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HIGH, DRY AND COLD

Numerous photos have been taken of this solitary remnant of a tree in the bay off Assateague, but few have caught it so exposed, as it was during the cold snap of two weeks ago at the time of an exceptionally low tide.

Berlin council has long list of 2023 goals

Maintaining service level still priority, but inflation poses major challenge

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 5, 2023) As the calendar turns to 2023, so too does the Berlin Town Council turn its attention to goals for the new year.



Steve Green

For the most part, the councilmembers kept to goals that were either underway or planned in 2022. A skate park, Flower Street community center, redeveloping Heron Park and continued focus on mitigating redevelopment in and adjacent to Berlin all made the cut with multiple councilmembers.

But the council also broached other topics.

Councilmember Steve Green said in an email that his top goal is continuing to see IT'S Page 7

Parks, Viola look ahead at '23

New year will concentrate on infrastructure upgrades, maintenance and repairs

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Jan. 5, 2023) Infrastructure, amenities and staffing are big priorities for the board of directors and general manager of Ocean Pines for 2023.

Infrastructure is a top priority: whether it be roads, drainage, or mailboxes. Currently, a number of roads are being repaved, although General Manager John Viola admits, "We have had challenges with weather and



John Viola

the holidays, but if you were milled, your street will be taken care of soon. There are three roads we had planned to do repairs that will wait until the spring, when the asphalt companies start work again. We are in the middle of renovations for the administration building and work on the ceiling of the Yacht Club."

Boating is a big past-time in Ocean Pines and much is being done in preparation of the season.

The replacement of bulkheads is ongoing. There are 90,000 linear feet

of bulkhead in Ocean Pines. The plan is to replace 2,300-3,000 feet each year. With bulkhead work only occurring during the off session, Viola assures boaters that this year's work will be completed by Memorial Day. Viola said the association was able to keep the price for replacement the same as last year. The new bulkheads are expected to last 50 years.

The marina will also get some updates, including new gas lines and docks. "The funding is there, the materials and the labor are not yet," Viola said. All the materials should be delivered by February or March. The same company that is working on the bulk-

See OPA Page 6

Chief on leave as probe begins into OP burglary

(Jan. 5, 2023) Ocean Pines Police Chief Leo Ehrisman was placed on paid administrative leave Sunday as county law enforcement authorities and the state's attorney's office began an investigation of a possible burglary at a department storage shed on Dec. 17.

A statement from the association issued Tuesday said OPA General Manager John Viola

See CHIEF Page 6



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Directors agree in principle to settlement with Janasek

(Jan. 5, 2023) Former Ocean Pines Association director Tom Janasek and the OPA's current board of directors ended their months-long legal dispute last week, as the board agreed in principle to settle the case against it.



Tom Janasek

The case stemmed from an incident at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club in May, when Janasek accosted then-board member Josette Wheatley and loudly berated her in highly offensive terms.

The board, which was under different leadership at the time, responded by voting 5-2 in June to ban Janasek from all amenities for 90 days, a punishment he asserted in court that same month that the board had no authority to impose.

Worcester County Circuit Court Judge Beau Oglesby seemed skeptical of the board's defense and urged the litigants to seek a settlement, while also leaving the proposed ban on hold in the interim.

The three-sentence statement issued by the directors last week said only that "The Ocean Pines Association has agreed in principle to a settlement in the Thomas Janasek vs. Ocean Pines Association, Inc., et al. case. Specific terms and conditions of a proposed settlement were reviewed by counsel for both parties. The

amount of the financial payout to the plaintiff was proposed and agreed to by the insurance carrier for OPA. The final details and related paperwork are in progress and will be finalized over the next several weeks."

According to a social media post by board member Rick Farr, the agreement cost the association \$67,750 and included \$18,750 for Janasek's legal fees. Farr and current board President Doug Parks opposed the ban in the board's June vote.

Janasek had been at odds with the previous board since the summer of 2021 when the board declared that then-candidate Rick Farr was not eligible to run because his residence was not owned by him personally but by a family trust of which he was a member.

Farr sued and eventually won, but Janasek's animosity toward then-board President Larry Perrone and Director Collette Horn continued.

That culminated in a move by the board majority to expel Janasek from the board in October 2021 after he sent an accusatory email to Horn that Janasek later admitted was "inappropriate." But rather than wait for the board to act, Janasek resigned.

He accurately predicted at the time that the open seat his departure created and one other vacancy would be filled by Amy Peck and Wheatley, both of whom lost their reelection bids this past summer.

Worcester County Commissioner Briefs

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners discussed the following during their Dec. 20 meeting:

FY23 reallocation

The commissioners approved the reallocation of \$146,000 formerly approved in the FY23 Roads Division

budget to buy a six-wheel dump truck and a cab tractor with a mower attachment.

The John Deere 6110M cab tractor costs \$90,375 while the price of the Rhino DB150 rotary cutter is \$19,963.

Originally, Baker wrote in a memo, the Department of Public Works was requesting just the dump truck. Only one vendor responded, at about

Continued on Page 5

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Restaurant Week tables set for Berlin dining experience

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 5, 2023) Berlin's Restaurant Week will be back for its seventh year starting on Monday as 13 area restaurants team up to show diners what the small town has to offer from the kitchen.

The event will run through the following Sunday and is expected to feature old favorites and new takes.

"Berlin Restaurant Week gives everyone the chance to taste all the best Berlin has to offer," said town community and economic development director Ivy Wells.

During the week, participants are encouraged to go to at least three restaurants, where they can also pick up a card to be stamped after patronizing one. Cards with three stamps can be entered into a raffle with the prize of \$20 gift cards from each restaurant plus \$100 donated by local Realtor and Berlin Restaurant Week founder Cam Bunting.

"I try to encourage everybody to try different things, see if they can get people to enjoy something different that they didn't know they'd be interested in," she said. "Others, smaller restaurants, usually try to do what (worked) the previous year."

Bunting said she got the idea for the annual culinary event while she and her daughter were in Bethesda, where they saw that city holding its own restaurant week.

"I thought that would be a great thing for Berlin to do because we have some great restaurants," she said. "It's a slower time of the year and people are looking for things to do so people can come here, try the restaurants we have."

Over its seven years of life, Restaurant Week has gained popularity. Bunting said that it's not uncommon for people to ask her about the next one.

"I get a lot of encouragement from people who want to come to the restaurants. Of course, it's nice with the \$20 gift card."

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- Gilbert's Provisions
- Jun & Juice
- On What Grounds?
- Pop's Kitchen
- Rayne's Reef
- The Globe Gastro Theatre
- The Sterling Tavern

Bunting added that she throws in the \$100 because, with tips and varying party sizes, \$20 might not go as far as the patrons would like. This way, they can splurge on one meal too, if they're so inclined.

"(Restaurant Week) shows people good food, at good prices during good off-season weather," Bunting said.

The raffle will be drawn on Jan. 16, a day after Restaurant Week ends. For more information visit <https://berlinmainstreet.com/restaurant-week/>.

Fundraising expert, grant writer to help with OPVFD project

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association and Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department have contracted with a fundraising expert and hired a grant writer to work on the capital campaign for a new south fire station.

Stacey Weisner, who led successful fundraising campaigns for the Salisbury Zoo and Delmarva Discovery Museum, will lead the capital campaign for OPA and OPVFD.

Additionally, Valerie Mann, who See OP Page 6

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Worcester County Commissioner Briefs

Continued from Page 3
\$200,000, which was over budget. The cab tractor quote reflects a state contract that gives a \$30,000 discount designed to help government agencies purchase equipment and save money.

Truck purchase

The commissioners approved the purchase of a \$300,000 roll-off truck to replace two older models — a 1998 truck with 600,000 miles and a 2001 truck with 700,000 miles. It'll join a fleet that includes a 2014 truck with 152,000 miles on it and will also be the first automatic transmission truck in the Solid Waste division of the Department of Public Works, according to a memo from Public Works Director Dallas Baker.

Ocean Heights

The commissioners approved plans for the Ocean Rights, Section E, Lots 20-30 project, accepting the utilities for the lot into the county's West Ocean City Sewer Service Area and the Mystic Harbour Water Services Area systems.

Contract

The commissioners approved a sales contract for County Map 16, Parcel 19, to be added to the Coastal

Bays Rural Legacy Area. The land was purchased using FY21-22 legacy area funds. The rural legacy area's purpose is to preserve a contiguous area of farmland and forested land in perpetuity and features more than 20 miles of coastal bays shoreline, sensitive habitats, open vistas and farms and forests, according to a memo from Environmental Programs planner Katherine Munson.

Fire equipment

The commissioners approved the Fire Marshal's Office's purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus for about \$81,000. A memo from procurement officer Nicholas Rice said that the purchase was made under a "cooperative contract through Sourcewell, which competitively awards purchasing contracts on behalf of itself and its participating agencies.

Selsey Road

The commissioners approved a grant for the Kelsey Road Resiliency Project. The project will construct a 1,100-linear-foot living shoreline with headland, sill and marsh features to help protect residential infrastructure and reduce road flooding. It'll also benefit dredging efforts, according to a memo from Environmental Programs Director Bob Mitchell.

Verrazano Bridge undergoing maintenance work for week

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration will perform preventative maintenance work on the Verrazano Bridge over Sinepuxent Bay and the parallel pedestrian bridge in Worcester County from Wednesday, Jan. 4, to Wednesday, Jan. 11, weather permitting.

Work is expected to take place 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. MDOT SHA will

close one lane on the bridge to ensure safety for motorists and workers, and a flagging operation will be in place to guide motorists safely through the work zone.

The work includes divers placing grout and securing concrete bags underwater at the base of the bridge to create a protection mat to stabilize sand around the piers.

The Verrazano Bridge provides access. See VERRAZANO Page 7

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OPA has big projects in store in '23

Continued from Page 1

heads and pipelines will be doing the work at the marina. "So far, we are on track to be done by Memorial Day," Viola said.

Kayakers could have more opportunities this year in Ocean Pines. Viola and his team are working on plans and permits for a recreation and kayak pier at Pintail Park, hopefully having it installed and operational within the next year.

Once the weather warms up this spring, expect to see the finishing touches on the north entrance, including the trimming of the fascia and the railings. Viola said he hopes to have public works do this work instead of outsourcing.

Big projects are also on the table for Ocean Pines as the board continues to explore opportunities to fund the south station of the fire department.

Doug Parks, president of the Ocean Pines Association, said, "We have an opportunity to find funding for the south station of the fire department. There are opportunities to work with various parties. The county and state have already reached out with grants and funds. We have a

task force for fundraising that will help us provide much needed enhancements to the south fire station."

Just like other communities and businesses, Ocean Pines is struggling with staffing issues in many departments.

"We have had challenges with the police department, which is not unique to us, Viola said. "But we are moving along on that. This is a top priority. We have recruited two officers to the academy. We are trying to enhance our benefits and what we pay our officers. We went to the board to ask for cars for the officers to take home, and that was approved. We increased their pay this year and are hoping to get approval for a match from Ocean Pines for their 401K so we are competitive with the municipalities that have pensions."

Parks believes "we have to look at retention and recruitment. Our goal needs to be to provide the services needed. If we need to add some money to the budget, that's what we need to do. This applies to the aquatics program as well. If we need to bump up the budget to provide life-guards and classes, we need to do that. We can't be afraid to say, 'this is what it takes to provide that level of service.'"

Parks and Viola are preparing for

budget discussions that will lead to a final budget put before the directors at the March board meeting for final approval. The proposed budget will be shared during a town meeting that will be scheduled in January.

Parks encourages community members to visit the Ocean Pines website, www.oceanpines.org, and sign up for the weekly email blast to get the best, most accurate information. As for members who have questions or concerns, or see things that need to be addressed, he encourages people to send inquiries to info@oceanpines.org.

Viola said that there are several staff who check the email every day and can respond to these questions and concerns.

Chief on leave as sheriff looks into OP burglary case

Continued from Page 1

learned on Dec. 31 of a burglary reported at the shed on Dec. 17. He, in turn, consulted with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and Office of the State's Attorney to set up an independent investigation.

According to the association's statement, that effort resulted in putting Ehrisman on leave as of Jan. 1 and bringing in a commander from the sheriff's office to oversee the department and "a complete audit and inventory of the contents of the storage shed and the property room."

The statement added that "OPA has been working with the Sheriff's Office to implement these changes since last Friday and has pledged to cooperate fully with the investigation."

Association officials said there would be no additional comment at this time because of the ongoing criminal investigation, but did ask that anyone possessing information about the reported burglary to contact the Worcester County Sheriff's Office at 410-632-1112.

OP officials bring in professional for fire dept. project

Continued from Page 4

has more than 40 years of experience in the grant writing field, will assist OPA and OPVFD in grant research and writing. She will also explore the possibility of other grant opportunities related to infrastructure and public safety.



Doug Parks



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It's all about service, infrastructure this year

Continued from Page 1

uing to “meet and exceed (when possible) our citizens’ expectations for daily services.”

“This is the most fundamental role of any government and Berlin is known for providing solid service to our citizens. We, as a (Town Council), must ensure these expectations continue to be met by our talented, dedicated and qualified staff.”

Green added that inflation in every facet of life will pose a challenge come budget season as the mayor and Town Council balance inflation with incoming revenue, 54 percent of which comes from property taxes.

The goal is to maintain a flat property tax rate, Green said, but if a raise must occur, he said it must be “clearly and effectively” explained to residents.

If the town needs a penny increase to the property tax rate — be it to maintain public services, address infrastructure projects or treat employees fairly — it must document each additional dollar so citizens understand why taxes had to go up, he said.

Councilmember Jay Knerr stressed the importance of avoiding such a scenario.

“(We need to) keep taxes in check,” he said. “Berlin is financially sound. Hopefully, we can get by without raising taxes this year.”

Speaking of town services, some of



Dean Burrell

the councilmembers talked about improving infrastructure, especially water and sewer.

“I’d like to continue working cooperatively with my colleagues toward providing relevant and necessary services for our constituents.” Councilmember Dean Burrell said.

Councilmember Jack Orris said he hopes to continue working with the mayor and Town Council on stormwater utility improvements.

The topic of the Heron Park revitalization project garnered a bit of variety in council feedback.

Green said he is looking forward to discussing whether to proceed with the current buyer for identified parcels on the property, with whom the council and mayor have worked diligently.

“Survey and demolition prep work is underway currently and I am hoping the council has a decision to make in the first quarter after the required public hearing,” he said. “The council needs to decide once and for all on this property’s future.”

Knerr carried some conviction in his prognostication of the Heron Park project, saying the town will “get the project off the ground, sold and redeveloped.”

“I’m looking forward to that,” he said.

Burrell, on the other hand, said he’s still somewhat in wait-and-see



Jack Orris

mode.

“I would like to see some type of resolution in (the park’s) future — just (identifying) what the town, what the residents, would like to see there,” he said.

The Berlin Fire Company and Berlin EMS services were also on the mind of a couple of councilmembers.

Burrell said he hopes to equitably fund the company and EMS.

Orris would like to meet with the two entities more frequently “to keep effective communication between them and the town.”

Orris said he’s also focused on the Law Enforcement Officer Pension System (LEOPS) to help retain and attract officers for the Berlin Police Department.

Green added that the town must identify a funding source and evaluate its options.

“Berlin has been losing police officers to neighboring agencies for far too long and the lack of LEOPS has been identified as the major reason,” Green said.

The long-discussed skate park came up with Green and Knerr, with the latter saying he’d like to town to continue working closely with the

nonprofit We Heart Berlin in seeing the project to fruition.

“(I’d like us to) get that project up to snuff,” he said. “I think the town will enjoy that.”

Green said the town needs to get the processing running “through official channels.”

“After site evaluation through a study paid for by We Heart Berlin, my hope is the grassroots effort can be (processed through the Berlin) Parks Commission and to the mayor and Town Council. (The) goal being to get it as the No. 1 Program Open Space funding wish list item for the next fiscal year.”

Issues abound in Berlin as 2023 begins.

Other topics mentioned included traffic safety along Main Street and monitoring redevelopment and annexations closely to keep the town’s economic health the top priority by Knerr, both ARPA spending strategy and strategic planning by Orris and Green and improving parking in downtown Berlin by Orris.

“That’s not all and that’s quite a bold list, I’ll admit,” Orris said. “But I think we can get rolling on most, if not all, of these items.”

Councilmember Shaneka Nichols did not immediately respond to an email asking for a comment.

Verrazano Bridge maintenance

Continued from Page 5

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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The new recycling guidelines for Worcester County will accept many more types of plastics than the current guidelines, which are primarily limited to plastic bottles. Grocery bags are included in the new guidelines. Conservationist groups hope the change will help limit marine debris in the county's waterways.

County to expand accepted recyclables beyond bottles

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 5, 2023) In a move sure to be welcomed by area conservationists, Worcester County's Department of Public Works is expanding the kinds of plastics it will take for recycling in 2023.

"Recycling plastics have a symbol on the bottom," county recycling coordinator Mike McClung said. "The only thing we've been able to recycle last couple years was (types) 1 and 2, which are plastic bottles pretty much."

McClung said his department has been in talks with a broker who will collect all seven types of recyclable plastics.

"We're changing the signage on our (county-issued recycling) cans," McClung said. "We'll change it to mixed plastic, basically."

"Instead of throwing away plastic, we'll be able to recycle more of it. It's not a money thing, just trying to do what we can for the environment."

Kevin Smith, executive director of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, said the move is good news for clearing marine debris.

"Marine debris, plastics, things like that are things we spend a lot of time fo-

cus on," he said. "They're being recognized as quite a serious problem in waterways around the world. Any measure that will help keep plastic debris out of the waterways is welcomed by us."

There are seven types of recyclable plastic but currently, the county only accepts types 1 and 2 — respectively, polyethylene terephthalate which includes plastic bottles and peanut butter jars and high-density polyethylene which includes milk jugs, shampoo bottles and cleaning agent containers.

Types 3 through 7 are:
Polyvinyl chloride, which includes plastic tubing, kids' toys and plastic trays.

Low-density polyethylene, which includes grocery bags and bags that hold newspapers, produce and more.

Polypropylene, which includes containers for yogurt, sour cream and butter as well as straw rope and bottle caps.

Polystyrene, which includes disposable coffee cups, packing peanuts, coolers and to-go food containers.

Other plastics, which are any plastics that don't fit the other categories, but Type-7 plastics are often made out of multiple plastic types or out of other types of plastic that can't easily be recycled.

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Commissioners deny policy for dedicating road names

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners struck down a resolution designed to formalize the process of dedicating street names on county roads on Dec. 20.

In a 1-to-6 decision with only Commissioner Diana Purnell in favor, the commissioners handed down their decisive opinion on the resolution that would have seen themselves as the final authority on such matters.

The resolution, presented by Department of Review and Permitting Director Jennifer Keener and developed by department technical service manager Kelly Henry, would have allowed up to three streets to be dedicated to a person or thing per year, provided the commissioners signed off on the free application.

The road signs would not change the actual name of the county roads, however, meaning no property owners along the roadway in question would have to worry about changing their address. The different color signs would sit atop the actual county road sign.

The petitioner would be responsible for the cost of the honorary sign.

Purnell asked if there was any distinction between a request of historical significance or "I just want a sign by my lane," to which Keener responded that there wouldn't be.

She added that the idea was a solution to the fact that the county has never had a policy on these processes and that her department developed it based on a similar law in Wicomico County.

Ultimately the planning team couldn't surmount worries that this

matter would bring the commissioners into messes they'd rather avoid.

"I just don't think the commissioners should be deciding whose name goes on what road," Commissioner Joe Mitrecic said. "I think it opens up a can of worms. We've found that (was the case) with plaques in the past, how it puts us in the middle of stuff and I just don't think we should be making those precarious decisions."

He added that the matter is something that's "very emotional" for the requester.

Commissioner Chip Bertino said he wondered if this policy would "inundate" the county with such requests.

According to Henry, the county has received three since 2014.

Keener continued to stress that the signs are purely honorary and pointed out that a road in nearby Pittsville that is dedicated to Wicomico County Sheriff's Office Cpl. Glenn Hilliard, who died in the line of duty over the summer, still bears its county-approved name as well.

Community briefs

President's List

Grace Watson, a sophomore Biblical Counseling major from Berlin, was among approximately 720 Bob Jones University students named to the fall 2022 President's List.

The President's List recognizes students who earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average for the semester at the school, located in Greenville, South Carolina.



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Snow Hill man receives 16 years for child pornography

Local authorities receive tip from watchdog group leading to arrest, conviction

(Jan. 5, 2023) Timothy Patrick Newsome, 32, of Snow Hill, was sentenced on Dec. 9 to 16 years in prison for his conviction on four counts of distribution of child pornography, which he pled guilty to on Sept. 2.



P. Newsome

The Judge Beau H. Oglesby of the Worcester County Circuit Court handed down a sentence of 40 years with 24 suspended.

Upon his release, Newsome will be on supervised probation for five years, with requirements that he register as a tier II sex offender, have no unsupervised contact with children and submit a DNA sample.

The charges originated when the Worcester County Bureau of Investigation received a referral in May 2021 from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's (NCMEC) Cyber Tipline.

The cybertip identified a WhatsApp account having uploaded a

video containing child pornography.

Investigators eventually traced this account back to Newsome. Days later, another cybertip was received about a Skype account that had uploaded child pornography, and this account was also traced back to Newsome.

As a result, detectives executed a search warrant at Newsome's home in Snow Hill and seized multiple electronic devices for forensic examination.

The forensic examination of those devices revealed that Newsome had distributed multiple files containing child pornography over the internet.

He was charged in July 2021 with 38 counts of distributing child pornography and two counts of possession of child pornography.

Worcester County State's Attorney Kris Heiser praised the collaborative efforts of the Worcester County Bureau of Investigation, the Maryland Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Taskforce, and NCMEC, and thanked Cpl. Herrman and Det. Martin who were the primary investigators on the case.

Heiser also commended ASA Pamela Correa who prosecuted the case.

SHORE UP giving assistance to help pay home energy

(Jan. 5, 2023) SHORE UP, the community action agency for the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, is once again providing qualifying households in Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties with assistance in paying their home energy bills.

Last year, SHORE UP's Energy Assistance office provided more than 6,500 households on the Lower Shore help paying their energy bills through three programs: the Maryland Energy Assistance Program, The Electric Universal Service Program, and Arrearage Retirement Assistance Program.

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) helps with home heating bills.

Last year, the average amount of assistance provided for approved MEAP applicants was \$776. SHORE UP provided assistance totaling \$5.1 million through this program.

The Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP) helps households who are struggling to pay their electric bill.

It also provides recipients with a budget plan to avoid seasonal spikes in their monthly bills.

SHORE UP provided a total of \$5.2 million in assistance last year.

See HELP Page 11

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Economic development fund benefit for Worcester County

(Jan. 5, 2023) Worcester County projects benefited significantly from the Rural Maryland Economic Development Fund awards, announced by Gov. Larry Hogan.

Of the 114 economic development projects in Maryland's rural counties that will be aided by grants from the \$50 million fund, Worcester had its share.

Under the program, the five rural regional councils — representing the Upper, Mid, and Lower Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland, and Western Maryland—each received \$10 million to fund key projects in their respective counties.

In September, each council submitted applications for review by the Maryland Commerce Department.

Worcester County's projects and the amounts awarded to them are:

- West Ocean City commercial harbor dredging — \$275,000. This will go toward supplemental dredging of the West Ocean City Commercial Harbor to eliminate scattered shoaling causing issues with larger commercial and recreational vehicles needing additional draft clearance to load/unload, navigate, and dock.

Clearing navigational obstacles has an enormous local impact to dozens of waterfront and marine-dependent businesses including marinas, commercial seafood processors and suppliers, commercial and recreational fishing, restaurants, boat repair/diesel engine contractors/electronic services, barge/ship/yacht dockage, and thousands of recreational boaters.

- Worcester County Government Worcester Main Street Connectivity — \$800,000.

The proposed project would provide fiber optic service to the main street areas in Berlin, Snow Hill, and Pocomoke City and surrounding areas to allow small rural businesses the same access to fiber as any other major city. The county would run buried conduit throughout the areas allowing for every home and business to have fiber service with no large up front install fee.

The conduit would be co-owned by the county allowing the county to utilize the network for any future expansions of their network or any new ideas this network can provide.

This could include camera sys- See ECONOMIC Page 15

Initial phase to replace MSP barracks in Berlin approved

(Jan. 5, 2023) The first steps in replacing the State Police barrack in Berlin with a \$26.8 million facility were approved on Dec. 21 by the state's Board of Public Works, the Maryland Department of General Services announced last week.

The board, which consists of the governor, comptroller and state treasurer, approved the contract for construction services to Keller Brothers Inc. in Mount Airy.

"As the lead agency for state building construction, we know the importance of delivering a quality project to our client agencies, and ultimately to the people of Maryland," said DGS Secretary Ellington E. Churchill Jr. "By investing in the construction of a new and modern police barracks, Marylanders can be reassured that the State Police will continue to meet their high standards for public safety and security."

The construction, which is expected to take 550 days and consists of two phases, will work around the current barrack to prevent an interruption of services, the department's announcement said.

Phase one will consist of site work including utilities, the demolition of

the existing barrack addition, and the construction of the new portions of the barracks building.

Phase two will consist of the demolition of the existing barracks to make room for the new laboratory.

The barracks and laboratory structure will be 24,000 square feet. The garage and a radio tower will be torn down and a new 4,400 square foot service garage erected.

"This is a proud moment in Maryland State Police history and for all the current and retired, sworn and civilian members who have provided exceptional public safety services to the citizens of our state," said Col. Woodrow W. Jones III, superintendent. "The new state-of-the-art facility will replace an aging Berlin Barrack which has served Worcester County since 1976."

The new facility will consist of a barrack, a forensic laboratory and service garage. New and upgraded site utilities will be constructed along with additional site improvements consisting of parking, drive aisles, pedestrian walks, security fencing and enclosures, landscaping, and an entry plaza and other work as indicated within the contract documents.

Help available for energy bills

Continued from Page 10 million in EUSP assistance, with an average assistance payment of \$876.

The Arrearage Retirement Assistance Program assists those who are carrying a past due balance of \$300 or more and may be in danger of having their service terminated.

In FY2022, SHORE UP made a total of \$1.5 million in arrearage payments, with an average payment of \$1400 on past due balances.

SHORE UP's Energy Assistance programs are open to households in Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester Counties regardless of homeownership status. Income limits do apply in

determining eligibility.

For more information about the program, including how to apply, call 410-341-9634.

SHORE UP!, Inc. is a non-profit community action partnership that has served vulnerable populations on the Eastern Shore since 1965. SHORE UP!, Inc. is dedicated to strengthening communities, achieving goal-driven outcomes, and empowering individuals and families through a comprehensive system of services, resources, and strategic partnerships that charter a path to economic security and long-term independence.



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Snapshots



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DAWG TEAM

The Kiwanis "Dawg Team" sells concessions at many Ocean Pines events. Pictured during the November Craft Fair are Dawg Team Kitchen Crew members Kitty Wrench, Charlotte Cathell, Ed Ahlquist and Sue Wineke.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ANNIVERSARY

The Community Church at Ocean Pines as part of its 40th anniversary celebration had the blessing of the time capsule during a recent services. In addition, certificates from the State of Maryland and the Worcester County Commissioners recognizing the church's spiritual leadership and positive contributions to the betterment of the community were acknowledged. Pictured, from left, are Andrea Barnes, 40th anniversary chair; Pastor Dale Brown; and Diane McGraw, committee member.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

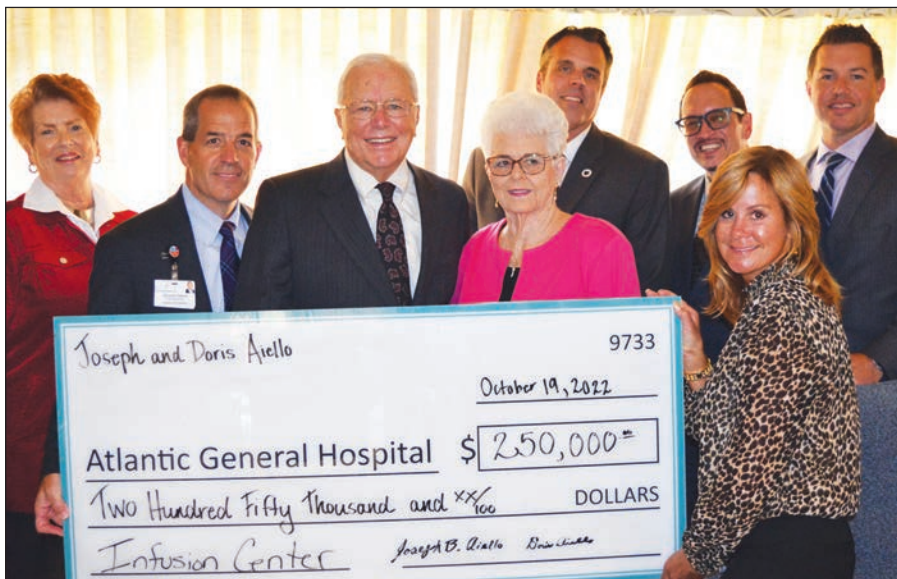
OC Surf Club recently presented a check for \$2,000 to the local Rise Up Foundation supporting youth in the community. Pictured, from left, are OC Surf Club President Tommy Vach, Rise Up Foundation Co-Executive Director Patrick Henry and OC Surf Club Surf Instructor Bill Thomson.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SMILING CAST

The cast of Ocean Pines Players' "A Grand Night for Singing" by Rodgers & Hammerstein, from left, Chrissy Troup, Jim Ulman, Deb Blanchard, Donna Pasqualino and Pat Lehnerd are pictured before their sold-out performance on Nov. 18. The group reported that its first full season since 2018 is off to a great start. For more information about the group, to audition and its upcoming performances, visit <https://oceanpinesplayers.org>



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SUPPORTS AGH

Doris and Joseph Aiello recently presented a gift of \$250,000 to the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation. Longtime residents of the Baltimore area, the couple has semi-retired and spends the majority of the year in Ocean City. They recognize the important role the hospital plays in supporting the health and wellbeing of the Eastern Shore community and visitors alike. The Aiello's donation will assist Atlantic General Hospital with its ongoing mission to provide accessible, high quality care to every patient. Pictured, from left, are Charlotte Cathell, chair of the Atlantic General Hospital Board of Trustees; Don Owrey, president and CEO of Atlantic General Hospital; Joseph and Doris Aiello; Steven Green, chair of the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation; Steven Tyson, donor relations officer for Atlantic General Hospital; Toni Keiser, vice president of public relations for Atlantic General Hospital; and Dean Lewis, secretary, Atlantic General Hospital Foundation.



GUEST SPEAKERS

General Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently invited Christopher and Mirela Hardy to speak on how U.S. Kennels Incorporated, a nonprofit organization based in Salisbury, identifies, trains and provides service dogs to veterans in need, free of charge. Pictured, from left, are U.S. Kennels Inc. Christopher Hardy, Brody, Tac, Mirela Hardy, Chapter Regent Talley Hann, Chapter Vice Regent and Program Chair Sara Pugh.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW MEMBERS

The Coastal Association of Realtors welcomed 26 new members during New Member Orientation on Nov. 17. Pictured, in back, from left, are Rob Fuller with ERA Martin, Frank Killan with Coldwell Banker, Angel Chaconas with Coldwell Banker, Alyssa Linton with Keller Williams, Eric Johnson with ERA Martin, Joe Lavin with Compass, Jennifer McCracken with Atlantic Shores Sotheby's, Eric Huselbaugh with Iron Valley, Nosa Idemudia with Long and Foster, John Savage with Long and Foster, Charlie Elliott with Re/Max Advantage and Drew Robertson with SVN Miller; middle, Morgan Guy with Keller Williams, Vicki Ewalt with ERA Martin, Antonia Gary with Keller Williams, Whitney Elliott with Coldwell Banker, Breezy Kammermeier with Coldwell Banker, Cindy Gubosh with Coldwell Banker, Heather Willey with ERA Martin, Kerry Cettei with Keller Williams, Mikeshia Wilson with Keller Williams, Meghan Fitzgerald Kenney with Worthington Realty, and Dawn Peterson with Keller Williams; and in front, Monica Bookwalter with Keller Williams, Nanay Paul with Fathom Realty, and Sheila Outten with Keller Williams.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club recently presented a check for \$5,000 to Toys for Tots in Worcester County. Pictured, from left, are Bill Hickey, past president; Dena Holloway, coordinator, Maryland Lower Eastern Shore, Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots; and Christina Dolomount Brown, president.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

RECOGNITION

Annually, the Salvation Army collects funds from the public via its "Red Kettle Campaign" during the holidays in support of those in need. On Nov. 16, the kickoff was held in Salisbury, and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City was recognized with an award (second place Civic Group) for the hours spent manning the kettle. Pictured are Diane Spzarak, Tom Southwell and Diane Denk.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

JOINS CLUB

Heather Godwin, center, was recently installed into the Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club. She is pictured with her sponsor, Margaret Mudron, and District 7630 Governor Cliff Berg. The club meets every other Wednesday at The Sterling Tavern on Main Street, Berlin. For meeting dates and time, email ocerberlinrotary@gmail.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FIELD TRIP

Worcester Preparatory School's first grade class learned about local agriculture and wildlife while on a field trip recently to Groundworks Farm in Pittsville, and Trap Pond State Park in Laurel, Delaware. The students picked and tasted snap peas and harvested carrots at the farm. At the park, they visited the nature center and participated in "Tracks and Trace" program. A group of first grader play on the playground at Trap Pond State Park.

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PHOTO COURTESY NPS

Newly constructed raised bulkhead and boardwalk at Old Ferry Landing at Assateague Island National Seashore.

Old Ferry Landing bulkhead project finished last month

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Old Ferry Landing construction project was completed in early December and the recreation area at Assateague Island National Seashore is open.

This project raised the existing bulkhead approximately two feet and replaced deteriorating boardwalks at this popular crabbing spot and kayak launch.

Work will continue throughout the winter to improve visitor amenities and signage, but no further closures are anticipated at this location.

The improved, raised bulkhead and new boardwalks will provide much needed resilience during storms and high tides that have damaged Old Ferry Landing over the years.

This project was funded by park entrance and pass fees.

Eighty percent of all revenue from

Assateague Island National Seashore entrance fees or the local sales of the various Federal Interagency Passes stays right here in the park to fund this type of visitor-related project.

The other 20 percent goes into a fund that can be used by parks with no entrance fee or very low fee revenues.

Examples of projects funded in the last year are the new boardwalk at the Maryland Visitor Center, renovation of well one on the island, design of a new freshwater distribution system for the island, reconstruction of the state line fence, and replacement of the entrance sign at the visitor center.

Major renovations to the Life of the Marsh and Life of the Forest Trails will continue over the winter with an anticipated completion date of March 2023.



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Sunday, 11am-1pm	305 S. Heron Gull Ct., Ocean City	6BR/6BA/2HBA	Single Family	\$2,399,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday, 10am-1pm	512 N. Pinehurst Ave., Salisbury	4BR/2BA/1HBA	Single Family	\$275,000	Sheri E. Smith/Keller Williams of Delmarva



Economic development fund benefit for Worcester County

Continued from Page 11

tems, Wi-Fi for towns, internet for special events, etc. This project is a plan to build infrastructure that will help these towns for generations to come, and as new technologies emerge the county will be able to use this conduit to keep up with the changes.

- Riddle Farm wastewater and water plant optimization — \$1,719,333. This is for county government's upgrade of WWTP membranes to add capacity and maintain effective operation of the plant.

The project also involves lowering of the water tower to be compatible with neighboring water systems for finalization of interconnections to add capacity and provide for redundancy, reliability, and resiliency in the use of the local water supply resources.

- Northern regional water and wastewater engineering and design — \$205,000. Engineering and design services to facilitate expansion and interconnection of Mystic Harbour and Riddle Farm water systems.

Engineering and design services will also plan for construction of an interconnection between Mystic Harbour and Riddle Farm treated effluent storage ponds to take advantage of land application capacities in each service area to utilize treated effluent as reuse irrigation.

This interconnection helps provide a stable land application area and storage that would be very costly to new commercial customers to recreate and construct within these service areas. Engineering and design services will also be done for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements to Route 589 commercial corridor to provide for growth and stable

delivery of sanitary services to the Ocean Pines regional area.

- City of Pocomoke City, Pathways to Economic Development — \$100,000. This project will focus on infrastructure feasibility (hardscape and environmental), economic development, and intercommunity connectivity. Infrastructure Feasibility would include the best places to build bikeways, walkways, and pathways with the least environmental impact and the most economic impact.

This would include hardscapes that are complementary to the native landscaping features in the town and their cost factors. Economic development factors would evaluate the scaling of infrastructure development and how it would directly impact business foot traffic, revenue bases, including tourism dollars.

- Snow Hill bikeways project — \$100,000. Establishing a "greenway connectivity network" to connect commercial districts and strategic points of interest throughout Snow Hill has been a goal identified in Snow Hill's Comprehensive Plan since 2010.

Similarly, paths and rails, and increased signage are strongly suggested in the town's 2025 Strategic Revitalization Plan, and throughout the Nature and Heritage Tourism Assessment.

The Snow Hill Bikeways Project will be the central link to various bikeways plans being developed by neighboring communities, positively impacting tourism, and economic development of the Town. Economic impact studies by the Rails to Trails Conservancy show a correlation between trails and increased property values, business development, quality of life, and tourism.



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Opinion

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Settlement will put this chapter to bed

Let's be clear about the pending settlement agreement between the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors and former director Tom Janasek: this will be the end of a case with no winners.

This is a legal entanglement triggered by two parties that went too far for no defensible reason.

The plaintiff, Tom Janasek, went too far when he confronted a board member in public and berated her in an exceptionally unseemly fashion and the board majority, in its desire to punish him for that transgression, assumed authority it didn't have.

Moreover, it appears that the board majority's attempt to ban him from OPA amenities for 90 days was at least partially because they just didn't like him.

That being the case, this settlement, assuming it goes through, is nothing that either side can celebrate. The leadership and board majority that leaped over association rules to impose a harsh sentence is gone, and Janasek knows he was way out of line.

That said, it's time to close this embarrassing chapter of association affairs brought about by participants who failed to grasp that their job was to oversee a medium-sized homeowners association, not to decide the fate of the nation.

That particular circumstance isn't exclusive to Ocean Pines, of course, as small town governments everywhere often find themselves ripped apart by competing visions, interests and egos, and elected officials' desire to stay in office and in control.

It isn't a very mature way of doing things, but even the best people have been known to succumb to a loss of perspective from time to time.

Thankfully, that isn't the case currently, and with this business about to be concluded by a board that did not create but inherited the problem, a quieter and more productive year should be in the offing.



Land Trust applying for accreditation

(Jan. 5, 2023) Lower Shore Land Trust received national accreditation in 2017 from the Land Trust Commission and is now applying for accreditation renewal.

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. Lower Shore Land Trust is applying for renewal of accreditation and a public comment period is now open.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each appli-

cant's policies and programs.

Land trusts are required to renew their accreditation every five years.

Patton recognized that the process ensures that the policies and procedures are keeping up with the growing organization.

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications.

Comments must relate to how Lower Shore Land Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust.

For the full list of standards, visit <http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-re>

sources/indicator-practices.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments, 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866.

Comments on Lower Shore Land Trust's application will be most useful by March 31.

For more information about Lower Shore Land Trust or how to become involved, visit www.lowershorelandtrust.org or call 443-234-5587.

AGH offering diabetes edu. courses

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Diabetes Outpatient Education Program at Atlantic General Hospital will be offering diabetes self-management education classes in January.

Classes will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 17 and 24, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Burbage Regional Cancer Care Center, 9717 Healthway Drive, in Berlin.

The series of three, three-

hour sessions will address blood glucose monitoring, foot care, nutrition, exercise and other self-management skills to help individuals better manage their diabetes. A family member is invited to attend.

The program is recognized by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) for quality education, and program staff includes a registered nurse and a registered dietitian, both

of whom are certified diabetes care and education specialists.

Advance registration and a referral from your primary care provider (which the program can obtain) are required.

Diabetes Self-Management is a Medicare benefit and the cost of the classes is also covered by many insurances.

Call 410-208-9761 for more information and to register.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842
Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

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The Ocean Pines Children's Theater will present "Disney's Moana, Jr., The Musical" in the Performing Arts Center, inside the Ocean City convention center on 40th Street, Friday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 7 at 3 p.m. SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pines youth presenting 'Moana' this weekend

(Jan. 5, 2023) The Ocean Pines Children's Theater will present "Disney's Moana, Jr., The Musical" in the Performing Arts Center, located inside the Ocean City convention center on 40th Street, Friday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 7 at 3 p.m. This musical adaptation of the

2016 Disney animated film is a coming-of-age story following Moana as she sets sail to save her village.

It features the beloved songs, "How Far I'll Go," "Shiny," and "You're Welcome," composed by Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetaia Foa'i, and Mark Mancina.

Tickets cost \$15 and can be purchased online at <https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events> or at the Ocean City Convention Center Welcome Center, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Children's Theater acknowledges and is grateful for the special

funding awarded by the Maryland State Arts Council and the Worcester County Arts Council.

"Disney's Moana, Jr." is presented through special arrangements with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

Town of Berlin Public Notice



TOWN OF BERLIN NOTICE

OF A PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 2023-01 AMENDING CHAPTER 22, PARKS AND RECREATION

Article III, Section 22-48, Hours, and Section 22-49, Rules and Regulations to permit the Henry Park Basketball Courts to remain open past sunset and to a time to be determined.

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berlin will hold a first reading on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. and hold a public hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Berlin Town Hall Council Chambers, 10 William Street, regarding Ordinance 2023-01. A copy of the proposed Ordinance will be available in the Mayor and Council Packet on the Town website, www.berlinmd.gov or can be emailed or mailed to you upon request, please call 410-641-2770 or email info@berlinmd.gov to request a copy for inspection.

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Cuisine

Fresh pasta with 'simply elegant carbonara'

Reprint from Jan. 3, 2019

I can always tell when it is time for the kids to get back to school.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

The conversation shifts quite rapidly from an old person's diatribe on what to eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner (and what I am going to do to entertain them), to something to the effect of

wanting to give blood or a kidney to get out of school tomorrow.

Yes, this is how it starts out every Jan. 2 as they lament reentry into our illustrious educational system. For my part, at least I can say that teaching at the college level is much easier.

The fall semester ends before winter break, and the spring semester starts crisp and clean after the New Year has broken ground. This works so much more nicely for my cookie cutter, ADD-addled mind.

Eleven years ago, as a first year high school teacher (I have to take a break to get my retching and gag reflex under control), I was thrilled as winter break approached.

I was calmed knowing that I was about to get rid of this group of kids who had tormented me in my first semester as a teacher.

It wasn't until a co-teacher told me that the semester continued until the end of January that I knew that I had made a grave mistake.

Truth be told, I am not even sure how I made it back in after New Year's. I remember vividly rubbing my toes in the carpet and my remarkable late wife (psychotherapist) asking what was wrong. I could only respond sheepishly in a child's lost and vulnerable voice, a practicably inaudible "I don't want to go back."

Nevertheless, I returned. I imagine necessity – health insurance, to be exact – dictated my presence in the classroom shortly after ringing in the new year of 2009.

Alas, I do understand my children's trepidation of returning to school, albeit for quite different reasons.

It doesn't matter, though, as school is vital and of course the truancy officer will be breathing down my neck if they were to stay home and sit on the couch texting and watching "The Office."

As we did for years, the answer lays in a simple meal that takes a



small bit of effort to throw together, but boy does it put a little spring back in everyone's step.

When the kids were younger, we would make the youngest stand with their arms stretched out and see how long they could stand while we piled fresh pasta on top, a beautiful game that never disappointed.

Knocking out this fresh pasta with a simply elegant carbonara and crab-meat will make everyone smile. The tykes will relax, and all will be pleased to go back to school.

Okay, perhaps the last part isn't true, but it's still a damn fine plate of food to get your mind off of statistics and Spanish.

Pasta Carbonara

Serves 6

4 ounces Pancetta
1 tsp. Olive oil
1 pound Fresh pasta (recipe follows)
salt, as needed
2 whole eggs
2 egg yolks
1/2 cups Italian Cheese blend
Cracked black pepper, TT

- Whisk together eggs, yolks and cheese and set aside
- Cut the pancetta into little matchsticks.

- Place these and the olive oil in a pan just large enough so that the pancetta reaches the edges

- Heat to medium and render out the fat. The lardons will essentially fry in their own fat in conjunction with the olive oil, and you will be left with divine fat-ness

- When the lardons are crispy, set them aside, ensuring to save the fat

- While the lardons are cooking, bring a pot of lightly salted water to a boil to cook the spaghetti.

Typically, I would tell you to salt the water until it tastes like the ocean, but there is already a fair amount of salt in the pancetta and the cheeses, so you don't need much

- Cook the spaghetti until it is just about done, and when it is close, heat up the lardons and the fat in a larger pan that can accommodate the whole mess

- Add the pasta with a little bit of the cooking liquid to the lardons and fat and cook for about a minute. ****do not perform steps 9-11 in the cooking pan as it will be too hot!**

- Pour small amount of pasta water (presumably still hot) into a separate bowl to warm it and drain it

- Pour the pasta combination into the bowl, and with fork or spoon in hand, add the egg & cheese mix-

ture while stirring steadily so as to disperse the mixture and prevent it from sitting too long and cooking

- Don't feel shy about stirring the carbonara. Keep going until the cheese is melted and you have a rich and creamy sauce

- Serve with cheese sprinkled as garnish and a touch of Italian broadleaf parsley

Fresh Pasta

makes about a pound
2 cups Hi-gluten or bread flour
2 large eggs + 1 yolk
2 Tbsp cream
2 tsp. fine salt

- Place flour in stand mixer, and with the paddle going, add the eggs and cream

- Check the consistency and after five minutes of kneading, add more liquid or flour as needed and season accordingly with the salt

- Allow the dough to rest for about 10 minutes and then roll as desired

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

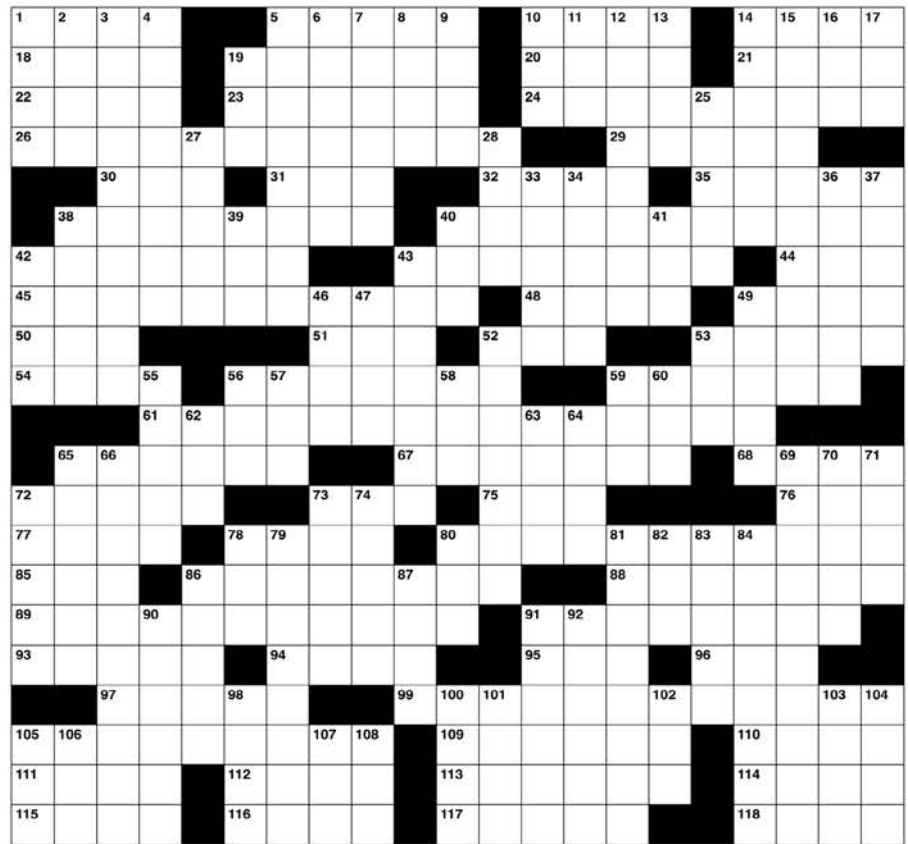
Puzzles

NOVEL THINKING

BY JOHN MARTZ / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

John Martz is a cartoonist, an illustrator and a book designer in Toronto, Ontario, who specializes in picture books and graphic novels for kids. This is his first published crossword. He found that constructing it was akin to composing a page of comics. "The processes share a similar choreography of boxes and words and visual design." In the past he has created an end-of-year crossword for co-workers. This puzzle, coincidentally, grew out of last year's. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Nickname of the Looney Tunes animator Ben Hardaway
 - 5 Occupied, as a desk
 - 10 Language of Lahore
 - 14 Cantankerous sort
 - 18 Siouan people
 - 19 1984 comedy in which Daryl Hannah plays a mermaid
 - 20 Takes a turn
 - 21 "Stop right there!"
 - 22 Rapper ____ Dogg
 - 23 Private address?
 - 24 "Little House on the Prairie," e.g.?
 - 26 "The Haunting of Hill House," e.g.?
 - 29 Grilled cornmeal cake popular in Latin America
 - 30 Singer Zadora
 - 31 No. in an email signature line
 - 32 The "A" of P.G.A.: Abbr.
 - 35 They're in it for the long haul
 - 38 Cocktail made with grenadine
 - 40 "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," e.g.?
 - 42 One studying for a bar or bat mitzvah, usually
 - 43 Onboarding participants
 - 44 Wetland
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
- 45 "Back to Treasure Island," e.g.?
 - 48 "Ideas worth spreading" offshoot
 - 49 Designers' degs.
 - 50 Ripen
 - 51 Grandmother: Ger.
 - 52 Prayer support?
 - 53 Ballerina's asset
 - 54 Slugger Sammy
 - 56 Justice ____ Brown Jackson
 - 59 Like a bialy
 - 61 "Crime and Punishment," e.g.?
 - 65 Make certain
 - 67 Running the show, so to speak
 - 68 Site of Vulcan's forge
 - 72 Vinaigrette vessel
 - 73 Bit of butter
 - 75 Suffix with block or stock
 - 76 ____ vivant
 - 77 Some family members, informally
 - 78 Apple feature not found in the Apple logo
 - 80 "If Beale Street Could Talk," e.g.?
 - 85 Some speaker systems, in brief
 - 86 They often have large dollar signs on them, in cartoons
 - 88 Stage name (and middle name) of Robyn Fenty
 - 89 "Fantastic Mr. Fox," e.g.?
 - 91 They run parallel in a grocery store
 - 93 14-time winner of the French Open
- DOWN**
- 1 Hit it!
 - 2 Sundance Film Festival site
 - 3 Break down
 - 4 Uses X-ray vision on
 - 5 One side in the Battle of Thermopylae
 - 6 On the same team
 - 7 How guitars are strung
 - 8 Sparkling wine region
 - 9 Ergo
 - 10 "Nasty!"
 - 11 Hundred Acre Wood resident who sometimes falls into mouse holes while practicing jumping
 - 12 Issued an edict, say
 - 94 Fortune
 - 95 Reddit Q. and A.
 - 96 Some campers, in brief
 - 97 Author Calvino
 - 99 "The Help," e.g.?
 - 105 "The Secret Life of Bees," e.g.?
 - 109 One hundred, in Honduras
 - 110 Sound from R2-D2
 - 111 Ice cream flavor with a crunch
 - 112 Straddling
 - 113 Purple-crayon-carrying boy of children's literature
 - 114 Spot for a trough
 - 115 Autodom's 88 or Toronado, once
 - 116 Letters before the ZIP code 10001
 - 117 Fresh
 - 118 Terrier type
- 13 App developer's target
 - 14 Place of worship
 - 15 Cat breed with a shabby-sounding name
 - 16 Fermented brew
 - 17 Seoul singers
 - 19 Indy-to-Memphis dir.
 - 25 Toluca lucre
 - 27 Reserved, as seats
 - 28 Big affair
 - 33 One might have three parts, with or without its last letter
 - 34 Strength
 - 36 "Whatevs"
 - 37 Pick up
 - 38 Spaghetti-sauce brand
 - 39 Chaired
 - 40 Word with small or deep
 - 41 Perturb
 - 42 Some spots for vaccines, in brief
 - 43 Buses and trains
 - 46 Film role played by a terrier named Terry
 - 47 Saudi Arabia neighbor
 - 49 Animal whose name comes from the Narragansett word for "twig-eater"
 - 52 Parts of A.T.M.s
 - 53 ____ chart
 - 55 Some recesses
 - 56 Wine cocktail
 - 57 Legal suffix
 - 58 Actress Aniston, familiarly
 - 59 I, to Claudius
 - 60 Prominent manufacturer of A.T.M.s
 - 62 Daily grind
 - 63 Mary ____, first lady's maiden name
 - 64 Large jug
 - 65 Grande who has broken 27 (and counting) Guinness world records for musical accomplishments
 - 66 Partly covered, in a way
 - 69 Cut with a letter opener?
 - 70 High times?
 - 71 "My Way" lyricist Paul
 - 72 Debate airtier
 - 73 The Rose City, so nicknamed for its pink sandstone
 - 74 Bounds
 - 78 Sun, in Santiago
 - 79 Hit list
 - 80 I.R.S. employee: Abbr.
 - 81 Without direction
 - 82 [I know it's wrong]
 - 83 Snippy
 - 84 The creeps
 - 86 1980s-'90s legal drama
 - 87 All over again
 - 90 Passover servings
 - 91 ____ dozen
 - 92 Some acids, informally
 - 98 Student ____
 - 100 Phil ____, Joan Baez contemporary
 - 101 Antipiracy org.
 - 102 Role for George Burns, Morgan Freeman and Whoopi Goldberg
 - 103 Tax amount
 - 104 Pointer for an Olympian?
 - 105 Scare word
 - 106 Safari or Chrome address, in brief
 - 107 Slip into
 - 108 Catch sight of



- 60 Prominent manufacturer of A.T.M.s
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- 107 Slip into
- 108 Catch sight of

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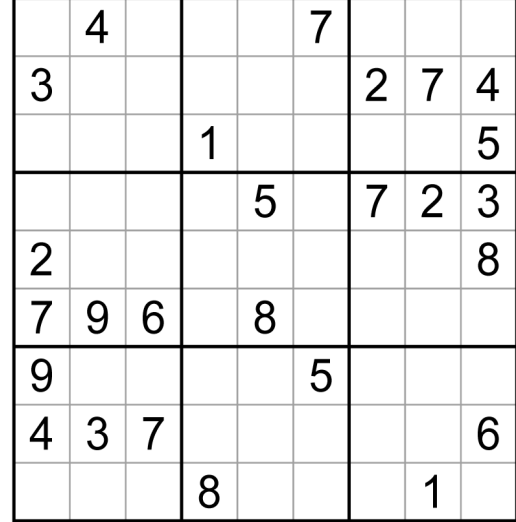
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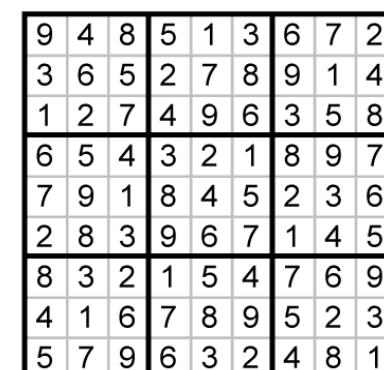
© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 9

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



Answers to last week's puzzles



Calendar

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

Thur., Jan. 5

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. A free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. Appointment required: Robin Rohlfling, 410-641-9726.

STEM THURSDAYS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Use your creativity and build using one of the library's STEM building kits. For ages 4 years and older. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'NURSERY RHYMES'

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and rhymes. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MERRY MAKERS - PLANNING SESSION FOR 2023

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Share ideas and brainstorm about crafts for 2023. Focus on fun and repurposing. Ten spaces available. Registration required: 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org.

INTERACTIVE STORY TIME: WINTER CLOTHES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Learn about the clothes that keep people warm during these cold days. Stick around for a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

POCOMOKE BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK' BY JAMES BALDWIN

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the Pocomoke circulation desk. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SYMMETRICAL SNOWFLAKES

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 3:30-7 p.m. Learn about and practice symmetry with this fun snowflake craft. For ages 5-10 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

ZUMBA FOR ALL

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Join certified Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required: 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org.

Fri., Jan. 6

CHESS/TAFL

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 9:30 a.m. Come to the library and bring your boards. Also learn the exciting game of Hnefatafl, and old strategy game. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BABY TIME: ALL ABOUT ME!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Come by for a time for you and your teeny tiny. Stay after to socialize with other families. For ages 2 years and younger. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Join the group for a short structured activity and then socialize and play with other homeschool families. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OPENING RECEPTION FOR 10TH ANNUAL 'SHARED VISIONS' EXHIBIT

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 5-7 p.m. Featuring a collaboration between artists and writers. On display until Jan. 29. Satellite receptions held at the Coffee Beanery, 94th Street and Princess Royale lobby, 91st Street. 410-524-9433

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #9053 'BINGO FOR BABIES'

Knights of Columbus - Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m., games begin at 6:30 p.m. Cash prizes. Play every game for \$25. Refreshments offered for sale. Proceeds benefit the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health. 410-524-7994

ANNUAL CASH BINGO

Bishopville Volunteer Fire, 10709 Bishopville Road. Doors open at 5 p.m., early birds begin at 5:45 p.m. Four early bird games, 20 reg. cash games, 2 specials, jackpot, 50/50. Cost is \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Reservations: 619-922-9950.

THE OCEAN PINES CHILDREN'S THEATER PRODUCTION OF 'DISNEY'S MOANA, JR. - THE MUSICAL'

Performing Arts Center at Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 7 p.m. Featuring the beloved songs of Disney's animated film. Tickets cost \$15 at <https://ocmd-performingartscenter.com/upcoming-events> or Convention Welcome Center. www.facebook.com/opchildrenstheater.

Sat., Jan. 7

FREE FAMILY ART DAY

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 10 a.m.-noon. Create a bird house painting. For children and their adults. Register: <https://reg131.imperisoft.com/ArtLeague-OfOceanCity/ProgramDetail/3632373734/Registration.aspx>. 410-524-9433

GENEALOGY HELP

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10 a.m.-noon. The local history librarian will be on hand to help participants with finding their roots. By appointment only: 410-632-3495. www.worcesterlibrary.org

FIRST SATURDAY WRITERS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Novice and established writers gather to share their writing projects. Critiques and appreciation, market leads and writing exercises. Drop ins welcome. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FRIENDS OF JOE SMOOTH PRESENT 'SMOOTHFEST'

Bourbon St. on the Beach Restaurant, 12601 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, noon. Live music and happy hour prices all day, 50/50 raffles and silent and Chinese auctions. Donations of \$25 collected at the door. All proceeds go to Joe's unexpected medical bills.

FAVORITE DISNEY SONGS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Enjoy memorable Disney songs with Notes on the Beach. For both children and adults to listen and sing along. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

THE OCEAN PINES CHILDREN'S THEATER PRODUCTION OF 'DISNEY'S MOANA, JR. - THE MUSICAL'

Performing Arts Center at Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 3 p.m. Featuring the beloved songs of Disney's animated film. Tickets cost \$15 at <https://ocmd-performingartscenter.com/upcoming-events> or Convention Welcome Center. www.facebook.com/opchildrenstheater.

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays until Feb. 25 - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 9 a.m. to noon. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Jan. 8

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., Jan. 9

STORY TIME 'SNOWFLAKES'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stories, a symmetry activity, songs and crafts all about snowflakes. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 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

BEGINNERS ON BROADWAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 p.m. Join Mr. Jake for some fun, interactive workshops to help participants make their way to the stage. Recommended for ages 7 years and older. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." 410-208-4014

MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Missed it in theaters? Catch a recent movie you might have intended to see. Free event. Movie details: www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-208-4014.

WINTER SEA GLASS ART

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3 p.m. Learn how to make winter-themed sea glass art. All supplies included. Limit 15. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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 Champion, 410-641-0157

SONGWRITERS WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6 p.m. Bring songs you are working on to the open collaborative. Talk through competitive issue with other songwriters. All genres welcome. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DUSTIN PARI: THE MAGICAL MYSTERY BOX

Held virtually, 7 p.m. Driven by audience participation and seemingly random items and stories from Dustin's experiences, this lecture is a proven crowd favorite. Registration required: 443-783-6164.

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 6:00-8:00 p.m. All ladies who love to sing invited. Mary, 410-629-9383 or Carol, 302-242-7062.

Continued on Page 23

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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



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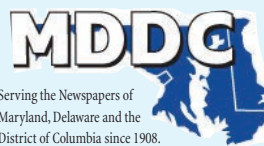
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Calendar

Continued from Page 20

Tues., Jan. 10

- STORY TIME 'COLD WEATHER STORIES'**
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and finger plays. Take-home activity included. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org
- PLAY TIME**
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Join the group for a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org
- OC KNITTING GROUP**
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Bring whatever project you happen to be working on. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org
- CHAIR YOGA**
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Join yoga instructor Nicole Long as she stretches and de-stresses using a safe and gentle method. Limit 20. Registration required: 410-524-1818. www.worcesterlibrary.org

- PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP**
Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3:15-4 p.m. Group provides discussions and education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765, kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org
- BEACH HEROES-OC**
Tuesdays - Volunteer beach clean-up group meets from 9-10 a.m., year-round. Trash bags, grippers and gloves provided. Check the Facebook page "Beach Heroes-OC" for weekly meeting locations. All are welcome.
- 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 Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 3:30-4:30 p.m. TOPS is a weekly support and education group promoting weight loss and a healthy lifestyle. 410-289-4725

- OC KNITTING CLUB**
Tuesdays - Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m.
- ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE**
Tuesdays - Experienced dancers and others interested in watching or learning more are welcome, 7-9:30 p.m. No partner required. Info: TangobytheBeach.com.

Wed., Jan. 11

- BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP**
Held via Zoom, on the first and second Wednesdays of each month, for non-surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatrics Center, 410-641-9568.
- THE GRACE PARKER BREAKFAST**
First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 7 a.m.-noon. Join old friends, new friends, neighbors and colleagues for a hearty breakfast and fellowship. Dine-in cost is \$12 and includes one re-order. Take-out cost is \$10.
- CREATIVE KIDS CORNER**
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Come create a winter craft at the library or take it to go. Most supplies included. For ages 4 years and older.

- 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org
- OCEAN CITY AARP CHAPTER 1917 MEETING**
Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st St., 10 a.m. Refreshments served at 9:30 a.m. The guest speaker will discuss diabetes. New members welcome. Bob McCluskey, 410-250-0980
- JUNK JOURNALING WITH VICTORIA**
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Learn how to create "vintage" pages from copier paper, embellish junk-mail envelopes, sew signatures into book covers and more. Registration required: 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org.
- MINDFULNESS THROUGH DRAWING**
Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Find mindfulness through bilateral drawing. Finger-paints and pastels will be used, dress accordingly. Registration required: 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org
- ADDICTION/RECOVERY BOOK DISCUSSION: 'HEROIN: THE RIPPLE EFFECT' BY TIM WEBER**
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30 p.m. Wendy Nargiz from the Maryland Coalition of Families will facilitate this discussion. Copies available at the Berlin branch front desk. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org



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