



JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Around three dozen Ocean Pines residents, members of the board of directors and a panel of Election Committee members take in the first candidate forum on June 22. The forums on that day and the following Saturday allowed the six director candidates to answer 12 questions regarding their goals, the state of the community and various other issues of the day.

Candidates share goals at OP forum

Board of directors hopefuls field questions on goals

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) The six hopefuls in the 2022 Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors election spent two days last week — June 22 and June 25 — answering a total of 12 questions regarding the state of the community and their goals if they are elected.

The candidates are Paula Gray, Amy Peck, Stuart Lakernick, Monica Rakowski, Josette Wheatley and Steve Jacobs.

Some common themes prevailed at the pair of candidate forums at the Ocean Pines Golf Club on that Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. Nearly every candidate agreed on three points: 1. General Manager John Viola has been a god-send for the association in the wake of 2018's forensic audit into its ledgers; 2. social media is a good tool



to find out the scuttlebutt around town but should not be relied on as the main source of information regarding the association; 3. everyone wants to improve infrastructure.

Here's how each candidate approached six of the 12 questions:

What are your biggest goals as director?

Wheatley, one of two current directors on the panel along with Peck, threw out a curveball and said she'd like to see Ocean Pines become a golf cart community, but "my realistic goal would be to make sure we're well on our way with the drainage (challenges), with our issues and such within the community. We face a lot of different things. Water quality is a big issue here as well and I can't

stress enough that we need to start looking at that a little further out so we can protect our shores and environment."

Gray said she wants to "restore professionalism" and the "wonderfulness of this operation." Peck said her biggest goal is to continue making Ocean Pines an "attractive, affordable, safe and enjoyable home for everyone." Lakernick focused on drainage and the firehouse, saying of the latter that anything that negatively affects the six-minute response time of the Ocean Pines Fire Department would be "unacceptable." Rakowski said she would work on communication and community involvement. She said the association's

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Short-term rentals rules go into effect

New measure instituted after vote to delay fails

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) Berlin's short-term rental ordinance will be moving forward tomorrow as scheduled.

On Monday, the Berlin Town Council listened to a letter sent to Planning Director Dave Engelhart — read to the council by Engelhart — from a nonresident who said instituting the new rule now could have severe financial consequences.

The council discussed that matter before Councilmember Jack Orris moved to push the measure's start date back to the day after Labor Day, but his motion died for lack of a second.

The effect of that with little time left on the calendar was to confirm the rule's July 1 implementation, which was agreed to in March when the ordinance was passed.

The ordinance is meant to protect

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Berlin short-term rental law becomes effective on Friday

Continued from Page 1

the quality of life in Berlin by limiting the extent to which out-of-towners can buy up property in the town to rent them to vacationers.

Engelhart has said at past meetings that he worries about how the town looks with the ordinance coming right at the height of the tourist season, a sentiment that Mayor Zack Tyndall echoed on Monday.

Engelhart estimated that about 15 short-term rentals are operating in Berlin today.

In the letter that Engelhart read aloud to the council, the property owner, a resident of Silver Spring, said they were close to retirement and that the short-term rental is a retirement home in-waiting for them in a few years. The new ordinance, however, will make it hard for them to maintain the income necessary to stay on that trajectory.

Orris floated the idea that maybe January is too far out but it wouldn't be unreasonable to set it to September or October.

But Councilmember Shaneka Nichols was not especially moved by the plight of the short-term renters.

"Look, if we say October then the next letter's going to come, 'Oh my gosh, people love Berlin at Christmas.' Then it's going to be December. Then in December, 'Oh my gosh we love Berlin in January. We love July, we love August!' They love Berlin all

the time," she said.

"I'm not being disrespectful to the lady who wrote the letter because when I did the math in my head and the timeframe we're talking about, she had a fabulous run with her short-term rental, a fabulous run. I'm not trying to be ignorant, that's not at all where I'm coming from but in the time she went from year-round rentals to the time this ordinance came into play, a minimum of five years, a fabulous timeframe and she's talking about getting that much closer to retirement. When they started doing rentals, they were getting that much closer to retirement. Then they decided to do short-term rentals and it's that much closer to retirement. I'm not rude here but when are we retiring?"

"This one for me, and maybe it's just the hour of the day, but every day it's a different scenario. Somebody's going to change this or 'Hey guess what my son is 18 now so my second house is going to become their primary residence.' Guys, stop playing games. The ordinance is here, it's in place."

Before the council's votes were cast, Councilmember Jay Knerr asked Engelhart if he was prepared to implement the ordinance on July 1. Engelhart affirmed that he was, since as far as his department has known since March that was always going to be the day.

County arts council seeks entries for plein air event

(June 30, 2022) The Worcester County Arts Council announces the opening of artists' registration for the Paint Worcester County, Plein Air event to be held Sept. 19-23.

Local and regional artists will paint outdoors at their leisure at any chosen location in Worcester County and compete for attractive cash prizes in this annual plein air competition.

Registration is open to experienced and novice painters, 18 years or older, and is limited to 50 artists.

Registration, event schedule, and artists' guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website, www.worcestercountyartscouncil.org. Deadline to register is Aug. 31.

Artwork in this competition will be judged by local artist Barbara Scheihing.

Visitors will have an opportunity to watch the artists as they set up their easels around Worcester County and paint the picturesque scenes.

Visitors are also invited to attend a free "Wet Paint" sale and exhibit, featuring work created during this event,

on Friday, Sept. 23, from 1:30-5 p.m. at the Berlin library located at 13 Harrison Avenue. All artwork will be available for sale, and the event is open to the public.

The selection of artwork will continue to be on display at the Berlin Library Gallery until Dec. 31.

For more information, contact the Arts Council at 410-641-0809.

The Worcester County Arts Council is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support, promote and encourage visual, performing and literary arts in Worcester County.

As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County arts agency, the Worcester County Arts Council is committed to fostering the excellence, diversity and vitality of arts, artists, and arts organizations and increasing access to the arts for all members of our community.

The Worcester County Arts Council is funded by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and supported by memberships, donations, and local sponsorships.



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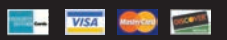


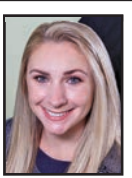
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Marina gas, drainage ditch misuse highlighted by GM

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) Marina gas pump issues, drainage ditch misuse and updates on projects including lighting on the North Gate bridge, fencing around the Yacht Club and new pickleball courts were highlighted in General Manager John Viola's report to the Ocean Pines Board last Wednesday.

After opening with maintenance on the Swim and Racquet Club — the exterior is currently being painted and a roof replacement is scheduled for budgeting — Viola reported on how gas prices have affected the pumps at the marina.

"With the price of gas going to five dollars, we did need to update the gears because the price (on the pumps) did not go to five dollars," Viola said. "Back in the day, nobody anticipated that, so we were out of service for a few days. Once we did that, as you're probably aware, gas went to six dollars and the gears needed to be updated again. So we did lose a few days there."

A line leak also required addressing and at the time of Wednesday's meeting, just two of the five pumps were operational. The subsequent spills and any adverse effects they might have caused had been addressed, Viola said.

"(But) we will be without those pumps for the remainder of the season and I will be coming forward to the board right after the season for replacing the pipes," he added.

Viola brought the board's attention to what he said was a concerning trend he's observed with drainage.

"We want to get all the big pipes, the main pipes cleaned and fixed so that we have access to the bay and wherever we're draining. We've been trying to maintain all the ditches," Viola said.

However, he said he's noticed time and again that ditches that are cleared were filling back up with leaves — in one case as soon as a week or two later.

Those clogged drains — residents dumping yard waste in them speculated as the cause — can wreak havoc on the golf course after heavy rainfall.

Some ditches also have boardwalks and bridges built by homeowners over them, which Viola said are not allowed. He is looking into contacting homeowners about the problems with the hope that there's something to present to the board next week.

"Whatever I can do, whatever actions I can take, I will take. This can't go on," Viola said.

Director Doug Parks wondered if homeowners were negligent or oblivious to the violations, but agreed something needs to be done.

"Maybe they didn't know; let's give them the benefit of the doubt," Parks said. "But quite frankly they need to be notified that this kind of behavior and this kind of action cannot continue."

Regarding the North Gate bridge lighting, Viola said that the lights to be installed are now in stock and will be delivered and put in after the Fourth of July. A concrete mason will pour columns for four light poles on the corner of the bridge.

At the Yacht Club, \$11,300 was spent on temporary — and subsequent new — fencing and installation. The project was finished by the end of May.

Construction is on schedule for new pickleball courts and should be finished by the end of July. Repair work on existing courts will start soon, which includes cracks and repainting. Once repainted the courts will need 7-10 days to dry.

Viola said the goal is to ensure that at least four courts are always open.

"It takes time to do this right," he said.

Teak benches at the golf club were out for repair and back in service last week. Viola said that the lifespan of the benches — purchased in 2008 — is about 20 years. The original cost of the benches was \$27,300 and the "new book value" comes in at \$19,900.45.

"What I think we have is benches that will last another 15 years if we maintain them," Viola said.

Nineteen streets are due to be paved. Viola said the association tries to pave "three miles every year" and they're trying to be consistent with that goal this year. Ocean Parkway is also due to be edged and striped. Bids for paving go out next month and are due back in August.

Staffing shortages have caused
See PINES Page 5



John Viola

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OP Golf Committee talks maintenance, more

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) The Ocean Pines Golf Committee met on June 21 and discussed the following items:

The Sand Dawgs, a group of Ocean Pines golfers who help with maintenance around the golf course, found in a review given by Dawgs member Nelson Fenwick that the group has all holes covered and substitutions were available if needed.

The condition of the course is a work in process, as brush and tree removal are ongoing but nearing completion. The committee thanked the maintenance teams led by John Malinowski and Justin Hearthstone for the improvements around the course and maintenance efforts.

The trademark teak benches that have dotted the course since 2008 are back after being out for repair and upkeep. The committee wants at least two benches per nine holes placed on the course for walkers.

New items for the committee in-

cluded addressing split and damaged course rakes, a shortage of sand refill bottles and repairing the hole-13 gazebo.

It was suggested that basic cart and golf course rules and etiquette be posted on golf carts. The committee also raised questions regarding the extent of the course ranger's authority and whether sandboxes should be on all tees — both questions need clarification, the committee ruled.

The committee is also taking a look at what it calls "best practices" — does it have them, are they being used and review them on submission from "professionals."

"We're just trying to improve the golf experience, not only for residents but everyone who plays golf here," said committee chair Fritz Lahner. "That's the goal of our committee."



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Golf Committee met last week and discussed the goings-on at the Golf Club, including the return of teak benches that were out for maintenance, the ongoing work on the course's condition and addressing split and damaged course rakes, among other items.

Pines GM report features bulkhead update and more

Continued from Page 4

some community pools to change their hours.

No issues have been noted so far in the regular OPA audit. A preliminary draft of the final audit report will be released in July and finalized two weeks before the annual meeting.

New bulkheads scheduled for 2021-22 were finished last week and office manager Linda Martin estimated that work on bulkheads scheduled for 2022-23 will begin in the fall. The work will include 10 bulkheads on North Pintail Drive and Pintail Park's bulkhead.

Martin said the association has received permits from the Maryland Department of the Environment and Worcester county for dredging at several locations around Ocean Pines. The goal is for contract work to start in July.

Mailbox pedestals were ordered in May and are yet to be delivered. The postmaster has been contacted regarding installation scheduling. High-priority locations have been determined and will be installed as soon as possible.

Mailboxes to be replaced first are located on Royal Oaks Drive, Boston Drive and Cannon Drive. Pedestals to be replaced first are located at White Horse Park, Lookout Point, Sundial Circle, Crest Haven Drive, Offshore Lane, Tail of the Fox Drive, Royal Oaks Drive, Bridgewater Road, Brandywine Drive, Cannon Drive, Fairway Lane, Charleston Road.



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PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION
Hopefuls to be elected to the Ocean Pines Board of Directors in 2022 are, clockwise: Paula Gray, Amy Peck, Stuart Lakernick, Steve Jacobs, Josette Wheatley and Monica Rakowski.

OPA director candidates respond to questions from panel at forum

Continued from Page 1

committees could use some more help and “the more involved our citizens and residents are, the better we become.” Jacobs said the association must realize it is “in competition” with similar communities in the region and that it’s important to keep pace.

How would you keep the record of financial success going?

Gray said retaining Viola should be a top priority. She spoke about the protocols he set in place to get committees and departments the funding and manpower they need for their goals and added that, should he leave, the practices he incorporated should stay. “Look where we are now,” Gray said. “We have happy employees, we’re getting production done. You can look out the window and just about at the last full meeting last week, every single solitary (financial item) was in the black.”

This was one topic where the candidates’ answers did not cover that wide of a spectrum as multiple others also mentioned Viola by name. Peck said she believes in “going line by line in the budget and asking the tough questions.” Lakernick harkened back to the time that Ocean Pines “for some reason ... thought it could run a restaurant” and the \$1.2 million hole he says the association dug itself in and how he could use his professional experience to ensure the community never faces that issue again.

Rakowski said she would ensure the association “paints and increases” its reserves. Wheatley praised Viola as well and also endorsed the Matt Ortt Companies as “an amazing group of people.” Jacobs said he would avoid micromanaging the committees and that the directors should “let them do their job under

the guidance of both (Viola) and the board.”

What conclusions do you draw from the recent referendum results?

Jacobs, who serves on the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, which chiefly put the May referendum together, said he’s glad the 28 questions on the ballots passed and that the whole project could not have been completed without the leadership of chair Jim Trummel.

He also pointed out that not everything that was sent to the board made it onto the ballot, including issues with how the association handled the court case involving director Rick Farr’s eligibility last year.

“We spent a lot of time talking about that whole process that’s outlined in the bylaws,” Jacobs said. “Frankly, my view was we came up with a better solution than what the board presented to the community. We would not have left everything to the secretary. We would have required the board to act. We would have required the board to inform the candidate in question and give that candidate an opportunity to present their views to the board so the board could decide how to proceed. What the community preferred was the secretary make the decision. That passed. That’s fine.”

Gray thanked the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for their work. Peck said her biggest conclusion was that “we have about 1,800 homeowners who are highly engaged.” Lakernick also lamented the “12 or 14” last-minute resolutions from the committee that were “slammed” by the board.

Rakowski said she’d like to see the association improve community involvement and that the referendum ultimately needed to be done. Wheatley said she thinks it’s important that

‘...the more involved our citizens and residents are, the better we become.’

— Monica Rakowski, candidate for 2022 Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors

the association tighten the bylaws, as the vast majority of those who voted showed they want.

Should boat ramp access be limited to residents or should nonresidents pay a higher fee?

Peck said that there’s no way the association could simply limit access to the boat ramp to Ocean Pines residents. “We cannot do that,” she said. “We are a nonprofit so I can’t support that because it’s illegal.” She added that she’d like to see stickers issued that indicate resident or nonresident, making it easier to charge non-residents a higher fee. “This would limit the craziness ... and give residents preferential treatment for using boat ramps.”

Lakernick, on the other hand, said he would limit the boat ramp to residents only and said that the biggest issue is the trailers clogging up the Mumford’s Landing Pool parking lot during the tourist season. However, he also said he’d charge outside residents “but you can’t restrict it.”

Rakowski simply said, “How big of an issue is it, really?” and added she’s opposed to commercial use of boat ramps. Wheatley said she observes other area commercial ramps as having good functionality and that if she’s deciding only between limiting access or charging outsiders more, she’s “going for B.” Jacobs confessed he is not a boat owner but that a matrix should be devised that ensures residents have full access while maximizing revenue.

How would you improve safety and access for bikers and pedestrians along Route 589?

Rakowski said she’s like to see a shuttle service to help residents get from the residential areas to the commercial parts of Ocean Pines area. “Maybe once a week or once every other week, but we could provide a ride to the Food Lion,” she said. Or a ride to the post office. Or a ride to the Library. Some people might not be able to walk that distance. What are we doing to address that?”

Gray focused on how bike and pedestrian access in the vicinity are dangerous. Peck stressed the importance of the Route 90 study that MDOT-SHA is in the middle of and said it’s “time to weigh in” with the community’s input on what a revamped Route 90 corridor through Ocean Pines should look like.

Lakernick equated the ideal scenario to that of Levittown cities — communities that he said are extremely walkable. The nearest example of a Levittown city is Bowie, which in recent years has been dogged by critics saying the incorporated city of around 60,000 people is nowhere near walkable or bikeable enough.

Wheatley embraced the possibility of widening Route 90 and brought up how improving drainage around the

community would help curtail hazardous conditions. Jacobs said that the association needs to work on how it reaches out to the county for help in tackling these kinds of problems.

What would you prioritize from the recent community surveys?

Lakernick said he’d tackle the affordability of some of the community’s amenities and especially the pools. “If you get a full membership, your family is \$340. If you want to buy parking in town, it’s another \$140. That’s \$480 for a swim club membership for the season with parking down in town,” he said. “Here’s where the problem comes in: You have your grandchildren come down with your kids — four or five of them come into the house, that’s \$50 if you want to go to the pool for the day — 50 bucks! I don’t know what the answer is but we’ve gotta figure out a solution to that.”

Gray said she’d focus on maintaining the value of Ocean Pines properties and its quality standard of living. Peck identified infrastructure, maintenance, fire police and protecting the old and young of the community. She also mentioned drainage, beautification and enforcing the association’s declarations of restriction. Rakowski and Jacobs zeroed in on safety and

infrastructure while it was safety and drainage for Wheatley.

Other topics that were covered included how OPA uses social media, how to improve enforcement of architectural violations, what transparency means to each candidate, what does each candidate think OPA does well, what liaison roles would everyone like to explore and whether each candidate is prepared for the demanding schedule of a director.

To view the forums in their entirety, visit the Ocean Pines YouTube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/OceanPinesAssociation1>.

Important upcoming election dates include:

Cutoff date for voter eligibility - Wednesday, July 6

Ballots mailed - Week of July 12

Ballot Deadline - Wednesday, Aug. 10 by 4 p.m.

Ballots counted and vote totals announced - Thursday, Aug. 11 starting at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse Meeting Room

Annual Meeting - Saturday, Aug. 13. Time and Venue TBD

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OP discusses upcoming protocol

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) After some spirited debate, the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors unanimously passed a revised Resolution M-06 and tabled Resolution B-03 pending further research on Monday.

The board went through two readings of each resolution, beginning at its regular meeting on June 22. Elections Committee Chair Carol Ludwig sat in on discussions over both resolutions and was allowed to answer questions and provide her input on them.

The revised M-06 resolution will allow for electronic voting at the annual board elections and referendums, director Larry Perrone said. The purpose and effect of the changes and amendment would be to allow OPA to contract with a vendor to provide the necessary services.

The most engaged debate over M-06 involved a scenario the association hopes it never has to contend with: what happens in the event of a recount?

The debate over the recount scenario took up time during both meetings — how a recount is conducted, how to avoid double-counting votes and how to store ballots in the event of a recount.

“It’s a fair question,” Association Vice President Frank Daly said. “Why don’t we just ask the electronic voting company how they handle a recount? I know this is a deadly assumption to make but I would sure like to believe that Ocean Pines isn’t the only (entity) using electronic voting in the United States of America to have a recount.”

Joe Reynolds, who runs OceanPinesForum.com asked during the June 22 meeting whether the use of mail ballots and electronic voting might lead to duplicate votes being cast.

“If you mail a ballot to everybody and somebody — it’s going to happen — somebody is going to do both and they’re going to send a ballot back and vote electronically,” Reynolds said.

Ludwig replied that duplicates are not counted.

“Electronic voting gives our voters a longer period,” she said. “We could start the voting the day we put stuff in the mail. People can start to go online and access their accounts. So it gives everybody more time.”

Regarding recount protocol, Ludwig said the vendor, Vote HOA, does have processes and that the cost would be \$150 per hour if they had to do it and “got really specific with it.”

Parks argued for more specific language regarding how and where ballots will be securely stored, but the advice of Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Chair Jim Trummel was to keep it simple in case of unforeseen circumstances.

Ultimately, it was decided that the language for storage guidelines would include the phrase “unless otherwise

required” to cover for unforeseen circumstances.

On June 22, Parks pointed out that it’s unclear how association members would be provided a schedule in advance of voting. The board won’t want to see complaints that people didn’t know where the schedule was or how it was going to be made available.

“The idea, especially for elections, is that it goes out with the annual meeting notice,” Ludwig said. “So it goes to everyone and we would have instructions in there with the number that’s assigned to them to be able to go online.”

Daly stressed that the board needs to ensure that everyone can be linked to the assessment database with an email.

“I realize some people don’t have computers and some people who have computers don’t know how to use them,” Daly said. “But by doing that, I think we save ourselves a lot of effort because ... if not every day, then every week in some way or another, we get a complaint. ‘We don’t know what polls are open.’”

“It goes back to the issue Doug raised— how do we communicate with people?”

Ludwig said that is something the vendor considers.

“Every (vendor) we looked at cleans up our database so that when somebody comes into vote and they provide an email address that goes into the records that they give back to us so that they actually update our database as they go along,” she said.

Horn brought up the possibility that North Star, the vendor that col-

See OP Page 12

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OP South Station renovation town hall scheduled tonight

(June 30, 2022) The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department is hosting a town hall meeting to discuss the pro-



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posed south station renovation on Thursday, June 30, at 6 p.m. at the South Station at 911 Ocean Parkway. All residents are invited to attend and learn more about the proposed renovation plans and why the renovation is needed.

The meeting will include a presentation from fire department leaders, including Chief Steve Grunewald, President David Van Gasbeck as well as a representative from Manns Woodward Associates.

At the conclusion of the presentation, questions from the Ocean Pines Board of Directors will be fielded followed by an open Q&A from community members.

For those who will not be able to attend, a live stream option will be available and questions can be submitted in advance via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/XF3DzciS9N>



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OP resolution overhaul going forward with reviews, debate

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) Several resolutions have been looked at and debated over the past two weeks by the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors following the years-long efforts of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee to update the association's governing documents.



Doug Parks

During the June 23 OPA board meeting, the docket included reviews of Resolutions M-01 and B-04 and rescinding altogether Resolution M-08.

The first resolution, M-01, establishes policy, assigns responsibilities and provides procedures to be followed by the Architectural Review Committee (ARC), the general manager, and the board for enforcing compliance with the association's Declarations of Restrictions and ARC guideline violations.

The board decided to hand the resolution over to ARC with the advice of the directors and the charging document related to the review. The resolution will then go to Bylaws and Resolutions before coming back to the board.

This resolution was revised "significantly" in May 2020, said Association President Colette Horn, and its implementation has been affected by "public health considerations related to covid-19, in particular the limited availability of the court system to resolve issues."

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee recommended attention be given to the resolution's language related to appeals procedures, court enforcement and general manager notification.

Horn recommended that the board turn the resolution over to the Architectural Review Committee for review and recommendations.

Director Doug Parks pointed to language about appeals and closing a loophole that might allow a homeowner to appeal in perpetuity.

"That kind of thing could make sure that they can't follow through on ... (and) just keep appealing, appealing, appealing until they get what they want," Parks said.

He also talked about clearing up the protocol for suspending certain rights of association members who run afoul of the Declaration of Restrictions (DRs), as it pertains to the general manager's request of the board to do so.

"Perhaps (we need) a reference to what section of the DRs that they're referring to," Parks said. "There's not a detail here to make sure, because the GM will want to know what we're

referring to when we get to this point. So I'd ask ARC to look at that and go back and ask Bylaws and Resolutions if they have any more advice on that particular aspect of it."

Director Amy Peck recommended that an asterisk under a sub-step of the resolution that refers to repeat offenders and forfeiting their rights to appeal should be a regular part of the sub-step, not an asterisk.

Director Larry Perrone said that ARC will need to consider an appeal process to the board.

"I think that I know that we want to give (ARC) the power to do what they need to do but I think we've seen some circumstances where they've ... wondered if the homeowner could've come to the board ... we may want to consider adding a (one-time appeal process to the board)," Perrone said.

The second resolution reviewed, B-04, states that its purpose is to guide agenda development with the parameters of "Robert's Rules of Order."

The Bylaws and Resolutions committee recommended no amendments to the resolution and after unanimously passing the board, it will be considered "reviewed" by the committee on July 22.

Finally, the board tabled a decision on resolution M-08 until July.

The resolution states that it establishes the policy for originating and maintaining manuals used by the various departments of OPA in the performance of the responsibilities of the departments.

It was written and adopted in 2008 and has never been updated.

"Instead of these requirements being part of a board resolution, it is asked that consideration be given to allowing this process to be addressed through the normal work assignment and performance review process," Horn said.

Parks agreed with the concept, saying there's no reason the board should be that involved with intervention with regards to operations.

He added that the board needs to pay careful attention to one item — the OPA financial management policy manual.

"Remember the board is a policy-making entity," Parks said. "The idea here is that in that document, even though it hasn't been updated since (2008), it declares the spending limit for the GM, among other things."

"I would find a way ... the other ones are operational, this one needs to be brought into the board's oversight to make sure that we include that in some fashion."

Parks proposed the postponement and said he'd review the resolution and come back to the board with his findings next month.

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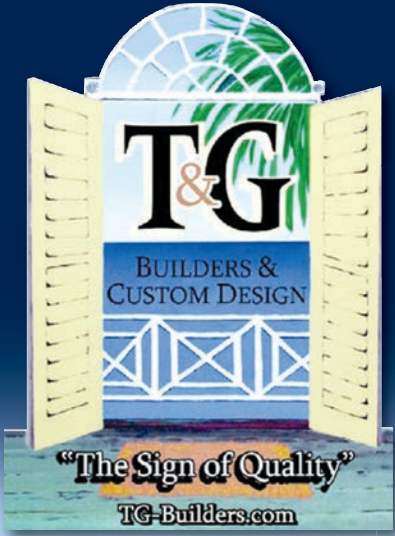
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OP Strategic Planning talks phrasing of vision and goals

The Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet next on July 28.

Ultimately, Horn tasked Parks and Ludwig to work with association officials to research quorum and attendance questions as soon as possible.



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Fireworks, other festivities slated for holiday

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) With Ocean City's regular fireworks shows nixed for July 4, Ocean Pines and Berlin may be where professional shows will be taking place this holiday.

Other Independence Day-themed festivities are planned, though, and July 3 and 5 will be packed with activity.

As of earlier this week, these are the events listed for July 3, 4 and 5 along the coast:

Ocean Pines

- According to a news release, the community's annual July 4 festivities will kick off at 5 p.m. and last until 8:45 on Monday, July 4, at Veterans Memorial Park on Route 589 and Cathell Road. The event will feature carnival games, dry slides and bounce houses for children, as well as live music, and food and drink vendors. Children's wristbands are required for slides and bounce houses and will be \$10. General ad-



Contestants compete in the 2021 hot dog-eating contest at Fish Tales Bar and Grill in Ocean City. The annual contest is set once again for noon on July 4.

mission is free and open to the public.

- At 9:15 p.m. until about 9:45, fireworks are set to launch from the north side of the pond by Cathell Road. A viewing zone will be fenced

off from Manklin Creek Road to the Veterans Memorial. No viewing is allowed on Ocean Parkway, from Cathell Road to Manklin Creek Road. Guests may bring lawn chairs and blankets and parking will be available in a marked area just south of the Sports Core Pool. In case of inclement weather, the fireworks show will move to Tuesday, July 5.

- At 8 a.m. on July 4, the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department's annual Freedom 5K will begin at Veterans Memorial Park. A news release said a course will be set up through the scenic areas of the Pines and runners are encouraged to wear U.S.A.-themed gear. Awards will be given to male and female first-through third-place finishers in nine different age groups, from 10 and under to 70 and older. An award will also be given to the best dressed runner. Preregistration is \$35 and open through July 3. Visit [raceentry.com/races/ocean-pines-association-freedom-5k/2022/register](https://www.raceentry.com/races/ocean-pines-association-freedom-5k/2022/register) to register. Day-of registration is \$40 and starts at 7:15 a.m.

- Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market is also set to piggyback on the popularity of the Fourth of July holiday by hosting hundreds of shoppers

on Saturday, July 2. A news release from the community said the market takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at White Horse Park and will feature fresh, local produce, including local sweet corn, red tomatoes, summer squashes and blueberries. Many Community organization, including the Town Cats, Kawanis Club, Jesse Klump Foundation, Friends of the Ocean Pines Library, and the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department will be at the market and the fire department will sell raffle tickets for the chance to win a 2022 Ford Bronco Sport 4x4. The winning ticket will be drawn on Dec. 10. For more information about the market, visit ocean-pines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market

Berlin

- The Town of Berlin's annual fireworks show is set from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Sunday, July 3, at Heron Park. Allison Earley, the town's economic and community development administrator, said spectators can watch the show from the nearby parking lot across from Burley Oak Brewing Company on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

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Regional events set for July 3-5

Ocean City

• The resort’s festivities will kick off at 7 p.m. on July 3 with a free concert by Mike Hines & the Look, followed by an “intimate” fireworks show at 9 p.m. at Northside Park as part of Sundae’s in the Park.

• At 8 p.m. on July 5, American Idol star Jay Copeland will perform a free concert at Northside Park.

• Live music is set to begin at 8 p.m., July 5, on Caroline Street downtown, followed by a show by Celebration Fireworks Company at 9:30. City officials said the show will be different and “more intense” than the ones the original vendor was planning for July 4 downtown and at Northside Park.

• Fish Tales Bar and Grill’s annual hot dog-eating contest will begin at noon in the south parking lot of the restaurant on 22nd Street on July 4. The amateur contest is open to anyone over the age of 18 and the winner will receive at least \$1,000 cash prize, a trophy and bragging rights for a year, according to a news release. The contest will be made up of the first 20 people to pre-register. To register, visit the Bahia Marina Tackle Shop or Fish Tales Small Bar to sign up. Registration is \$10 and required to hold a spot.



People gathered at Veterans Memorial Park last year for Ocean Pines’ annual Fourth of July festivities, including activities for kids, live music, and food and drink vendors. The annual event is set to kick off at 5 p.m. this year in the same spot.

Snow Hill

• At 5 p.m. on Friday, July 1, the Town of Snow Hill is hosting its First Friday and Independence Day Celebration. Shops on Green Street will have extended business hours, sales, specials and kids activities and Klassic Soul will play live music. Downtown Snow Hill Inc. will serve drinks from a cash bar. Local artisan vendor booths will also be set up on Bank Street, and a bounce house, food vendors, and music from DJ Smack will be at Sturgis Park. The night will end with a fireworks show above the Pocomoke River. Anyone interested in becoming a vendor is encouraged to contact Lorissa McAllister at lmcallister@snowhillmd.com.

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Campgrounds push for more flexibility on parking spaces

By Greg Wehner
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) Local campgrounds like Frontier Town on Route 611 that provide rentals and memberships could be given flexibility in terms of how far parking is from campsites after the Worcester County Commissioners last week agreed to amend the zoning code to allow parking to be more than 600 feet away with approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The code currently requires two off-street parking spots at each campsite, but the modification allows Sun TRS Frontier LLC, which operates Frontier Town, Castaways, and Fort Whaley, to relocate off-street parking farther than 600 feet from the site.

Off-site parking is also not allowed and requires an amendment to the code.

The company sought the code amendment after proposing cluster-design standards for a portion of one of their campgrounds that would provide more open and green space.

"It's a back to nature experience," said Hugh Cropper IV, the attorney representing the LLC. "It's a million times better. It's what people want."

Cropper told the commissioners on June 21 the parking proposed for the clusters will be around the perimeter of the cabins rather than directly by the cabins, and between 300-600 feet away.

Places such as Ocean City require parking to be within 600 feet of properties, though when it comes to campgrounds, Commissioner Jim Bunting told Cropper he would rather see parking within 300 feet from a campsite.

Bunting also pushed for Cropper and his client to provide specifica-



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The owners of Frontier Town in Berlin will soon be able to establish a new space with clusters of cabins and parking up to 600 feet from the site, after the Worcester County Commissioners approved a change to the code language that permits vehicles to be parked off site.

tions about the project to get a better idea of what the company is trying to do.

But Cropper told Bunting the commissioners were to consider a code amendment change and if he were to provide the plans specifically for the change, he would probably be run out.

Sun TRS Frontier said in a letter last month that off-street parking would be located at a remote lot, rather than streetside as required by law, and the cluster design would consist of recreational cabin structures or park trailers in rental and membership campgrounds.

Each structure would not have a minimum setback or campsite area and will not be permitted to be constructed within 10 feet of any other structure. Additionally, the maximum density allowed in cluster designs is 10 campsites.

By installing the clusters with parking a little further away, Cropper explained in a letter last month, there will be more grass, picnic areas, and recreational areas between sites.

Cropper said last week that this proposal is being made for cabins, not campers or RVs.

The public hearing on the matter was held before the commissioners closed it and voted on the amendment's approval. It passed, 5-0, with Commissioners Bud Church and Diana Purnell absent.

Correction

An article breaking down the upcoming Worcester County election that was published on June 23, 2022, erroneously stated Worcester County Commissioner Josh Nordstrom was a member of the Republican Party – he is not. Nordstrom is a registered Democrat.

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PHOTO COURTESY BUS PATROL
Worcester County Commissioners stalled efforts to have red light-like cameras installed on school buses until several questions involving how fines are divided and whether bus contractors will get a portion of the money are answered.

County stalls red light cams on buses because of payout

By Greg Wehner
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) Efforts to install “red light” cameras on school buses in Worcester County were stalled on last week after the commissioners raised questions on the payouts, particularly with bus contractors.

Bus Patrol, a company that installs monitoring systems on school buses to capture traffic violations like running the stop signs that extend from the vehicles, proposed putting the cameras on all the school buses in the county.

The vendor would be responsible for issuing the tickets, though according to representatives on June 21, each citation would go through a vetting system that would involve the vendor and sheriff’s office before going to court.

If a ticket is issued, the fine would be a flat \$250, and if one bus nets four violations per month, that would bring in \$1,000 in fines.

The company would then charge a monthly \$150 technology fee, leaving \$850, which would then be split with the vendor getting \$510 and the county getting \$340.

Commissioner Chip Bertino said he liked the idea of violators getting caught for running the stop sign, but the payout seemed better for the vendor than it did for the county.

Vince Tolbert, the chief financial officer for Worcester County Public Schools explained to the commissioners that the cameras are not being looked at as a revenue generator, but instead they are being looked at for the safety of the students because cars constantly run the bus stop signs.

If the county were to move forward

with the proposal, it still has several questions that would need to be answered first, such as how much time and effort would go into verifying each ticket, and whether the bus contractors would get a cut of the \$340.

Representatives for Bus Patrol were not prepared to answer those questions.

Unlike most counties in the state, Worcester County’s bus drivers are all contractors and own their own buses.

“If I had a bus, I’d have a problem with you sticking cameras on my bus and me not getting any of the money,” Commissioner Joe Mitrecic said. “It’s their buses.”

That, he added, needs to be worked out. Although Mitrecic did not like how the money was split between the county and vendor, he said he understands they are in business to make money.

Commissioner Josh Nordstrom also asked about the costs to the county. For example, how many people from the sheriff’s office would be needed to process the tickets and how many people would the state’s attorney’s office need to hire to prosecute these tickets?

Worcester County Sheriff’s Office Lt. Robert Trautman told Nordstrom he had no answer that it is something his department needs to consider. At the moment, Trautman added, the department did not have the staff to support going through all the tickets.

At the end of the discussion, Nordstrom moved to table the proposal until more information is available. With a second offered by Commissioner Ted Elder, the commissioners concurred unanimously.



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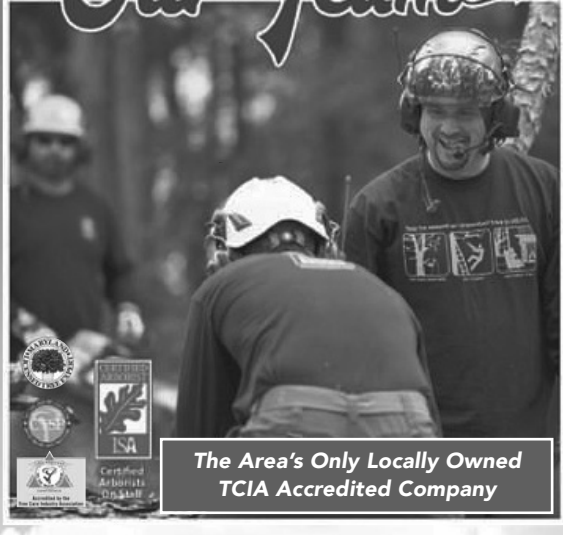
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Worcester BOE revises several old policies

By Greg Wehner
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) The Worcester County Public Schools Board of Education made several policy revisions at its June 21 meeting, including some that pertained to programs no longer offered, and others dealing with legislation passed down from the state.

All revisions were approved unanimously without question. Here's a rundown of what they changed:

Salary deductions

Dr. Dwayne Abt, the chief safety and human relations officer for the school district said the proposed change removes sections that reference the credit union, payroll savings program, and summer savings plan.

The programs, at one time, were offered to teachers and staff through payroll deductions.



Dr. A. Wallace

Abt said, "We simply do not do them anymore."

Ethics

Dr. Annette Wallace, the chief operating and academic office for the district, said requirements under the state ethics law requires the school district to make changes to its own policy.

One of the changes deals with the acceptance of gifts and pertains only to the board of education, candidates seeking seats on the board of educa-

tion, school officials, and employees of the school system

The solicitation of gifts is forbidden, and offerings that may impair a person's impartiality and independence of judgment may not be accepted. What can be accepted are things like meals or beverages from a donor or sponsor, ceremonial gifts with little monetary value, and unsolicited gifts valued at less than \$20, just to name a few.

Another policy change was for the disclosure of potential financial and conflict of interests for board members and candidates, and the third dealt with lobbying.

For a complete rundown of the policies, visit www.worcesterk12.org, go to "District Leadership," "Board of Education," and "Board Docs."

The legislature's Physical Restraint and Seclusion Act will go into effect on July 1.

The act prohibits school districts from using the physical restraint on students unless there is an emergency, and it is necessary to protect students or others from physical harm.

"This policy needs to be in place, and we need to make sure we follow this policy," Wallace said.

The use of seclusion will not be employed in the district under the new policy, and restraint will only be used as a last resort.

"That is the only time we should use restraint, anyways," Wallace added.

Energy policy

Vince Tolbert, the chief financial officer for the school district introduced the implementation of a district energy policy, as required by the state.

The policy was passed in 2021 and addresses purchasing, conservation, and efficiency of energy in the district.

In doing so, the district must provide monitoring and reporting of certain energy usage and include current and historical data on the school district's energy use by square foot.

Student data privacy

The state now requires all school districts to have a student data privacy policy, which Wallace said is important with the increasing number of platforms teachers and administrators use to store student data.

The reason for the policy is to ensure student data is safeguarded.

"The policy is not requiring us to do something we don't already do," Wallace told the board.

Restraint and seclusion



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County school board green lights \$124 million budget

By Greg Wehner
Staff Writer

(June 30, 2022) School board members in Worcester County approved the district's 2022-23 school budget of \$124 million on June 21, just two weeks after the Worcester County Commissioners approved their budget of \$226.9 million.

More than 81 percent, or \$101.2 million, of the school district's budget comes from the county and includes a nearly \$ 4 million increase over FY22.

State aid accounts for \$22.2 million, or 17.93 percent of the district's budget, and \$702,463 comes from other revenue.

The "other" revenue includes \$567,000 from the FY22 fund balance.

Vince Tolbert, the district's chief financial officer, presented the budget to school board members at last Tuesday's session, and highlighted several of its key items.

Tolbert said the budget represents \$4,025,396 in salary increases that give certificate-holding staff members a 4 percent cost-of-living adjust-



Vince Tolbert

ment increase, and support staff a 4.5 percent cost-of-living adjustment – the largest COLA increase in 15 years as costs everywhere continue to rise.

The health insurance rates will remain flat next year, and retirement expenses will increase \$37,405.

Bus contractors will see an hourly rate increase from \$22.58 to \$25, a mileage rate increase of two cents, and per vehicle allotment, or PVA, increase from \$20,115 to \$20,920.

The school district approved \$159,414 for five new positions: three secretaries, a floating school nurse, and an instructional technology coach.

The budget also includes \$205,000 in capital expenses next year. As Buckingham Elementary School prepares to undergo a major construction project, board members agreed to put \$125,000 toward a feasibility study, and the remaining \$80,000 will go toward roof design fees at Snow Hill Middle School and Cedar Chapel Special School.

A full breakdown of the upcoming school year budget can be found on the district's website at www.worcesterk12.org.

The school board unanimously approved the budget without question.

Independence Day market at White Horse Park, Sat.

(June 30, 2022) Hundreds of shoppers are expected to gather this Saturday morning at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market in White Horse Park.

"Our Independence Day holiday market is truly a feast for the senses, and it has become an undeniable tradition for so many families," market manager David Bean said.

The market is known for its fresh, local produce, but in addition to the fresh fruits and vegetables, market vendors will offer jams, eggs, local honey and plenty of baked goods this weekend.

Amish Friendship Bread is a bakery found in the green market loop in the middle of the market. Shoppers line up early to choose from the many flavors created by baker Jeanine Dufrene.

Dufrene said she buys produce from merchants at the market to incorporate in her seasonal flavored breads.

"The peaches have been so good and are making wonderful peach bread for my customers," she said.

The marketplace is also home to many artists, artisans and crafters.

See ARTISANS Page 21

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Opinion

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

We must preserve our independence

As we celebrate Independence Day Monday, it's evident that 246 years after the colonies declared their freedom from British rule, the only tyranny that continues to threaten us is our own.

It has been that way since the country's beginning, even though popular culture portrays the colonists as having greeted the Declaration of Independence with united jubilation. That was never the case, particularly on the Eastern Shore, where many people remained fiercely loyal to the crown until the end.

The disagreement between Loyalists and advocates of revolution was not about tea, taxes, or royal tradition, but which form of rule — the dictates of Parliament versus a somewhat democratically elected government — best reflected their cultural ideals and offered them the most advantages personally.

And so it has remained from the day nation-building began to our current times, as citizens and politicians have devoted two-and-a-half centuries to the battle over whose definition of freedom will be imposed on the other. The tactics haven't changed much either

Almost immediately at the end of the war, for instance, New Jersey gave women and African-Americans the right to vote. But in 1807, after political bosses blamed this group for their election losses, the state's legislature stripped them of that right in an "election reform" measure tied to accusations of voter fraud.

These arguments over the extent of individuals' rights and personal liberties have always been part of the package, with the most extreme participants in this conflict putting democracy itself at risk.

Under these circumstances, it would be wise to recall the words of women's rights advocate Abigail Adams, who advised her husband, President John Adams, "Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could."

With that in mind, the best way to celebrate our independence is to remain that way by doing whatever we can to protect our form of government from those who would do things differently if they could.

"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

Abraham Lincoln

Happy Independence Day



Letters

What is an abortion to the law?

Editor,

I pray that as American society moves forward after the recent ruling in regards to abortion, that peace and open dialogue can prevail.

We need a civil open discourse, not hatred and violence. I am pro-life and support protecting the unborn.

That said, before we start overreacting, we need to clarify, legally, what an abortion is.

The ruling by SCOTUS does not state the definition of what truly an abortion, under the law, is.

Don't believe me look it up. We need to determine and codify this.

I state this because by defini-

tion what is needed in the cases of an ectopic pregnancy or a miscarriage are deemed as abortion.

The law needs to clarify that in these cases the woman and the OB/GYN are not at risk of being arrested. In the case of a true miscarriage the child is already dead.

To not allow the medical professionals to take care of the woman in either case is a tragedy of justice. In this situation it truly is health care.

To just end a life because you regret the decision or you feel it will ruin your life is against all that our Creator stands for.

All Abrahamic religions, Hindus, and Buddhist can agree on this. So contact your state and federal leaders so

that a codified definition can be established and life can truly be protected. Sadly, abortion is still legal here in Maryland, but as we move forward that can and hopefully will change.

As such, we need to have the legal definition on record and codified in the law so that the innocents are truly protected down the road.

We can't move forward as long as animosity, mistrust, and a refusal to calmly discuss how we can truly provide care for women, especially the poor and those without a good support system, so that we can aid all.

Fr. Larry Barnhill, Dean Holy Trinity Cathedral (Anglican) Berlin

Berlin Town Hall shifting hours soon

(June 30, 2022) Effective Tuesday, July 5, Berlin's Town Hall will be open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, instead of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Staff have received requests from the public to open earlier than 8:30 a.m. and noticed that fewer customers

come in or call between 4 and 5 p.m.," Mayor Zack Tyndall said.

"Based on the staff recommendation, it made sense to adjust the hours to meet the needs of our residents and improve the operations of our customer service department."

Staff will continue to be available until 5 p.m. on dis-

connect days.

Tyndall also wanted to remind citizens and businesses that most town offices will be closed on Monday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Recycling collection normally scheduled for Monday will be collected on Tuesday, July 5th along with regular Tuesday collection.

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The Bayside Gazette is published weekly by FLAG Publications, Inc.

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

The Bayside Gazette is available by subscription at \$75/year or \$40/6 mos.

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County seeks '22 award nominees

Volunteer Spirit honors go to residents who volunteer to enhance quality of life

(June 30, 2022) To honor volunteers whose contributions help improve the quality of life locally, Worcester County residents are invited to nominate individuals, organizations and businesses for the Volunteer Spirit of Worcester County awards.

The nomination period is open July 1 to Sept. 2, at 11:59 p.m.

“As we continue to serve our community during this pandemic, there are many outstanding residents,

groups, faith-based, businesses and nonprofits who are still working tirelessly to support the many needs in Worcester County,” Human Resources Specialist Kelly Brinkley said. “We have grown stronger and more resilient thanks to the efforts of those who continue to come together to roll up their sleeves and pitch in. We want to honor this exceptional display of selflessness over the past year.”

Volunteer Spirit nominations will be accepted for each of the following eight categories: individual, group/team, emerging leader, faith-based, nonprofit volunteer program, local business, veteran, and lifetime achievement.

Nominees should reside in and represent the volunteer spirit of Worcester County.

Nomination forms are found online at www.worcestervolunteer.org. Once there, click on “News.” Nomination forms will also be available at the Human Resources Office, Room 1301, in the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill, or by contacting Brinkley at 410-632-0090 or kbrinkley@co.worcester.md.us.

To highlight the outstanding services of the volunteers, the Worcester County Commissioners will be presenting award winners at the Oct. 18 meeting.

Artisans put works on display

Continued from Page 19

“With over 100 artisan merchants participating at the holiday market, you won’t find this selection of offerings anywhere else,” assistant market manager John Chandler said.

Among the participating artisan is Donna Fuhrman, who has been sewing since she was a young girl. Her market boutique on the Artisan Plaza is adorned with her handmade art, including one-of-a-kind quilts, travel jewelry pouches, and baby burping blankets.

take great pride in the products they bring and are excited to share them with our shoppers.”

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market continues to accept prospective merchant applications throughout the year.

The market is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in White Horse Park. For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.

Community Briefs

Graduate

Sam Hill, of Berlin, graduated from Hood College in June with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Law & Criminal Justice.

Hood College, located in historic Frederick, near Washington, D.C. is an independent, liberal arts college, offering more than 25 bachelor’s degrees, four pre-professional programs, 19 master’s degree programs, two doctorates and 10 post-baccalaureate certificates.

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“I’ve continued to grow my sewing skills over the years, taking classes to sharpen my skills,” Fuhrman said.

Many community organizations will also be at the market, including the Town Cats, Kawanis Club, Jesse Klump Foundation, Friends of the Ocean Pines Library, and the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department.

The Fire Department will sell raffle tickets for the chance to win a 2022 Ford Bronco Sport 4x4. The winning ticket will be drawn on Dec. 10.

Along with the wide selection fresh produce, baked goods, artisans, and community organizations, Bean said all the merchants strive to create a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

“Whether it’s your first visit or you’re a weekly shopper, our market merchants will make your experience a memorable one,” Bean said. “They

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Snapshots



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RAMP BUILD

Bank of Ocean City continues to support the community and Chesapeake Housing Mission. Employees and some family members recently lent their hands to provide a ramp build in Ocean Pines recently.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

RECOGNITION

Pat Arata, center, and Jacqueline Spurrier, left, were each recently presented with certificates marking 40 years of dedicated service to the Daughters of the American Revolution. Both are members of the General Levin Winder Chapter. They are pictured with Chapter Regent Gail Weldin.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WINNERS

Ocean City - Berlin Optimist Club Chair Frances Pilarski visited Worcester Preparatory School on March 24 to award this year's International Essay Competition winners. Angeline Todorov ('25) placed first and Jayden Scopp ('25) finished in third. The topic of this year's essay was, "How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?"



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

Representatives of the Knights of Columbus Ocean City Council #9053 and the Lady Knights Auxiliary, recently visited the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin to present a \$5,000 donation. Throughout the month of January, the Knights designated any profits from their annual Bingo for Babies to go to the Grace Center. Pictured are Joann Manole, Grace Center executive director; Tom Anderson, Bingo chair; Kay Windsor, Grace Center administrative assistant; Dee Matthews, Lady Knights Auxiliary president; Tom Herwig, Grand Knight; and Joe Kostelac, Faithful Navigator.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

GIVES SUPPORT

Worchester Youth & Family Counseling Services, Inc. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Volunteers Coordinator Kayla Figueroa, left, and Director Jerrona Smith are joined by Kiwanis President Tim Lund, who presented a \$500 donation on March 30.



PHOTO COURTESY ROGER PACELLA

TOP AWARDS

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club held its oratorical contest March 29 and 31 at Stephen Decatur Middle School. Pictured, from left, are Lily Sperry (third place), Jessica Beck (first place), Sharon Sorrentino (Optimist Club member and contest coordinator), Saylor Amos (second place) and Jonah Ridgely (fourth place).

Snapshots



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

HONORS
Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Tim Lund, left, recognizes Jim Maratea as “Kiwanian of the Month” for March.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FRENCH HONOR SOCIETY
Eight Worcester Preparatory School students were recently inducted into the Societe Honoraire de Francais Chapitre Bastille. Pictured, in front, from left, are Moorea Phillips, Lebbby Becker and Natasha Richter, and in back, Morgan White, Natalie Chadwell, Cooper Ludt, Hunter Simons and Worcester Prep French teacher Elaine Burg.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HABITAT FAIR
Worcester Prep second graders hosted a Habitat Fair for students, staff and family on April 1, to attend and learn about the different places an animal makes a home. Mykolas Doyle was excited to have his dad, Brandon, visit his Polar Habitat display.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Benjamin Kremer checks out his daughter, Sloane's Habitat Fair project.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Carter Harrison had both his mom, WPS Second Grade Teacher Abby, and dad, Chris, visit his Savanna Grasslands habitat.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Chich Diu and Sona Blaskova, were proud to visit their son, Tobi Blaska and view his Grasslands Habitat model.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Charlize Damouni is joined by her mom, Damouni, sister, Gabriella, and brother, Jude, with her Forest Habitat project.

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The Worcester County Arts Council recently awarded arts scholarships totaling \$10,000 to six Worcester County students who will be majoring in the arts in college. Pictured, from left, are Alexis Kagan, MacKenzie Williams and Alexander (Zander) Jett. Nadia Bullock, Anna Buttler and Kayla Halbig also received scholarships.

Worcester Co. Arts Council
awards \$10K in scholarships

(June 30, 2022) The Worcester County Arts Council recently awarded arts scholarships totaling \$10,000 to six Worcester County students who will be majoring in the arts in college.
Award recipients are: Nadia Bullock - Visual Arts; Anna Buttler - Culinary Arts; Kayla Halbig - Visual Arts; Alexander (Zander) Jett - Music/Songwriting; Alexis Kagan - Visual Arts; and MacKenzie Williams - Visual Arts
The Worcester County Arts Council's scholarship program is designed to identify, recognize, and encourage talented students who demonstrate excellence in dance, music, theater, visual arts, creative writing and culinary arts.
Scholarship awards are made possible by a grant from the Mary Humphreys Foundation, John Sis-

son's family, and contributions by many patrons of the Arts Council.
For more information about this program, visit: www.worcestercount-arts-council.org.
The Worcester County Arts Council is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support, promote, and encourage visual, performing, and literary arts in Worcester County.
As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County arts agency, the Worcester County Arts Council is committed to fostering the excellence, diversity, and vitality of arts, artists, and arts organizations and increasing access to the arts for all members of our community.
The Worcester County Arts Council is funded by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and supported by memberships, donations, and local sponsorships.

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Worcester Co. Arts Council awards \$23K for programs

(June 30, 2022) The Worcester County Arts Council awarded \$23,440 in the Community Arts Development Grants program to 12 art projects and events to be presented by local nonprofit organizations during the granting cycle beginning July 1.

Grantees were recognized on June 7 during the Arts Council's annual Arts Celebration held at the Berlin Library.

Funding will support a wide variety of creative and innovative projects that are of outstanding artistic quality and demonstrate community benefit enhancing the lives of everyone living and visiting Worcester County.

This program is funded and supported by the Maryland State Arts Council.

Grant projects are evaluated based on the overall quality of cultural excellence, community outreach and public impact, and financial/administrative merit.

The following is a list of organizations and their projects that are being awarded a Community Arts Development Grant for the first cycle of the FY 2023 granting period:

Art League of Ocean City: monthly art exhibits

Berlin Heritage Foundation:

events

Downtown Snow Hill, Inc.: mural restoration

Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra: 2022 fall concerts

Pine Tones Chorus: Christmas concert

Town of Berlin - Berlin Main Street: live music at the Berlin Farmers Market

Town of Ocean City/Special Events: children's art workshops at ArtX

We Heart Berlin: Powered by Kindness Mural

Worcester County Board of Education/Worcester Goes Purple: #Hat not Hate" project

Worcester County Education Foundation: Chamber Music by the Sea 2022 Festival

Worcester County Library - Berlin: Art of Reading Book Club

Worcester Goes Purple Warriors Against Addiction: Healing heARTS

The next deadline to apply for Community Arts Development Grants is Oct. 15. The application form and grant guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website: www.worcestercountyartscouncil.org.

The Worcester County Arts Council is a nonprofit organization whose



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Worcester County Arts Council awarded \$23,440 in the Community Arts Development Grants program to 12 art projects and events to be presented by local nonprofit organizations during the granting cycle beginning July 1. Pictured are representatives from the organizations receiving awards.

mission is to support, promote, and encourage visual, performing, and literary arts in Worcester County.

As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County arts agency, the Worcester County Arts Council is committed to fostering the excellence, diversity, and vitality of arts, artists, and arts organizations and increasing access to the arts for all members of our community.

The Worcester County Arts Council is funded by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and supported by memberships, donations, and local sponsorships.



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Friday 3-5pm	11500 Coastal Hwy #1701, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	High-rise	\$644,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 11am-1pm	11500 Coastal Hwy #1701, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	High-rise	\$644,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty

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Puzzles

SOME LIGHT READING

BY JEREMY NEWTON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Jeremy Newton, of Austin, Texas, is a software engineer who makes mobile games. He has been constructing crosswords for The Times since 2007, specializing in unusual themes, often with visual elements. The idea for this one occurred to him last fall while he was stopped at a traffic light. It took him several months, off and on, to work out all the elements. This is Jeremy's 15th Sunday crossword and 22nd Times puzzle overall. — W.S.

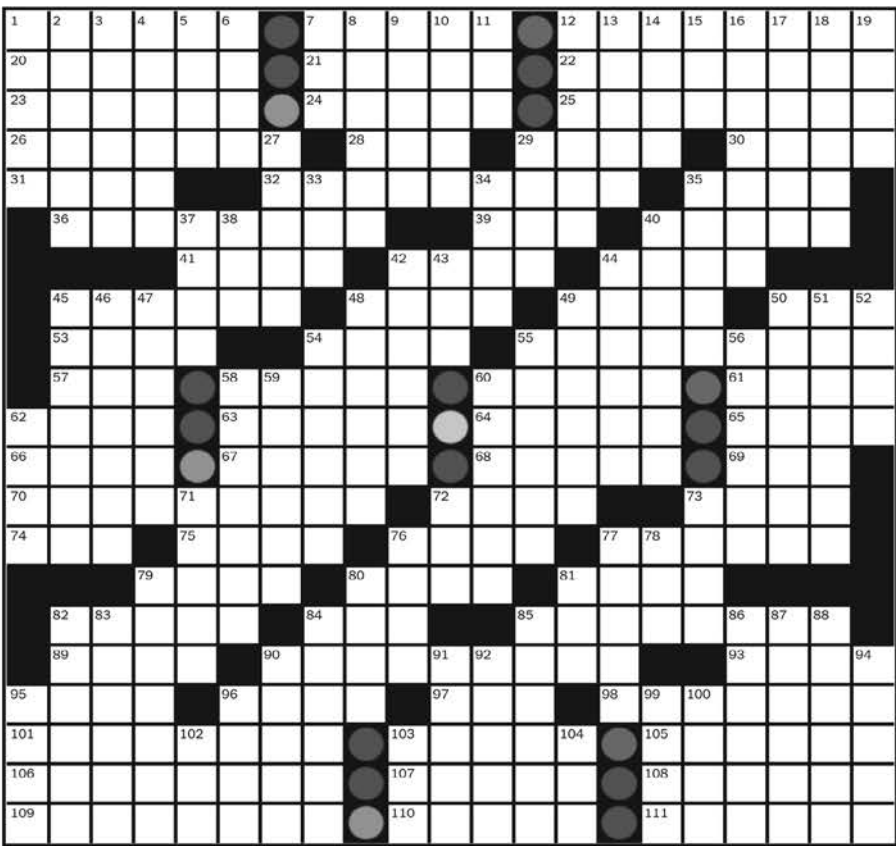
ACROSS
1 "In a word ... awful!"
7 Range of light that's invisible to the human eye
12 —
20 Brand in the frozen-foods aisle
21 Called to Bo-Peep
22 "You and me both"
23 Strong breath fresheners
24 —
25 Like one of Michael Jackson's hands when performing
26 Exams for top H.S. students
28 Alternative to J.F.K.
29 Skedaddles
30 Reviews negatively
31 Usual
32 Stage set?
35 Nathan who said, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country!"
36 Locks that have been changed
39 Inapplicable stat for electric cars
40 Mark Twain, religiously
41 Some art supplies
42 Label on some jars
44 Hon
45 John Hancock, famously
48 Reef predators

49 Beast slain by Hercules in his fourth labor
50 Three-pronged letter
53 Boatloads
54 Jessica of TV's "Candy"
55 Treacherous places to land for eagles?
57 "Mazel ____!"
58 Moolah
60 Cocktail with an energy boost
61 —
62 Seedy bar
63 Listed, obsolescently
64 —
65 Tennis pro Nastase, the first athlete to sign an endorsement deal with Nike
66 Washington, with "the"
67 —
68 Hunts, with "on"
69 Hot ____ (speaker's worry)
70 Brushes are dipped in them
72 Small knocks
73 See-through piece
74 It's observed at LAX during part of the year
75 Cross one's fingers
76 Nickname for Chloe
77 Portland native, e.g.
79 What a raised hand might mean
80 Avid war campaigner
81 [What a snoozefest!]
82 Car in the Beach Boys' "Fun, Fun, Fun"

84 Sweater fuzz, e.g.
85 It can be detected using the "bite test" or "vinegar test"
89 Noted slacking speedster
90 Not stay undefeated
93 Certain spa treatment
95 Trim
96 1988 No. 1 country album named for its singer
97 Roman god often depicted with a radiant crown
98 Zenned out
101 Two-player board game with spies and bombs
103 Bust midcrime
105 —
106 Lover of psychedelics, informally
107 Words to a silly goose
108 Putting on the heat?
109 Mascot who made his Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade debut in 2017
110 —
111 Cinq x six

DOWN
1 Hawkeye
2 Stand for a photograph
3 Guard
4 "Oh, shove it!"
5 Fruity refreshments
6 What nervous eyes might do
7 Big name in cloud computing
8 Roofer's power tool
9 Gargoyles are often depicted with them
10 Draw upon again
11 Sponsored content, essentially
12 Twisting on an axis
13 Some ice cream purchases
14 Heart charts, in brief
15 Cartoon frame
16 There's a 4.75 percent chance of getting this in poker
17 Tesla and Edison, famously
18 Early online discussion forum
19 Pharma supplies
27 Lose its spark, as a relationship
29 Temporary solutions
33 Opening words?
34 Little troublemakers
35 Thrilling
37 "That's a touchy subject"
38 Move hurriedly
40 Utterly, in slang
42 Giggly
43 "It's my turn" [or] Comment after rambling on
44 Equus africanus asinus, more familiarly
45 Marijuana strains said to be more invigorating
46 "How marvelous!"
47 Wield authority
48 Lucky numbers in Chinese culture
49 Stars of the Wild West

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



50 Film critic Kael
51 Someone sequencing DNA, e.g.
52 Vacation getaway
54 Lighter fluid
55 Reach, as new heights
56 Baseball slugger, informally
58 Lack of harmony
59 Ready to watch later
60 Major political announcement before a convention, informally

62 Actor in a much-publicized 2022 defamation case
71 —
72 —
73 —
76 Place for a lighthouse
77 Pull off the road for gas or snacks, say
78 Blow away
79 Book some wedding entertainment
80 Tries
81 Starchy vegetable

82 Kind of roof for a tiki bar
83 Peter Pan's creator
84 Opposite of a superstar
85 Avenger who stepped into the role of Captain America
86 Invitation on a wrapped gift
87 Preamble
88 Clothed, so to speak
90 Paper size
91 Japanese brew

92 Prankster's smug shout
94 One might be right outside your window
95 Junior's hurdle
96 Stagger about
99 "Copy ____"
100 Surname of the "Incredibles" superhero family
102 Nonetheless, poetically
103 Lowly worker, so to speak
104 Yell before a snap

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HARD - 36

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

ASKS	COCO	TOOL	ELMER
THING	OAHU	EXPO	NAOMI
RODEO	ATIT	CHIN	LBOMB
ANDANOTHER	THING	IOTAS	
IDIDNT	FEE	DEJAVU	
NAE	AIMED	LIE	OVERSEE
	OSMOSES	SHINDIGS	
THISISNTMY	ASANA	ATOP	
RAMONE	RIYAL	TOY	
ADULT	PERIL	VISOR	RNA
ITSDEJAVU	ALL	LOVER	AGAIN
LOT	RAYON	BORAX	TYPED
	ANI	KOREA	SONICS
BABY	ARENA	FIRST	RODEO
UNROLLED	RUSSO	LO	
MARTIAL	REP	STYNE	GMO
	OPIATE	TAU	ENSUED
MIAMI	BABY	ONE	MORE
ONSET	ELLE	IDEA	MELON
DITTO	LION	STAR	YETIS
STAIR	SAGS	EONS	LYRE

Conservationists offering tour of waterfowl project

(June 30, 2022) A consortium of conservation organizations and agencies is offering a tour on Monday, July 18, of its waterfowl habitat creation project in the coastal bays.

The product of a partnership between Audubon Mid-Atlantic, Maryland DNR, Maryland Coastal Bays Program and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the project entails rafts that provide a safe nesting site for Common Terns, a species that have undergone serious declines due to sea level rise.

This was the first seabird nesting raft ever attempted in the Mid-Atlantic. Despite a slow start, a total of 20 nesting pairs by mid-summer has

See PROJECT Page 29



PHOTO COURTESY DAVE HARP FOR AUDUBON

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Obituaries

MAURICE A. WHEELER

Ocean Pines

Maurice A. Wheeler, age 75, died peacefully with his family by his side at Coastal Hospice on the Lake on Tuesday, May 24, 2022.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, he was the son of Arthur Wheeler and Frances Brinsfield.

He is survived by his beautiful wife of 50 years, Madeline Wheeler; two sisters, Joyce Busick and Anna Lehr; son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Bohunka Wheeler; son, Paul Wheeler, daughter and boyfriend, Laura Wheeler and Blair Allen; and daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly Wheeler and Jimmy Lowman; and four grandchildren, Sophie, Edward, Jameson and Killian.



Maurice Wheeler

Maurice was a diehard fan of the Washington Capitals and a baseball fanatic. He was a lover of cheeseburgers, Italian food, Billy's meatball subs, and all things sweet.

When he was not working in Baltimore, Maurice enjoyed the Boardwalk (especially Thrashers French Fries), traveling, watching movies, and listening to Oldies.

He is preceded in death by his brother Arthur Wheeler.

There will be a visitation from 10-11 a.m., at The Community Church of Ocean Pines on Saturday, July 9, followed by the funeral service at 11 a.m. There will be a luncheon in his honor following the service in the Church Hall.

Letters of condolence may be sent to the family via www.burbagefuneral-home.com. Arrangements are in the care of The Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salis-

bury, Maryland 21804; or the Michael J. Fox Foundation, P.O. Box 4777, New York, New York 10163-4777.

BETTY SMITH BUSH

Berlin/Ocean City

Betty Smith Bush, age 81, passed away on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at Catered Living in Ocean Pines.

Born in Salisbury, raised in South Point and Synepuxent, she was the daughter of Mack and Elise Smith.

She is survived by her husband, Lewis Bush; and children, James Hudson and his wife, Janis, of Friendship, Kevin Hudson and fiancée, Lynn Massey, of St. Martin's Neck, Betty Ann Moyer and her husband, Kenton, and



Betty Bush

Susan Strickland and her husband, Mike, both of West Ocean City.

She was a devoted grandmother to, Peyton Stant, Jenna Schiller (Kyle) Kasie Urena (Enver), Joshua Moyer and Korie Strickland; and great-grandchildren, Logan, Brock and Amber Stant, Quinton Furbay, Ailyn Urena

and Hudson Schiller.

Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

Betty was a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School, and held many diverse positions.

She was a secretary at Stephen De-

Continued on Page 30

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Cuisine

Boil includes clams, shrimp and lobster

Reprinted from June 18, 2020
What is it about the Mid-Atlantic that is just so amazing? Well, the list is long and varied, but for starters we can be in the mountains in the morning and in the ocean in the afternoon.



When I lived in Southern California, we made it a practice on occasion to hit dawn patrol at Del Mar Jetty or Loweres, and then jump up to Big Bear to ski or snowboard... or just play in the snow. Of course, I could not ski to save my soul nor did I have the proper gear, so it was a riot to watch; definitely the fool on the mountain. I imagine if I tried to do the same thing here, I would have to break out the 6mm wetsuit, gloves, booties and hood, as the water temperature would be just a touch colder than the Pacific in the winter time. In hindsight, I think I'll pass on this endeavor for now. I'm getting too old for that crap.

Moving on, this isn't about surfing or skiing or mountains. This is about the beach. Today's great lesson (I chortle in just writing that, considering how simple this amazing dish is) is in a classic seafood boil. Knowing that we can get fresh shrimp from the Carolinas, lobster from Washington Canyon, stone crab claws from the same, thanks to the hard work of Captain Sonny and his family, my mind naturally gravitates to a fresh boil. What exactly is a boil? Well, in a nutshell, it's a pot of boiled food. Simple enough. When you cook this, though, don't keep it at a rolling boil, as doing so will create mushy potatoes and rubbery seafood. Just stick with the name because it sounds cool but simmer, simmer, simmer. When you put your boil together, you may add fish, but cook it gingerly and remove it before you start stirring everything together. Otherwise you will have tiny flakes of fish and a cloudy broth. You most certainly do not want that. Basically, what you end up with is a communal feast, much needed after our months of quarantine, and perhaps in preparation of another one coming up soon, depending on what the powers that be decide.



Either way, it is an amazing way to break bread — jalapeno-cheddar cornbread to be precise. So when you decide to do this, there are some things that you should look out for. Consider the size of the clams that you like. Personally, I love top necks as they have amazing flavor and actually feel like you're eating something of substance. My girlfriend on the other hand won't eat them, rather preferring the littlenecks. I have to eat a hundred of the little bastards to feel even remotely satisfied. Again, the choice is yours. However, if you mix sizes (which I did here for a wedding tasting to give them a choice), simply place the big clams in the pot and let them cook a couple minutes longer. With proper timing, all of the clams will be cooked correctly. When it comes to sausage, I used a chicken sausage studded with granny smith apples. It was delicious, and the subtle sweetness was a nice juxtaposition with our ubiquitous salty seafood seasoning. Hot Italian sausage would suffice, as would chorizo. Again, the choice is yours, and you will be hard pressed to find one that I'm not going to like or at least appreciate.

Sweet potato biscuits are another wonderful accoutrement to this bubbling bowl of beautiful broth and beachy flavors. Make sure you take the time to make them right, and top them with a cooked slab of uber-salty country ham and a nice slathering of butter. Man, that makes for an amazing sandwich, in and of itself. So as you gather the ingredients for this, do your best to support the local boats and seafood purveyors in the area. Everyone needs our help right now, and it's not a stretch to say that you will doing yourself a favor as well. Enjoy the summer, eat a big ole boil, and bring people together as we haven't been able to for months.

Mid-Atlantic Boil

serves 6
1 qt. Chicken stock
1 # fingerling potatoes
1 Natural Light (aka Delmarva Champagne)
1/4 c. Old Bay seasoning
2 lemons, halved
1 tsp. Thyme leaves
1 ea. Bay leaf
3 ears corn, halved
2 sausages of your liking
12 ea. Clams

12 ea. 13/15 shrimp, peeled, deveined and butterflied
Lobster tails (optional)
1. Bring the stock to a boil.
2. Add potatoes and turn down to a simmer. Cook until tender. Remove the potatoes carefully and set aside until ready to finish the boil.
3. Add the Natty Light, Old Bay, lemons (after giving them a little squeeze), thyme and bay leaf and bring back to a simmer.
4. Add the corn and cook for 3 minutes
5. Add the sausage and clams, cooking until the clams open.
6. Add the shrimp and/or lobster tails at the end so that they do not overcook. Cook until just barely ready.
7. Turn off the burner.
8. Add the potatoes back to the pot and let everything rest and meld together for about 10 minutes.
9. Serve with brown butter and more Old Bay if that's what you like
10. This goes great with Jalapeno-Cheddar Cornbread and sweet potato biscuits and country ham. Just sayin'.

— Paul Suplee is the owner of boxcar40, boxcar on main, boxcar crafted events and sportfish catering.
www.boxcarrestaurants.com

Business Briefs

Joins AGH

In August, Dr. Michael DiClemente, a board-certified gynecologist, will be joining Atlantic General Health System to provide care at Atlantic General Women's Health in Selbyville, Delaware, and West Ocean City.

In addition to providing annual gynecologist examinations, DiClemente specializes in the evaluation and treatment of a wide variety of health issues unique to women, such as menstrual irregularities, menopause evaluation and treatment, birth control and contraceptive counseling, STD screening and treatment, among others.

He has a special interest in minimally invasive surgical procedures such as hysteroscopy, endometrial ablation and laparoscopy, some of which can be performed right in the office.

DiClemente has been providing comprehensive women's healthcare for nearly 21 years.

After earning his medical degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine, he completed an internship in obstetrics and gynecology at Cook County Hospital, in Chicago, and his OB/GYN residency at University of Massachusetts, in Worcester.



Dr. M. DiClemente

DiClemente is current accepting patients. To schedule an appointment, call 302-524-5007.

New role

Cheryl Nottingham, vice president of finance/CFO for Atlantic General Hospital and Health System, assumed the role of president of the Maryland chapter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) on June 1.

Nottingham has been CFO at Atlantic General since 1998. She graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a Bachelor of Science in accounting and earned her Master of Business Administration in healthcare administration and organizational leadership from Wilmington University.

Nottingham has been a member of HFMA since 1993 and became an HFMA Fellow in 2011.

She is the eighth woman president of HFMA Maryland Chapter in its 58-year history. HFMA Maryland Chapter's mission is to facilitate experiences – both in-person and digitally – that support educational and relationship development across all providers, payers, regulatory bodies,



C. Nottingham

vendors/consultants, and other stakeholders across the state.

Accreditation

Spike Sands recently earned the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Luxury Collection Specialist accreditation.

To achieve this, Sands exemplifies what it means to provide outstanding service to buyers and sellers in the luxury market, completed specialized training and achieved other personal electives that advanced his career as a luxury agent.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty also offers a Luxury Collection Marketing Program designed to leverage the strength and reliability of the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices brand and system.

The select network of Luxury Collection Specialists are dedicated to the marketing of luxury properties. These specialists have consistently earned their clients' respect through their comprehensive understanding of how to effectively market to affluent buyers.

Sand said earning the Luxury Collection Specialist recognition is a true honor and he is delighted to assist clients in the luxury marketplace buy and sell homes.



Spike Sands

Project sets out to protect birds

Continued from Page 27
given hope to the team.

This event is limited to 30 attendees with limited seats remaining. Tickets are \$35. Register at lowerlandtrust.org/bird-conservation-series.

On Tuesday, July 26, a free virtual presentation by leaders on bird conservation has been scheduled so residents and visitors can learn how birds are driving conservation funding and what more can be done.

With birding is a growing activity here and around the world, the presentation will explore what this increasing interest means for bird conservation?

Serving on a panel about the economics of bird conservation are Sara Barker from Cornell Lab of Ornithology Center for Avian Population Studies, Jim Rapp, Community Conservation Consulting and Delmarva Birding Weekends and David Satterfield from Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. Jared Parks from Lower Shore Land Trust will highlight how birds have the power to amplify conservation, stewardship and community outreach.

Register for free, or donate, at <https://www.lowerlandtrust.org/bird-conservation-series>

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Obituaries

Continued from Page 27

catur High School, manager of the Ocean City Airport, partner in the banner plane business, (Ocean Ariel Ads), founder of Ocean City's first "Shade Shack" and owner of "Panache," an interior design firm.

Her first love though, was her family. She loved traveling with them on many family vacations.

Betty also had many friends in Ocean City where she spent her whole life. She will be missed greatly by all.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at Bethany United Methodist Church in Berlin. Rev. Bill Sterling and Rev Olin Shockley officiated.

A donation in her memory may be made to: Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, Maryland 21802; or the Alzheimer's Association, 909 Progress Circle Salisbury, Maryland 21804.

Letters of condolence may be sent via: www.burbagefuneralhome.com. Arrangements are in the care of the Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

RICKY RAISEEM WHITTINGTON

Woodbridge

Ricky Raiseem Whittington, age 40, of Woodbridge, Virginia, died unexpectedly on Friday, June 10, 2022, from injuries sustained in a vehicle crash.



R. Whittington

Ricky was born in Salisbury, Maryland, and was the son of Karen Whittington-White and the late Ricky Lemont Whittington.

Ricky was raised in Parsonsburg, Maryland, and graduated from Parkside High School in 2000, where he enjoyed playing football for the Parkside Rams. During his senior year, he was named Homecoming King.

After high school, he attended Morgan State University, obtaining a Master of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering.

Ricky was an engineer in Geospatial Intelligence, where his co-workers often described him as someone who always led by example, had a strong work ethic, and was fun to be around.

Ricky always made it known to others that he was the "protector" of his little brothers and sister. He was always showing a brother's unconditional love.

One of Ricky's most significant accomplishments was being the father of his baby girl, Fairra.

As a dad, Ricky always displayed kindness, patience, strength and a fantastic sense of humor. His sense of humor was often highlighted in his stylish dress and love for the Washing-

ton Redskins, Commanders.

He is survived by his loving mother and father, Karen and Ernest White of Laurel, Delaware; his beautiful daughter, Fairra Whittington of Woodbridge, Virginia; three brothers, Ryan Whittington, Ernest White Jr. and Ayron White; and sisters, Phylita Reeves and Charise Beckett; uncles, Kevin Whittington, Tony White and Michael Dickerson; aunts, Tina Evans and Trina Dickerson; and dear cousins, Michelle Smiley, Craig Allen, Cory Willey and Regina Joyner; grandmothers, Pauline Pruitt and Peggy Bivens; and grandfather Joe Harrison; along with a host of loving relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, John Dickerson; and great-grandparents, Clonie and Edna Pruitt, and Nathaniel and Annie Whittington.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 9, 2022, at Delmar Fire Department, 301 E. Grove Street, Delmar, Delaware, where friends may call one hour before the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: <https://gofund.me/o77bcd8>. All donations will be used for memorial services and all expenses incurred from our family's tragic loss.

Condolences may be sent by visiting www.bishophastingsfh.com.

DONALD CHARLES NICOLL

Ocean City/Salisbury

Donald Charles Nicoll, formally of Ocean City-Salisbury area, passed away from his long-time battle with diabetes and renal disease at the age of 80 on June 9, 2022 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.



Donald Nicoll

He was the son of the late Dr. Fredrick S. Nicoll M.D. and Virginia H. Nicoll R.N. formally of Berlin, Maryland. Born April 8, 1942 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he grew up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and graduated from Wicomico High School in 1960.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Nancy F. Nicoll; his two sons, D. Scott Nicoll (Stacy R. Cantwell-Nicoll R.N.) and John Nicoll (Chasity C. Wilson-Nicoll); three grandchildren, Max, Payton and Audie; and brother, Frederick S. Nicoll (JoAnn) of Ocean City, Maryland.

Don was an Army veteran, who served in the Army Security Agency as an intelligence specialist. He was stationed at Clark Air Force Base to support operations in Vietnam.

In 1968, he graduated from West Virginia University with a Business Accounting degree. He worked his entire life as an entrepreneur.

In Ocean City, Maryland, he was the owner and operator of the Maridel Motor Lodge. He also sold real estate for his uncle Charles Holland at Maridel Realty, opened a model railroad exhibit on the Boardwalk, and owned/operated the Wheels in the Sand Motocross.

Despite suffering from ill health at various times throughout his life, he always loved to explore and travel the world.

In 2006, he and Nancy moved to Manchester, Tennessee. During that time, he was able to go whitewater rafting down the Ocoee River, water skiing on Tim's Ford Lake, and gallivanting around Tennessee.

He enjoyed spending time with his family and was known for his great sense of humor. He especially enjoyed coaching and watching his sons, daughters-in-laws, and grandchildren play sports.

His life was made complete with his many canine companions. He loved taking all his furry friends on car rides and walks. As his body got weaker, his furry friends stayed by his side.

The family would like to thank the many healthcare professionals, especially Vanderbilt Medical Center that contributed to improving his life and providing his family with many more happy moments with him.

Don requested not to have a funeral service. If one wishes to honor Don, donations may be made to the Virginia Holland Nicoll, RN., Scholarship Fund at Wor-Wic Community College (32000 Campus Drive, Salisbury, Maryland 21804, 410-334-2800).

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Calendar

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

Thurs., June 30

FAMILY BEACH GAMES
Carousel Oceanfront Hotel & Condos, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30 p.m. Games include sand castle contests, tug-of-war, relays and more. Free event. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Weather permitting. 410-250-0125, www.oceancitymd.gov

MESSY PLAY DAY
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Join the group outside for a variety of games and crafts like corn hole, build jumbo styrofoam gliders, blow giant bubbles and create watercolor paintings using spray bottles. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

SEA CREATURE CREATIONS
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Hear some stories and then create your favorite sea creature using a variety of materials. All ages. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

FIRESIDE CHAT
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3 p.m. An entertaining book discussion featuring books participants want to share. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

ZUMBA FOR ALL LEVELS
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30 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-55 PLUS
Thursdays - Harpoon Hanna's, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 4-6 p.m. Info: 302-436-9577 or BeachSingles.org

Fri., July 1

JULY FIRST FRIDAY AND INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
Sturgis Park, Snow Hill. 5 p.m. Downtown features extended business hours, sales, specials, kids' activities, music, beverages and artisan vendor booths. Sturgis Park features bounce house, food vendors, DJ Smack and fireworks.

FIRST FRIDAY OPENING RECEPTION
Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 5-7 p.m. Featuring the Beverly Bassford Memorial Juried Art Show. Free and open to the public. Complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres. Satellite galleries located at Coffee Beanery and the Princess Royale.

BEACH MOVIE & YARD GAMES
27th Street, Ocean City, 8 p.m. Featuring "Sing 2." Also, entertainment and yard games like corn hole, ladder ball, spike ball, large connect four and more. Weather permitting. Free event. 410-250-0125, www.oceancitymd.gov

Sat., July 2

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY FARMERS MARKET
White Horse Park, Ocean Pines. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Fresh fruits and vegetables, jams, eggs, local honey, baked goods and more than 100 artisan merchants participating at the holiday market. Also many community organizations on hand. www.oceanpines.org

TABLE TOP GAMES
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Drop by to enjoy Scrabble, I Spy, Battleship and more. Bring a favorite game or grab one from the library's collection. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

OCEAN TRIVIA
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Drop in to test your knowledge of the ocean. Take our self-guided quiz to learn new facts and earn a prize. For ages 6 years and older. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

ASSATEAGUE ADVENTURES
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. A ranger-led adventure featuring crafts, puppets, stories, cool props and live animals from Assateague Island National Seashore. A different adventure each week. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

SLIGO BY THE SEA
First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City. 11 a.m. The worship service, a 50-year tradition in Ocean City, resumes this week with Nathan Krause as the featured speaker. Krause preached at the church from 2014 through 2017.

FREE PLATFORM TENNIS LESSONS
Saturdays - Ocean Pines Racquet Center, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, 9:30 a.m. All abilities welcome and equipment will be provided. oppad-dle2020@gmail.com or 516-508-0313.

FREE KIDS CRAFTS AT THE ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY
Saturdays through Sept. 3 - Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th Street, 11 a.m. Each week provides a different project to complete. www.artleagueofoceancity.org

Sun., July 3

SUNDAES IN THE PARK & FIREWORKS INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Music by Mike Hines & the Look "High Energy Dance Music." Free activities/entertainment for kids. Ice cream available for purchase. Bring picnic/beach chairs. An "intimate" fireworks show at 9 p.m. 410-250-0125

BERLIN'S ANNUAL FIREWORKS SHOW
Heron Park (formerly Berlin Falls Park), 10009 Old Ocean City Blvd., 8:30-9:30 p.m. Spectators can watch from the nearby parking lot across from Burley Oak Brewing Company.

CHURCH FEATURES GUEST SOPRANO JOANNA CROSS
St. Paul's by-the Sea Episcopal Church, 302 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City. 10 a.m. Joanna Cross, professional vocalist, pianist and music instructor, will sing with the congregation, as well as two solos. All are welcome.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING
Sundays - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 10 a.m. www.jw.org

FREE TOURS AT THE ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY
Sundays through Sept. 3 - Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th Street, 1 p.m. Learn about exhibiting artists as well as the programs and activities at the Art League. www.artleagueofoceancity.org

Mon., July 4

ANNUAL HOT DOG EATING CONTEST
Fish Tales Bar and Grill, 2107 Herring Way, Ocean City, 12 p.m. Amateur competition is open to anyone over the age of 18 years. Seating available to watch until 4 p.m. To register, visit the Bahia Marina Tackle Shop or Fish Tales Small Bar. Cost is \$10 to enter.

OCEAN PINES' ANNUAL JULY 4 FESTIVITIES
Veterans Memorial Park, Race Track Road, Ocean Pines, 5-9:45 p.m. Carnival games, dry slides, bounce house, live music and food and drink vendors. Wristbands cost \$10. Fireworks begin at 9:15 p.m. There will be a viewing zone fenced off and parking. Rain date July 5.

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

FREEDOM 5K
Veterans Memorial Park, Race Track Road, Ocean Pines. 8 a.m. Runners may to wear U.S.A.-themed gear. Awards. Preregistration is \$35 until July 3 at: <https://www.raceentry.com/races/ocean-pines-association-freedom-5k/2022/register>. Day of race is \$40, 7:15 a.m.

BELIEVE NATIONAL TALENT COMPETITION
Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8 a.m. With professional staging and sound, knowledgeable judges and a performance like no other, this is a dance competition you must experience. 410-289-2800, info@believetalent.com, www.believetalent.com

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS
Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 6:00-8:00 p.m. All ladies that love to sing invited. Contact Mary, 410-629-9383 or Carol Ludwig, 302-242-7062.

Tues., July 5

JULY 4TH FIREWORKS AND CONCERT
Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 8 p.m. The free concert will be followed by a show by Celebration Fireworks Company at 9:30 p.m.

AMERICAN IDOL STAR JAY COPELAND CONCERT
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 8 p.m. Delmarva's very own Idol will rock the house with crowd favorites to celebrate the holiday. (Note: There will be no fireworks featured at this event.) 410-250-0125

BELIEVE NATIONAL TALENT COMPETITION
Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8 a.m. With professional staging and sound, knowledgeable judges and a performance like no other, this is a dance competition you must experience. 410-289-2800, info@believetalent.com, www.believetalent.com

OMAZING YOGA ADVENTURE
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stretch, move your body, learn breathing techniques while having fun and being silly. Wear comfy clothes. For ages 6-9 years. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

MASTER GARDENER PLANT CLINIC WITH GINNY ROSENKRANZ
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz talks about all things plants. Each month is a different topic. Bring ques-

Continued on Page 33

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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

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WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL **ENGLISH TEACHER**

Worcester Preparatory School is located in beautiful Berlin, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The school is an independent, coeducational college preparatory day school serving over 500 students in grades PK-12. We are seeking an experienced and motivated **Upper School English Teacher** for the 2022-2023 school year.

This vibrant individual will have a strong education background and be capable of teaching the highest levels of high school English. Bachelor's degree from an accredited college with a major in English, successful classroom experience, and the ability to participate in other areas of school life are requirements for this position. Advanced Placement experience and advanced degree would be desirable.

Interested candidates should mail or email resume with cover letter to: **Linda Watson, Director of Human Resources,**
508 South Main Street, Berlin, MD 21811 or
lwatson@worcesterprep.org

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Castle in the Sand Hotel

is currently seeking an applicant for the following position:

• **FRONT DESK AGENT**

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

Experienced applicants are preferred, but not required.
We require a satisfactory pre-employment background check by all applicants.

WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL **LOWER SCHOOL SPANISH TEACHER**

Worcester Preparatory School is seeking an experienced part-time lower school Spanish teacher. This position reports to the Lower School Head and may be assigned study halls, clubs, or other supervisory roles. Section sizes average 14-18 students.

Highlights of the Spanish program at WPS include: (1) exploration of Spanish food & culture (2) vocabulary acquisition and grammar and (3) the four fundamentals of listening, speaking, reading, & writing.

Candidates for this position should possess a BA degree with a major (preferred) or minor in Spanish and be proficient in the language. Previous experience teaching Spanish at the lower school level at an independent school is desirable but not required. State certification is not required. Candidates with the ability to coach sports are desirable.

Compensation and benefits are competitive with other area private schools and are adjusted based on experience level and credentials.

Interested persons should send an Application for Employment, letter of interest, resume, copies of transcripts for all college work, and educational philosophy to **Linda Watson, Director of Human Resources** at lwatson@worcesterprep.org

WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL **DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT**

Worcester Preparatory School is seeking an experienced part-time Development Assistant. The Development Assistant is responsible for assisting the Director of Development and Development Coordinator with fundraising events, data entry, and volunteer coordination on a part-time basis.

Highlights of the Development assistant at WPS include:
Assist with the facilitation of the annual Gala, Holiday Bazaar and Alumni events.

- Assist with the coordination of parent volunteer recruitment.
- Arrange food and beverage for special events and order supplies.
- Assist with the preparation of budgets and coordinating financial reports to the Board of Trustees.
- Assist with database updates, gift entry and donor communication.
- Manage online fundraising and auction software.

Compensation and benefits are competitive with other area private schools and are adjusted based on experience level and credentials.

Interested persons should send an Application for Employment, letter of interest, resume, to **Linda Watson, Director of Human Resources** at lwatson@worcesterprep.org

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Calendar

Continued from Page 31
tions and feel free to show your plants.
www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

BABY TIME
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Babies under 2 years and their caregivers join in for songs, rhymes and stories. Stay after to socialize with other families. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

OMAZING YOGA ADVENTURE
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Stretch, move your body, learn breathing techniques while having fun and being silly. Wear comfy clothes. For ages 6-9 years. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

FAMILY BEACH GAMES
27th Street Beach, Ocean City, 6:30 Games include sand castle contests, tug-of-war, relays and more. Free event. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Weather permitting. 410-250-0125, www.oceancitymd.gov

MARYLAND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1 DEMOCRAT CANDIDATE FORUM
Old Firehouse, 212 W. Green St., Snow

Hill, 6:30-8 p.m. Heather Mizeur and Dave Harden are both vying for the Democrat vote during the states upcoming primary election on July 19. The public is invited to attend and ask questions of both candidates.

DELMARVA DANCING
Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, Bishopville, 5:30-9 p.m. Dance to the sounds of the '50s, '60s, '70s and more. A \$5 donation benefits Veterans and local charities. All are welcome. Charlie, 410-465-0445

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING
Tuesdays - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 7 p.m. www.jw.org

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY
Tuesdays - Worcester County Berlin Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, 3:30-4:30 p.m. A weekly support and education group promoting weight loss and a healthy lifestyle. Use the south side door and knock hard. Patty Lockett, 410-289-4725

OC KNITTING CLUB
Tuesdays - Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m.

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Wed., July 6

BEACH MOVIE & YARD GAMES
Carousel Oceanfront Hotel & Condos, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8 p.m. Featuring "Encanto." Also, entertainment and yard games like corn hole, ladder ball, spike ball, large connect four and more. Weather permitting. Free event. 410-250-0125, www.oceancitymd.gov

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP
Meet the first and second Wednesday of each month for non-surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatrics Center, 410-641-9568

BELIEVE NATIONAL TALENT COMPETITION
Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8 a.m. With professional staging and sound, knowledgeable judges and a performance like no other, this is a dance competition you must experience. 410-289-2800, info@believetalent.com, www.believetalent.com

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Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stretch, move your body, learn breathing techniques while having fun

and being silly. Wear comfy clothes. For ages 6-9 years.
www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

TEENIES & TINIES (BABY TIME)
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Babies under 2 years and their caregivers join in for songs, rhymes and stories. Stay after to socialize with other families. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-632-2600

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 3:30-4:30 p.m. The group provides discussion, education and a speaker on the topic of diabetes. Darlene Jameson, 410-208-9761, djameson@atlanticgeneral.org.

ONGOING EVENTS

CREATIVE KIDS CORNER: JELLYFISH CRAFT
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, July 1-31. Come grab a jazzy jellyfish kit to create at the library or take with you. Most supplies included. For ages 4 years and older. www.worcesterlibrary.org

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