Choptank Fiber's broadband service.

"Since they connected our service last Friday, the kids haven't stopped using it," She said. "I've been telling our neighbors how fast everything is when you get online – there is no

waiting or spinning — items come up instantly."

Mike Malandro, president and CEO of Choptank Electric Cooperative, thanked members and staff of the Worcester County Commissioners for their commitment to broadband for the residents of the county.

"This project is the start of internet connection for many unserved households on the lower shore," he said. "Working together, we look forward to giving rural families and businesses — like the Holland's dairy — access to reliable internet so their operation can continue to develop here in Worcester County."

"Developing the fiber backbone to make broadband available to every home and business in Worcester County remains a top priority of the county commissioners," County Commissioners President Joe Mitre-cic said. "The Choptank project to install a mix of aerial and under-

See NEARLY Page 10

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Business Briefs

New hire

Dr. Christopher Farrell has joined Atlantic General Health System to provide advanced orthopedic care to the lower Eastern Shore.



C. Farrell

A subspecialist in hip and knee replacement, Farrell has more than 20 years of extensive experience in the field and has been board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery since 2008.

He was a fellow in adult reconstruction at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, New York, after completing a knee fellowship in adult reconstruction and sports medicine at Lenox Hill Hospital, also in New York.

Farrell graduated from Georgetown University Medical School in Washington, D.C., before entering his orthopedic surgery residency at Mayo Graduate School of Medicine, in Rochester, Minnesota.

He joins Dr. M. Sean Hooker in practice at Atlantic General Orthopedic Surgery and will provide surgical procedures at Atlantic General Hospital's Center for Joint Surgery.

To schedule a consultation, call 410-629-0366.

Gill joins AGH

Neurologist Jeremy Gill, MD, will be joining Atlantic General Health System this month to practice alongside Drs. Preeti Yonker and Lawrence Kemp and physician assistant Emily Laustsen in Berlin.



Jeremy Gill

Gill joins AGHS from Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital's neurosciences division in Charlottesville, Virginia. He received his doctor of medicine from University of Maryland School of Medicine after earning a bachelor's degree in behavioral neuroscience at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Gill completed his neurology residency at University of Massachusetts Memorial Health Center (UMMHC) in Worcester, Massachusetts, where he served as chief resident of neurology from 2008-2009. He then continued his training at UMMHC with a fellowship in clinical neurophysiology.

Gill is accepting new patients. Call Atlantic General Specialty Care at 410-641-0430 to schedule an appointment.

Nearly 35 families to get service

Continued from Page 9

ground fiber is part of an aggressive, three-year initiative to prioritize the extension of broadband to all underserved and unserved areas within Worcester in the next three years."

Commissioners Ted Elder, Diana Purnell and Josh Nordstrom helped kick off the event with Choptank Board Chairman Jeff Rathell, and board members Donna Richardson West, Amy Ireland Brandt, and Matt Holloway.

Choptank Fiber will install gigabit-speed service for up to 35 families in this initial build-out.

Choptank staff are contacting eligible customers to finalize installation plans along Whitesburg Road, Dividing Creek Road, Ferry Branch

Lane, McMaster Road and a small portion of Worcester Highway.

This is an expansion of Choptank Fiber's Somerset County buildout that has been under construction for the last three months, offering service to more than 60 families near Princess Anne.

Choptank Fiber was founded in 2021 at the request of the cooperative's members. Choptank Fiber is currently providing internet service to households in Caroline, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties. The broadband company expects to connect 1,000-1,500 locations annually to meet the needs of unserved residents on the Eastern Shore.

AGH earns level 8 certification

Continued from Page 8

Surveys assessed the adoption, integration and impact of technologies by scoring the degree of advancement in seven separate segments (infrastructure, security, administrative/supply chain, analytics/data management, interoperability/population health, patient engagement, and clinical

quality/safety).

Each participating organization received a customized benchmarking report along with certification based on their overall performance – with Level 10 being the highest certification level possible. AGH's Quality Awards and Level 8 certification reflects continuous improvement in its ratings over time.



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Board of Education members listen to a speaker during a meeting on Nov. 16. Several people have called for the board members to change their afternoon meeting times so more people can attend and participate.

Speakers criticize Wor. BOE meeting times

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Tuesday afternoons are not the most ideal time for parents and other adults to discuss pressing issues at Worcester County Public Schools.

That is why speakers at a recent — Tuesday afternoon — board of education meeting called on officials to offer a more convenient meeting time.

“All the meetings are starting at 12:30, right after lunch,” Pocomoke City resident Matthew Langford said during the Nov. 16 meeting. “Most citizens work 9 to 5 or somewhere in that range. They can’t attend your meetings unless they take off of work. So another time, which would allow a greater number of citizens to attend, would be much appreciated.”

He added that it makes no sense that the meetings do not have a virtual option.

Darren Lombardo, another speaker at the meeting, also commented on the inconvenient meeting times and even offered his own services, as the owner of a technology firm, to help implement a virtual option for viewers to stream and watch them.

“We implemented distance learning here, we have the technology to do that ... so you guys are experts in streaming,” he said. “You guys are experts at delivering the platform and there’s no reason we couldn’t have that here so it could be seen. If it’s a problem and you struggle with the implementation ... I’m willing to offer IT consulting service ... to implement that pro bono.”

The board typically meets once a month on the third Tuesday. The meetings are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. with closed sessions, and the open, public sessions commence at 12:30 p.m.

Annual budget sessions are typically held in the evenings, but the majority of all other public meetings are

held on Tuesday afternoons.

The board does not video conference or stream the meetings and audio or video transcripts are not available after they end. There is a conference call-in option, but the sound quality is not clear and it is at times difficult to follow what is going on.

Superintendent Lou Taylor said in an emailed statement on Monday that while the ultimate meeting schedule is up to the board members, there is a reason why they are scheduled in the middle of a weekday.

“Our Board of Education prides itself on being a board that recognizes the achievements of our students,” Taylor said. “By holding its meetings during the school day, the board can provide transportation for students being honored for their accomplishments in the classroom, on the playing field, on stage, and beyond.”

He added that offering transportation has also been a key component

in enabling the three student board representatives from the area high schools to attend and participate in the meetings.

Taylor said that he and members

of the board “certainly appreciate the feedback” from the district community. He added that they are all “very supportive” of parental involvement in students’ education.

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WCPS gives accolades to Apple partnership

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer
(Dec. 2, 2021) It began as a pipe dream.

Several years ago, Worcester County Public Schools officials wanted to upgrade the district's technology platform. And with support from Superintendent Lou Taylor, and forward-thinking county lawmakers who secured the funding, it became a reality.

"This was our dream," said Annette Wallace, the district's chief operating and academic officer for grades nine through 12, of the school system's recent partnership with Apple that created a high-tech instructional technology program.

Nick Genovesi and Brian Cook, the district's instructional technology and innovation coaches, publicly presented details of the program during a Nov. 16 Board of Education meeting.

Officially implemented in fall 2020 with iPads for students, the partnership not only helped with virtual learning and engagement during the unplanned closure of schools because of the pandemic, but it also catapulted



Snow Hill Middle School students follow along with a lesson on a flat panel television on school-issued iPads. The district has implemented a new technology program through a partnership with Apple that has provided iPads for students and high-tech processes in classrooms.

the district into a top spot for technology offerings.

"Not only is Worcester County doing things with devices and technology that other counties aren't doing, we're doing things that people on this side of the country aren't doing," Genovesi said during last week's presenta-

tion.

Through the program, in winter 2020, students at Showell Elementary were given MacBooks. Over the summer, flat panels replaced smart boards in all district classrooms, and staff members underwent Apple device training. In the fall, all teachers received MacBooks, and this winter administrative staff will receive iMacs.

According to Genovesi and Cook's presentation, 518 staff members have been certified as Apple teachers and 648 MacBooks have been issued across the district.

And from first graders to high schoolers, students have benefited from this new, innovative technology.

They are now able to interact with teachers as they go over lessons. And teachers can be much more creative with easier access to more information and processes, among other gains.

Taylor, who said he tasked officials several years ago to come up with a replacement for the district's "antiquated" technology, is more than satisfied with the result.

"It has worked so well, I can't even begin to tell you," he said. "It is one of those things I am so proud of. Our schools are much better places because of the work that you're doing, the learning environment is so much better. We are in a good place with our Apple computer program."



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Test-to-stay option added to WCPS covid quarantine rules

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Worcester County Public Schools officials are making strides to keep healthy kids in school when they are close contacts of covid-positive individuals.

On Nov. 15, Superintendent Lou Taylor said in a message to parents that the public school system would be

adding a seven-day quarantine option for students that meet "specific eligibility requirements."

Currently, students are required to quarantine at home for 14 days if they are determined to be a close contact of someone in a classroom who is covid positive. The school system defines a close contact as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

The modified quarantine option, which came from state health and education officials, went into effect on Nov. 15.

Information from the state board shows that "extremely low risk" of covid transmissions exist in classroom settings among fully masked individuals. Currently, masks are required in all public school classrooms.

Taylor's statement said students can follow the modified quarantine rules — also called a test-to-stay option — if they apply, or can decide to stay home and quarantine if they are close contacts.

See MASKS Page 13



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Masks, regular testing keys to easing stay-at-home rules

Continued from Page 12

The requirements for the modified quarantine include wearing a properly fitted mask and being asymptomatic when exposed to someone who was also wearing a mask who tested positive for covid. The rule only applies to students in the school system (adults are not eligible), who are not fully vaccinated.

If the criteria is met, the student can return to school as normal, but must remain asymptomatic, wear a mask at all times, and remain no stay 6 feet away from everyone during mask breaks. The student must also submit to rapid covid testing on days one, three, five and seven at the school nurse's office when arriving each day.

The student cannot participate in after school or extracurricular activities during the quarantine period either.

While the public school system has added this option, Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School is not making any changes.

Amanda Evans, the director of admissions and advancement at MBSCS, said in an email that no changes have been made to the private school's quarantine rules. The school currently follows the state's recommended 14-day quarantine requirements.

Other options for modified quarantine were implementation of weekly screening tests and elimination of quarantine in exchange for relying on masks to protect students.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Worcester County Public Schools have implemented a "test-to-stay" option for quarantining if a student who is a close contact of a covid positive person is asymptomatic.

Wor. Co. honors volunteer award recipients

(Dec. 2, 2021) The Worcester County Commissioners and Human Resources Director Stacey Norton recognized 2021 Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County Awards recipients on Oct. 20.

"To honor volunteers whose contributions help to improve the quality of life here locally, county residents were invited to nominate individuals, organizations and businesses for the 2021 Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County Awards," Norton said.

Individual Spirit Award recipients include James Meckley, Robin Tomaselli, and Sandra and Bill Venable.

Meckley, who co-chaired the annual Ocean Pines book sale, which brought in revenues of \$13,407, volunteered more than 1,000 hours from March 2020 to June 2021 and currently man-

ages the library's Amazon account and the book table at the Ocean Pines Farmers Market.

Tomaselli was recognized for her volunteer work with the Berlin mural project, Germantown School mural, flower project at the Berlin Branch Library, meals for the hungry/schools, and committee to save the historic Tyree AMC Church.

The Venables have volunteered more than 550 hours for Diakonia. Sandra assists with the thrift store twice a week, and Bill drives the truck twice a week to pick up donated furniture.

Shonn Williams, head moderator for the Neighbors of Snow Hill Facebook page, received the Emerging Leader Spirit Award for his extraordinary acts of kindness and for bringing a Christmas parade to the Town of

Snow Hill to spread kindness, joy, happiness, and unity.

Members of the First State Detachment Marine Corps League received the Group/Team Spirit Award after logging hundreds of volunteer hours assisting the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, Ocean City

Recreation Boosters, Semper Fi Bike Ride, Presidential Physical Fitness Test, Vietnam Traveling Wall, providing nursing home visits and funeral color guard details, and participating in the Toys for Tots program.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Schools in Worcester County received \$30,727 in grant funding through the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore's 2021 Fall Education Grants Program. Pictured are Worcester County educators.

Lower Shore schools receive \$90K in grants

(Dec. 2, 2021) Schools in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties received \$90,024 in grant funding through the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore's 2021 Fall Education Grants Program.

As students have returned to in-person learning, teachers are eager to jumpstart new programs that are engaging and supportive of current needs.

Funds will be distributed across 23 school-based programs. Educators and school districts were honored at an reception on Nov. 10 at James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury.

"By supporting the educators who serve our community's future leaders, we are growing a brighter future for the Lower Shore community," said

Community Foundation President Erica Joseph. "It is so inspiring to see the unique opportunities and projects area teachers are creating to enrich learning for children across the shore."

Education grants are made annually in conjunction with National Education Week through a competitive process to public and private grade schools on the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Grants are made to those schools that have developed innovative programs to enhance education and improve the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of their students and communities.

Worcester County schools were presented \$30,727. The following programs in Worcester received Education Award Grants for the 2021/2022 school year:

- * Berlin Intermediate School will expand its library collection to include titles focused on diversity, social-emotional learning and graphic novels.
- * Buckingham Elementary School will create a literary vending machine to be used as part of its One School One Book program.
- * Buckingham Elementary School will host an after-school Glee Club that will allow choral students to showcase their talents for the community.
- * Pocomoke Middle School will expand its Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program incentives.
- * Showell Elementary School will create outdoor learning spaces for gardens, science projects and activities.
- * Snow Hill Elementary will increase the school's collection of literature focused on diversity and inclusion.
- * Stephen Decatur Middle School will expand its library's collection of graphic novels.

As leaders, grant makers and stewards of philanthropy, the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore connects people who care to causes that matter for the common good of the Lower Eastern Shore.

It is a 501c3 nonprofit with an inspiring history of fostering charitable endeavors, and has provided \$94 million in grants and scholarships to the local community since 1984.

See FALL Page 15

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Bowen honored as Eastern Star ‘Grand Worthy Matron’

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) After volunteering for half a century with the Order of the Eastern Star, Berlin native Glendola Bowen was enshrined as a “Past Grand Worthy Matron” during the organization’s annual meeting last month in Baltimore.

“It really was a surprise,” she said.

The Myra Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star Prince Hall Affiliated Jurisdiction, which is based in Baltimore, is part of the million-member organization associated with the Freemasons.

“My husband is a mason and Eastern Star is an auxiliary organization,” she said.



PHOTO COURTESY GREGORY PURNELL

Glendola Bowen was floored after unexpectedly being named as “Past Grand Worthy Matron” after decades of volunteering with the Order of the Eastern Star during the organization’s annual meeting last month in Baltimore.

Prince Hall, who is credited as the “Father of Black Masonry” in the U.S., was inducted in 1775 to Lodge 441 in Boston along with 14 other free black men.

Bowen joined Order of the Eastern Star in 1972 at the behest of her husband, Anthony.

“He kept asking me if I was going to join, so I finally did,” she said.

With a worldwide membership, the Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal group welcoming both men and women.

Although the couple had relocated to Oxon Hill a few years earlier, Bowen opted to join the Eastern Shore chapter back in the early 1970s.

The process typically involved submitting an application and waiting to be contacted regarding an induction date.

“I knew what day they met, so I decided to show up,” she said.

Despite not anticipating Bowen’s presence, after learning of the distance traveled to attend the meeting, a decision was reached to fast track the induction.

“I showed up and they said, ‘We weren’t expecting her today,’” she said.

After moving back to the Eastern Shore in 1978, Bowen became more actively involved.

“I was matron of my chapter for about 20 years and deputy for the district for almost 20 years,” she said.

Like Bowen’s surprise appearance when she joined, the honor bestowed

See BOWEN Page 16


Fall 2021 education program

Continued from Page 14

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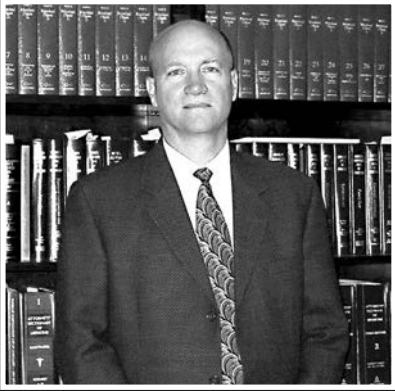
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Obituaries

ANDREW JOSEPH LYONS SR.
Millville

Andrew Joseph “Andy” Lyons Sr., 64, of Millville, Delaware, passed away suddenly at home on Nov. 22, 2021. He was born in Teaneck, New Jersey, son of the late John Frederick Lyons of Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, and the late Muriel Grace Brennan Lyons of West Palm Beach, Florida.

Lyons graduated from Don Bosco Prep in Ramsey, New Jersey, where he was a tackle on the football team.

Over the years, he worked in all types of construction, building custom homes. He built entire communities, roads, sewer and water projects, a water tower and many types of commercial buildings, including wastewater treatment plants, banks, an AT&T telephone exchange and an operating room.

He did several commercial historical renovations. The one thing that he always wanted to build was a bridge, but he built many in other ways.

Lyons started one of the first home-inspection business in the area, was at one time the code enforcement office for the City of Lewes, Delaware, and for the Town of Frankford, and had been on the board of adjustment for the Town of Millville.

He finally found out what he

wanted to be when he grew up after the birth of his first grandchild – “Grandpa.”

Over the years, he also served the community in many ways.

He was a member of the Lord Baltimore Lions Club, of which he was president from 1987 to 1988. He was a Sunday-school teacher and MYF leader at Mariner’s Bethel United Methodist Church in Ocean View, Delaware. He worked with the FACES grant program, and worked with Troop 281 of the Boy Scouts. Lyons was a charter member of Contractors for a Cause.

He was also a dedicated volunteer with Lower Sussex Little League, where over the years he was an umpire, coached all three of his children and served on the board of directors.

Lyons was proud to help coach the Indian River High School Softball team and helped grow the sport of fast-pitch travel softball in Lower Delaware; by coaching his daughters and many others on multiple teams throughout the years, including his coaching granddaughters alongside his daughters on the Delaware Tribe Travel Teams. Nothing made him happier than being on a softball field, except spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Lyons was an avid music enthusiast and lover of travel and always had

a sense of adventure which lead him and his wife to follow his favorite artist Jerry Jeff Walker multiple times to Belize and also to attend his memorial concert in Luckenbach, Texas.

Lyons is survived by his wife, Susan Lyons of Millville, Delaware; his son, Andrew Lyons Jr. and his wife, Page of Dagsboro, Delaware; his daughters, Sarah Hoban and her husband, William of Millsboro, Delaware, and Emily Harne and her husband, Curtis of Millsboro, Delaware; and his grandchildren, Lily and Gracie Hoban, Ellen, Finley and Jackson Lyons, and Brooke, Leeland and Julian Harne; his sister, Susan Ketterer and her husband, Robert of Millsboro, Delaware; Michael Lyons and his wife, Rosemarie, of West Allenhurst, New Jersey; Stephen Lyons and Milagros Lyons of Sussex, New Jersey; John Lyons and Cindy Stevens of Pine Bush, New York; and nieces, nephews and extended family members.

A memorial service for Lyons will take place Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, at The River Church, 35175 Roxana Road, Frankford, Delaware, with visitation beginning at 10:30 a.m. and the service to follow at 12:30 p.m.

Donations in Lyons’ honor may be made to: Lower Sussex Little League, P.O. Box 372, Ocean View, Delaware 19970.

OP releases video of recent history panel discussion

(Dec. 2, 2021) Video from the Ocean Pines “History Panel” discussion, part of an effort to document the community’s early days, is now available online.

The event, organized by the Ocean Pines Public Relations and Marketing Department, was held Oct. 10 at the Community Center in conjunction with Worcester County History Week.

Longtime Ocean Pines residents Jack Barnes, Sharyn O’Hare, Gloria Richards, Alta Weiss and Ed Moran participated in the two-hour discussion, which was moderated by Jenny Cropper Rines. Rines previously chaired the 50th Anniversary Committee.

“I am so pleased that we were able to do the history panel,” Rines said. “It was fun to hear stories of early Ocean Pines from the folks who lived it. It sounds like it was a neat place to be from the start.”

The panel discussion covered topics such as the Ocean Pines campground, the real estate transfer between the Ocean Pines Association

See PAST Page 17

Bowen enshrined by Eastern Star members in Nov.

Continued from Page 15
on her on Nov. 19 also came unexpectedly.

“It’s up to the mason that’s serving at that time to decide if she wants to give it to anybody,” she said.

Grand Worthy Matron Barbara Henderson was tightlipped about the award before revealing that Bowen was selected at the banquet.

“They set me up,” she said. “Everybody was in there hollering and cheering.”

While appreciative of the recognition, Bowen continues to look ahead.

“I thanked them but also still have a job to do,” she said. “I’m going to still do what I always do.”

Deflecting attention from her own service, Bowen highlighted the importance of attracting new members.

“With the adults now there are so many other things that they can do,” she said. “You have to make them understand this is a charitable organization and we need younger ones to carry on for us.”

Of her time with the order, Bowen said, “I’ve done all the work and I’ve hit all the marks.”

She hit another mark on Sunday, too. This one was more of a milestone — the couple celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Maryland State Sen. Mary Beth Carozza recently visited Atlantic General pharmacy staff to present a special proclamation to James McGinnis, director of AGHRx RediScripts Pharmacy, and supporting pharmacy staff from Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan.

Carozza delivers state award to Atlantic General pharmacy

(Dec. 2, 2021) Maryland State Sen. Mary Beth Carozza recently visited Atlantic General pharmacy staff to present a special proclamation from Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan.

The proclamation highlighted the tremendous service pharmacists provide in delivering medications, educating the community and one the most important duties in recent years, combatting the spread of covid-19.

Through the proclamation, Gov. Hogan expressed his sincere gratitude for the work pharmacists do for each community, and recognized the important role pharmacists play in the public health and safety of Maryland.

To conclude the proclamation, Gov. Hogan announced the institution of American Pharmacists Month in Maryland, to be observed in October.

State Sen. Carozza presented Gov. Hogan’s message to James McGinnis, director of the AGHRx RediScripts pharmacy, and supporting staff. To further emphasize Gov. Hogan’s recognition, State Sen. Carozza also commended the pharmacy staff with a sincerely appreciative dialogue.

McGinnis thanked Sen. Carozza and Gov. Hogan on behalf of all Atlantic General pharmacy staff, in which he stated, “We would like to thank you for the presentation of the Governor’s Proclamation. We are so grateful to you – senator and the governor.

“We appreciate the recognition of the work the very talented and capable pharmacy teams perform every day here at AGH,” he continued. “As you are well aware, pharmacists and certified pharmacy technicians are an invaluable healthcare resource. A resource that’s in close proximity to most people in the county and throughout Maryland. Our pharmacy teams are a source of medications, drug information and financial resources that support our patients’ daily ability to function in a normal way. We are proud to offer our professional skills and services, and look forward to new opportunities to deliver healthcare to our communities.”

Past revisited by early residents

Continued from Page 16

and Chase Manhattan Bank and the founding of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines.

Audience members could also ask questions and add comments, as well as to peruse old Ocean Pines photos and mementos.

“I think the guests enjoyed seeing the memorabilia that was displayed,” Rines said. “It was a two-hour session that could have flowed on all day!”

The video recording has been archived in the history section of the Ocean Pines Academy, a virtual, self-paced civic education course about the Association.

It joins another video, “Early History of Ocean Pines, with Marlene Ott and John Talbott,” which was also produced by the Public Relations and Marketing Department. Ott and Talbott, real estate agents who have lived in Ocean Pines since its beginning, also make appearances in the history panel video.

The video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/oRrgWO6Tz9c>.

The entire Ocean Pines Academy can be viewed at www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/ocean-pines-academy.

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Opinion

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

Berlin projects image other areas must envy

Berlin’s annual Christmas parade will march, roll, dance and twirl its way up Main Street for the 50th time tonight, demonstrating that even in middle age this event is just as fresh now as it was a half-century ago.

But, of course, it’s not just the parade by itself that draws such huge crowds from the region, it’s the close community feeling, a welcoming atmosphere as it were, that goes along with it that makes parade night what it is.

Call it what you want — a celebration of the good ol’ days ideal, a manifestation of the holiday spirit, or an honest-to-goodness family tradition — but a parade without bustling sidewalks, the glow from shop windows and the gathering of new and old friends isn’t a parade at all, it’s a convoy.

The difference here is that Berlin residents, business people and officials have gone all in on the holidays over the years. The weekends, like the one upcoming, have packed schedules of one thing after another that collectively deliver an image that many other towns can aspire to, but never quite achieve.

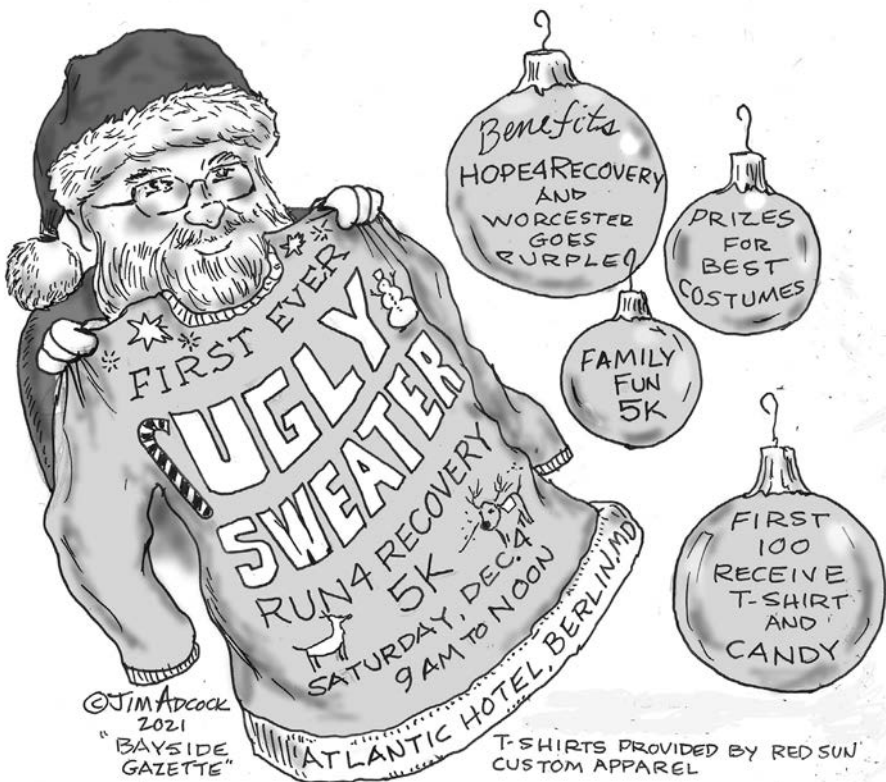
This doesn’t mean the town doesn’t have its problems. Of course, it does, just like every other municipality, city and population center in the country.

But what it does better than most is put the drama on hold so it can accentuate the positive and enjoy itself, with the result being a representation that you’d take home for the holidays and put on the fireplace mantel if you could.

Naturally, all this requires months of planning and organizing, countless hours of preparing and some heavy lifting by residents, shopkeepers, churches and organizations.

That, however, often goes unnoticed by the crowds that line the sidewalks along the parade route and visit all the other venues where something special is taking place.

And that’s fine, too, since seeing so many people enjoy themselves at this and other well-run events is its own reward. Neither does it hurt that Berlin is being itself, while many other communities probably wish they could be more like Berlin.



Young dog named ‘Pup of the Pines’

Since moving to area in January, Lab Lucy has gained fan base

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) Susie and Kevin Gordon were amazed after their 10-month-old dog, Lucy, was awarded the annual “Pup of the Pines” title during the “Hometown Christmas” tree-lighting ceremony last Saturday at White Horse Park.

Susie Gordon said Lucy, a fox red Labrador retriever, has ingratiated herself with neighbors since settling in the Pines this January.

“She’s literally spoiled to death,” she said. “It’s her first competition or first anything.”

The Gordons, who relocated to Ocean Pines in May 2020, live near the golf course.

“We walk there and at the South Gate Pond a lot,” she said.

Also on Lucy’s short list of hot spots is the Ocean Pines Dog Park.

“She loves the dog park,” she said.

In fact, the Gordons were motivated to enter the pup

contest after numerous dog-park cohorts encouraged the venture.

Lucy’s prize package includes a free 2022 dog park registration, along with being featured as the official representative for the amenity. Also the annual Pup of the Pines winner is featured in the Ocean Pines Activity Guide.

Pup of the Pines votes were cast during the Ocean Pines Halloween and fall festival on Oct. 30 and through an online survey.

“We were thrilled to death to win,” she said.

Funds raised from contest entries are dedicated for dog park improvements and upgrades.

With both their children and grandchildren residing out of state, Lucy has filled a void for the Gordons.

“She is just like one of the family,” she said.

Gordon attributed Lucy’s popularity to her overall affability with neighbors.

“She has to greet neighbors,” she said. “She refuses to go in the house if she knows they’re out there.”

Over the past year, Lucy has also assumed a leadership role among a number of



PHOTO COURTESY SUSIE GORDON

Despite the dour expression, 10-month-old fox red Labrador retriever, Lucy, was wagging away on Saturday after capturing the coveted “Pup of the Pines” title awarded during the “Hometown Christmas” tree-lighting ceremony in White Horse Park on Saturday.


smaller canine residents.

“She’s like the neighborhood watch dog,” she said.

At the moment, short of savoring the recent title, Lucy’s principal focus is the family Christmas tree.

“Right now she’s all about our Christmas tree and wanting to play with it,” she said. “She’s rearranging it for me and has moved a few ornaments.”

BAYSIDE



GAZETTE

11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842

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STAFF WRITERS

ACCOUNT MANAGERS

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‘Holiday Wrappings’ raising money for Baltimore stays

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Dec. 2, 2021) After an unprecedented virtual year, the American Cancer Society “Holiday Wrappings” Fashion Show and Luncheon is set to return to an in-person format on Tuesday, Dec. 7.

The event, in its 32nd year, is sponsored by the John H. “Jack” Burbage Regional Cancer Center and TidalHealth and will be held at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center on 40th Street from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“Holiday Wrappings” features an online auction and a “Chinese auction,” which is presented as a raffle: Bins will be on display containing various items that the participants “bid” on by dropping a ticket into the bin. They win its contents if their ticket is pulled.

The online auction will continue for one week after the event. There are also raffles for a Mercedes e-bike donated by Pohanka of Salisbury and a Mercedes car donated by MileOne Autogroup.

The fashion show, organized by CraZy LadyZ!’s Jan Patterson, features a runway during the luncheon where volunteers will showcase products from 12 local businesses.

Sandals Bridal will donate tuxedos for the fashion show’s help staff, comprised of Ocean City Police Department volunteers.

The objective for “Holiday Wrappings” is to raise money for cancer research and patients. This year, specifically, funds are being raised to move and expand the ACS Hope Lodge in Baltimore, which many cancer patients on the lower Eastern Shore frequent during their battle against the disease.

“It’s free lodging for cancer patients and a caregiver (who are there for) cancer treatment at Johns Hopkins or University Hospital,” said ACS volunteer chair Dawn Hodge. “It is totally free and, just from last year, (the current facility was) converted for medical staff for the hospitals. This is part of a \$10 million campaign to move across the street to house 33 percent more patients as well as medical staff.”

This year, Hodge said there isn’t a

defined fundraising goal but rather a wait-and-see approach.

“We don’t really have a financial goal because we didn’t know how we’d bounce back after the pandemic,” Hodge said. “We’ve sold 600 tickets. I was surprised we were able to sell that many.”

Last year, the event went totally virtual, with participants putting on their own fashion show via filmed submission. Despite participant numbers and money raised slowing down as a result of the adjusted format, Hodge said they were able to make a difference.

“Last year went surprisingly well,” she said. “We had local independent retail stores do their own video and had a little fashion show within their store. We compiled and sold online tickets to view the fashion show online and then did an auction as well.”

In 2019, the event sold 811 tickets. In all, the event funded 3,707 overnight stays, a savings of \$648,725, Hodge said.

“We have great cancer treatment options here on the Eastern Shore, but if you need more options it’s nice to be able to do this,” Hodge said.

“Holiday Wrappings” has certainly grown over the years.

Its first iteration occurred at the Horizon Restaurant at the former Sheraton Hotel, which is now the Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel. Eventually, they upgraded to the Clarion’s Crystal Ball Room before outgrowing their accommodations again and moving down the street to the much larger convention center.

Karen Cramer, who has volunteered for “Holiday Wrappings” since its first year, said it’s amazing to see how the event has grown and established itself in the community.

“This local community is just so generous with their time and whatever they can give,” Cramer said. “They amaze me. They’re never saying, ‘I can’t help,’ they’re asking, ‘how can I help?’ It’s very heartwarming. There’s a lot of effort from the ladies on the committee. You have a purpose.”

Tickets to the event are sold out but those interested in buying a raffle ticket can email Hodge at dawnhodge@comcast.net.



Santa walks down the runway with Fashion Show Coordinator Jan Patterson during the 2019 American Cancer Society Fashion Show. The fashion show is a longtime component of the American Cancer Society’s “Holiday Wrappings” event, which will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 7.
FILE PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Town of Berlin Public Notices



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to The Town of Berlin, MD Code Sections 108-214 and 108-215, the Berlin Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to hear the request for a Text Amendment to the Town Code at their next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 5:30 PM in the second floor Council Chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD.

The proposed Text Amendment reads as follows:

Proposed Text Amendments for Authorization of Crematorium as Conditional Use on M-1 Light Industrial Property

“Sec. 108-5. – Definitions
Crematorium defined: a building containing furnace(s) for cremating dead human bodies”

“Sec 108-163. – Conditional uses, variances and special exceptions.
(c) Within any M-1 Light Industrial District, a crematorium as defined in Section 108-5.”

(d) the old (c) will then become the new (d)

“Sec. 108-518. – Conditional uses.
(4) In any M-1 Light Industrial District, a crematorium as defined in Section 108-5.”

OCD-11/25/2t

hear the request for a Text Amendment to the Town Code at their next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 5:30 PM in the second floor Council Chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD.

The proposed Text Amendment reads as follows:

Proposed Text Amendment

I hereby propose to amend Section 108-403 of the Berlin code to allow fee simple townhouse dwellings with the following lot and area requirements:

1. Minimum lot size – 2,000 square feet;
2. Minimum lot width – 18 feet;
3. Front yard setback – 20 feet;
4. Rear yard setback – 25 feet; and
5. Side yard setback – 0 feet along party wall and 8 feet on the end units.

OCD-11/25/2t



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berlin will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Berlin Town Hall Council Chambers, 10 William Street, on Ordinance 2021-04. The public is invited to attend and comment. Written testimony will also be accepted until noon on the day of the meeting, and can be sent to: info@berlinmd.gov. A copy of the proposed Ordinance is available for inspection in Town Hall, between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Ordinance 2021-04

An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of The Town of Berlin, Maryland amending Chapter 22, Titled Parks and Recreation, Article III, Section 22-49, Titled Rules and Regulations, to Prohibit Smoking In Town Parks.

OCD-12/2/2t



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to The Town of Berlin, MD Code Sections 108-214 and 108-215, the Berlin Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to

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AGH Foundation golf event nets over \$112K

Tournament attended by 208 golfers on 52 teams; winners presented awards

(Dec. 2, 2021) The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation held its 2021 Robert E. Warfield Memorial Fall Golf Classic on Sept. 23 at the Ocean City Golf Club.

Despite scattered rainstorms, this year's tournament was attended by 208 golfers on 52 teams.

On Oct. 13, Atlantic General leadership and staff, Fall Golf Classic committee members and Michael James from the Carousel Group, a 22-consecutive-year Legacy Sponsor of the tournament, all came together to commemorate the success of the event. With the help of the many sponsors, golfers and volunteers, the event raised \$112,500 for the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation.

Proceeds from the tournament enable Atlantic General Hospital, a not-for-profit healthcare organization, to advance the health of the residents and visitors of the community through a coordinated care delivery system that provides access to quality care, personalized service and education.



With the help of sponsors, golfers and volunteers, \$112,500 was raised during the Robert E. Warfield Memorial Fall Golf Classic on Sept. 23 for the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation. Pictured is Fall Golf Committee, in front, from left, Joy Stokes (AGH event coordinator), Sally Dowling (AGH co-interim president/CEO), Steven Sweigert (Fall Golf Classic Committee co-chair), Lester Dennis, Michael James (Carousel Group president), Lisa Cook, Kam LaBrunda (AGH development analyst), and Toni Keiser (AGH vice president public relations); and in back, Caroline Phillips (AGH development officer), Steve Green (AGH Foundation Board chair), Max Hutsell, Bill Harrington, Cate Nellans and Kim Justice (AGH co-interim president and CEO). Committee members not present: Daniel Bunting (co-chair), Sonia Baker, Sarah DelliGatti, Tara Downes, Hank Fisher, Sam Glaeser, Sara Hambury, Al "Hondo" Handy, Ryan Kirby, Mary Lynn Knerr, Matthew Kraueter, Jennifer Kraueter, Gary Miller, Claire Reynolds, Nicole Selby and Terry Wright.

and Penny Parker.

- USI Insurance Services - Jim Brannon, Steve Niewinski, Mark Scott and Bryan Shepherd.
- i.g. Burton - Charlie Burton, Bob

Earle, Mike Larking and Danny Michaels.

Golden Ball Challenge:
Atlantic Orthopaedics - Tom Beck,

Women's Longest Drive:
Penny Parker and Poppy Granite

Men's Longest Drive:
Lou Taylor and Brendan Murphy

Men's Closest to the Pin:
Taylor Ballard and Richard Silberstein

Putting Contest:
Matt Zaleski, Doug Taylor and Brandon Mallon

Floating Green Contest:
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Cuisine

Grilling vegetables takes bit of precision

Who doesn't love a good snooze alarm? I mean, it's only nine minutes, but what a glorious stretch of dreaming can be gleaned in such a short time. In fact, I am pretty sure that I have conquered Rome in some nine-minute segments of siesta.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

No, I do not believe for a second that we only dream in real-time. I have heard that argument for years, and yet I have had many dreams covering the span of years, if not eons. I'm pretty sure that I once won the America's Cup in nine minutes. My other favorite theory about dreams is this: If you see yourself die in a dream and believe it, you yourself will die. I have heard this a number of times over the years, and I pose the same question every single time: Who did they ask?

I will wait to let that one sink in. Back to business. It is now December, and this is how my brain functions as it hunkers down for the cold months. I start thinking about obscure dream theories, scouting out sales on cheap box wines that I can take to parties as an impetus to start dubious conversations about religion and politics and, of course, scooching through the remaining holiday parties that I need to cater. Or, as I prefer to call it, simply surviving December.

Amidst the foray of parties needing catered, I also try to host my own party, but I believe that this has only happened once in the five years that we have lived in our current house. It always seems like a good idea, but the best laid plans of mice and men ...

And speaking of holiday parties, strange dream sequences, being a rude (and cheap) party guest and the holiday season in general, what in the name of God is up with people requesting vegetable crudité platters? I mean, seriously? Raw vegetables on a plate with Ranch dressing? I only ask this because of all the parties that I have attended over the years, and the hundreds of events that I have catered over the decades, there is always one platter of food that is almost full at the end of every event, without fail. The vegetable crudité.

Damn the vegetable crudité. Yet, people seem to insist that they have the platter on their holiday buf-



fet. For chefs and creators, there is nothing less skillful than a clump of raw produce on a platter. Of course, if someone insists, then I will happily abide. That is our job as providers. But the real enhancement comes from the overly simple application of heat, lemon, vinegar, and a splash of oil. This is as simple and '80s' as it gets, but it certainly gets the job done. And, for chefs it is much less embarrassing. One of the most awkward moments for me was working President Obama's first inauguration at the DC Convention Center. While the committee paid millions for acts such as Maroon 5, Sting, Beyonce et al, they spent practically no money at all on the food. There were no tables, as it was a community function or social function. And yes, there it was: The vegetable crudité. It was mortifying, but it wasn't my engagement, so I did not have to spend too much time worrying about it. Let it go, Paul. Who knows? Maybe that was a fever dream in a random nine minutes of extra sleep. I can only wish that it was. Well, there goes my alarm again. Time to wake up.

Grilled Vegetable Platter

- serves 12
- 2 ea. Yellow squash, sliced thick on the bias
 - 2 ea. Zucchini, same
 - 1 pt. Heirloom grape tomatoes, halved
 - 1 head Cauliflower, cut into 'steaks'
 - 4 ea. Red bell peppers, cut into large pieces of flesh only
 - 12 ea. Small, sweet peppers
 - 1 lb. Asparagus, brown stems trimmed
 - 1 ea. Red onion, peeled and cut into 1/2" rings
 - 1 c. EV Olive oil
 - Trimix, to taste (Kosher salt, black pepper, granulated garlic)
 - Juice of 1 lemon
 - 1/2 c. Balsamic vinegar
1. Toss the ingredients together in a bowl, doing so carefully so as to not break up the onion.
 2. Heat a grill to high and have a pan ready in which to place your grilled vegetables.
 3. When placing anything on a grill, especially when it has been slathered with oil (flammable), always work from the back to front.

This way, if there is a flare up, you won't need to pass your hand through fire to place more ingredients on the grill. You are more than welcome. Follow me for more safety tips.

4. Grilling vegetables takes a little bit of precision, but it is incredibly simple. Merely feel for the moment that they are starting to get soft, namely the squash. Once they get too soft, they turn to mush quickly. Pull them off at the first sign of softening, and the carryover cooking will finish the job for you. It is always good to have a little bit of bite for your guests.
5. Chill the vegetables and they are almost ready to serve.
6. After they have chilled, taste the vegetables. Cold food needs more seasoning than hot, so what may have seemed sufficient before may leave the taste buds with a lackluster impression. Season once more to get the right balance.

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

Calendar

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

Thurs., Dec. 2

50TH ‘GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY’ OF THE BERLIN CHRISTMAS PARADE

The parade will begin at 7 p.m. at the south end of Main Street in front of the Berlin Welcome Center with the main stage located near the Calvin B. Taylor Museum. More than 80 floats, fire trucks, dancers and more. 410-641-2770

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR HOLIDAY LUNCHEON & ANNUAL MEETING

To be held Dec. 9, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Fager’s Island. For Art League of Ocean City members and future members. Eat, drink and win prizes. \$40. Meal option and payment: 410-524-9433 by Dec. 2.

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital’s Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. For patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. Free service, but requires an appointment. Appointments: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

STORY TIME ‘SNOWY DAY’

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and rhymes. Take-home activity included. For ages 2-5 years. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

STORY TIME: ‘THE MITTEN MYSTERY’

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Help the group solve this adorable mystery. Take him activity included. For ages 2-5 years. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

MERRY MAKERS - HOLIDAY CRAFTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Join Merry Makers for some hands on crafts for the holidays. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under “Events” or call 410-208-4014.

POCOMOKE BOOK OF THE MONTH: ‘WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING’ BY DELIA OWENS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Lively discussion facilitated by Cynthia Hanagud and Gail Samis of Salisbury University. Copies of the book are available at the Pocomoke branch. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

ZUMBA FOR ALL LEVELS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30-5:30 p.m. Join certified Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an. hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Register:

www.worcesterlibrary.org under “Events.” 410-632-2600

BEACH SINGLES

Thursdays - Harpoon Hanna’s, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 4-6 p.m. Beach Singles, 45 years and older, meet for happy hour. Info: 302-436-9577, 410-524-0649 or BeachSingles.org

COVID VACCINE CLINIC

Atlantic Health Center, 9714 Healthway Drive, Berlin. 4-6 p.m. This clinic is available to those ages 5 years and older.

Fri., Dec. 3

OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS EVENING

Downtown Pocomoke City, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tree lightening (6 p.m.), entertainment, free food, beverages and treats, s’mores by the bonfire, Santa House, carriage rides, holiday wreath silent auction. Canned goods and paper products collected. 410-957-1333, Ext. 111

IPAD BASICS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. to noon. Have questions about how to use or set up your iPad? Curious about how to use eBooks with Libby or Hoopla? Drop in with your iPad. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

OYSTER FRITTER SANDWICH SALE

American Legion #123, 10111 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 2 p.m. Cost is \$9. The public is welcome. <https://www.facebook.com/Berlin-American-Legion-Post123-Boggs-Disharoon-118596634897241/>, 410-641-3760

FIRST FRIDAY OPENING RECEPTION FOR DECEMBER EXHIBITS

OC Center for the Arts - Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 5-7 p.m. Featuring a small works show and a building-wide, two-day artisan fair. Meet the artists and enjoy hors d’oeuvres. 410-524-9433, www.artleagueofoceancity.org

Sat., Dec. 4

OC CHRISTMAS PARADE

The parade starts at 11 a.m. on Old Landing Road and marches northbound in the southbound lanes of Coastal Highway to the judges’ stand at 120th Street. Brenda Moore, 410-250-0125, bmoore@oceancitymd.gov.

CHEER AND DANCE EXTREME

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. OC Christmas Open Championship will pull teams from more than nine states. Ann Lehrmann, ann@cheeranddanceextreme.com, 410-609-1212, www.cheeranddanceextreme.com/oc-

christmas2021.html

FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER & RECRUITMENT

White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 8 a.m. to noon. Stop by the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department’s booth and purchase your truck raffle tickets, Green Number Plate Signs and learn about becoming a member of the department. 410-641-8272

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. A variety of vendors, bake table, church cookbooks, vegetable beef soup, pulled pork sandwiches, silent auction and White Elephant table. www.stevensonchurch.org, 410-641-1137

FIRST SATURDAY WRITERS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Novice and established writers gather to share their projects. Structure includes critiques and appreciation, market leads and writing exercises. Drop-ins welcome. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

CRAFTY SATURDAY: IT’S WINTER!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Come warm up in the library and make some winter crafts. While supplies last. For children 4 years and older. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

ANNUAL HOLIDAY ARTISAN FAIR

OC Center for the Arts - Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Handcrafted items made by local and regional artists. Also book signings, a free kids’ craft area and a bake sale. Raffle and door prizes. 410-524-9433, www.artleagueofoceancity.org

DRIVE-THRU FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 36536 Mount Pleasant Road, Willards, 11 a.m. A \$14 platter includes 4 pieces of fried chicken (breast, wing, thigh and drumstick), string beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, applesauce, roll and cupcake. Stay in car and use east driveway. 410-835-8542

50TH ANNUAL WPS HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Worcester Preparatory School Field House, 508 S. Main St., Berlin, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Stroll through the holiday village featuring many vendors. Children’s activities and photos with Santa (noon to 2 p.m.) Raffle tickets and info: worcesterprep.org/bazaar. Free and open to the public. 410-641-3575

MERRY MARKETPLACE IN BRRRLIN

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center Parking Lot, 14 S. Main St., Berlin, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Featuring Santa House, artisans, food cultivators, grab n go holiday crafts,

hot chocolate, hot cider, mead, live music, free horse drawn carriage rides and Santa letter mailbox. info@berlinmd.gov, 410-641-2770

CAPITAL RINGERS - CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, Berlin. 7 p.m. The concert is free. Titled “We Need A Little Christmas” and featuring more than 200 bells and hand chimes. A free will offering will be collected. www.capitalringers.org/christmas2021

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Dec. 5

LIFE-SAVING MUSEUM HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Ocean City Life-Saving Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission, Mr. and Mrs. Clause (1-4 p.m.), Nautical Ornament Making Station, story time (noon) and gift shop 25 percent off sale. www.ocmuseum.org, 410-289-4991

MERRY MARKETPLACE IN BRRRLIN

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center Parking Lot, 14 S. Main St., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Featuring Santa House, artisans, food cultivators, grab n go holiday crafts, hot chocolate, hot cider, mead, live music, free horse drawn carriage rides and Santa letter mailbox. info@berlinmd.gov, 410-641-2770

MID-ATLANTIC SYMPHONY PERFORMS “HOLIDAY JOY”

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 3 p.m. Featuring French soprano Norah Amsellem. Tickets cost \$50 and are available in advance and at the door. Tickets: [www.midatlanticsymphony.org](http://midatlanticsymphony.org) or 888-846-8600. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination required.

WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS JINGLE BELL 5K RUN

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 5-6:30 p.m. Packet pick-up and day-of registration will be held at Bourbon Street on the Beach from 3:30-4:45 p.m.; awards following. <https://octrirunning.com/ocean-city-md-running-event/2733>

Mon., Dec. 6

HOLIDAY MAKER PARTY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2-4 p.m. The library will provide multiple items for painting, decorating and other fun

Continued on Page 25

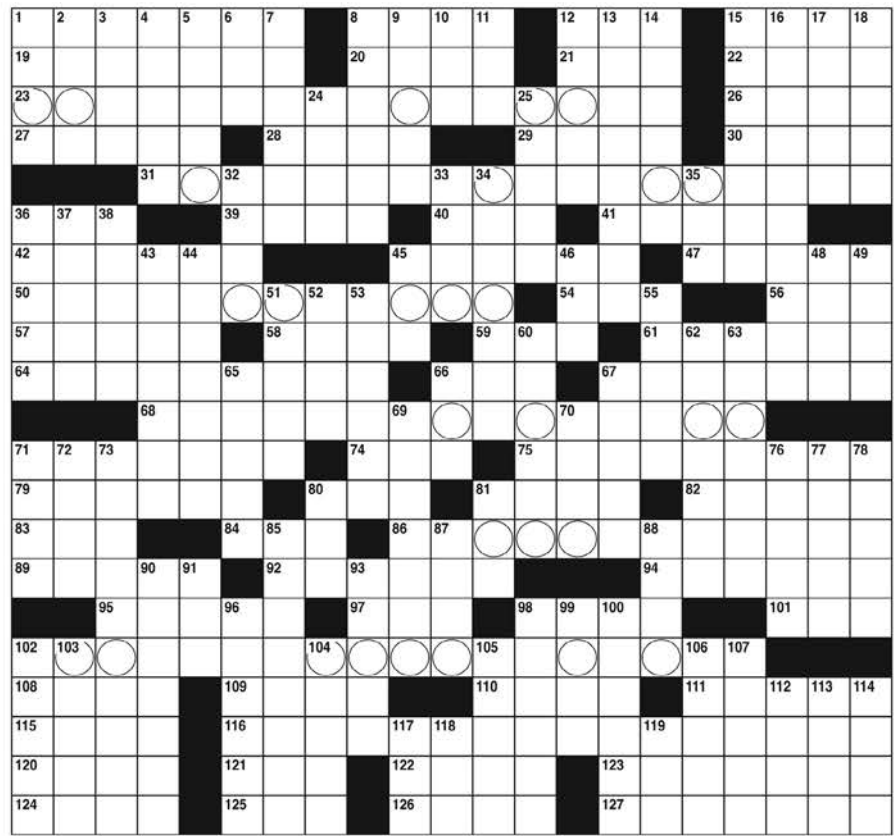
Puzzles

SCREEN SHARING

BY ADAM WAGNER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Adam Wagner, of Oakland, Calif., is a senior copywriter for an ad agency in San Francisco. He got interested in crossword construction a few years ago after he saw puzzles by some of his former Brown University classmates in The Times. The idea for this one came to him one night when he was in bed (“second only to the shower in terms of where my best ideas come”). He got up and spent the rest of the night finding theme examples. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
1 Lets extra light in, in a way
8 Get on the stick?
12 Music-genre prefix
15 Arm of the Dept. of Homeland Security
19 Deforestation, for example
20 Not home
21 Pool tester
22 Line through two poles
23 *Salma Hayek: 1996, 2002*
26 Bop on the head
27 Driven, say
28 “___ Flux” (onetime sci-fi series)
29 Yellow belly?
30 Pair in gossip
31 *Dev Patel: 2008, 2016*
36 Jerkwad
39 What remains, with “the”
40 Quail : bevy :: ___ : parliament
41 Liechtensteiner’s currency
42 Amount of tips earned by a street performer, maybe
45 Equipment used to play the oldest organized sport in North America
47 Choose
50 *Brad Pitt: 2001, 1995*
54 Accompanier of smoke
- 56 Texter’s “I think ...”
57 Catherine of “Schitt’s Creek”
58 Outstanding finds
59 Broadband inits.
61 “You mean I’m wrong?!”
64 Utilize a company policy for new parents, say
66 When tripled, playful onomatopoeia for shooting laser beams
67 “Here, have a taste”
68 *Owen Wilson: 2005, 2006*
71 Baseless rumors
74 The lowest número primo
75 Pickup line?
79 It’s at the beginning of this clue
80 Noted fashion monogram
81 Equal
82 “Sunrise” singer Jones
83 Focus of some smartphone updates
84 Before, in poetry
86 *Joaquin Phoenix: 2014, 2013*
89 Problems with phonograph records
92 Contents of college blue books
94 Early online forum that popularized terms like “FAQ” and “spam”
95 Put on again
97 Some dolls sold in a Universal Studios gift shop
- 98 When “Alexander Hamilton” is sung in “Hamilton”
101 Mathematician Lovelace
102 *Al Pacino and Robert De Niro: 1974, 1995 (twice!)*
108 Brother of 99-Down
109 Ramirez of “Grey’s Anatomy”
110 Historic trade ally of the Monacan people
111 Dark yellow shade
115 -elect
116 Modern tech feature for watching two programs on one screen ... or an alternative title for this puzzle
120 Bug-eyed
121 High-value deposit
122 Shore soarer
123 Absolutely devoured
124 Takes from
125 TV’s “___ Lasso”
126 Name on a toy truck
127 Places for rubs and scrubs
- DOWN**
1 Expert
2 Song title shared by hit singles for Ja Rule and Flo Rida
3 In the ___
4 High points
5 Kind of force created by the moon
6 Ending with “brown,” or “auburn.”
7 What tahini is made from
8 Tush
9 Thanks (to)
10 Actress Gadot
11 Olive ___
12 In any way
13 Sleazeballs
14 Kind of muscle
15 Chess’s ___ Caruana, onetime youngest grandmaster in U.S. history (14 years 11 months)
16 Flowerhorn cichlids and vampire tetras, for example
17 Worker who wants to strike?
18 “Go on, shoot”
24 Sister brand of Saucony and Stride Rite
25 Small valleys
32 Cybersquatters make fake ones
33 What 2 is vis-à-vis 1
34 “Hmm ...”
35 Badger
36 Barrels of fun
37 Satirist ___ Baron Cohen
38 Entree served with a knife
43 Price jockeying of competing airlines
44 Not paying attention
45 Walgreens competitor
46 ___ Khan Academy fame
48 Prefix with present
49 Goes to hell
51 “Golly gee!”
52 Stock ticker symbol for a longtime clothing brand
53 Corrects in text
55 Brought on
- 60 River of old song
62 “Clever ___ are never punished”: Voltaire
63 [swoon]
65 Meat Loaf’s “Rocky Horror” role
66 Surfaces, e.g.
67 Start of many a limerick
69 Massive adversary
70 Whom you might ask, “Where will I be in 10 years?”
71 Forensic pros, in brief
72 Words of eventual understanding
73 “‘Fraid not”
76 Supermodel Shayk
77 Went up against
78 Sorority letter
80 Shortest answer from a Magic 8 Ball
81 Measures of acidity
85 Modern joust venue, informally
87 Org. with a noted bell
88 Van Gogh’s “La ___ Étoilée”
90 Walking sticks?
91 Packed-house inits.
93 Went after
96 Expensive Super Bowl purchase
98 Shower times
99 Brother of 108-Across
100 Timorous
102 Member of a Turkic group
103 Onetime streaming platform of the 2010s
104 Took a bow?
105 Submissions to a casting director
106 Like wool sweaters, often
107 Teensy bits
112 Thick component of orange juice
113 Broca’s ___, segment of the brain linked to speech
114 Snoring symbols in Surrey
117 [That smells terrible!]
118 Regret
119 ___ sense
- Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



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HARD - 66

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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

Call **410-723-6397**
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jennifer.neal@vacasa.com

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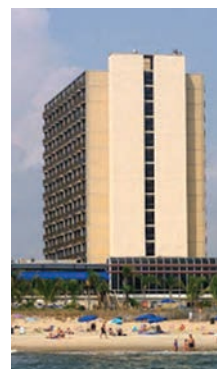
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Calendar

Continued from Page 22
DIY activities. Register: www.worcester-library.org under "Events" or call 410-208-4014.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. The Great Books Discussion group meets twice per month to discuss both classic and modern reading selections recommended by the Great Books Foundation. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

T.O.P.S. OF BERLIN - GROUP #169
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5-6:30 p.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and living a health lifestyle. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

CALLIGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. Learn basic calligraphy from White House trained Calligrapher Anne Taylor. An excellent way to address greeting cards. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." 410-632-2600

SNOW HILL CHRISTMAS PARADE
Snow Hill Christmas Parade brought to you by the Snow Hill Lions Club is a wonderful start to the Christmas season, 7-9 p.m. 443-944-4081

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS
Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00-9:00 p.m. All ladies that love to sing invited.

Contact Mary, 410-629-9383 or Carol Ludwig, 302-242-7062.

Tues., Dec. 7

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY HOLIDAY WRAPPINGS LUNCHEON & FASHION SHOW
Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fashion show of local fashion retailers, giant auctions, car raffle and warm plated lunch. Tickets, \$50, are sold in advance only: <https://acsdelmarva.ticketleap.com/holidaywrappings/>. 443-880-2310

FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIP
John H. 'Jack' Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center, 9707 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 10-11 a.m. A cooperative effort between AGH and local worship centers to increase health awareness, education and healthy living incentives. Gail Mansell, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-9725

STORY TIME 'KEVIN HENKES STORIES'
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and fingerplays. Take-home activity included. For 2-5 year old children. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

STORY TIME: 'THE CLASSICS'
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Join the group for some favorite classic stories from long ago. For 2-5 year old children. www.worcesterlibrary.org,

410-632-2600
TUESDAY CRAFTERNOON
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. The group will be making teddy bears over several weeks (Dec. 7 and 14) using a variety of materials, patterns and techniques. Register: 410-641-0650 or www.worcesterlibrary.org.

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY
Held via Zoom, 6 p.m. Professor of History at Salisbury University, Dr. Dean Kotslowski talks about Pearl Harbor as we remember and honor those that give their lives. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

DELMARVA HAND DANCE
Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, Bishopville, 5:30-9:00 p.m. Show proof of vaccination or wear a mask. A picture on your phone of your vaccination card is acceptable. delmarvahanddance@gmail.com, <https://delmarvahanddancing.com>

Wed., Dec. 8

CRAFT TIME 'HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS'
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Make fun holiday ornaments. For 2-5 year old children. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

PIZZA PARTY WITH SANTA
Northside Park Recreation Complex, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Featuring pizza, arts and crafts,

cookie decorating and Santa. Kids pre-K through 4th grade welcome. Cost is \$8 for residents and \$10 for non-residents. Pre-registration required: 410-250-0125.

ONGOING EVENTS

'LIGHT UP THE PINES' OUTDOOR DECORATING EVENT
Those who register with the program will be featured on an online Google map, which will include locations of the decorated properties. The first 25 registered will receive a small goody bag from Choptank Electric Cooperative and all participants will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 bill credit. Those interested should submit name, address and phone number via email to info@ocean-pines.org or call 410-641-7717, Ext. 3014. Google map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1uznS6ymxVtFBOKH2utHslf-HLm27ds-b&usp=sharing>.

29TH ANNUAL WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS
Northside Park, 200 125th Street, Ocean City, through Jan. 1. Hours are Wednesdays through Sundays, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Admission cost is \$5 for adults and free to those 11 years and younger. Pets are welcome on Wednesday evenings. The 2021 Winterfest of Lights will be an expanded walking tour through the animated lights. There will be hot chocolate, photos with Santa, a gift shop, an array of holiday exhibits and the 50-foot Christmas tree. Pets are welcome on Wednesdays. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/241649021281497/> for updates. Info: 410-250-0125, 800-626-2326.

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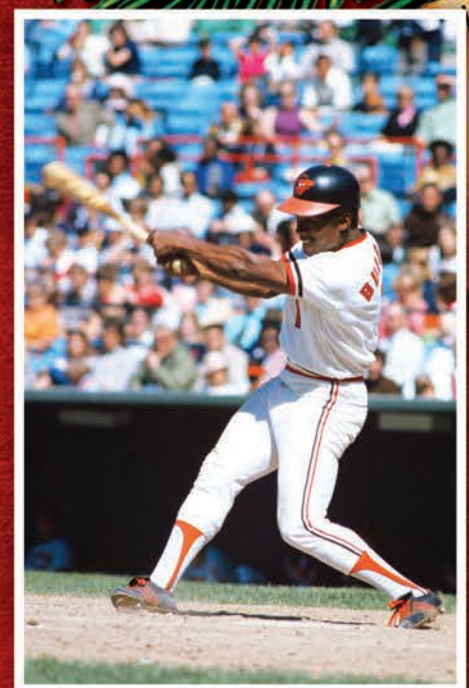
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