



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BULKHEAD WORK

Tug Theodore, which made the slow trip up from Chincoteague to Ocean Pines, helps keep a barge in place for bulkhead replacement work at Pintail Park.

Traffic signal on at deadly intersection

State follows through after town makes case for safety

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) The Maryland State Highway Administration switched on a new traffic signal at the intersection of Route 113 and Main Street in Berlin on Sunday, a development that advocates in the community hope will reduce the number of accidents that have occurred over the years there.

The traffic signal was the result of discussions between SHA and town officials and residents last year, followed by construction beginning in October.

“It is very important to have that light there,” said Councilmember Dean Burrell when reached by phone. “It’s going to offer a whole new level of safety for folks trying to cross that highway. It is a spot that I didn’t (traverse) if there was any other way. I’m sure there are other folks who live in the Town of Berlin who try to avoid
See TRAFFIC Page 8

Recycling takes on more plastic

County Solid Waste division expands list on what it will collect for reprocessing

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) Worcester County’s Solid Waste division is now accepting more types of plastics in the recycling bin.

Now people can recycle plastics that are labeled one through seven. That includes household items such as salad dressing bottles, mustard bottles, yogurt containers, plastic cups and plates and Tupperware.

Most plastic containers have a

small recycling symbol on the bottom with a number in the middle. That number tells you which type of plastic you’re dealing with and if it can be recycled. If there is no number on the item, dispose of it in the trash.

Not all plastics can be recycled. Worcester County is not able to recycle boat wrap, vinyl siding, buckets, milk crates, water hoses, 55 gallon drums, flower pots, Adirondack chairs, tarps, plastic trash bags, fencing, large water jugs, oil bottles, antifreeze, gas cans, potato chip bags, Ziploc bags, bubble wrap, candy wrappers, plastic alcohol bottles, or frosted bottles.

All plastic food containers (ex:

peanut butter) must be thoroughly cleaned. You can recycle empty prescription bottles if they have a recycle number on the bottle, but make sure the label with the prescription information is removed from the container.

And remember to not put plastic bags in your bin or bag your recycling. Take clean plastic bags to your local grocery store for recycling. The local Food Lion has recycling bins for bags at

See MORE Page 8



PHOTO COURTESY ANDREW HARPER

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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Mayor and Town Council are looking at an ordinance that calls for tennis and handball courts at Stephen Decatur Park to be open after sunset up to 11 p.m.

Council waits for more info on hours for sports courts

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) The Berlin Mayor and Town Council decided last Monday to table an ordinance that would establish times when tennis and basketball court amenities at town parks would be open.

The ordinance calls for tennis and

handball courts at Stephen Decatur Park to be open after sunset up to 11 p.m. instead of “up to and including the hour of 11 p.m.”

The rest of the public parks remain bound to hours of 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

The mayor and Town Council are awaiting the results of a Parks Commission survey of residents who were asked about when these courts should be open. So far only a handful of answers are available, but those that had been received requested either 9 p.m. or 11 p.m.

“The primary consideration here was not as much for the benefit of the players but not to be as much of a detriment to the surrounding houses,” Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said.

Another wrinkle in the discussion was the fact that tennis courts and basketball courts in the town’s parks vary in proximity to residences, as do existing buffers like the trees at Stephen Decatur Park that keep the tennis court lights from being a nuisance to nearby neighborhoods.

Councilmember Dean Burrell said he thought the town should be consistent with hours at all of its parks.

Parks Commission member Bruce Hyde said the later closing time was meant to accommodate summertime use when people are more active in the hours leading up to and after sunset.

Lights on the basketball courts at Stephen Decatur Park, a new project, have yet to be seen in action, a fact that Councilmember Shaneka Nichols said leads her to believe they need to hold off to see their effects.

“I want to see what this looks like,” she said. “How bright this is, what it looks like before thinking about (the rest).”

The Parks Commission survey is expected to be completed this week.

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.

OCD-1/5/2t



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Blood Control Tech 1 Ariel Alexander preps Berlin resident Tim Kelly for a whole-blood donation at the 23rd annual Ocean City Blood Drive at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center last year. The 2023 event will take place Jan. 23-25.

‘Call to Arms’ seeks donors for next week’s blood drive

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) The Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD) is announcing a “Call to Arms” to encourage residents to donate blood at the annual three-day blood drive to be held at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City, Jan. 23-25.

The goal is to book a record 825 donors this year. The record stands at 685 donors in 2021.

The Ocean City Blood Drive occurs during National Blood Donor Month, which was created to raise awareness during a traditionally slow time for blood donations. The blood drive is the largest one of the year for the regional Blood Bank.

The recent holidays and travel time make donating blood less of a priority for many would-be donors, and winter weather can lead to blood drive cancellations.

The region’s blood supply continues to be threatened by low donor turnout.

“We are grateful to the Town of

Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan for being such an incredible partner and for their dedication to helping us replenish the blood supply. I’d also like to thank the convention center staff, and all the municipal workers and residents who make this event so successful year after year,” said Patty Killeen, senior vice president at the Blood Bank. “We encourage all eligible blood donors to celebrate National Blood Donor month by signing up to donate; you’ll even get a free T-shirt.”

Every year, Dough Roller, Candy Kitchen and Wockenfuss Candies contribute snacks for employees, volunteers and donors, and Tru Hilton is giving the Blood Bank a discount for a block of hotel rooms. The Town of Ocean City, Maryland; Ocean City Lions Club; Greater Ocean City, Maryland Chamber of Commerce; Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce; Blood Bank of Delmarva host the event.

To book an appointment, call 1- See BLOOD Page 6

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Berlin looking into pickleball possibilities

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) Pickleball is all the rage right now and the Town of Berlin is taking notice.

The Berlin Planning Commission broached the topic at its meeting on Jan. 10, when Public Works Director Jimmy Charles stopped by to brief it on some ideas for how the town could most easily bring the trending sport to the town, possibly at Stephen De-catur Park.

“I was heading over towards Lewes (earlier in the month) and I went through a community and there might have been 100 people playing pickleball,” Charles said. “I guess the question is, we have four tennis courts, two sections. You can overlay a tennis court but it would take a lot of extra painting and my question is, do we want to think about or maybe have conversations over the next couple weeks to convert one of the tennis courts?”

Charles said theoretically they could fit six pickleball courts on a single tennis court.

“We would keep two tennis courts and then convert a whole one to pickleball,” he said.

“We would resurface what’s there. We would take out the two old nets because pickleball has its own net



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Nearby Ocean Pines counts pickleball among its amenities and the association has seen the niche sport take off in popularity among both residents and visitors. Ocean Pines holds two pickleball tournaments each year and both are well attended.

and court dimensions. I don’t know how much use all the tennis courts get. I don’t know if this is something popular.”

Town Administrator Mary Bohlen added that she’s been approached by residents asking about bringing pickleball to the town.

Charles pointed out that the commission would have to make headway soon if it wished to pursue funding for the next fiscal year — forecasting it had around six weeks to think it over and submit a budget request if it decided to proceed.

But there are other questions to be answered, too.

For instance, Bohlen said, the town received grants from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for the tennis courts. Would DNR then have a say?

“We need to check with them and see what their thoughts are if we were to change the use of one or more of the courts,” Bohlen said earlier this week. “Even though pickleball is kind of a form of tennis, it’s not what they paid for so we just need to make sure it’d be all right, if (pursuing pickleball courts is) what we end up doing.”

Commission member Patricia Dufendach pointed out that the existing courts and their setting are “beautiful,” and it’d be best to keep in mind to not compromise that.

“I think if we worked on expanding that usage there, we’d be serving the purpose we started out with,” Dufendach said. “I love the idea of pickleball. I think it’s great and that it might be something we might think of in the future. But I don’t want to

take away those beautiful tennis courts.”

The commission also needs to gauge not only the four tennis courts at the park but the two handball courts as well.

Considering the courts and the park as a whole are not nearly as busy in the winter as they will be during the upcoming spring and summer, that in itself may push the possibility of pickleball to the next budget cycle.

Charles added that the town would need to commit to the idea fully for it to succeed — it couldn’t simply install a single pickleball court and call it a day.

“If it was done I think you would need a couple of courts, because to bring a group of (players) in, if you got 25 or 30 people, then they could play a little tournament among themselves,” he said.

Dufendach replied that it’s the same concept for needing all of the existing tennis courts.

Bohlen said perhaps the town could do away with one of the handball courts, that it’s likely not often both are in use at the same time.

“Give some thought to how we can get a sense of it people are using the handball courts or not,” she said.

The Berlin Parks Commission is scheduled to meet again on March 7.

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Dinky revenue leads to county ice rink's end

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) Barely three years later, the Worcester County portable ice rink will melt into history.

In a 4-3 vote last Tuesday, the county commissioners decided to instruct Recreation and Parks Department staff to determine how the county could either sell or donate the ice rink. The staff will also see if another county department could have a use for the cargo trailer used to transport the synthetic ice rink.

Commissioners Jim Bunting, Chip Bertino, Eric Fiori and Caryn Abbott supported the measure while Commissioners Joe Mitrecic, Diana Purnell and Ted Elder opposed it.

The ice rink was purchased back in 2019 — just months before covid shutdowns began. To purchase it, the Worcester County Commissioners agreed to allow the Recreation and Parks Department to reallocate funds from special event savings.

The purchase cost was \$69,000, but with donations, the amount was brought down to \$49,000, then recreation and parks Tom Perlozzo told the commissioners at the time (he is now Ocean City's director of marketing and business development). With advertisements and sponsors, that cost could be even lower, he said before the purchase.

The lack of advertisements and sponsors, however, is why four Commissioners, two of whom are new to the board, are willing to dash to the ice rink altogether.

"If you go back and look at the minutes and video from when this rink was voted on — which I didn't vote for to be purchased — it was presented to us that you were going to sell ads on the fencing and it was going to make money," Bunting said. "So far over the last four years you've sold one."

Recreation and Parks Director Kelly Rados was on hand to report on how the rink has performed since its purchase.

She pointed out that the rink has had some "good" uses — including an annual Christmas event in Snow Hill and another similar event — but in the past year it's only been used twice, a fact that commissioners supporting its sale identified as a reason.

"If we don't sell it, we do have to look at what the revenue sharing is and instill some type of rental fees," Rados said. "That is something we've discussed internally that we need to look at for the next fiscal year."

The consensus among the minority opposition on the board was that it is a mistake to look at the ice rink as something that should generate money. Rather, it's a public service to the people of Worcester County.

"This (is) like many of our other recreational facilities and equipment See COMMISSIONERS Page 6



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Worcester County Commissioners voted 4-3 to instruct county staff to figure out how to sell or donate its portable, synthetic ice rink, citing that it has not performed the way they were told could be expected.

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Commissioners say ice rink failed to meet projections

Continued from Page 5
that weren't really designed to make money," Mitrecic said. "They were designed to give the youth of our county or anybody in this case the chance to skate, the opportunity to do so where in fact they might not have it again. The cost of this as opposed to some of the other programs that we run with the Recreation Department is probably in line if not a little better. I think ... to get rid of this is a disservice to the people, the citizenry of Worcester County."

Elder said that he wanted his colleagues to remember there are times when the business-first perspective doesn't work for government and that some entities, such as Recreation and Parks, should not be viewed as a moneymaker.

"It's not there to make money," he said. "I would like to see some fees increased and some other things done to keep it from costing so much to the county but as Commissioner Mitrecic said, it is in line with many of the events and things going in in the Recreation Department."

"I just believe that it's been a positive outreach to the community and it's something that we certainly get a lot of people with exercise and en-

joinment out of it."

Elder also suggested that the county keep the ice rink and figure out ways to increase income from it.

Purnell said the ice rink shows the commissioners' appreciation for the county.

"Is it making money or is it aiding the people of my community and making sure they're taken care of and giving the kids something? We always put our emphasis on taking care of kids. That's just the way it is," she said.

"Like Ted, I think maybe we can look at another way to generate funds from this but I do not want to get rid of it."

The other commissioners were not swayed as they pointed to the true cost of the ice rink.

Fiori said he wants this investment to be used for the residents' pleasure but thought there was a better way to utilize that money.

"I do echo some of the comments from the other commissioners," he said. "I agree that this is a public service for the community and not a business decision. But in that same sentence, I just believe we can reallocate the resources in a better way to affect more than 150 of our residents on a once-a-year basis, per se. I think



PHOTO COURTESY ROGER PACELLA

COAT DELIVERY

Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club members Bill Thomson, left, and Bill Hickey recently delivered two carloads of winter coats - 344 in total - to seven schools in Worcester County.

we can find a way to spread those funds and have a much greater impact on a bigger number of people if we were to move our resources to something different."

Bertino reminded his colleagues and Rados about what the commissioners were told back in 2019.

"This rink was promoted as a moneymaker for the county. Further, it was stated from that podium (where Rados was standing) that the cost to purchase the rink would be \$50,000. By my calculations after what you've

put together, the actual cost has been over \$79,000."

"It was also stated from that podium that revenue in the form of sponsorships and advertising would generate about \$60,000 per year. That doesn't seem to have been borne out by the history over these past several years. I took my grandchildren to Snow Hill to skate on (the ice rink) ... It was a very nice experience, I agree with you, but this hasn't lived up to the expectations that were presented to the commissioners at that time."

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Blood Bank seeking sign-ups

Continued from Page 3
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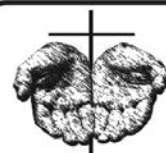
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The blood drive will be held Monday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, Jan. 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, Jan. 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the convention center on 40th Street. All eligible donors are encouraged to sign up to give.

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First quarter financials show town on track

Fiscal fitness report has no revenue, expense surprises for Berlin mayor, council

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) The first-quarter financial report for the Town of Berlin didn't contain any bombshells, but early indications are the town is on track to meet its budget goals.

Financial Director Natalie Saleh's report to the Berlin Mayor and Town Council last Monday started with total revenues, which from July 1 to Sept. 30 saw about \$3.6 million in total revenue — around 40 percent of the budgeted \$9 million for the entirety of FY23.

That difference comes to about \$5.4 million. The same quarter of FY22 produced a difference of

roughly \$5.8 million.

The budgeted revenue comprises the town's general fund balance, which Saleh defined as a combination of revenues coming from property taxes, along with intergovernmental taxes, licenses, permits and grants.



Natalie Saleh

"General funds touch every single utility fund," Saleh added.

Through the first quarter, the biggest general fund project was \$106,342 for street and path paving. The second-biggest was \$17,390 for transformers at the town's power plant.

Other expenditures in the first quarter include \$9,408 for the Washington Street storm drain re-

placement project, \$1,583 for the William Street Pump Station, \$1,374 for the Branch Street well project, \$2,981 for playground equipment, \$2,571 for police duty handguns and \$1,000 for the Stephen Decatur comfort station.

Saleh made clear multiple times that it's not unusual in the slightest for so many figures to be under-budget, as the totals only represent one quarter of the year. The six-month report, which she expects to be ready in February, will give a much clearer picture.

Saleh also broke down the general fund budget for FY23. Forty-seven percent will come from property taxes, 14.2 percent from intergovernmental revenues, 11.7 percent from contributed revenue grants, 10 percent from service charges to other

funds, 5 percent from "other taxes," 4.5 percent from transfers from other funds, 2.8 percent from reserves contributions, 2.2 percent from licenses and permits, 1.5 percent from impact fees, 0.1 percent from other service charges and 0.4 percent from earnings on investments and other revenues

Councilmember Dean Burrell asked Saleh to clarify how much of the 2.2 percent for licenses and permits comes from businesses, to which Saleh replied that she believes around \$70,000.

"It does not exceed \$100,000," she said. "I can tell that right now off the top of my head."

"Once we get to the half of the year, we will publish the summary half-year in the newsletter and it'll be available on our website."



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Traffic light activated at intersection

Continued from Page 1
that intersection, too.”

Burrell added that at it can be very difficult, especially at night, to judge how fast an oncoming vehicle is traveling as it approaches the intersection.

“That light will offer another level of security that is appreciated and needed and I’m sure that light is going to be appreciated by not only my district but the entire town,” he said. The light was in flash-only mode on Saturday to give motorists time to adjust and went into full service on Sunday, according to an SHA press release.

Just last month, Tyndall stressed the need for this traffic signal following two auto accidents that resulted in the hospitalization of four people.

Tyndall cited safety improvements at the intersection of US 50 and MD 610 east of Berlin as a good example of what he’d like to see done at the intersection.

Improvements Tyndall has suggested included “Look Again” signs, traffic cameras, more speed limit signs and a traffic light at each loca-



PHOTO COURTESY SHA

The Maryland State Highway Administration installed a traffic light at the intersection of Route 113 and Main Street in Berlin last week and turned it on earlier this week. The intersection has been a focal point for the Town of Berlin for a while as it aims to improve driver and pedestrian safety around the area.

tion where Main Street intersects with state dual highways.

“Nothing has to be reconstructed, just installed,” the mayor said in December. “Berlin traffic at these intersections is not just seasonal anymore.”

According to the press release, SHA determined a traffic signal would increase the safety of both motorists and pedestrians. Nearly

20,000 vehicles travel through that intersection daily.

“Safety is our top priority, and we are grateful for the discussions we’ve had with citizens and the Town of Berlin to move this project forward,” SHA Administrator Tim Smith said in the press release. “This will improve the safety of this intersection for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.”

More plastic accepted for recycling

Continued from Page 1
the entrance to the store.

Not all paper can be recycled either. Loose leaf paper, newspaper, magazines, office paper, mail, hard and soft back covered books are all recyclable. Shredded paper is recyclable but must be placed in a closed paper bag in the bin to keep it together.

Brown cardboard boxes, and most boxes that carry food like cereal and macaroni and cheese boxes are also recyclable. But spiral notebooks, wax paper, plastic lined bags, such as dog and cat food bags, paper towels, dryer sheets, shiny paper or cardboard and napkins are not recyclable. And remember to remove any Styrofoam

packing materials from boxes and throw that in the trash.

Most cans can be recycled including soda and beer cans, bi-metal cans for soup or pet food. Aerosol cans cannot be recycled and should be thrown in the trash. Water-based paint cans, if dried out, should be disposed of in the trash.

Glass bottles and jars can be placed in the bins for recycling. Mirrors, glass windows, dishes, vases and drink glasses are not recyclable.

Worcester County Hazardous Waste holds a drop-off once a year for residents to dispose of oil-based paints, fluorescent light bulbs, interior and exterior household chemicals (pesticides, cleaning supplies)

batteries, computers and laptops, propane bottles/tanks, fire extinguishers, helium tanks. No televisions are accepted.

Worcester County has a thorough list of recycling do’s and don’ts on their website at https://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/Recycling_FAQ for further information.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Republic Services expands types of plastic collected in Ocean Pines.



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In the
OCToday and Bayside Gazette

Author confronts own issues in book written for daughter

By Susan Canfora
Contributing Writer

(Jan. 19, 2023) Dan O'Hare's book starts with a letter to his little girl. "Dear Olive," the Ocean Pines Realtor, and reportedly first baby to be born in the sprawling community, writes to the 8-year-old, "when I started writing this book I didn't know why I was writing it or for whom this book was being written.

At first I was pretty sure it was just for me, as some sort of therapy. I guess I also thought in some way it was for my father, to keep his story alive.

"As I continued to write I began to think it may actually be for you, my dear sweet daughter Olive ... as a way to leave something behind for you when I'm not around to express what I learned in my lifetime," he wrote.

O'Hare and his wife, Caroline, didn't become parents until he was almost 39 and when the baby was 11 months old, his father went into a nursing home after suffering a stroke. He died in 2019.

It was a life-changing event for the author, an Ocean Pines Realtor for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty and who coaches high school soccer and lacrosse.

His father, Matt O'Hare, who taught and coached at Worcester Prep, is the bigger-than-life central figure in the 217-page book, titled "Tell Me The Truest Thing You Know."

"I don't know if my father ever allowed himself to explore who he was and why he acted the way he did. If he had made that exploration, he never let me know. He wasn't honest with his children about his mental or physical health and because of that my brother and I were left to navigate these inherited waters without so much as a hand-drawn chart. And it's not like my father got help from his parents, either. We all know mental health wasn't really discussed by those generations. I want to end that cycle," the author wrote.

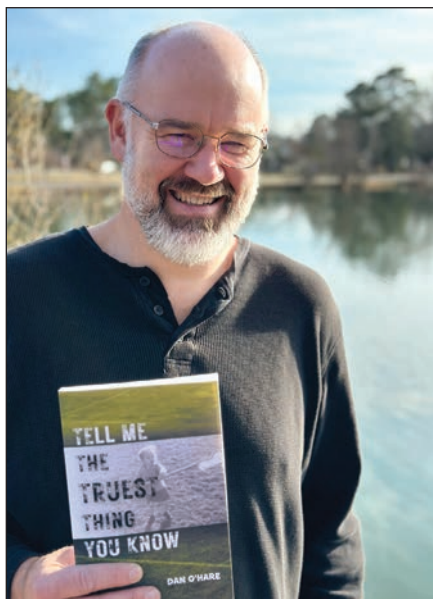


PHOTO COURTESY DAN O'HARE
Ocean Pines Realtor Dan O'Hare is pictured with his book, "Tell Me The Truest Thing You Know."

"The book is really confronting my own issues in order to break the chain of mental illness," O'Hare told Bayside Gazette, adding the grief he felt after his father's death caused him to suffer from anxiety and symptoms he was often convinced were those of major illnesses.

"The goal of this book is to be as honest as possible. That's the message of the book, extreme honesty, that if you're dealing with mental illness you need to be honest and you need to confront it," he said.

Anyone who knew his father – and many did – will enjoy the writing from a male perspective, with O'Hare often talking to his father as he tries to sort out their relationship.

He also talks about his relationship with his mother, well-known Ocean Pines Realtor, Sharyn O'Hare.

"I don't know many sons who have had easy relationships with their fathers, so that's a built-in audience there. My hope is the audience is there for people who know people who are struggling with mental ill-

See AUTHOR Page 10



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County students take 'Kids Heart Challenge'

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Jan. 17, 2023) Elementary and middle school students in Worcester County are participating in the American Heart Association's (AHA) Kids Heart Challenge. Each year, students have the opportunity to learn stress-reduction techniques and other ways to take care of their hearts.

Many will take the Finn's Heart Challenge by signing up for two on-line lessons: one teaches them how to do hands-only CPR and another teaches them the symptoms of a stroke.

Schools also raise money for AHA to support doctors, researchers, hospitals and families affected by heart diseases. Last year, Showell Elementary raised \$18,000. Principal Ryan Cowder said they plan to raise \$20,000 this year. "Showell is always looking for ways to give back."

Ocean City Elementary is also stepping up their fundraising goal. "Over the past 33 years, the students have raised more than \$477,000," said PE Teacher Tracey Drocella. "Our goal is to raise \$25,000 this year so we can break \$500,000 in donations."

Showell Elementary has given itself a goal of 100 percent of their stu-
See STUDENTS Page 11



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Students at Showell Elementary listen to a presentation about heart health last Thursday from Kim Moore, Maryland-based youth market director for the American Heart Association.

Author: 'book me being honest'

Continued from Page 9

ness. I wrote it for people who know people who are struggling. I'm not a psychologist and I don't know the right thing to do. I just know what I did. But I can explain from my perspective," he said.

Writing the book was quite possibly the most challenging task of his life.

"I worked in film and TV for years and I made movies. I made documentaries but this was harder because of the subject matter," he said.

"It might help people who know people like me to understand a little bit. It's definitely a major message in the book. I talk about what pulled me out of that," he said.

And what is the truest thing he

knows?

"It's like at the end of the book. I really I don't want to boil it down into a sentence. Even in the book I say, 'I'm not even sure but I think this is it.' Instead of me trying to boil it down, it makes more sense for the reader to go on the journey. The whole book is me being honest and in order to help people, to help my daughter if I'm not around in the future. Part of my issue is after my father had a stroke he lost so much of his personality, so this book a hedge against that."

The book cost \$17.99 and is currently available on Amazon as well as Bethany Beach Books. O'Hare is also working to get his book in other local stores.

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Coastal Bays Program takes applications for mini-grants

(Jan. 19, 2023) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) is now accepting community stewardship mini-grant proposals for environmental projects and scientific research needs proposals benefitting the Coastal Bays watershed.

The community stewardship mini-grants are available to any individual, group, school, organization, service youth and civic groups for projects that will raise awareness about the challenges and solutions to restore the coastal bays, engage citizens in community-based restoration and protection projects or educate students about the coastal bays.

The MCBP Mini Grant Program seeks to support watershed-based community, science, and educational initiatives that align with CCMP action items.

Through this funding opportunity, MCBP is seeking to engage new applicants and organizations from diverse communities in small-scale projects that enhance communities, engage residents, and, ultimately, improve natural resources.

The scientific research funding is available to MCBP's partners to assist in responding to research needs identified in the Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

Opportunities include reachable scientific goals and the most effective means for implementing them. Existing and on-going projects that seek to augment or add an additional element to an existing scope of work may also be considered for funding.

Both funding opportunities must align with the Maryland Coastal Bays Management Plan, the CCMP. This plan can be found on the MCBP website at www.mdcoastalbays.org.

These funding opportunities are provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding. With BIL funding, the EPA will be making significant investments in the health, equity, and resilience of American communities and taking significant strides to tackle the climate crisis.

Applicants for the community stewardship mini-grants may request up to \$5,000 for their project. Applicants for the scientific research grants may request up to \$25,000.

Funding details and contact information can be found on the Maryland Coastal Bays website at <https://mdcoastalbays.org/funding-opportunities/>. The proposal submission deadline for both funding opportunities is March 1.

Students sign up for challenge

Continued from Page 10

Students signing up for the kids heart challenge to be more active or kind. To get the students excited, Crowder hosted an assembly on Jan. 12, when the students were told about ways to keep their hearts healthy. As a special incentive, he promised that if at least 50 percent of the students signed up, he would pick representatives from each grade to silly string him in the hallway.

At Ocean City Elementary School (OCES), Principal Smith has also challenged students to take the heart health challenge.

This year, PE teachers Drocella and Mark Engle are sweetening the pot at OCES by offering a double

challenge. If 50 percent of the students take the Finn's Heart Challenge, participants will get to slime the two PE teachers. And if OCES reaches its fundraising goal, the top fundraisers from each grade will get to dump ice water on the PE teachers this Spring.

"The kids love it!" said Drocella. "It's all about getting them to understand the importance of helping others."

"Our students are always trying to find different ways to help people," said Dorecella. She said AHA has made it easy for the students and families to raise funds, anything from door to door fundraising to asking for donations on social media.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Association on Dec. 16 honored 11 employees for their combined 150 years of service.

Ocean Pines Association recognizes 11 employees

(Jan. 19, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association on Dec. 16 honored 11 employees for their combined 150 years of service.

The brief recognition ceremony occurred during the annual staff holiday party at the Ocean Pines Clubhouse Bar & Grille.

General Manager John Viola said such recognition is important because many workers fly under the radar.

"These nine gentlemen and two ladies represent the backbone of this Association," Viola said. "It's thanks to their hard work that we're able to

continue to move forward on so many of our initiatives, and we wanted them all to know how much their work is appreciated. Thank you all for a job well done."

Those honored for five years of service were Travis Brittingham, Kyle Dalton, Anthony Howard, Clarence Rounds, Billie Tragle and Matthew Wallace.

Honored for longer periods of service were Josh Vickers, 10 years; Eddie Wells, 20 years; Ruth Ann Meyer, 25 years; Clint Parks, 25 years; Lt. Greg Schoepf, 40 years.



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OPA staff supports families and nonprofits for holidays

(Jan. 19, 2023) Ocean Pines Association staff's annual holiday giving this year helped feed 20 local families and collected donations for several local nonprofits and charitable organizations.

Michelle Lane-Ross, administrative assistant for the general manager, helped organize staff donations at Ocean Pines' central office.

She said the association traditionally donates holiday dinners to 10 local families in need. However, in working with the Worcester County Health Department this year, she said they found seven families in the immediate area, and another 13 in Worcester County.

"We thought we couldn't just leave 10 families without a holiday meal, so we decided to adopt all 20 families," Lane-Ross said. "It was quite an undertaking, but all employees pitched in. Each department was assigned a certain item and they all delivered."

Lane-Ross also helped organize an "angel tree" in the administration building, where each angel-shaped ornament represents a gift suggestion for a local family in need.

Once again, the association worked with the Health Department.

"It was a single mom with three daughters. Between staff and the Ocean Pines community, we supplied many gifts for the family. I don't think they will be disappointed on Christmas morning," Lane-Ross said.

This was the first year Lane-Ross

was tasked with running all the holiday giving related to Ocean Pines Administration.

"I was happy to take it on," she said. "It was a little tricky, since it was my first time taking on these events. But with the help of staff and community it was a huge success!"

"Every day I would see food being delivered by staff and watching our lobby fill with gifts around the tree and would feel so excited," Lane-Ross continued. "[On Wednesday] morning, all the items were picked up and I was just so joyful to see that we all came together to make this happen for those less fortunate. I always say that no matter how bad you think things are for yourself or your family,

See ALMOST Page 14



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Business Briefs

John W. Breda, president and CEO of The Bank of Delmarva, recently announced that Stephanie Krause was promoted to senior vice president – senior relationship manager/group manager.



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Almost 800 seniors received gifts, nearly 200 from Pines

Continued from Page 13

there is always someone else worse off and I am just thrilled that we could help."

Aquatics Director Kathleen Cook organized a similar angel tree at the Sports Core Pool, sponsoring three families through a local church.

"It went well, as always," Cook said. "We live in a community that is so loving and generous."

Cook said the angel tree program means a lot to her and was something she first did in high school.

"It helped us truly understand how blessed we were and allowed us to see that wasn't the case for everyone," she said.

Cook took the concept to a former supervisor several years ago, and it became an annual tradition for the Aquatics Department.

"Once I presented it to my boss, it was agreed that we would develop a similar program," Cook said. "Now, I get to watch parents take angels with their children, and they are teaching their children the same lessons that we learned in high school."

"I am so humble for the phenomenal support that this community gives to this program," she added.

Jessica Conaway, an administrative assistant for the Recreation and Parks Department, collaborated with two local charitable campaigns.

The department for several years has helped the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program run by Home Instead Senior Care.

"This countrywide program brightens local seniors' hearts by giving them a gift they otherwise would-

n't have," Conaway said. "Crystal Heiser, coordinator of this program, said that this year almost 800 local seniors received gifts, with close to 200 coming from Ocean Pines area 'Santas.'"

"This cause is important because these seniors are asking for essentials - not for what they want," she continued. "And most of the 'Santas' that take a tag will tuck in a special treat or item that wasn't asked for to make the giving more personal."

Conaway and the Recreation and Parks Department also collected donations for Believe in Tomorrow's Children's House by the Sea.

"This program allows families with critically ill children the opportunity to get away, relax, and reconnect together in the midst of a child's treatment and recovery," Conaway said. "Donating items such as toys, books and puzzles helps the children feel more normal, at ease and relaxed while they are here at the beach. Wayne Littleton, the coordinator of this program, is very appreciative of the donations the Ocean Pines community gives during the holiday season."

Littleton thanked Conaway for helping the program during the last three years, and all the Ocean Pines residents who took part.

"Because of the generosity and support of everyone, not only will we be able to have presents under the tree for every child checking in this weekend, but we will also be able to put toys in the welcome baskets of our children for the next few months," he said. "Thank you so much!"

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The CRICKET Center, in partnership with local law enforcement officers, held its 10th annual Shop with a Cop event on Dec. 10. Thirty students from Worcester County Public Schools were paired with officers from several police agencies.

Tenth annual Shop with a Cop successful

Thirty students from Worcester County Public Schools paired up with officers

(Jan. 19, 2023) The CRICKET Center, in partnership with local law enforcement officers, held its 10th annual Shop with a Cop event on Dec. 10.

Thirty students from Worcester County Public Schools were paired with officers from the Maryland State Police, Worcester County Sheriff's

Office, Berlin Police Department and Ocean City Police Department.

Each child toured the Berlin Barrack and interacted with some of the police equipment before being sworn in as a Junior Trooper for the day.

Children and officers loaded up the State Police bus and headed to Walmart where each shopper hand selected gifts for their family.

After shopping concluded, everyone returned to the Berlin Barrack where volunteers helped wrap the

new presents and enjoyed lunch with Santa. Chick-fil-a in West Ocean City donated lunch for the children.

Youth participating in Shop with a Cop are designated as "at risk" by the board of education, typically from lower-income homes.

"There was such excitement from the kids as they walked through the aisles," Executive Director of The CRICKET Center, Lauren Cooper, said. "This event is such a great opportunity to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and

kids in our community."

This event was made possible through generosity of donors in the community and local grants.

The team at the CRICKET Center collaborates on child abuse cases beginning with the child's initial outcry through investigation, treatment, and prosecution.

Follow the CRICKET Center on Facebook to keep up with future events and ways to help. For more information, contact Cooper at 410-641-0097.

Spread the word to Worcester County homeowners who could benefit from

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SwimFit Wellness: (V) A socially active gathering place for a healthy minded community to have fun, stay fit and make friends! WELCOME! ☺

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Snapshots



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COMMENDATIONS

The Worcester County Commissioners present commendations to members of the Worcester County 4-H Robotics Intermediate Team for taking first place in the Maryland 4-H State Robotics Challenge at the 2022 Maryland State Fair. Pictured, in front, from left, Elianna Fiori, Riya Patel, Scott Wainwright and Nidhish Gupta; second row, team coach Mendy Fiori, Barbara Barga of the Extension Office, and team coaches Gira Patel, Amanda Wainwright and Shriya Gupta; and in back, Commissioners Caryn Abbott, Chip Bertino, Jim Bunting, Joe Mitrecic, Ted Elder, Diana Purnell and Eric Fiori.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MEETING

Representatives of Atlantic General Hospital spoke about diabetes, its causes, prevention and treatment during the first meeting of the new year of Ocean City's local AARP Chapter. Pictured are Bob McCluskey, president of OC AARP Chapter 1917, with guest speakers Darlene Jameson and Michelle Dix. For information about AARP 1917, visit www.aarp1917.org or call McCluskey at 410-250-0980.

DECORATING

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland were invited to participate in the 2022 State House Christmas display. On Nov. 29, five Worcester County Garden Club members traveled to Annapolis and decorated a holiday tree using horticulture grown in member gardens and deer antlers found in Worcester County. After viewing the tree, First Lady Yumi Hogan presented a certificate of appreciation from the Office of the Governor to the club. Pictured, from left, are Jan King, Pat Arata, First Lady Yumi Hogan, Suzy Young, Joanne Kirby and Mary Ellen Jefferson.

PHOTO COURTESY PATRICK SIEBERT



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

JOINS CLUB

Tom Sweeney, left, was recently installed into the Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club. He is pictured with 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 ocberlinrotary@gmail.com.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

Lorrie Miller, general manager of the Dunes Manor Hotel, and David Del Russo, regional director of operations for OTO Development Group, on Nov. 30, donated the portraits of Milton and Thelma Conner to Atlantic General Hospital. Pictured, from left, are Toni Keiser, Atlantic General Hospital vice president of Public Relations; Miller; Del Russo; Don Owrey, Atlantic General Hospital president and CEO; and Steven Tyson, Atlantic General Hospital Foundation donor relations officer.



ANGEL TREE

The Community Church at Ocean Pines teamed up with Showell Elementary School to provide help for those in need at Christmas. The "Angel Tree" at the church was hung with 198 individual angel name tags with suggested gifts for congregation members to select, purchase and return the week prior to Christmas. Every name on the "Angel Tree" was selected. Project Co-Chair Patty Pino is pictured with the tree.

PHOTO COURTESY JACK BARNES

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

EXPANSION AWARD

Maryland's Coast - Worcester County Tourism and Economic Development (TED) took home the Market Expansion Award for Golf in Maryland's Coast during the 41st annual Maryland Travel and Tourism Summit in November. Pictured, from left, are Maryland Department of Commerce (MDC) Tourism, Film, Arts, Marketing and Communications Assistant Secretary Tom Riford, TED Director Melanie Pursel, Advertising and Destination Marketing Specialist Brianna Dix Oxford-Bellevue Ferry, Maryland Tourism Development Board Chair Judy Bixler, and MDC Tourism and Film Managing Director Liz Fitzsimmons.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW OFFICERS

The South Point Association, Inc. near Assateague Island, held its annual membership luncheon meeting and election of new officers for 2023, at the Ocean City Golf Club on Dec. 10. Elected by the community association's membership, seated from left, are directors Jan Adamchak and Rick Martelo; and Diane Stelzner, secretary; and in back, Brian Julian, treasurer; Michael LeCompte, president; and R. J. Troitter, vice president.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR

MEMBERS HONORED

During the Dec. 14 meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City, President Bob Wolfing, center, presented awards to the November and December "Kiwian of the Month," Jim Spicknall, right, and John Hulit, respectively.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOLIDAY DECORATING

Members of the Worcester County Garden Club recently decorated the historic St. Martin's Church in Showell for the holiday season. Historic Preservation Chair Jan Owens coordinates this annual event. Unfortunately, the cancellation of the Christmas Eve service due to weather resulted in their hard work and inside decorations going unseen. Pictured are Rebecca Galyon, left, and Ginny Outten.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOLIDAY TUNES

The annual Worcester Prep Holiday Bazaar took place at the Berlin school on Dec. 3. The Upper School Choral Ensemble performed several holiday songs during the event.



DRINKS SERVED

The annual Worcester Prep Holiday Bazaar took place at the Berlin school on Dec. 3. Students and their moms volunteering at the Duckin' coffee and cocoa, in front, from the left, are Sophia and Seva Nistazos, Georgia Duffie and Isabella Rice, and in back, Alena Nistazos, Lauren Hanna and Kourtney Duffie.

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The Pine'eer Craft Club chose Barbara O'Connor as the January Crafter of the Month.

O'Connor named Pine'eer Craft Club's January crafter

(Jan. 19, 2023) The Pine'eer Craft Club chose Barbara O'Connor as the January Crafter of the Month.

She creates fused and stained glass works of art ranging from jewelry to decorative items, as well as lights and cutting boards.

O'Connor started her focus on glass over 20 years ago. She still takes classes in pursuit of perfection, or to simply learn a new trick.

After years in New Jersey and Long Island, New York, the O'Connors discovered Ocean Pines in 1997.

She and her husband, John, have taken advantage of what the community

offers residents.

John joined the golf club and is a member on the Budget and Finance committee.

Barbara is a member of the Garden Club, in addition to the Pine'eer Craft Club. She has also worked at the OPA Golf Course and volunteered backstage for the Pines Players.

She is a past president, first and second vice president and successfully ran the craft fairs along with her fellow crafters.

She joined the club in order to meet fellow crafters and has made friends in See VIEW Page 19



OPEN HOUSES

January 19 - January 26



| 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, 12-2pm | 3 Tail of the Fox Drive, Ocean Pines | 4BR/2BA/1HBA | Single Family | \$549,000 | Sandy Dougan/BHHS |
| Sunday, 12-3pm | 3 Tail of the Fox Drive, Ocean Pines | 4BR/2BA/1HBA | Single Family | \$549,000 | Sandy Dougan/BHHS |
| Saturday, 1-3pm | 305 S. Heron Gull Ct., Ocean City | 6BR/6BA/2HBA | Single Family | \$2,399,900 | Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty |
| 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 | 218-4 N. Heron Drive, Ocean City | 3BR/2.5BA | Condo | \$799,900 | Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty |
| Saturday, 11:30am-2pm | 12 42nd St., Unit 404, Ocean City | 2BR/2BA | Condo | \$348,900 | Linda Zaretsky/BHHS |
| Saturday, 11am-1pm | 207 Dolphin St., Ocean City | 4BR/3BA | Single Family | \$1,211,155 | PO2 Team/Hileman Real Estate |
| Saturday, 11am-1pm | 351 Ocean Pkwy., Ocean Pines | 3BR/2BA | Single Family | \$339,000 | PO2 Team/Hileman Real Estate |
| Saturday, 11am-1pm | 110 Boston Dr., Berlin | 3BR/2BA | Single Family | \$399,000 | PO2 Team/Hileman Real Estate |



Dead humpback whale on Assateague beach



PHOTO COURTESY LORI SOWERS

A dead 20-foot-long humpback whale was discovered on the beach at Assateague Island National Seashore Monday morning.

(Jan. 19, 2023) A dead 20-foot-long humpback whale was discovered on the beach at Assateague Island National Seashore Monday morning and now marine pathologists will try to find out why.

Apparently, the humpback washed up in the Maryland oversand vehicle area, which was closed at the 21.8 KM mark to allow research and removal crews to work safely.

The whale's discovery lead the Park Service staff to notify the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Stranding Response Program. DNR works with NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association) and other agencies such as the National Aquarium and Smithsonian Institution in instances like this one.

Assateague Island National Seashore is responsible for carcass retrieval and ultimately, disposal.

A necropsy was planned for Tuesday by DNR and National Aquarium personnel. At this time there are no obvious signs to the cause of death, a statement from the Park Service said.

After the necropsy is completed, the whale carcass will be moved into the dunes and allowed to dry out prior to its eventual burial.

Visitors who come across the whale should keep a distance and keep any dogs leashed.

The carcass will smell for a while, but previous experience shows that the smell will not be a problem more than 50 yards or so from the actual

location.

All marine mammals, alive or dead, are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act and collection of any parts is prohibited.

Anyone who sees a marine mammal or sea turtle that has washed ashore could contact the local stranding network.

The Maryland Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Stranding Response Program can be contacted at 1-800-628-9944 and the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center Stranding Response Program can be reached at 757-385-7575.

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View artwork at OP Artisan Shop

Continued from Page 18 the process.

"Crafters are special people who love to share with others," she said. "I love to see people look at my projects and the comments I get fill my heart with pride."

View O'Connor's pieces and other handmade items at the Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park, on 239 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines.

The shop is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-gift-shop>.

Any artisan who would like to sell their creations at the shop, should contact Debbie Jiwa or Barbara Herzog, shop managers, or email opcrafterclub@aol.com for more information.

All new crafters must go through the juried process, and when items sell, some proceeds go back to the community.

Since its inception, the craft club has donated nearly \$179,000 back to Ocean Pines. The group has been hand crafting in Ocean Pines for more than 45 years.

We want to give back

Celebrating our 22nd year, we want to give thanks to all of the communities who have supported us for over two decades by offering two lucky winners **FREE PART-TIME HOME CARE FOR 1 YEAR!**



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Opinion

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

Hogan's popularity intact as he exits

Now that Gov. Larry Hogan is former Gov. Larry Hogan, the political analysts will swoop in and start dissecting his eight years at the helm of state government.

They will be looking for and expounding on what they perceive to be his successes and failures and whether his performance in office is in sync with his overwhelming popularity among citizens of Maryland.

His critics — on both sides of the aisle — are already saying he could have done more, although what that might have been would depend on whose agenda is being used as a measuring stick. But sure, he could have been more progressive or more conservative, depending on one's point of view.

But had he been, he would not be leaving office as one of the most popular governors in the country with a 77 percent approval rating, according to the most recent polls. And that's in a state dominated by the opposition party. Even more interesting is that his approval rating is higher with Democrats than it is with his own party, the Republicans.

The secret to Hogan's success is not what he did — and his take-charge handling of the covid-19 pandemic consistently ranked among the best — but is what he said and how he said it.

His everyman persona, a public bearing that suggested he honestly enjoyed the job and his avoidance of the pugnacious railing so common among highly partisan politicians allowed him to come across as a non-threatening, thoughtful guy.

In other words, he did take positions that aggravated one side of the aisle or the other, but he didn't do it with his chin stuck out and trying to yell opponents into submission.

Hogan was smart enough to know what he could and couldn't do without splintering this state into belligerent political camps fixated on getting one over on the competition.

That's an attribute this country could use a great deal more of, and it's why Hogan exits the governor's office as one of the most popular in the history of the state. That in itself is a huge accomplishment ... no matter what the analysts say.

RIVERBOAT FOR SALE



THE 149 passenger "Black Eyed Susan" Riverboat is for Sale! Needs some repair. High Maintenance. Great Party Boat! Call the town of Snow Hill for more info.

Painting by Jim Adcock

"BAYSIDE GAZETTE" © JIM ADCKOCK 2023

'Spec Tennis' inventor comes to Pines

(Jan. 6, 2023) "Spec Tennis" inventor Nate Gross visited the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on Dec. 21, where he spoke with players, signed autographs, and played several rounds of the new sport.

A tennis pro at the Belvedere Tennis Club in Tiburon, California, Gross invented Spec Tennis in 2016 by combining elements of tennis, racquetball, beach tennis, pop tennis, table tennis and pickleball.

"I played a little bit of paddle tennis in Venice Beach as a kid, and I was basically trying to play that in Northern California," Gross said. "I was trying to play on pickleball courts with my dad, but the equipment we were using wasn't quite right. The court was smaller, so we needed to slow it down. So, I started playing around with different paddles and different balls."

Gross said he settled on a platform tennis paddle and an orange-dot tennis ball, and the new sport evolved from there.

"I started having fun with it, and I invited some tennis friends out to play in a tournament and they seemed to have a lot of fun too. From there, it kind of went full steam ahead," he said.

Spec Tennis became part of the regular offerings in Ocean Pines last year.

Gross said the advantage of the sport is that it's easy to learn.

"You can have fun on day one — you don't have to have private instruction," he said. "You can also play with people at different levels, so families can play together, and husbands and wives can play together, just because it's easier to find the sweet spot on the shorter paddle."

"It's quick, so you can get a good workout in a short amount of time, and you can really play anywhere," Gross continued. "They're playing here on platform tennis courts, but you can



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
"Spec Tennis" inventor Nate Gross visited the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on Dec. 21.

play on pickleball courts or tennis courts — really any hard surface."

Gross said the name "didn't really have a meaning at first."

"I just wanted a one-syllable name like 'spec,' but now it's come to take on a meaning of 'tennis, with specifications for anybody,'" he said. "You can just be watching from the bench and come on and have a good amount of success, unlike regular tennis where it might take a long time with lessons and drilling, before you feel like you're able to play in a real game."

Gross said the response to Spec Tennis has been amazing.

"We just had our first U.S. Open in Coral Springs, Florida a couple of weeks ago, and there were about 75 players there," he said. "And now to come out here [in Ocean Pines] and see all these banners up and people playing

See PLAYERS Page 21

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Obituaries

LAKELYN ASHLEY DRAHEIM Bishopville

Lakelyn Ashley Draheim passed away peacefully at her home in Bishopville, Maryland, on Jan. 13, 2023, after a yearlong battle with DIPG, an aggressive form of pediatric brain cancer.



Lakelyn Draheim

Lakelyn was born in Salisbury, Maryland, on June 28, 2017, to her parents, Lauren and Lance Draheim.

To her family, friends and teachers, Lakelyn was known as a passionate, creative and loving little girl who loved to dance, paint, camp, ride four-wheelers, go to school, cook with her Daddy, bake with her Mommy,

and play with her brothers, Lawson "Bubba" and Levyn Beau "L.B."

She often said that when she grew up, she wanted to be a dancer/ballerina/4-wheeler rider/deer hunter/hair dresser, a list which was constantly growing.

When Lakelyn wasn't cheering on Lawson in sports, she enjoyed going camping in Williamsburg, Virginia, Disney World and at Jellystone Campground in Lincoln, Delaware.

Some of her family's favorite memories are of making S'mores and playing Charades around a campfire.

At home, she loved to work on puzzles, read, play school and watch her favorite shows, including "Sleeping Beauty" and "Bluey."

Lakelyn was kind, intelligent and a beacon of light to everyone she en-

countered.

She would often style her friends' hair, do their makeup, paint their nails and always wanted people to feel better when they left her.

Her infectious smile drew people in, her giggle would bring instant joy to everyone she met and her touch would soothe any broken heart.

She is survived by her parents, Lance and Lauren; her brothers, Lawson and Levyn Beau; her grandparents, Eugene MaGee, Eddie and Sally Draheim; her aunts and uncles, Robbie "Bobo" Draheim, Brian and Rebecca "Boppy" Benson, Lenny and Kelsy Draheim, and Hunter and Shannon Draheim; and her cousins, Tripp Benson, Sterling, Amelia, Paxleigh and Brook Draheim.

Lakelyn was preceded in death by her Momom Dolly MaGee; and her

great-grandparents, Carlton and Dolie MaGee.

In lieu of flowers, the Draheims are asking that you consider donating to The Cure Starts Now, an organization dedicated to putting an end to Childhood Brain Cancer, in Lakelyn's Honor using the link, <https://p2p.thecurestartsnow.org/1846>.

Viewing and visitation: Friday, Jan. 20, 2023 from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

at Showell Elementary School, 11318 Showell School Road, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Funeral Services will begin at Showell Elementary School on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023 at 1 p.m.

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

Mediacom Communications extends scholarship deadline

(Jan. 19, 2023) Mediacom Communications is extending the application deadline for its scholarship program, Mediacom World Class Scholars.

In its 22nd consecutive year, the program will award \$1,000 World Class Scholarships to 60 high school seniors planning to obtain further education.

Scholarship applications must be submitted by Feb. 28. The deadline was extended from an earlier date and high school seniors are encouraged to apply.

Mediacom's World Class Scholarship applications are available online at mediacomworldclass.com.

Applicants do not have to be Mediacom customers but must live in areas where Mediacom's fiber-rich broadband network delivers Gigabit-speed internet service.

Recipients will be selected from the

22 states where Mediacom's residential customers reside. A complete list of communities in Mediacom service areas is included with the online application.

Inquiries may be sent to scholarship@mediacomcc.com.

Players visited by sport founder

Continued from Page 20
it, it's pretty cool."

Karen Kaplan started organizing Spec Tennis clinics in Ocean Pines last summer.

"I was so happy that the founder of Spec Tennis could pay us a visit today. Since we've introduced Spec Tennis to the platform tennis courts, our membership has grown by a third and we have a new game for people to play. It's great for all abilities, so if you used to play or want to play a racquet sport, come on down and join us."

For more information on Spec Tennis in Ocean Pines, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/spec-tennis.

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Cuisine

How to make sweet crepes from scratch

If you are a food nerd, then I would recommend that you read whatever you can by Michael Ruhlman.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

The man knows his way around culinary lore and wisdom in a way that far-outpaces most contemporary chefs.

He is the ultimate student of food, and as such has made a life of continued growth and examination.

One of my favorite works by him is *Ratio: The Simple Codes Behind the Craft of Everyday Cooking*, a volume that discusses... you guessed it... the basic ratios of many given recipes.

For example, cookies have a ratio of 3:2:1 of flour to salt to sugar. Bread is 5:3 of flour to water. And crepes?

Oh, sweet crepes (or they may be savory as well, depending on their ultimate application), they come in at 2:2:1 of milk to eggs to flour. As you can see, ratios can come in rather handy when you just want the basics and otherwise don't want to follow recipes to a T.

Crepes have always been fascinating to me, and I loved making them for the kids when they were younger, and you can do so many things with them.

One might make some sweet fillings such as homemade assorted pastry creams, crème Chantilly, fresh berries, assorted syrups and the like.

Or, if you are feeling enchanted, as the French would say (if they were in fact going to say it in English) you could forego any sugar and vanilla and make these light and stretchy wrappers and fill them to your hearts content.

Sauteed crab with brie and apple would be lovely, as would spinach and artichoke with Gruyere and Boursin cheese. I could list fillings for an eternity, so suffice it to say that it can be left to your imagination and creativity.

Last year, we catered a brunch at a magnificent estate south of Salisbury for now-friends, and the hostess wanted crepes.

I was surprised to learn that my ex-girlfriend (we catered a great many events together) had never had crepes, and no judgment as there are plenty of foods that I have not tried in



my lifetime.

And out of all the functions that we had catered over the years, it struck me that I had never served crepes as an option.

I found that strange, as I grew up with them, cooked them fairly regularly for my kids and late wife, and now? I probably had not made them in four years.

What a shame, seeing as how everyone loves crepes, sans the gluten-free crowd. And now that I write that, I wonder if some of the gluten free flours would work for these. But I digress.

Fast forward to the day of the event. Our lovely hostess had an electric crepe griddle, making the whole experience even better as the automatic temperature settings would just about ensure that none would be burnt.

I showed Dawn how to make them, and after I botched one and then she botched one, she got it down pat. I was grateful for the help, as I tend to oversell specialty menus and there was still a great deal to do.

And if you know anything about crepes, they take time and patience, two things of which I had very little that morning.

To the rescue, she became like a mad scientist, hammering out crepe

after crepe and the brunch went off without a hitch. And as for you, once you make crepes, and you may destroy a few in the learning process, they can easily become a mainstay in your repertoire.

They take about 10 minutes to make, and that includes melting the butter and gathering the ingredients.

They are that simple. And now you have the ratio. What time should I come over for brunch?

Sweet Crepes

Makes about a dozen crepes using the 2:2:1 ratio

8 oz. Fresh eggs
8 oz. Milk
4 oz. AP flour
dash salt
1 Tbsp. Melted whole butter
2 Tbsp. Granulated sugar
1 tsp. Vanilla

1. Combine the eggs, milk and flour in a blender and blend until well homogenized.

2. Add the melted butter and remaining ingredients. You want to run this on medium to high to ensure that the butter is sheered throughout the batter. It will resemble a thin pancake batter.

3. Place in the icebox for one hour (some say this is not necessary due to

the ultra-refinement of modern flours, but I still do it to allow it to relax).

4. Heat a non-stick pan on medium (don't get antsy and go high or you'll have an uncontrollable pan and burnt crepes) and add pan spray.

5. Add just enough batter to coat the bottom of the pan as you swirl it around.

6. Allow to cook and if there is excess batter on top, take a rubber spatula (the high heat kind) and gently pull the edge of the crepe away from the pan, leaning the pan so as to allow the batter to hit the hot pan and cook.

7. When the crepe is mostly cooked through and seems firm enough, flip it with the spatula or with your incredible cheffy crepe-flipping skills.

8. Cook for 30 more seconds and then remove to a plate, folded into quarters.

9. Cover the crepes with a clean kitchen towel to keep them toasty while you finish the batch.

10. Serve with fillings of your choosing.

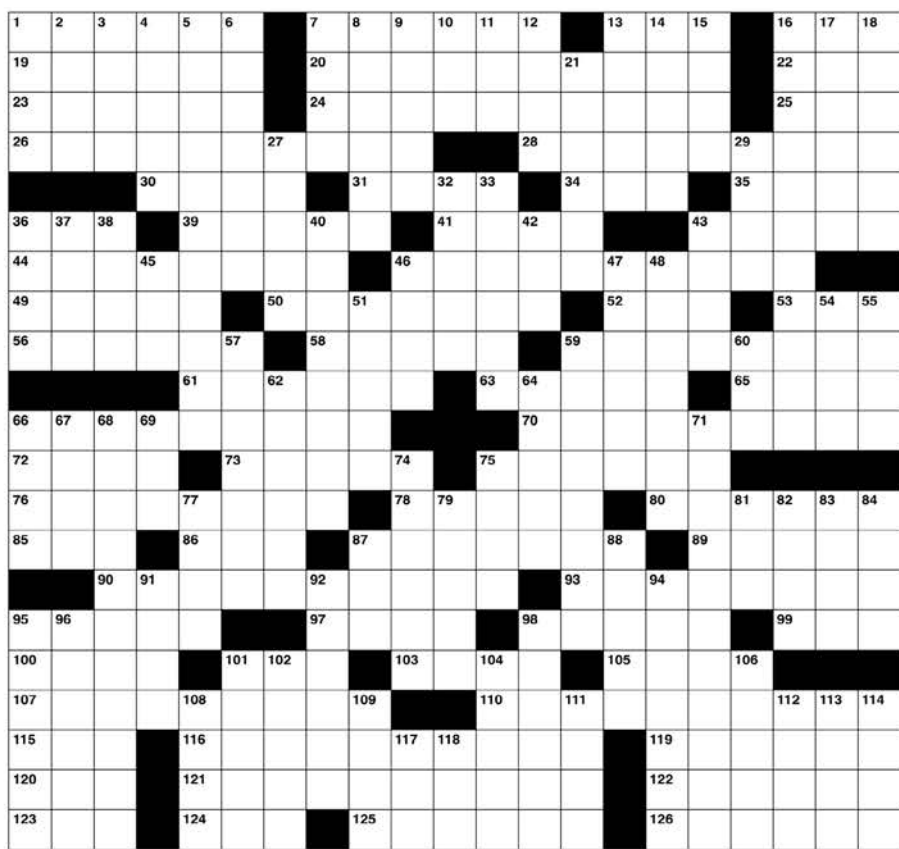
— Paul Suplee is the owner of *boxcar40*, *boxcar on main*, *boxcar crafted events* and *sportfish catering*.
www.boxcarrestaurants.com

Puzzles

DO YOU HEAR THAT? BY WYNA LIU / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Wyna Liu is an associate puzzle editor for The Times, which she joined in 2020. She helps select and edit clues for the puzzles that appear in the paper. The thing she loves most about her job is "talking puzzles with other people who love them!" (That would be the rest of us on the Games team.) When Wyna isn't working, she makes jewelry and magnetic objects, teaches yoga and spoils her dog. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Villains' antagonists
 - 7 "Uh, sure"
 - 13 Power project
 - 16 Real mess
 - 19 2007 Lil Wayne song that opens: "Young Money! You dig?"
 - 20 Subject of clip art?
 - 22 "What do we have here?!"
 - 23 Word before the year on U.S. paper currency
 - 24 Small thing to keep on track
 - 25 Human rights activist Xiaobo, the first Chinese citizen to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (2010)
 - 26 Presses CTRL+P + _____ + Easter egg coloring
 - 28 _____ + Scroungy mutt + Parent's sister, in some regions
 - 30 Active Sicilian volcano
 - 31 European river that's an anagram of REED
 - 34 Promise to pay
 - 35 [I'm frustrated!]
 - 36 Fragrant noodle soup made with beef
 - 39 Like Captain James T. Kirk, by birth
- DOWN**
- 41 Número de "Años de Soledad" in a Gabriel García Márquez novel
 - 43 Follows
 - 44 _____ + Golfer's cry + "Ugh!"
 - 46 Column crossers + Sentry + _____
 - 49 "Encore!"
 - 50 Irks
 - 52 Crossed off
 - 53 Gangster-film prop
 - 56 "Holy" city
 - 58 Nongendered possessive
 - 59 Insult that's also a measurement device
 - 61 "The landlords of New York," once
 - 63 One cast in a fantasy movie
 - 65 Digging
 - 66 French festival, familiarly + _____ + Actor Michael
 - 70 Punching tool + Chopping tool + _____
 - 72 Cherubic archer
 - 73 Foil lookalikes
 - 75 Seoul-based carrier
 - 76 Influential sorts
 - 78 Rod with seven A.L. batting titles
 - 80 Athlete's cup
 - 85 Flattering verse
 - 86 In the manner of
 - 87 Demonstrate extreme flexibility, as an acrobat
 - 89 Opposite of neo-
 - 90 Tandori bread + Harlem music venue + _____
 - 93 Word of obligation + _____ + Punxsutawney name
 - 95 Some origin stories
 - 97 Response to "Shall we?"
 - 98 H.S. science class for some college-bound students
 - 99 Rocky Mountain bugler
 - 100 Move, in real estate lingo
 - 101 Pioneered
 - 103 Immediately
 - 105 Couple of llamas?
 - 107 Rug rat + Magic stick + _____
 - 110 Soccer score + _____ + Scottish inlets
 - 115 Resistor unit
 - 116 Iconic 1984 movie vehicle that was a combination ambulance/hearse
 - 119 "Anything for you!"
 - 120 Actress de Armas
 - 121 Annoyances when trying to make change
 - 122 Challenging, informally
 - 123 Corleone, for one
 - 124 Toilet-paper spec
 - 125 Most likely to offer solace, say
 - 126 Calm
 - 4 QB protectors, collectively
 - 5 Time to decide who's in or out
 - 6 Polite Spanish assent
 - 7 ThinkPads, e.g., once
 - 8 "Doc" in the Mets Hall of Fame
 - 9 Removed, as a knot
 - 10 Language suffix
 - 11 Spanish seasoning
 - 12 Hindu goddess in the "Ramayana"
 - 13 Serpentine constellation
 - 14 Ambidextrous features?
 - 15 It may have just desserts
 - 16 Converter of natural heat energy
 - 17 Doohickey
 - 18 Tweens, e.g.
 - 21 Making level
 - 27 Welcomed at the door
 - 29 Broccoli follower
 - 32 Intestinal bacterium
 - 33 Choir platforms
 - 36 Boggy stuff
 - 37 Literary award shaped like a rocket
 - 38 Milky gemstone
 - 40 Common solvents
 - 42 Some R.P.I. grads
 - 43 Chances
 - 45 Hurry
 - 46 Waze suggestions: Abbr.
 - 47 Armpit, anatomically
 - 48 Move to a larger pot, say
 - 51 More than a couple
 - 54 Doesn't just sit there
 - 55 Boxing stats
 - 57 Influential leader of the Seminole people
 - 59 Burrito-shaped lunch counter item
 - 60 Part of X-X-X
 - 62 [Is this thing on?]
 - 64 Scenic stroll, from the Spanish
 - 66 Baja Peninsula resort, for short
 - 67 In the thick of
 - 68 Hardly Mr. Nice Guy
 - 69 Hippocratic oath takers: Abbr.
 - 71 Path covered with diamonds
 - 74 Vamooses
 - 75 Pretentiously affected
 - 77 "Frozen" villain
 - 79 Existential emotion
 - 81 Goofus
 - 82 Dance squat
 - 83 Where 95-Down's Wild Ride ends, at Disneyland
 - 84 Key ingredient in Key lime pie
 - 87 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame city: Abbr.
 - 88 Floated down a river, say
 - 91 "Hmm, gotcha"
 - 92 Unteachable sort, in a saying
 - 94 Tesselations
 - 95 "The Wind in the Willows" squire
 - 96 "Nice try, but I don't think so"
 - 98 Islands that form atop underwater volcanoes
 - 101 Making all the stops
 - 102 Portion of a log
 - 104 Quick to think or act
 - 106 [Grrr!]
 - 108 "Eh, what can you do?!"
 - 109 Black cat, classically
 - 111 For fear that
 - 112 Michael of "Superbad"
 - 113 Wraparound garment
 - 114 Eye affliction
 - 117 Belt worn with a yukata
 - 118 Company that owns Wite-Out



- 57 Influential leader of the Seminole people
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© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 7

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------|---------|
| TREE | JAPAN | SPAMS | ACTS |
| YENS | AIOLI | AERIE | LOIN |
| RECTANGULAR | PRISM | ELMO | |
| ALERT | RELO | SIMPLER | |
| LOVEWILL | TEARUS | APART | |
| DRAG | NOTE | DOES | COB |
| AIDE | TWO | SWINGAT | OPA |
| MOUNTAIN | STATES | OUTRUN | |
| ETS | HIE | PAR | FINEART |
| TEL | DOCTOR | DOLITTLE | |
| AXIOM | TOOK | ZERO | CRESS |
| GETBACK | INSHAPE | GOA | |
| INSIGHT | ERR | SUR | PAT |
| LONNIE | BREAKOUT | INSONG | |
| ENO | MANUALS | NAN | ASTI |
| BBS | LAIC | SOLE | LEIF |
| FRIENDS | INH | HIGHPLACES | |
| LEGROOM | SURE | DINAR | |
| URGE | PICTURE | INPICTURE | |
| BAIT | ETHOS | SNEER | EDEN |
| SNES | SHINE | SEDGE | MEAT |

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

Call **410-723-6397**
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Classifieds appear in Ocean City Today & Bayside Gazette each week and online at oceancitytoday.com & baysideoc.com

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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Classifieds Deadline
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Units to be auctioned; B28-
B50-B77-B89-S29-S32-
S35-S136-S233-S718-O34-
-O158C. Units are being
sold due to non-payment of
rent. Common items in
units are, household items,
furniture, tools, fishing
equipment, paintings, an-
tique and vintage items.

Date: Friday,
January 27th, 2023
Time: 10:00 am

This will be an online
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Feel free to call 410-213-
2029 for any questions re-
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Apply: Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a confiden-
tial Town of Berlin application for employment, a resume, and three
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Applications can be found at www.berlinmd.gov or can be picked up
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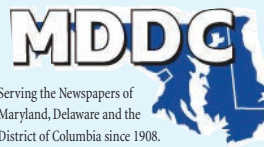
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Calendar

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

Thurs., Jan. 19

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 Rohlfing, 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 'BUILD IT'

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

OCEAN CITY BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'THE MARTIAN' BY ANDY WEIR

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join the group for coffee as they discuss the book of the month. Stop by the library to check out a copy of the book. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

INTERACTIVE STORY TIME: 'WHAT COLOR IS THE WIND?'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Join the group for a beautiful story to help celebrate National Braille Literacy Month. Stick around for a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Begins with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research by Tom Dempsey, followed by a Q&A session. Bring laptops, tablets or papers containing family information. Registration requested: 410-208-4014.

WINTER SEA GLASS ART

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Learn how to make winter-themed sea glass art. Materials provided. Limit 15. Register: 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CRAFTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 3:30 p.m. Join the group to help celebrate the Year of the Rabbit as they make some special crafts for Chinese New Year. For ages 8 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.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.

FREE HEART & SOUL CLASS

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., Ocean City, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free Heart & Soul Class. Register: <https://reg131.imperisoft.com/ArtLeagueOfOceanCity/ProgramDetail/3632373731/Registration.aspx>.

BEACH SINGLES-55 PLUS

Thursdays - Harpoon Hanna's, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 4-6 p.m. Info: 302-436-9577 or BeachSingles.org

Fri., Jan. 20

BABY TIME: MESSY FUN

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

UNSTOPPABLE JOY FUNDRAISER - HONORING CERVICAL CANCER (TEAL AND WHITE RIBBON)

Salt & Co, 12911 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Enjoy a glass of bubbly and small bites while you shop. Mention the fundraiser at check out to support cancer warriors and their caregivers. unstoppablejoyco.org

BERLIN BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'THE TASTE OF SUGAR' BY MARISEL VERA

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Books are available at the Berlin circulation desk. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FISH FRY

Bowen United Methodist Church, 8421 Newark Road, Newark, 4:30 p.m. Platters cost \$10 and include flounder filet, macaroni and cheese, green beans, cornbread and dessert. For those who eat in, a beverage is included. 410-632-1134

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

Sat., Jan. 21

UNSTOPPABLE JOY FUNDRAISER - HONORING CERVICAL CANCER (TEAL AND WHITE RIBBON)

Salt & Co, 12911 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Enjoy a glass of bubbly and small bites while you shop. Mention the fundraiser at check out to support cancer warriors and their caregivers. unstoppablejoyco.org

WALK WITH A DOC

Atlantic General Hospital, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 9 a.m. Location to be determined. Join the group for the monthly Walk with a Doc. Alyce Marzola, amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org

PUTTING FOR A CAUSE - STOP SOLDIER SUICIDE

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City. Registration begins at 10 a.m. Register teams: Facebook AL Synepuxent Unit 166 or Emily, 443-497-6894. Play 9 holes of miniature golf in 9 different pubs in Ocean City. After party at 4 p.m.

FAMILY LIBRARY DAY - TISSUE PAPER LANTERNS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10 a.m.-noon. Paint some tissue paper lanterns in celebration of Chinese New Year. All ages welcome. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CRAFTY SATURDAY: MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Make our own musical instruments. For children ages 4 years and older. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-208-4014

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

New Hope United Methodist Church, 7348 New Hope Road, Willards, 11 a.m. Includes vegetables, beverage and dessert. Cost is \$15 for adults. Carry out available. 410-543-8244, 410-713-2468

OCEAN PINES PLAYERS MEMBERS AND GUESTS GENERAL MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 3-5 p.m. Members, guests and potential members welcome. Featuring wine, cheese, meet-and-greet, election of board members and special announcements. Come and vote. <https://oceanpinesplayers.org>

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. 22

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., Jan. 23

EXPUNGEMENT WORKSHOP

Held via Zoom, 5 p.m. In this presentation participants will learn the basic rules of expungement and how to file for one. Registration required: 443-783-6164.

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 p.m. Writ-

ing 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

24TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY BLOOD DRIVE

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The theme is "Call to Arms." Each donor will receive a free T-shirt. Appointments: 888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit Ocean City Blood Drive | Blood Bank of Delmarva (delmarvablood.org).

STORY TIME 'PETS'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate pets with stories, songs and a craft. For ages 2-5 years. 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: worcesterylibrary.org under "Events." 410-208-4014

CROCHETED RUGS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 2 p.m. Bring a size K, L or M crochet hook and old sheets, cotton or poly cotton fabric or clothing cut into 1 1/4" wide strips with as long a length as possible. Registration required: 410-632-3495.

SUPER POWERED STEM: SNOW GLOBES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4 p.m. Learn the science behind snow globes. Come make your own. For children ages 6 years and older. www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-208-4014

T.O.P.S. OF BERLIN - GROUP #169

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

ROMANCE BOOK CLUB: 'WHEN KATIE MET CASSIDY'

The Buzzed Word, 11805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6 p.m. Join the Ocean City library with The Buzzed Word for an afternoon of Queer Romance and wine. 410-524-1818

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.

Tues., Jan. 24

24TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY BLOOD DRIVE

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Continued on Page 27

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Calendar

Continued from Page 25
 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 The theme is "Call to Arms." Each donor will receive a free T-shirt. Appointments: 888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit Ocean City Blood Drive | Blood Bank of Delmarva (delmarvablood.org).

STORY TIME 'BABIES'
 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

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.

SYMMETRICAL SNOWFLAKES
 Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Learn about and practice symmetry with this fun snowflake craft. For ages 5-10 years. 410-

641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.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.

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. 25

BIARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP
 Held via Zoom, on the third and fourth Wednesdays of each month, for surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatrics Center, 410-641-9568

24TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY BLOOD DRIVE
 Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The theme is "Call to Arms." Each donor will receive a free T-shirt. Appointments: 888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit Ocean City Blood Drive | Blood Bank of Delmarva (delmarvablood.org).

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

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 en-

velopes, sew signatures into book covers and more. Registration required: 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org.

FIRST STATE DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING
 American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 12 p.m. Any Marines and Navy Corpsman who have served in the Corps, living in Worcester and Sussex counties, are welcome. 410-430-7181, websergeant@firststatemarines.org

SMALL SOCIETY WORKSHOP
 Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Build your own business from the ground up. Multi-day workshop held Jan. 25, 30, Feb. 1 and 3. Jake Nail, jnail@worcesterlibrary.org, www.worcesterlibrary.org, 410-208-4014

ICICLE & SNOWFLAKE CRAFTS
 Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:30 p.m. Practice fine motor skills while making unique winter crafts. For ages 4-8 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
 Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5:30-7 p.m. The goal of the support group is to provide participants with hope for the future. Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org



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