

## County sports complex strikes out

New commissioner majority delivers 4-2 knockout blow to would-be public project

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 8, 2022) What a difference an election can make.

After holding on for years on a razor-thin 4-3 majority, Worcester County's aspirations to build a sports complex in the northern half of the county were promptly and summarily dashed at the end of the first commissioners meeting with new commis-

sioners Caryn Abbott and Eric Fiori.

In a 4-2 decision with Commissioner Ted Elder abstaining, the commissioners voted to direct the county administrator to cancel the land purchase contract on the Route 50 parcel known as the Harrison property and to cancel any consulting contracts concerning it.

The board also instructed the staff to cease any studies or planning involving the county in purchasing land, project design, construction or operating a sports complex in Worcester County.

The new president of the county

commissioners, Chip Bertino of the Ocean Pines district, said the motion to halt all sports complex-related work was not intended to discourage any private developer from pursuing such a project. Bertino and other like-minded commissioners had said at the outset that they only objected to spending public money on a sports facility of that scope and had no objections to a privately funded venture.

The beginning of the end of the county's pursuit of a tournament-quality facility next to Stephen Decatur Highway came in July when Fiori won his primary election. Fiori,

who faced no opposition in the general election, replaced retired commissioner Bud Church, a sports complex supporter. That move in itself flipped the 4-3 split that had kept the proposal alive.

But then Caryn Abbott defeated incumbent Josh Nordstrom in the southern Worcester district contest last month to eliminate his pro-complex vote and create a new majority.

"It's done. Done," Commissioner Joe Mitrecic, who had spearheaded the support among the commissioners for the sports complex, said after-

See SPORTS Page 5

## Parking impact fees topic of future talks

Business growth, additional apartments put more strain on vehicle space inventory

By Gee Williams  
Contributing Writer

(Dec. 8, 2022) Discussions on the potential of establishing parking impact fees in downtown Berlin were proposed at the mayor and council's most recent regular meeting.

The discussion of the possibility of more discussions began when the council was advised by Planning Director Dave Englehart that the renovation of the second floor of the Burbage properties on Main Street would expand the number of apartments upstairs from three to 10. The council quickly turned to where parking would be available for the additional apartments.

Englehart said the Berlin code has a section that provides for allowing for businesses that can't meeting parking requirements to pay into a parking impact fund.

The provision for establishing a parking impact fee was created by the town years ago.

"The whole idea back then is I think they saw the need to have some fund for additional parking, possibly to acquire a parcel to make a parking lot," Englehart said.

He explained that if new businesses did not have sufficient parking they would pay a fee, but an impact fee for each parking space has never been set by the mayor and council. He added that the impact fee is not supposed to go into the general fund but grow over time to provide additional downtown parking.

"Since 2014 the number of business licenses townwide have increased to 250. Downtown businesses have gone up more than 50 percent in that time," said Ivy Wells, Berlin director of Economic Development.

In recent years, there has been encouragement for town staff to park in the underutilized St. Paul's Episcopal paved lot across from the church.

"We also have the potential for parking partnerships with the Berlin Fire Company and the Buckingham Presbyterian Church to help alleviate the problem," Wells stated. "I have

See TOWN Page 3



GEE WILLIAMS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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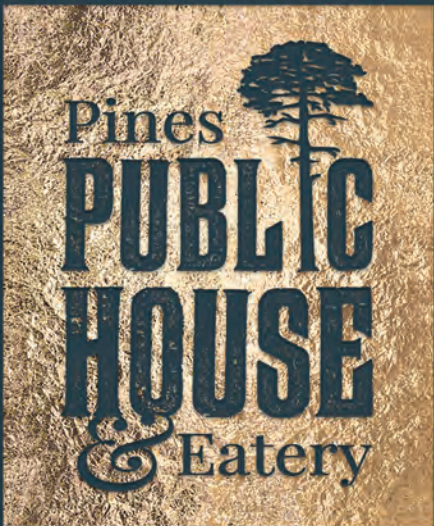
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shaved fennel • smoked almond dust
- Pines Caesar Salad | 11**  
chopped romaine • sliced brussel sprouts • julienned kale  
caesar dressing • grated & sliced parmesan • crostini

starters

- Chareuterie Board | 17**  
chef's cheeses & meats of the day • accoutrements • crostini
- Crab Cake Trio | 16**  
trio of fried crab cakes • sriracha aioli • tartar sauce • cocktail sauce
- Shrimp Cocktail | 15**  
five jumbo shrimp court bullion poached • cocktail sauce • lemon wedges
- Smoked Fish & Crab Dip | 14**  
house smoked • white fish & sweet crab meat • gruyere cheese • crostini
- Beef Carpaccio | 17**  
thinly sliced filet mignon • smoked sea salt • annatto oil • caper berries  
fresh horseradish • aji verde sauce

entrees

- Chilean Sea Bass | 36**  
oven roasted • risotto • pan roasted brussel sprouts  
fried prosciutto • pan sauce
- Crab Cakes 39**  
sautéed fingerling potatoes • grilled broccolini • caper aioli
- Scallops | 39**  
pan seared diver scallops • fennel roasted beet & pine nut salad • brown butter • cauliflower purée
- Prime New York Strip | 39**  
king cut • whipped yukon gold potatoes • fried onions • grilled asparagus • garlic rosemary butter
- Dry Aged Filet Mignon | 39**  
black pepper & sea salt roasted • bordelaise sauce • grilled asparagus  
whipped sweet & russet potatoes
- Rack of Lamb | 37**  
oven roasted • mint jelly • whipped potatoes • grilled asparagus  
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- Pork Ossobuco | 32**  
slow roasted & pulled pork • traditional new year's black eyed peas  
jasmine rice • braised cabbage & bacon
- Duck Tsukim Ramen | 29**  
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- Coq Au Vin | 31**  
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Berlin's Economic and Community Development Department put up a sign on a lamppost across from Decatur Park just east of South Main Street that states: "520 steps from here to downtown." The sign is near a parking lot that is seldom used other than for park activities adjacent to the municipal park.

PHOTO COURTESY GEE WILLIAMS

# Town of Berlin looking into parking impact fee strategy

Continued from Page 1

said for years we only have a slight parking problem, but we have more of a walking problem."

She believes this is caused by people wanting to park very close to or right in front of the places where they work, shop or eat.

Wells also noted that whenever there is an event downtown, emails are exchanged between downtown businesses reminding owners and employees to park at the lot across from the Episcopal Church.

Larnet St. Amant, executive director of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce, plans to open a new business in downtown Berlin in the spring.

"I never, never want to see paid parking downtown. It would change the whole vibe of our town."

St. Amant added free parking is part of the charm of Berlin and she would rather absorb a town fee than

to see paid parking.

"There are so many employees and so many businesses now," she said.

Parking is now more of an issue than it has been with the frequency of clients patronizing service businesses such as the hair salon, plastic surgeon and the dentist, which all have locations downtown, St. Amant noted.

St. Amant pleaded for downtown business owners and employees to use the space across from the Episcopal Church.

"We please ask everyone to use the church parking lot," she added, "business owners and their employees continue to park very close to their stores rather than leave those spaces for customers."

The Berlin Mayor and Council said they were in agreement that further discussion of a parking impact fee for downtown for businesses was needed.



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PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE MAPS

(Top) A rendering of the now-former proposed sports complex on a nearly 100-acre lot off of Route 50 near Stephen Decatur High School shows how the project would have looked if it came to fruition. (Bottom) The lot that would have hosted the sports complex lies directly west of Stephen Decatur High School on the southern end of Route 50.

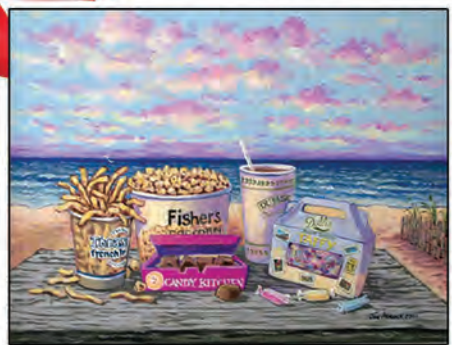


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# Sports complex dead after post-election vote

Continued from Page 1  
ward.

“We backed out of the property purchase, so even if we had a private entity to come into and take that spot over, they can’t. We were in discussion with someone interested in coming in and doing something, but they wanted to partner with the county. Now they can’t do that, either.”

During the meeting, Mitrecic lamented that the decision was “premature,” since the commissioners were making up their minds before the Maryland Stadium Authority even had a chance to come down to Snow Hill and speak with them about the project.

The decision followed a report released by the stadium authority last week that estimated the complex would cost \$153.5 million and would operate at a deficit. The report did state, however, that aspect is com-

mon for similar properties, which instead are built because of their ability to generate economic activity.

Mitrecic pointed out during the meeting that the price tag was based on a bond of more than \$70 million. He said that if the other portion is paid for, all the money that’s brought in would come to the county and cover the deficit.

The motion was not an item on the meeting’s agenda but was instead brought up by Commissioner Jim Bunting at the end of the meeting. Still, before the final vote was taken, some of the commissioners

gave their thoughts on the issue that has dominated county news over the last year.

“I’ve voted against the sports complex in the past and I really believe Joe’s heart is in the right place and I think he believes it’ll be a money-making deal,” Elder said. “But I disagree and the report I got said it’ll be operated under a deficit.”

Commissioner Diana Purnell pointed out that “what’s coming down the pike for us” revenue- and tax-wise should concern the commissioners.

“We need to let the stadium authority come in and say what they will and won’t do and make our decision then,” she said.

Fiori said that as an entrepreneur in his private life, he doesn’t want to see the county become an entrepre-

neur with public money.

“(There is) a lot of speculation (with this) but the (MSA) report is not favorable,” Fiori said. “I understand what Commissioner Mitrecic is saying but in his own words, we have some tough budget decisions. What happens if this is a losing effort? The problems we want to solve, we’ll make worse.”

Mitrecic, in his remarks, said that it makes no sense to forego hearing out the stadium authority, especially if it’s willing to pay 80 percent of the cost.

“We can’t print money here in Worcester County like they can at the federal level,” he said. “We’re looking at a very, very tough budget season coming up with (education system needs, employee retention and other challenges).”

“That’s going to be on you all.”

## OPA special board meeting scheduled for Fri. afternoon

(Dec. 8, 2022) Meeting materials for the Dec. 9 special OPA Board of Directors meeting are available online.

The meeting will be held as a hybrid of in-person and virtual, with seating available in the board room of the Ocean Pines Administration Building.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.

To join remotely, use the Microsoft Teams link: [https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting\\_M2VmYzg1ZmQtNDdiYyooZDAzLWEoZGEtNTVjZmMoNjQwZGNj%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_M2VmYzg1ZmQtNDdiYyooZDAzLWEoZGEtNTVjZmMoNjQwZGNj%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%225fa869f5-01ad-476a-9570-540fe1ce4736%22%7d)

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The link can also be found on the Ocean Pines website, under both the calendar and news sections.

If prompted, use the web browser plug-in only and not the full client.

To view the agenda and meeting packet, visit [https://www.ocean-pines.org/documents/10184/53744/1\\_2-9-22+Special+Board+Meeting+Agenda.pdf](https://www.ocean-pines.org/documents/10184/53744/1_2-9-22+Special+Board+Meeting+Agenda.pdf).

Following the meeting, the video will be posted to the association’s YouTube channel and links will be announced on the Ocean Pines website, [www.oceanpines.org](http://www.oceanpines.org).



Chip Bertino



Joe Mitrecic

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Parks: Online participation not an issue for association


By Jack Chavez

Staff Writer

(Dec. 8, 2022) There are still nine days left before the next regular meeting of the Ocean Pines Association's Board of Directors, but right now there seems to be no reason to believe the OPA will accommodate remote public speakers during the monthly gatherings.



Amy Peck



Doug Parks

In an email to OPA President Doug Parks last week, former director Amy Peck asked how the board plans to allow online viewers of the meetings to participate, now that the board will require resident identification to attend meetings in person,

In an email dated Friday morning, Parks essentially told Peck there were no plans for such an accommodation anytime soon.

"The operations team has been testing several options within the (Microsoft) Teams application and the associated processes regarding the ability to have virtual attendees make public comments," Parks wrote to Peck. "Unfortunately, the testing has not yielded a viable option to support this feature. We will continue to look at options for virtual attendees, but for the time being, public comments will need to be made in person at the meeting."

Peck replied by attempting to clarify if that meant the IT department no longer had access to the microphone

function and asked Parks why the association's IT department couldn't simply verify online residents by having them display their ID cards on camera.

"I'd appreciate a response to why that very simple idea wouldn't work," she wrote. "It certainly worked in August for obtaining a quorum for the annual meeting ... Obviously, the Board favored Saturday meetings to increase participation (especially among part-time owners) and yet this new policy forces them to attend in person."

"Please figure this out before Dec. 17."

Parks responded to Peck, saying that there was "no explanation required on your statement that IT no longer has control of the microphone function as the claim is untrue."

When reached for comment on Monday, Parks did not even agree that there was a problem in the first place.

"I don't see that there's any issue at all," he said. "We're making sure you're a member. There is no issue to talk about ... We stand by the rule that says if you want to make a public comment, you'll have to come to the meeting."

He added that anyone who may think the rule is unfair is welcome to reach out to him directly.

After the exchange, Peck was incredulous over how the situation had been handled.

"This is just insane," Peck said. "This board ran on transparency. They wanted Saturday meetings badly because they wanted more participation. But now they're doing this? It doesn't make any sense."

The board meets next on Dec. 17.

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# Strat. Planning discussing what's next for OP in 2023

**By Jack Chavez**  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 8, 2022) The Ocean Pines Strategic Planning Committee is looking to the year ahead now that the 2023 strategic plan is nearing passage.



**Bernie McGorry**

During the committee's meeting on Friday, committee chair Bernie McGorry led an agenda that included a discussion of the plan and the lessons the committee has learned from the process.

"My goal for the meeting was just to look back and figure out what we did well and what we could do better and also what can we focus on now that the strategic plan is almost finished," McGorry said Monday. "From the strategic plan standpoint, I had a follow-up meeting with (OPA President) Doug Parks and with (board liaison) Stuart Lakernick. The board is still reviewing the plan and is basically in line with what I was looking for — trying to set some goals or what they refer to as 'outcomes' for the strategic plan."

During the meeting, committee member Becky Colt-Ferguson laid out what she described as "positive steps" that the committee has made and suggested that the association look more into the role of social media.

"I think the positives that have been mentioned here, including the establishment of the mission, the goals, the values we've selected, engaging the board, eliciting community input, use of the technology and adoption of the survey, that process — not only by us but other amenities out there — even though our numbers were low, they were (all) excellent, positive steps," Colt-Ferguson said.

"This past discussion recently was on communication and the use of technology such as social media

platforms. That's something I believe (our committee) will have to grapple with as we move forward. We've seen where social media can be a positive and where social media input can be a challenge. The question will be how does the association want to move forward in this type of environment to conduct this type of business?"

Colt-Ferguson also spoke on upcoming challenges, now that the plan is mostly out of the way.

"I think our challenge going forward will be to develop the strategies and operations we'll use to make sure that the goals we have come to life," she continued. "I think the engagement of all the committees will be important — the communication of what we're doing and we've identified the surveys, town halls and evaluation processes key to getting that data for us."

"The group might want to consider the two (evaluation) processes we do each year. Perhaps one in January, perhaps one in July, so that we're sending (feelers) out to get information on, so when we go back to budget in September, we have feedback. If we bundled that with two town halls a year ... it gives people a chance who might not be connected online and are mobile to come."

She added that there's still a "big need" in the community for individuals who are not mobile.

On Monday, McGorry spoke about the new strategic plan and some of its key elements. He noted that strong financial stability is still the top priority.

From the survey, he was surprised to see infrastructure and community appearance so high since the association is already making moves in this area. He also maintained that it's imperative to keep Ocean Pines's high marks for safety in the upper echelon of statewide community safety.

When asked about what's new,  
See STRATEGIC Page 8

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# Strategic Planning looking at ways to improve in 2023

Continued from Page 7  
McGorry spoke of environmental concerns.  
“The one thing that was new was touching on environmental stability that we don’t talk a lot about in Ocean Pines and yet we’re surrounded by water — whether it’s water or waste or whatever, just a little bit more when it comes to sustainability,” he said.  
McGorry said he expects to continue working closely with the associ-

ation to ensure these goals are met.  
“Those were issues over the last couple of years concerning the board and interaction with the community. They made great strides in making the meetings accessible but there was a perception that those areas needed to be focused on and improved,” McGorry said.  
“What our committee is going to do is work with the general manager and board to ensure those things are implemented and come to life.”

# Shore Gives More campaign raises \$290,466 for orgs.

(Dec. 8, 2022) A day celebrating philanthropy for Lower Shore nonprofits culminated in \$290,466 raised for participating organizations.  
More than 2,490 donations were made during the eighth annual Shore Gives More Giving Tuesday campaign, which had 124 participating nonprofits this year. Since inception, the campaign has raised \$1.5 million for Lower Shore nonprofits.

Giving Tuesday, held each year on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, is an international 24-hour online giving movement.  
The local campaign, known as The Shore Gives More, is hosted by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore and assists local nonprofits with the fundraising effort.  
By providing an online donation platform, marketing and technical support, the campaign makes a significant impact through collective philanthropy.  
“Nonprofits provide critical services to the local community, and fundraisers like Giving Tuesday help charities connect with donors,” said Erica Joseph, CFES president. “Giving Tuesday has become its own holiday in the nonprofit world, and the local generosity really shines a spotlight on how wonderful our region is.”  
The Shore Gives More was first launched as a Giving Tuesday campaign for the Lower Eastern Shore in 2015 and raised just under \$7,500 in

its first year.  
“As the area’s leading philanthropic resource, the Community Foundation understands the complexities around charitable giving, and we work hard to simplify the giving process for both donors and nonprofits,” Joseph said. “By giving through the Shore Gives More campaign, donors know their gifts will have an impact close to home.”  
The campaign received sponsorships from 47 ABC and Shore United Bank, which significantly increased the campaign presence.  
To learn more about the “Shore Gives More” Giving Tuesday campaign for local nonprofits, visit [cfes.org](https://cfes.org) or [ShoreGivesMore.org](https://ShoreGivesMore.org) to view individual nonprofit participants.  
As leaders, grant makers, and stewards of philanthropy, the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore connects people who care to causes that matter for the common good of the Lower Eastern Shore.  
It is a 501c3 nonprofit with an inspiring history of fostering charitable endeavors, and has provided \$100 million in grants and scholarships to the local community since 1984.  
It collaborates with individuals, families, and businesses to match their charitable interests with community needs and strengthen local nonprofits through grants and resources.

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# Movies and laser shows in December by Rec. and Parks

(Dec. 8, 2022) Worcester County Recreation & Parks is hosting two, free drive-in movies and laser shows this month.  
On Friday, Dec. 9, “The Polar Express” will air on the big screen at John Walter Smith Park, located at 6022 Public Landing Rd. in Snow Hill.  
Then on Saturday, Dec. 10, “The Grinch” will play at Newtown Park, located at 2001 Groton Road in Pocomoke. Following both movies, laser shows will light up the skies.

Vehicle parking for both events will begin at 6 p.m. and show time will start at 7 p.m.  
Bring a blanket and snacks and enjoy one or more of these holiday movies and laser show performances with friends and family.  
For more information, contact Tyler Keiser at 410-632-2144, ext. 2505 or email [tkeiser@marylandsc coast.org](mailto:tkeiser@marylandsc coast.org).  
For a full list of special events visit [www.playmarylandsc coast.org](http://www.playmarylandsc coast.org).

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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
The fifth annual Ocean City Comic Con returns on Saturday to the Roland E. Powell Convention Center on 40th Street in Ocean City.

# Ever-growing OC Comic Con back in town this Saturday

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 8, 2022) Ocean City Comic Con and its own universe of out-of-this-world characters will return for its fifth year on Saturday at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City.

will be the panels and events that have led to the gathering’s exponential growth. Among these will be the Nightmare and Dayscreams SFX panel led by Eastern Shore native Michele Clauser.

“It was really popular last year,”

Also returning to this celebration

See OCEAN Page 10



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R2-D2 and friends parade through the fourth annual Ocean City Comic Con last year at the convention center on 40th Street.

FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

# Ocean City Comic Con still growing, adds more space

Continued from Page 9  
event organizer James Dufendach said. “Standing-room only. (Clauser) is just a fantastic makeup artist.”

There will be some new attractions as well. The new wing of the convention center allowed Dufendach to expand the event’s offerings to accommodate what he said will be the largest Star Wars Saber Guild group ever.

“I did not just fill (that space) with vendors,” he said. “We’re going to give our Star Wars costuming groups a giant space. There will be a lot more fun photo-op stuff there.”

There will also be a panel on comic book creation that Dufendach said he’s looking forward to.

“We’ve got some new stuff as far as comic book creation which I think is great,” he said. “We’re going to have a local guy, Brad Hudson from the (University of Maryland Eastern Shore) ... him and the Joseph Rybandt from Dynamite Entertainment, doing a panel together on comic book creation. That is something — the opportunity to talk to those guys is amazing.”

This year, there is no mask policy as procedures for the most part return back to normal. Booths and vendors will be next to each other once again too.

When asked for his attendance forecast, Dufendach erred on the side of caution and said he anticipates 8,000 — the same turnout as last year.

But if the event’s past, discounting pandemic-stricken 2020, is a good indicator. The crowd should be bigger than that.

Even in the show’s first year, Dufendach anticipated 500 attendees and 2,500 came out.

“If you’ve never come before, this is a wonderful entry to comic cons,” Dufendach said. “It’s very inexpensive. I keep the price very low. Parking is free. You don’t have to drive for three hours if you’re local. It’s much like other pop culture events, a good starting point.”

The Ocean City Comic Con runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“If you’ve already come, you know you enjoy it. We’re adding more for you to see,” Dufendach said.

The cost to attend is \$12, free for children ages 9 and under with a paying adult. Attendees get \$1 off their ticket if they’re dressed in costume and another \$1 if they bring a canned good for Diakonia in West Ocean City, an organization which helps individuals and families by providing shelter, food, clothing and program services.

Tickets are available at the door. For more information, visit <http://www.oceancitycomiccon.com/index.html>.



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# Pines' Hometown Christmas event draws large crowd

(Dec. 8, 2022) A crowd numbering in the hundreds attended the annual Hometown Christmas celebration at White Horse Park on Nov. 26, during event that included dozens of tree lightings and an appearance by Santa Claus himself.

Hosted by the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, Hometown Christmas featured trees individually decorated by more than 40 local businesses and community groups.

Members of the Delmarva Chorus sang Christmas carols, and Santa led the countdown to light the official Ocean Pines Association tree.

The display of trees and festive decorations will remain at White Horse Park through the Christmas holiday. The public is welcome to walk through the park and take in the scenery.

“Once again, the Hometown Christmas was a success. The trees are beautifully decorated, and the light fixtures are perfectly placed and look great in the park,” Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue said.

“Katie Goetzinger, our program supervisor, does a great job planning this event each year,” Donahue continued. “However, she does need a lot of help making it happen. We would like to again say thank you to Norbert Violante for all his hard work setting up the park for the event; to Ocean Pines Public Works for delivering the trees, setting them up, and helping get the park ready; and to the Rec and Parks staff for helping make this event a success again this year.”

Donahue said the Hometown Christmas event has been celebrated in Ocean Pines for 12 years.

“It continues to be a great way to start the holiday season,” she said. “Happy holidays to everyone, thank you for joining us, and we hope you enjoyed the evening.”

The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks will also host gingerbread man



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
**A crowd numbering in the hundreds attended the annual Hometown Christmas celebration at White Horse Park on Nov. 26, during event that included dozens of tree lightings and an appearance by Santa Claus.**

decorating on Dec. 16 at the Ocean Pines Community Center, from 4-6 p.m.

Materials and instruction provided. The cost is \$8 per child. Call 410-641-7052 to register.

Adult Co-ed Dodgeball League coaches' meeting on Dec. 29; games start Jan. 11 at 7 p.m.

Gather friends, family members or coworkers for this fun league for ages 18-plus at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Maximum 15 players per roster.

The cost is \$250 per team. Call 410-641-7052 to register.

For more information on the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/recreation-parks>.

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# Helping Hands for the Holidays back for local families

(Dec. 8, 2022) Worcester County GOLD, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is holding its Helping Hands for the Holidays program again this year.

This program provides Worcester County families and individuals in need with holiday gifts to help reduce financial burden and stress during the holidays.

Applications are being accepted from community members to Shop-for-a-Child. Community members partner with GOLD to go out and purchase gifts for families who have requested holiday assistance.

Shoppers get to select the number of children they would like to provide for and the area they live in. Then, they are matched with a family that fits the criteria.

“In 2021, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we provided holiday gifts for over 500 children and 53 vulnerable adults,” said Taylor Carty, program coordinator. “Helping Hands for the Holidays gives GOLD the opportunity to work in unison with our community to help families in need and make the holidays a little brighter.”

All requests for assistance come from agents with GOLD’s community partners on behalf of families that they serve. Eligible recipients are children and vulnerable adults residing in Worcester County.

All recipients are screened to assess need, and to prevent the duplication of services.

Anyone in need of assistance this holiday season should contact 211. Helping Hands for the Holidays is a closed program that is not open to the general public.

To be a shopper or for more information, visit [WorcesterGOLD.org](https://www.WorcesterGOLD.org).

Worcester County GOLD promotes dignity by providing emergency financial assistance for Worcester County residents who live in poverty and low-income circumstances including infants, children, families, vulnerable adults, those who are homeless, and children in foster care.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
**A Cavalier King Charles Spaniel named “Penny” has been chosen as the top dog in the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department’s “Pup of the Pines” photo contest.**

# Pines pup, Penny, top dog after Rec. and Parks contest

(Dec. 8, 2022) A Cavalier King Charles Spaniel named “Penny” has been named the top dog in the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department’s “Pup of the Pines” photo contest.

Penny received the greatest number of votes in the annual contest. She was named the winner at the “Hometown Christmas” tree lighting ceremony on Nov. 26 in White Horse Park.

Votes were cast in person at the Ocean Pines Halloween/fall festival and at the Ocean Pines community center.

Paulette Parker, Penny’s owner, said she is a very affectionate dog with many neighborhood friends. “Everyone knows Penny,” Parker said.

As “Pup of the Pines,” Penny will receive a free 2023 Ocean Pines Dog Park registration. She will also be the official face of the dog park and will be featured in the Ocean Pines Activity Guide and other postings throughout the year.

Money raised from the contest entry fees will be used for upgrades and improvements to the dog park.

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# AGH Auxiliary ER volunteers receive award for excellence

(Dec. 8, 2022) The Atlantic General Hospital Auxiliary ER volunteers recently received the Dedication to Excellence Award for their commitment to the hospital and the patients they serve.

These volunteers were the first members of the auxiliary to return to help at the hospital after covid restrictions were relaxed.

Additionally, when covid cases spiked again this year during the busy summer season, the volunteers worked alongside the staff, picking up extra shifts, coming in early or staying late.

Being a volunteer in the emergency department is demanding, but satisfying work. These auxiliary members provide essential support, such as helping turn over rooms between patients.

They clean and make beds and help ensure the equipment is wiped down in the rooms. They also fill the blanket warmer, pick up food trays from the cafeteria and return them when they are finished, among other duties.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Atlantic General Hospital Auxiliary, visit [www.agh.care/volunteer](http://www.agh.care/volunteer) to fill out an application.

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

Built by the commitment and generosity of a dedicated community, the hospital's state-of-the-art facility in Berlin combines compassion and expertise with the latest in technology and services.

Atlantic General Health System, its network of more than 25 primary care provider and specialist offices, cares for residents and visitors throughout the region.

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

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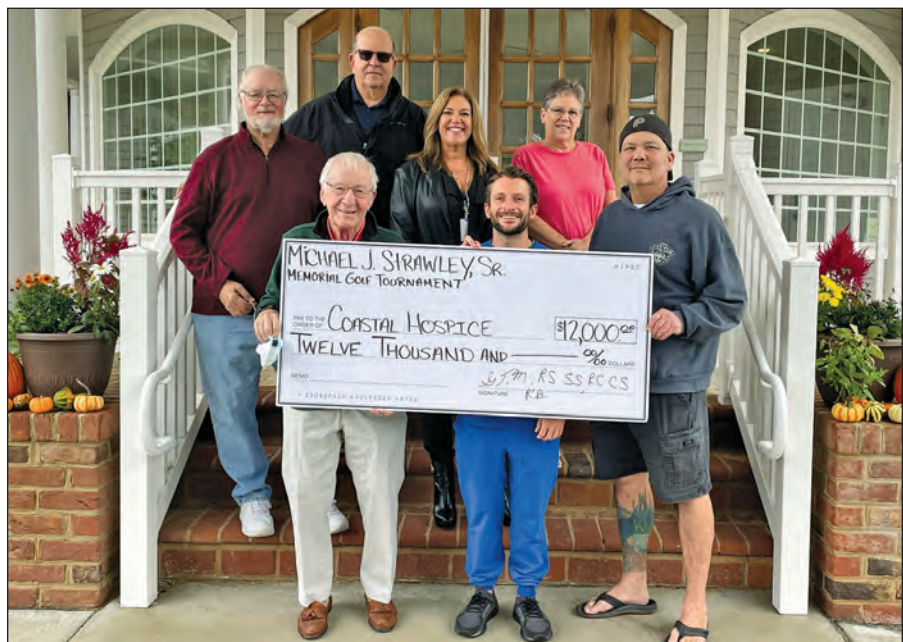
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# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## DONATION

Organizers of the Michael J. Strawley, Sr. Memorial Golf Tournament recently presented a check for \$12,000 to Coastal Hospice for the support of charitable care at the Macky & Pam Stansell House in Ocean Pines. The tournament has donated its proceeds to the organization since 2017. The money raised this year brings the total to over \$51,000. Pictured, in front, from left, are George McKelvie; Josh Davis, Coastal Hospice director of Hospice Inpatient Facilities; and Steve Silverman, and in back, Richard Stone; Rick Buccherri; Tammy Patrick, Coastal Hospice director of Advancement; and Cindi Strawley.



PHOTO COURTESY JACK BARNES

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ocean Pines resident Pat Kanz recently celebrated her 95th birthday at a surprise party arranged by her family, who invited members of her local Bridge Club. An avid Bridge player and instructor, she credits the game with keeping her mind sharp. Pictured, from left, are Carol Stocard, Eileen McClelland, Jack Barnes, Barbara Morgan, Andrea Barnes and Kanz, seated.



## FALL FUN FESTIVAL

The 10th grade held the annual Fall Fun Festival at Worcester Preparatory School on Oct. 26 for first through fifth grade students. Sophomores created their own game stations, and brought in candy, treats and prizes. (Left) Pictured are sophomores Lydia Schwartz, Travis Netting and Jackson Fernley. (Right) Sophomore Angeline Todorov paints a pumpkin on second grader Emma Abbott's face.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the Maryland General Assembly, Sen. Mary Beth Carozza presented Worcester County GOLD Board President Shannon Wright with a proclamation recognizing its 25 years of service on Oct. 7 during the organization's anniversary gala. Worcester County GOLD, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, promotes dignity by providing emergency financial assistance for Worcester County residents who live in poverty and low-income circumstances including infants, children, families, vulnerable adults, those who are homeless, and children in foster care.



## IN CHARGE

Worcester Prep seventh grader Chase Thompson acted as Head of School on Oct. 14. His parents purchased "Head of School for a Day" during the annual WPS Gala fundraiser auction this past April. As Head of School, he attended leadership meetings, visited classrooms, toured campus, and did security and athletic field checks. His fellow seventh graders were treated to donuts for breakfast and pizza and ice cream for lunch. Faculty also enjoyed a complimentary breakfast and students were treated to additional recess throughout the day. He is pictured with Head of School Dr. John McDonald.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



# Snapshots



## NHS INDUCTION

The Charles R. Jenkins Chapter of the National Honor Society at Worcester Preparatory School inducted 27 new members on Nov. 3. Pictured, in front, from left, are Assistant Head of School/Head of Upper School Mike Grosso, Koda Bauer, Esi Mehilli, Moorea Phillips, Caitlin Williams, Claire Windrow, Elaina Elrick, Izzy Huber, Dylan Simons, Senior Class Sponsor Elizabeth Nally and Head of School Dr. John McDonald; second row: Hunter Simons, Natasha Richter, Natalie Chadwell, Vanessa Hall, Mia Lovitt, Emma Crivella, Will Mumford and Carson Rayne; third row: Luke Hopkins, Sara Freih, Ansley Gardner, Madilyn Nechay, Ava Conaway and Summer Vent; and in back: Cole Campbell, Dylan McGovern, Max Halle and Adam Hafez. Not pictured: Lebby Becker.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## THANK YOU

Worcester Preparatory School's fourth and fifth grades came together in a musical performance to celebrate veterans on Nov. 11. Fifth graders CJ Labin, Cullen Giardina, Lea Jaoude and Mara McClanahan show their letters being mailed to veterans in thanks for their service.



## FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Rev. Bill Sterling, pastor of Bethany United Methodist Church, celebrated 50 years in ministry Oct. 30 during Sunday worship. Pictured, from left, are Jackie Sterling and Rev. Sterling, who received a gift certificate from Barbara May, chair of the Nurture Committee.

SUBMITTED PHOTO /BAYSIDE GAZETTE



## FUNDRAISER

The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation held its 2022 Robert E. Warfield Memorial Tournament, AGH's 29th annual Fall Golf Classic, on Sept. 22, at the Ocean City Golf Club. With the help of the many sponsors, golfers and volunteers, the event raised \$124,000 for the foundation. Pictured, in back, from left, are Bill Harrington; Ryan Nellans; Max Hutsell; Steve Green, Atlantic General Hospital Foundation Board chair; CL Marshall; Don Owrey, Atlantic General Hospital president and CEO; Sarah Delligatti; Sam Glaeser; and in front, Jenn Kukel; Gigi LeKites; Al "Hondo" Handy; Caitlin Evans; Steven Sweigert, event co-chair; Aladin Glaoui, Carousel Group general manager; Michael James, Carousel Group managing partner; Kam LaBrunda, Atlantic General Hospital Grants/Operations officer; Toni Keiser, Atlantic General Hospital vice president Public Relations.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



# Opinion

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

## Commissioners' stand puts them in spotlight

Now that the new board of county commissioners has shown it knows how not to spend public money, the question it faces is whether it knows how to produce more of it and remain in the public's good graces.

That is the territory the commissioners staked out for themselves this week when they issued a resounding "No" to the concept of a publicly funded sports complex.

Regardless of which side of this argument one happens to be on, the four-member majority that decided the matter believes that government has no business being in business. This, as it happens, is the point of view of many conservative economists, especially when government is about to involve itself in projects that rely on revenue projections based on "economic multipliers" of public dollars spent. In their view, these multipliers incorporate a touch of mathematical voodoo.

Then too, these commissioners probably feared the public backlash of a bad result, which can always happen no matter how good an idea might seem at the time — see the much less expensive but still sinking Snow Hill riverboat project for reference.

But the majority's reasons notwithstanding, the public knows where it stands as the county faces some big expenses in the years ahead. No amount of complaining about unfunded mandates and lopsided formulas is going to change that or get the commissioners out of a tight spot.

It's not a pretty situation. The public always wants more and better services, but is never willing to pay more for them, the commissioners have no appetite for using public money to spur economic growth, and they can't cut spending by skeletonizing county government and expect to get away with it.

Had the sports facility proposal not come along, the spotlight would not have illuminated just how politically messy the county's financial problem is, nor would it have shone so brightly on the four commissioners who will now be expected to come up with the solution.



## Toy drive asks Pines to 'Get Involved'

(Dec. 8, 2022) The Ocean Pines group "Get Involved" is collecting toys for area children through Dec. 19, with drop boxes available at several locations in the community.

The Get Involved group is in its second year of managing donation drives, having pulled off a trio of successful campaigns last year to collect food, toys and coats for local people in need.

This year, the group has already donated more than 1,000 pounds of food to Diakonia, a nonprofit that assists area homeless.

Organizer Esther Diller said the toy drive this year would benefit Toys for Tots.

"How this all started was, I didn't realize we had such a homeless population in this area — I was stunned when I found out the story," she said. "I found out they camp out behind the outlets [in Ocean City] and in the woods, and I heard there were children as well as adults."

Diller said she reached

out to leadership at Diakonia, and her worst fears were confirmed: homelessness is an underreported, but rampant issue in Worcester County.

"I never knew it had gotten this bad, and it really bothered me. In the bright lights of Ocean City and Worcester County, here we all these homeless people," Diller said. "It's such a tragedy."

"So, I thought we need to help not only the families and the parents, but I want to give something to the kids — to families with children who can't afford anything for the holidays," she added.

Get Involved is seeking new, unwrapped items for children of all ages.

Collection boxes are available at the Ocean Pines Administration Building lobby, as well as at the Yacht Club, the Golf Club, and at the south fire station.

Diller said volunteers have already collected several large boxes of donations.

"We just got a bunch of

brand-new dolls, which is great, and there have been a lot of toys for the little ones as well, with stuff like building blocks, which is just awesome," she said. "We're not really picky about what the toys are, as long as they're new and unwrapped."

Up next, Get Involved will host its second-annual coat drive from Dec. 26 through New Year's Day. Drop boxes will be available at the same four locations as the toy drive.

Gently used coats, along with new hats, gloves and socks, will go to Land's End Fellowship, which is run by a nondenominational church in Ocean City.

"Last year we were able to collect hundreds of coats, so we're really excited to be able to help that organization out. We are also looking for more organizations to donate to, so please reach out if anyone locally has a need," Diller said.

For more information, contact Diller at [esmatt4@aol.com](mailto:esmatt4@aol.com).

BAYSIDE

GAZETTE

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RELIABLE & LOCAL NEWS



# Pine Tones Chorus presenting annual Christmas concert

(Dec. 8, 2022) The Pine Tones Chorus will present its annual Christmas concert at Atlantic United Methodist Church on Fourth Street in Ocean City, on Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

The concert opens with its title song, "A Bit of holiday Cheer," a medley of festive holiday tunes such as "Winter Wonderland," and "Jungle Bell Rock."

Popular songs of the season will include "Blue Christmas" by Elvis, and "Sleigh Ride," frequently performed by the Boston Pops Orchestra.

Classical Christmas selections will feature shepherds in the fields, the Star of Bethlehem and the child in the manger. The song "Love Came Down At Christmas" presents lovely, dream-like musical themes.

A unique arrangement of "Deck The Hall" will imitate orchestral music from a Mozart composition. Most music fans will recognize this famous Mozart melody.

Unusual musical adaptations are also woven into "We Three Kings" and "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen."

The Pine Tones Chorus includes about 45 singers from Ocean Pines, Ocean City and nearby areas.

June Todd and Jenny Anderson are the group's directors and accompa-



The Pine Tones Chorus will present its annual Christmas concert at Atlantic United Methodist Church on Fourth Street in Ocean City, on Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

nists. Pete Anderson is assistant director/accompanist.

Other instruments will also accompany the chorus with flute played by Barbara Dau and string bass played by Tom Baione.

Admission is free and an offering will be received. After the concert, guests may enjoy refreshments in the church social hall.

The Pine Tones Chorus has been entertaining local audiences in the Ocean Pines and Ocean City areas since 1984.

For additional information, call the Chorus President Dave Holloway, at 410-641-5672, or Todd, 443-880-3922.

Funding for Pine Tones Chorus activities comes from individual donations and patrons as well as the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council and the Na-

tional Endowment for the Arts. These organizations are dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Golf Members Council recently made a sizable donation to the Toys for Tots program. Joe Pantone, a Marine Corps veteran, assisted with the toy collection in Ocean Pines.

# Ocean Pines Golf Members Council donates to children

(Dec. 8, 2022) The Ocean Pines Golf Members Council recently made a sizable donation to the Toys for Tots program.

Items were donated during the Members Council's annual Golf Dinner Dance, held at the Ocean Pines Golf Club on Nov. 3.

Toys for Tots was founded in 1947 and is run nationally by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Joe Pantone, a Marine Corps veteran, assisted with the toy collection in Ocean Pines.

"On behalf of all Marines, I would like to thank the Members Council for sponsoring the annual golf dinner dance, and the golf membership for their generous donation of toys in

support of our annual Toys for Tots program,” Pantone said. “We collected approximately 75 toys, which is an outstanding number, based on past years.

"Your donations will bring much needed happiness on Christmas morning to those less fortunate children in our community," he added.

Pantone said additional Toys for Toys donations can be made to drop-off sites throughout the community, including at A Bagel And ... in Ocean Pines.

For more information, contact Ocean Pines Association Director of Public Relations and Marketing Josh Davis at 443-366-1844 or [jdavis@oceanpines.org](mailto:jdavis@oceanpines.org).



# OPEN HOUSES

## December 8 - December 15



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday, 10am-1pm	52 King Richard Rd., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$334,900	Kim Heaney/BHHS
Saturday, 10am-12pm	305 S. Heron Gull Ct., Ocean City	6BR/6BA/2HBA	Single Family	\$2,399,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday, 1-3pm	305 S. Heron Gull Ct., Ocean City	6BR/6BA/2HBA	Single Family	\$2,399,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday, 1-3pm	10800 Navy Page Ln. #407, Berlin	3BR/2BA/1HBA	Condo	\$449,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday, 10am-12pm	10800 Navy Page Ln. #407, Berlin	3BR/2BA/1HBA	Condo	\$449,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty



# Worcester County Arts Council exhibit displayed until Dec. 31

(Dec. 8, 2022) The Worcester County Arts Council’s juried art exhibit, “Small Treasures,” is available to view until the end of the month.

The exhibition features 29 pieces of artwork submitted by professional and emerging artists, with work in all media. The exhibit combines many mediums including oil, watercolor, and acrylic painting, pastels, encaustic, photography, glass, and mixed media.

The winning artwork was selected by local artist Martha Graham. The winners were honored at the opening reception held on Nov. 11 at the Arts Council Gallery.

Monetary prizes were awarded to, first place, Jiyeong Yun for “Sound of Moonlit Night;” second place, Brigitte Bowden for “Flower Grid;” and third place, Carol Gentes for “Otter.”

Honorable mention awards were given to Ellie Scott for “47th Street and Broadway;” Tawn Crosby Shivers for “Sir Hamton;” and Gail Stern for “OSV Assateague Ponies.”

The exhibit will be on display until Dec. 31. Artwork is available for purchase.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Worcester County Arts Council is a non-profit 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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- Royal Canin Baby Cat dry cat food
- Small dog/cat treats – variety
- KMR kitten milk replacement

### TOYS

- Kong brand toys for dogs – all sizes
- Cat toys – variety
- Dog toys – variety
- Chuck -it toys – large
- Feather wand cat toys
- Cat kicker toys
- Scratch pads/posts for cats

### VETERINARY CARE

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- Digital fast acting thermometers
- Batteries (AA, AA 9V)

### OFFICE SUPPLIES

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- Scotch Tape
- Duct Tape
- Post-It Notes

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- O-Cedar Microfiber Twist Mop
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- Paper towels
- Fabuloso (lavender scented)
- Brooms/dust pan
- Toilet paper
- Bleach
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Hand Sanitizer
- Clorox/Lysol Wipes
- Contractor sized trash bags
- Kitchen trash bags

### PET CARE

- Cat/dog beds
- Fleece blankets
- Cat litter – scoopable or wood pellets
- Puppy training pads
- Snuggle safe heating discs
- Kitten nursing bottles
- Small ceramic water bowls
- Disposable food bowls
- Dog waste bags

### OTHER

- Gift cards to Walmart, Tractor Supply, Petsmart, Petco, Concord Pets, Food Lion, Staples, etc.

**PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR HOLIDAY DONATIONS:**  
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**\* When in doubt, it is better for our animals to spend your donation dollars on cleaning supplies rather than off brand animal foods \***



# Cuisine

## Coffeecake for holiday guests and friends

Recently I started my 15th year in teaching. Four years at Worcester Technical High School was followed by 10 years at Wor-Wic.



**By Paul Suplee, MBA, CEC, PC-3**  
Now, I find myself on the beautiful campus of University of Maryland Eastern Shore. It has been quite a journey, but I have enjoyed every step of it. Well, most of it, but that's for a different day.

One of my favorite stories as a culinary educator goes way back to my first year at the high school. The kids knew everything, they were belligerent and angry that they had to deal with the “new guy”, and instruction was not necessarily something that they were about to take from me.

So, they floundered in the kitchen. I would try to correct them, and they would snap back in their wonderfully angsty way. So, I did what any self-respecting high school lab teacher would do. I gave them enough rope. More precisely, I broke them into 10 groups of 2, facing each other across stainless steel tables that I had strategically lined up.

Between each pair of two students, there was a pan with pan spray, butter, cream, eggs, sugar, cocoa powder and anything else they would need to make a simple brownie utilizing the creaming method.

Each student had a recipe with thorough instructions, and I calmly announced “you guys apparently know what you’re doing, so make me brownies. They are due in an hour and 15 minutes. Oh, and it’s worth a hundred points.”

They all stared blankly at me as I sat in a chair and reminded them of the time restraint. And then it happened. One kid, who obviously did not take the time to read the recipe, unwrapped the pound of butter and placed it in the pan. Then he poured cream on top. Now, no one was laughing, as they were taking this challenge quite seriously. One by one, each group mimicked the actions of the first and poured the cream on the butter.

Then came the sugar, and the first group was banging on the butter with their spoons to get it to mix. Suffice it to say, by the time the eggs, sugar, cocoa powder et al had been added (incorrectly I might add), it was



painfully obvious to the students that they perhaps should listen to the new guy. I waited for them patiently, and at last a young lady from Snow Hill announced, “We give up, Chef. What are we supposed to do?”

And that was the beginning of an incredibly productive year for all of us. Did I process-shame them? Yes, I did. Were they better for it? Yes, they were. Was I able to teach them some invaluable skills that semester? Absolutely.

All they had to do was cream the butter and sugar together first. If they had done that, meaning that if they had read the recipe and followed instructions, they would have had a much easier time achieving their goals.

The creaming method is the basic start for muffin batters, and in this case coffee cake batters. It is a rather sophisticated method, so pay attention and let me know if I need to back up and explain it further.

Step one is to soften the butter and place it in a stand mixer, or a bowl with a hand mixer. It doesn’t really matter which one. Next you add the sugar, and then you mix it until it is what? You got it! Creamy. As butter is a water and fat emulsion, the sugar and butter mix and the sugar eventu-

ally dissolves in the water in the butter and the homogenized mixture is smooth and creamy. And then you add the other ingredients and Bob’s your uncle.

Ah, the halcyon years of instructing. I can only hope that they continue to be as entertaining as they have always been.

And now that you have this process burnt into your brain, you may want to try this cake for your holiday guests and friends. It is the season for entertaining, after all.

### Coffeecake

*makes 1 tube cake*

- 1 1/2 Tbsp. AP Flour
  - 1 Tbsp. Ground cinnamon
  - 6 oz. Brown sugar
  - 4 oz. Pecans, chopped
  - 1 oz. Butter, melted
  - 4 oz. Butter, softened
  - 8 oz. Granulated sugar
  - 2 large eggs
  - 8 oz. Sour cream
  - 7 oz. Cake flour, sifted2
  - 1/4 Tsp. Salt
  - 1 tsp. Baking powder
  - 1 tsp. Baking soda
  - 1 tsp. Vanilla extract
- Blend the first five ingredients to-

gether in a bowl and set aside while you make your batter.

For the batter, cream the butter and sugar together until they are ... yes, creamy.

Add the eggs one at a time while incorporating well.

Add sour cream and beat until smooth.

Add the flour, salt, baking powder, baking soda and vanilla and mix well.

Spoon half of the batter into a greased tube pan. Top with half of the filling that you set aside earlier.

Put remaining batter in the pan, and top with the remaining filling.

Bake at 350F for about 35 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out clean.

From On Baking 3rd edition by Sarah R. Labensky.

If you don’t have cake flour, add a Tbsp. of cornstarch to each cup of AP flour. This increases the starch content and decreases the protein content, thus making it more suitable for tender cakes

— Paul Suplee is the owner of boxcar40, boxcar on main, boxcar crafted events and sportfish catering.  
[www.boxcarrestaurants.com](http://www.boxcarrestaurants.com)



# Lower Shore schools will receive \$147,373

(Dec. 8, 2022) Schools in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties received \$147,373 in grant funding through the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore’s 2022 Education Grants Program.

CFES saw an unprecedented number of requests from area schools, many of which focused on the social and emotional needs of students.

Funds will be distributed across 45 school-based programs. Educators and school districts were honored at an evening reception on Nov. 10 at Stephen Decatur High School.

“By investing in our students today, we are investing in the future leaders of our community,” says Community Foundation President Erica Joseph. “When we respond to needs and opportunities identified by area teachers we are able to fund projects that have an immediate impact on students.”

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

Worcester County schools were presented \$80,726. The following schools in the county that received Education Award Grants for the 2022/2023 school year:

- Berlin Intermediate will launch the Girls on the Run program to address social-emotional needs of young girls.
- Berlin Intermediate will host a nationally acclaimed poet for a residency program focused on mental health.
- Buckingham Elementary will install flexible seating in all kindergarten classrooms.
- Buckingham Elementary will create a calm cave and mobile calming kit to facilitate crisis management techniques.
- Cedar Chapel Special School will purchase special equipment for a trauma-informed approach to behavior interventions.
- Pocomoke Elementary will implement cozy corners to help students regulate emotions.
- Pocomoke Elementary will purchase materials to enhance social-emotional skills and improve student interactions.
- Pocomoke High will hold a One School One Book program, using Night by Elie Wiesel and a trip to the Holocaust Museum.
- Pocomoke High will enhance its Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program.
- Pocomoke Middle will provide incentives that reduce office referrals and improve student behavior.
- Showell Elementary will replenish and expand the school’s library collection to better meet students’ needs.

• Showell Elementary will create a calm room and install calm corners and flexible seating to regulate student behavior.

• Snow Hill Elementary will increase the library’s collection of social emotional literature.

• Snow Hill Elementary will create a calm room and implement related curriculum to help with social emotional learning.

• Snow Hill High School will host a Future Rocket Launchers STEM program for students.

• Snow Hill High will promote safety and inclusion for LGBTQ+ students and their allies.

• Snow Hill Middle will launch a Friday Night Book Club that will engage students in recreational reading and conversation.

• Stephen Decatur High will host a book club that allows students to choose, read and discuss complex texts.

• Stephen Decatur Middle School will improve its Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports program.

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

Lower Eastern Shore.

It is a 501c3 nonprofit with an inspiring history of fostering charitable endeavors and has provided \$100 million in grants and scholarships to the local community since 1984.

It collaborates with individuals, families, and businesses to match their charitable interests with community needs and strengthen local nonprofits through grants and resources.

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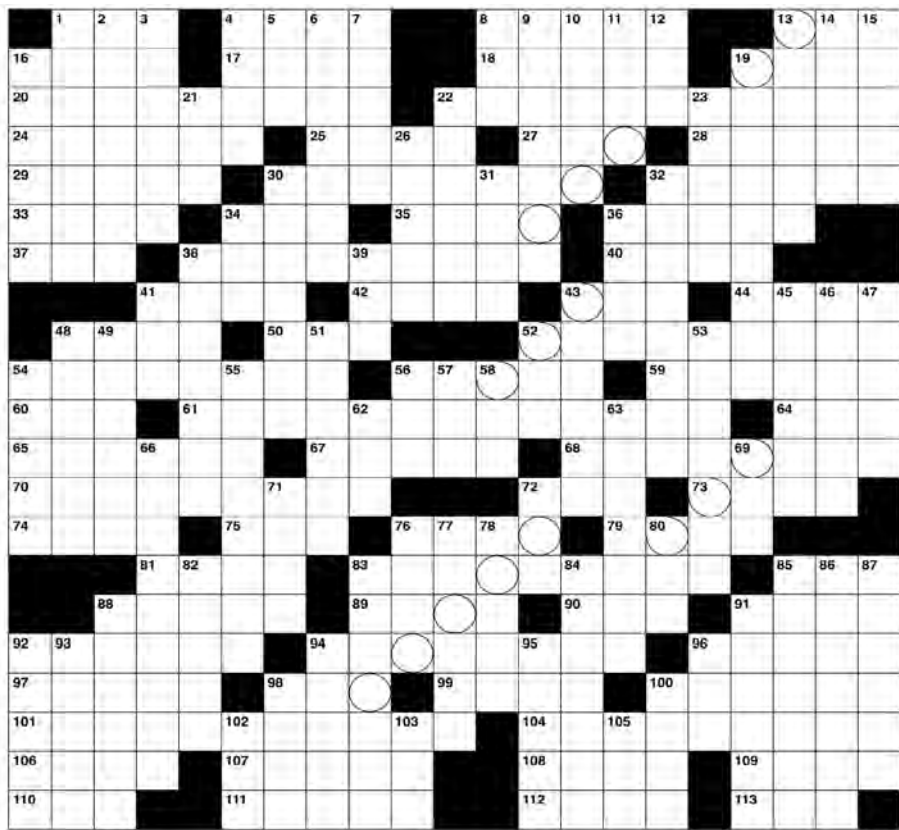
# Puzzles

## GOING OFF ON A TANGENT

BY ADAM WAGNER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Adam Wagner, of Oakland, Calif., is a creative lead at the San Francisco-based 1-Down. (Solve the puzzle to see the name of the company!) He has been constructing crosswords for The Times for two years. This one started with the answers at 85- and 86-Down and branched out, literally, from there. Adam recently released Anigrams, a free daily online word game that I find almost as addictive as Wordle. — W.S.

- ACROSS**  
1 Gambling spot?  
4 Chap  
8 Addis \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Pro response  
16 Bit of chicanery  
17 \_\_\_\_\_ water (healthful drink)  
18 Totally uncool  
19 Rock's Jethro \_\_\_\_\_  
20 "You're gonna love this, I promise!"  
22 Urban area typically with the tallest buildings  
24 Rocky road topping?  
25 Length for a pregnancy  
27 Moneymaking venture  
28 LeBron James became one in 2018  
29 That's the spirit!  
30 Highway network that famously has sections without a speed limit  
32 Service recipient  
33 An ocean  
34 Device dusted off to watch old home movies, maybe  
35 Flat-topped French hat  
36 Ante alternative  
37 Musician Brian  
38 Public court proceeding  
40 Many a bad Yelp review
- DOWN**  
1 Subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).  
41 Luxuriate (in)  
42 They're not sciences  
43 \_\_\_\_\_ Cannon, creator of the "Pitch Perfect" film series  
44 Fish sticks?  
48 Strength of character  
50 "Me!"  
52 Compliment to a French chef  
54 Crackerjack  
56 Slack-jawed  
59 Automotive successor of the Bel Air  
60 Proudly embody, informally  
61 What you're on when you're making progress  
64 Product sold on a rack, informally  
65 "Them's fightin' words!"  
67 Set one's sights  
68 Welcome-center handouts  
70 Free of flaws, as a reputation  
72 DiFranco of folk  
73 Sewer in American history  
74 Hamlet's cousin  
75 Music-genre prefix  
76 Ideal engine sound  
79 Duel personalities?  
81 Like some memes  
83 Major concern for a meteorologist  
85 The Bruins, on scoreboards  
88 Contents of a household box  
89 Pasta whose name means "barley" in Italian  
90 Startled scream  
91 Weight  
92 Goes from one thing to another  
94 Purchase option for a dedicated fan  
96 Like dumbbells  
97 Like Roma tomatoes  
98 Something that may be sold by the yard  
99 The Nature Conservancy and World Wildlife Fund, e.g., in brief  
100 Hate, hate, hate  
101 Certain juicing need  
104 Residential construction project  
106 Deep shot, in hoops  
107 Weird  
108 Brother of Logan Roy on "Succession"  
109 Has a meal  
110 Urban grid: Abbr.  
111 Tennis champ \_\_\_\_\_ Osaka  
112 Figs. first issued in 1936  
113 Summer on the Riviera
- ACROSS**  
9 Deep inhalation to get high  
10 Ordered delivery, perhaps  
11 Hive mind of "Star Trek: TNG," with "the"  
12 National Dog Show org.  
13 \_\_\_\_\_ someone's yum (criticized a person's tastes, slangily)  
14 Discovery astronaut Ochoa  
15 With it  
16 Shake a little  
19 Amtrak booking  
21 Worker with wax  
22 "Oof, what a day!"  
23 Run-D.M.C.'s "You Be \_\_\_\_\_"  
26 Longtime co-host of the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade  
30 Good Texas hold 'em hand  
31 Auto-loan figs.  
32 Bit of roofing in Spanish-style architecture  
34 Biden and Harris, notably, in brief  
36 Underwire undergarments  
38 Muffin makeup, maybe  
39 Over-emoter  
41 Trade, informally  
43 Star N.F.L. wide-receiver Allen  
45 First family from Illinois  
46 Exercise in a swimming pool  
47 Grabs



- DOWN**  
48 "\_\_\_\_\_ Life" (1981 Rick James single)  
49 Tool for cutting wood along the grain  
51 Scandalized  
52 Pro who gets many return customers?  
53 Bad makeup artist  
54 Spot for a band  
55 High ways  
56 Early stop at a casino, maybe  
57 Univ. senior's hurdle  
58 Funding  
62 "\_\_\_\_\_ but a scratch": oft-quoted Monty Python line  
63 Con artist  
66 Chattering plastic teeth, for one  
69 Rapper \_\_\_\_\_ Def  
71 Group with lodges  
72 Part of E.T.A.; Abbr.  
76 100%  
77 Allow for more high-density housing and mixed-use development, in urban-planning lingo  
78 Company shake-up, for short  
80 Symbol of sturdiness  
82 Pallid  
83 Problem for a pitcher  
84 They have their ups and downs  
85 & 86 Very upset ... like the answers to five of this puzzle's clues?  
87 Grand mounts  
88 They go around at museums  
91 Coffin carrier  
92 Drops down?  
93 In no way hidden  
94 It has only one-sixth of the mass of Earth's moon  
95 Goobers  
96 Pentagon inits.  
98 Cousin of turquoise  
100 Part of the eye that focuses light onto the retina  
102 Momma's boy  
103 Big name in outdoor gear  
105 Jones of CNN

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**Walk In**

**su | do | ku**  
© Puzzles by Pappocom  
**HARD - 13**

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.

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

**Answers to last week's puzzles**

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

HORSY	SCRAMS	WRING
ABATE	THENILE	MARTYR
LOVETRIANGLES	ONSALE	
TEEM	ANT	RELATION
SACK	PRIZED	DRAWING
PBR	REESE	YES
DREAM	YOLKS	SEWN
FANCY	RESTAURANTS	HAS
SETTLE	TEEDUP	HELP
SIEGES	MADD	SORTA
GETOFF	FONTH	RIGHTFOOT
ENSUE	IDEA	SNEERS
NYET	SNAPTO	WATSON
TAT	DIGTHE	IROWN
SUET	SLOTH	GALES
GENA	CPU	ATALL
GOFORTH	GOLD	TIES
ESL	JAILALAI	ANN
SPIGOT	LIKE	CLOCKWORK
SEETHE	SEETOIT	EEERIE
OLSON	SNOOTS	GRAND



# Calendar

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

## Thurs. Dec. 8

**STEM THURSDAYS**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Drop in any time during the day to use your creativity and build using one of the STEM building kits. For ages 4 years and older. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org). 410-524-1818.

**PLAY TIME**  
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, 10:30 a.m.-11:59 p.m. Join the group for a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**HERBAL GIFTS**  
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 2 p.m. Discuss the therapeutic properties of holiday herbs while learning how to blend them into gifts. Receive a Ginger Cookie Lip Balm and a Mulling Spice packet. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org). 410-632-2600.

**DECORATIVE WREATHS**  
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin. 2 p.m. Make a beautiful decorative wreath from household materials. Everything will be provided. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org). 410-641-0650.

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

prove mood. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under Events. 410-641-0650.

**AUDITIONS FOR PLAY ON!**  
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 6-8 p.m., Ocean Pines Players is holding auditions for their next show, Play On!. The show is a comedy and calls for three men and seven women. 484-509-3821.

## Fri. Dec. 9

**MID-MORNING CRAFT: WINTER CRAFTS**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 10:30 a.m. Come and make some fun crafts to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. Prepare for a mess. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**BABY TIME**  
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 1:30 p.m. Stories, rhymes and finger plays. For children 2 years and younger and their caregivers. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH: RUN ROSE RUN; BY DOLLY PARTON AND JAMES PATTERSON**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the library circulation desk. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**FREE MOVIE & LASER SHOW**  
John Walter Smith Park, 6030 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill, 6 p.m. WCRP is hosting a free drive-in movie and laser show featuring The Polar Bear Express on the big screen followed by a laser

show. Bring a blanket and some snacks and enjoy!. 410-632-2144.

**PINE TONES CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., Ocean City, 7:30 p.m. The Pine Tones Chorus includes approximately 45 singers with accompanists, flute and string bass. Admission is free and an offering will be received. Refreshments served after concert. 410-641-5672.

## Sat. Dec. 10

**CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK**  
Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Homemade fancy, holiday cookies cost \$8 per pound. Candy cost \$10 per pound. 410-641-2186.

**7TH ANNUAL HOMEMADE COOKIES BY THE POUND SALE**  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 18 Third St., Pocomoke City, 9 a.m.-noon, Beautiful and tasty homemade cookies, candies and other treats for sale for only \$8 a pound. Come early for best selection. Cakes and pies can be pre-ordered by calling 410-957-4966 or 571-225-3777.

**OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 9:30 a.m. The speaker will be U.S. Coast Guard licensed Master/Captain Mark Sampson. Members are asked to bring a food item or donation for Diakonia homeless shelter. All welcome. Jack Barnes, 410-641-7662.

**SANTA'S TRAIN WONDERLAND**  
Delmarva Discovery Museum, 2 Market St., Pocomoke City, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Enjoy train displays and beautiful decorations throughout the Museum! Santa will arrive on the dock of Cypress Park by boat.

**FAMILY LIBRARY DAY; WINTER CRAFTS**  
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 10 a.m.-noon, Bring the whole family and enjoy making some winter-themed crafts. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**CRAFTY SATURDAY: CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD!**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 10 a.m. Make some crafts to celebrate holidays happening around the world. Be prepared to get messy. For ages 4 years and older. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**FREE CARRIAGE RIDES & SANTA**  
Historic Downtown Berlin, 124 N. Main St., Berlin, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays

and Sundays, Dec. 3-18, featuring free carriage rides from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and meet Santa at Kringle Kottage located at Calvin B. Taylor Museum, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. [BerlinMainStreet.com](http://BerlinMainStreet.com).

**OCEAN CITY COMIC CON**  
Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets \$12. Vendors, exhibitors, cosplayers, artists, panels, events, contests, screenings and more. Admission cost is \$12 for adults and free to those 9 years and younger. Discounts. <http://oceancitycomiccon.com>.

**MERRY MARKETPLACE IN BRRRLIN**  
The Buzz Meadery, 21 Jefferson St., Berlin, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sip and shop. Many of the Berlin Farmers Market vendors will be participating in Merry Marketplace at The Berlin Commons Buzz Meadery on Jefferson Street.

**FREE MOVIE & LASER SHOW**  
John Walter Smith Park, 6030 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill, 6 p.m. WCRP is hosting a free drive-in movie and laser show featuring The Grinch on the big screen followed by a laser show. Bring a blanket and some snacks and enjoy!.

## Sun. Dec. 11

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
St. Paul's by-the Sea Episcopal Church, 302 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, 10 a.m. A special bilingual service will begin with the congregation procession around the church. A celebration following the service will include Jarocho Dancers and Mexican and Salvadoran food.

**FREE CARRIAGE RIDES & SANTA**  
Historic Downtown Berlin, 124 N. Main St., Berlin. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 3-18, featuring free carriage rides from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and meet Santa at Kringle Kottage located at Calvin B. Taylor Museum, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. [BerlinMainStreet.com](http://BerlinMainStreet.com).

**SHOWELL COMMUNITY ADVENT POTLUCK DINNER**  
Showell United Methodist Church, 2 p.m. Dinner in Fellowship Hall. Please bring side dish or dessert. There will be crafts for adults and children. A carol sing-along is also planned. Canned goods will be collected for Diakonia.

## Mon. Dec. 12

**STORY TIME & COOKIES**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30 a.m. Scrumptious story time full of stories, games and crafts about  
Continued on Page 25



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
Mary Lou Tietz, MidAtlantic Symphony Orchestra developmental officer, was the guest speaker during the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City's Nov. 9 meeting. She is pictured with Club President Bob Wolfing.



# CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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

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



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## HELP WANTED

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## COMMERCIAL

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**Coastal Cuts, a New Family Salon** in West Ocean City, is looking for talented **Hair Stylists**. Must be Maryland licensed. Interested? Call **410-390-3916**

**Year-Round Rental in Ocean Pines.** 3-bedroom, 2-bath. \$1750 a month plus utilities. Call Karen **443-880-5727**.

**Year-Round Studio Rental, 32nd Street, OC.** \$1200/month plus utilities. No pets. Available now. **410-524-0295**

**Seeking YR & Seasonal Rentals!** Call Howard Martin Realty **410-352-5555**.

**House To Share, Selbyville,** on Canal, pool, covered porch, 10 min. to beach. Incl. Internet and util. Shared kit., W/D, Liv. rm. Private BR and bath. \$850/mo. **240-372-5944**

**ROOMMATE NEEDED**  
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## SERVICES

**Ocean Pines Handyman** is offering free estimates to the Ocean Pines community during leaf removal season. We also will service Berlin, Ocean City, Salisbury, Dagsboro and any location within a 30-mile radius from Ocean Pines. Book your free estimate today!  
[www.oceanpineshandyman.com/leaf-removal](http://www.oceanpineshandyman.com/leaf-removal)

**Do you have an old bicycle not being used?** It could mean a world of difference to a hard-working international student. We are looking to get as many bikes as possible. Your donation will be tax-deductible. Contact Gary at **443-975-3065**.

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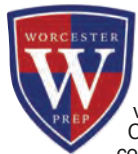
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The Curriculum Coordinator will be responsible for organizing, implementing, and supervising curricula and educational programs. The Curriculum Coordinator will examine the current course offerings and work closely with department chairs to ensure the Worcester Preparatory School is maintaining the highest quality curriculum in order to meet its college preparatory mission.

The applicant must have a master's degree or higher, preferably in administration, supervision, or curriculum and instruction. A minimum of 5 years teaching experience, ideally in an independent school, is required. Employee must be legally qualified to work in the United States. Employees must pass a background check.

Worcester Preparatory School is a Pre-K-12 independent school located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, just miles from the resort town of Ocean City. Founded in 1970, Worcester Prep has a proud history of providing a rigorous and high-quality college preparatory education to students from Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.

Apply to Linda Watson at [lwatson@worcesterprep.org](mailto:lwatson@worcesterprep.org) or mail applications to Linda Watson, 508 S. Main St., Berlin, MD 21811

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# Calendar

Continued from Page 23  
cookies. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**WRITING FOR WELLNESS**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 1:30 p.m. Writing about stressful experiences like illness may boost health and psychological well-being. Group uses exercises to stimulate creative expression. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**BEGINNERS ON BROADWAY**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 1:30 p.m. Join Mr. Jake for some fun, interactive workshops to help participants make their way to the stage. For ages 7 years and older. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) under Events. 410-208-4014.

**MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 2 p.m. Check out [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) for movie details or call 410-208-4014.

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

## Tues. Dec. 13

**STORY TIME & SNOW AND SNOWMEN**  
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., Berlin, 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and finger plays. Take-home activity included. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**STORY TIME; EXPLORING LIGHT AND SHADOWS WITH SPECIAL GUEST FROM NASA**  
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, 10:30 a.m. Dana Wright from NASA Wallops Flight Facility Visitor's Center, will read stories and provide a demonstration about light and shadows. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**OC KNITTING GROUP**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Bring whatever project you are working on. The group welcomes drop-ins and new members. They are making winter accessories that are available at the library for those in need. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org). 410-524-1818.

**PARKINSONS SUPPORT GROUP**  
Atlantic General Neurology, 314



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**EXHIBIT WINNERS**  
The Worcester County Arts Council announced winners in the juried art exhibit: "Small Treasures." This exhibition features 29 pieces of artwork submitted by professional and emerging artists, with work in all media. Pictured are the winners: Carol Gentes, Gail Stern, Brigitte Bowden, Jiyeong Yun, Ellie Scott and Tawn Crosby Shivers. The show will be on display at the Worcester County Arts Council in Berlin until Dec. 31.

Franklin Ave., Suite 104, Berlin, 3:15-4 p.m. Discussions, mutual support and education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Reserve: Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765, [kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org).

## Wed. Dec. 14

**BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP**  
Worcester County, 12 a.m. Held via Zoom, on the first and second Wednesdays of each month, for non-surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatrics Center, 410-641-9568.

**CREATIVE KIDS CORNER**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Come create a winter craft at the library or take it with you. Most supplies included. For ages 4 years and older. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**AURORA BOREALIS DRAWINGS**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 3:30 p.m. Create a unique drawing by exploring the use of different mediums. For ages 11 years and older. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

**HERBAL GIFTS**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 4 p.m. Discuss the therapeutic properties of holiday herbs while learning how to blend them into gifts. Received a Ginger Cookie Lip Balm and a Mulling Spice packet. Register: [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org). 410-632-2600.

## ONGOING EVENTS

**MOTORCOACH TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY**  
On Dec. 10, spend time in New York City on-your-own from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Cost of transportation is \$120. A deposit of \$60 is due at booking with remaining due by Dec. 2. Book a seat: [www.playmarylandscoast.org](http://www.playmarylandscoast.org). Info: Tyler Keiser, 410-632-244, Ext. 2505 or [tkeiser@marylandscoast.org](mailto:tkeiser@marylandscoast.org).

**WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS**  
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, through Dec. 31. An expanded walking tour through thousands of sparkling holiday lights. Also featuring hot chocolate, photos with Santa, gift shop and a 50-foot Christmas tree. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Admission cost is \$6 for adults and free to children 11 years and younger. Event is weather permitting. Pets are welcome on Wednesdays. 410-250-0125, 800-626-2326

**WINTER TRAIN GARDEN**  
Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, through Jan. 15, 2023. Interact with buttons that activate accessories and sounds and participate in a scavenger hunt. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**ART EXHIBIT**  
Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, until Jan. 31. Featuring 3-D framed pictures created mostly from vintage jewelry plus picture of crabs, birds and seascapes produced from products of the sea. 410-208-4014

**GIFT CARD RAFFLE**  
The Church of the Holy Spirit is holding a raffle for three small artificial trees covered with gift cards. There are three trees worth \$500, \$300 and \$200. Tickets cost \$5 each or three for \$10. The drawing will be held Dec. 4. Winners do not need to be present. Tickets: Monica, 443-235-8942.

**KIWANIS LOTTERY TICKETS ON SALE**  
Ocean Pines Farmers Market, White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$20. Benefits local youth. Win up to \$250 on one ticket. Winning numbers are based on 2023 MD "Pick 3" evening drawings. One ticket is good for all 365 drawings. Can win more than once. [www.kiwanisofopoc.org](http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org)

**FREE WELLNESS WORKSHOPS**  
Free workshops dealing with hypertension, chronic pain self-management, chronic disease self-management, diabetes, fall prevention and a free 6-week workshop titled, "Building Better Caregivers." If you would like to register for one of these workshops or you would like more information about bringing any of the workshops to your business or group, contact Jill at MAC, 410-742-0505, Ext. 159 or [jak@macinc.org](mailto:jak@macinc.org).

**'SAVE OUR STORIES'**  
The Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum is asking community members to send in their accounts as to how COVID-19 has impacted them. The submissions can be a specific experience, direct answers to the prompt questions, or a combination. No story is too long or too short. To submit, visit [www.ocmuseum.org](http://www.ocmuseum.org). Info: [Christine@ocmuseum.org](mailto:Christine@ocmuseum.org).



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