



PHOTO COURTESY ANDREW HARPER

EVENING SPRITZ

The Ocean Pines Golf Course fountain sparkles during a recent quiet evening.

Pines Yacht Club reopens

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) If all went according to plan, The Ocean Pines Yacht Club reopened for the season today (Thursday), featuring weekly lunch and dinner specials, events and a new live music line-up.

Trivia lovers will want to bone up and head to the yacht club for dinner and trivia on Thursday

nights from 6-8 p.m. And for those who prefer Bingo, they will want to reserve Sunday nights from 6-8 p.m. for dinner and bingo.

Bingo nights will feature prizes such as free draft beers and crushes and yacht club gift cards. Bingo daubers will be available for \$2, cash only, and can be purchased through the DJ. Reserve seats in

See YACHT Page 5

Council authorizes speed cam survey

Pair of cameras possible from private provider who would take piece of action

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) Speed cameras could be on their way to the Town of Berlin following a presentation that officials from camera company Red-Speed USA gave to the mayor and Town Council.

The next step, Mayor Zack Tyndall said, will be for RedSpeed and Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing to survey potential spots around town to place the cameras.

The decision to proceed with surveying sites comes four months the mayor and council broached the subject with Downing.

During that meeting, Downing had said that Seahawk Road and Flower Street were two possible areas the town could install speed cameras.

On Monday, Downing and Kurt Zanelotti, who described himself as the principal investor in RedSpeed, spoke to the town officials about the cameras and how a potential business

relationship could look.

The cameras must be installed within a half-mile of a school zone, per Maryland law. It's possible that they can be used in front of other childcare centers, but that call ultimately lies with the State Highway Administration on a case-by-case basis, Zanelotti said.

For implementing the cameras, he said that typically the cameras are eased into operation.

"You've got a political thing in a small town," Zanelotti said. "We (typically plan it as) you have ... a two-week period (where we only issue offenders a warning ... You advertise it saying when the cameras are coming in and there will be warnings for two weeks, this is where they are. There are signs up in front of them that say, 'Speed camera school zone ahead.' It's like everything you can possibly do is done and we do it."

Signs and newspaper advertisements would be expected, too, he said.

"Once the people are there, they stop speeding (for the most part)," Zanelotti said.

See BERLIN Page 5

AGH computer systems back online after attack

No mention made whether hospital had to pay ransom

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) Systems are back online at Atlantic General Hospital following a cybersecurity attack that completely shut down the network for just over two weeks.

According to a news release issued Monday from Toni Keiser, the hospital's vice president of public relations,

the facility's outpatient walk-in lab and outpatient imaging department are now open and fully operational.

The return to normalcy followed a hectic two weeks of hospital personnel having to take care of business and their patients with the use of the hospital's central computer system.

Staff members discovered something was off within the system early on Jan. 29 after they began experiencing technical difficulties, which resulted in the disruption to some

See AGH'S Page 4



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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The 40th annual Seaside Boat Show will take place this weekend inside the Roland E. Powell convention center on 40th Street.

Annual Seaside Boat Show set for this weekend in OC

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) The 40th annual Seaside Boat Show, sponsored by the Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club, is being held at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center this President's Day Weekend.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$1 for children. For \$10, everyone who enters gets a chance to win a Sweetwater pontoon boat and motor donated by Scott and Mary McCurdy, owners of North Bay Marina. For the past 35 years, North Bay Marina has donated the grand prize.

"Without this and many others' support, our show would not be what it is today," said Charlie Dorman, chair of the boat show for the past 34 years.

The show will feature more than 350 boats, 150 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers exhibiting the newest models and watersports-related items. These will include sports cruisers, sports fishing, performance and super boats.

The show will also have on display marine electronics, trailers, canvas products, motors, jewelry, art, financing and insurance. The large number of boats sold each year during this three-day show has established it as one of the most popular boat shows on the East Coast.

Dorman said vendor space traditionally sells out by October each year. This year many vendors bought multiple booths.

Dorman said the show isn't just for boaters or those who want to be.

"We have everything. There will be free face painting for the children and vendors selling clothing, pocketbooks, jewelry, and fishing tackle," he said.

The pontoon boat is not the only prize up for grabs during the show. Scott Lenox, host of the television show "Hooked on OC," will host a fishing seminar on Saturday, at 1 p.m. Anyone attending the free seminar will have the chance to win a Mercury four-horsepower MH four-stroke outboard motor donated by Golds-

borough Marine in Crisfield, Maryland.

"This is the first time we have had this," Dorman said. "Just for attending the seminar, you have a chance to win an outboard motor. Tickets will be drawn at the end of the seminar."

Dorman also said boat show visitors can enter the 50/50 raffle for a chance at three cash prizes. Tickets are \$20 each and 10 for \$100. All funds raised from the raffle will go to See BOAT Page 8

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AGH's computer systems back online after attack

Continued from Page 1
services.

All lab and outpatient services came back online Monday, and patients received text messages on Feb. 7 informing them that AGHRx RediScripts Pharmacy services had been restored as well.

Keiser said a ransomware event took the system hostage, forcing staff to develop continuity plans to care for patients. She said they maintained operations using "downtime procedures," meaning they used methods to handle information that are not dependent on the central computer system. Specifically, they were forced to manually check patients in and out of appointments and record all other information by hand instead of online.

A ransomware attack is when hackers plant encrypted files in a computer system that lock out the network's owner. The perpetrators then demand payment to unlock the encryptions.

During the duration of the event, Keiser said hospital personnel worked to identify and address the

issue as quickly as possible while ensuring the least disruption as possible to patients.

"Throughout the event the hospital continued to safely provide care for inpatients, those in need of emergency services, patients in the primary care and specialty offices through the Atlantic General Health System and those in other ancillary locations such as the wound center, cancer center and behavioral health crisis center, and conduct elective and emergency surgeries using downtime procedures," the release said.

Hospital leaders were still working this week with incident response specialists and reported the event to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The release said the local and federal officials are working together to investigate the incident and determine whether any sensitive data may have been impacted.

Hospital officials have not said whether the return to normal operations resulted from payment of the ransom or because the system was restored through other means.

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Berlin considers installing speed cameras

Continued from Page 1

RedSpeed's data suggests that for the first week, roughly 50 to 60 percent of offenders live near the camera of which they ran afoul. But quickly, that percentage flips and out-of-town offenders ultimately comprise 80 percent of the split.

And while other speed camera companies might give municipalities a flat monthly fee, Zanelotti said that RedSpeed would fund the cameras and take a percentage of the monthly earnings.

"The process is you can do a (request for proposal), a direct placement and say 'all right we're just picking you guys' or you can do a piggyback ... and go through the whole bidding process and piggyback right off (an existing) contract," Zanelotti said. "Once you do that, once you pick the method ... you promulgate the ordinance and then we get SHA (but we can do the study without SHA.)"

The cameras RedSpeed uses typically give tickets to motorists traveling 12 miles per hour and higher over

the posted speed limit. Usual hours of operation are from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, excepting some holidays, depending on the ju-

risdiction. They are, however, on 24/7 for law enforcement observation.

Fines are typically around \$40.



Seahawk Road and Flower Street in Berlin are two strong candidates for speed cameras, given their proximity to Stephen Decatur Middle School.

JACK CHAVEZ/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Yacht club reopens for season

Continued from Page 1

advance for both of these popular game nights by calling 410-641-7501.

On Saturday, The Big House Band from Philadelphia will rock the yacht club with its powerful vocals, sax, rhythm section and list of tunes that range from Sinatra to soul, as well as Motown, funk, rock, pop, country and current hits.

And on March 24, Eclipse, the Ultimate Journey Tribute from Baltimore, will hit the stage another live performance.

Both performances will be held indoors in the second-floor ballroom,

and a \$10 cover charge will apply.

Additionally, the club will feature live music downstairs in the dining room from 6-9 p.m. There is no additional cover charge for dining room performances.

February performers in the dining room include Torrey Berry on Feb. 17, Cup of Joe on Feb. 24 and Old School O.C. on Feb. 25.

Lunch specials will be featured from Thursday through Sunday, including burgers, flatbreads, grilled cheese and other sandwiches. But save room for lobster night on Fridays and prime rib on Saturdays.

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Berlin officials discuss FY24 budget, transportation asks

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Town of Berlin Mayor and Town Council agreed to the municipal priorities listed in two separate letters to the Worcester County Commissioners for FY2024 budget requests and projects for the Consolidated Transportation Program through MDOT on Monday.

The total budget request comes to \$703,013, including \$116,013 for the Rails and Trails program. The letter states that the request only appears to look like an increase over what was requested the prior fiscal year, owing to the timing of a failed grant application for the program.

"In (FY22), the Worcester County Commissioners granted the Town of Berlin \$39,875 for a Phase I grant application for the Rails and Trails program," the letter states. "Due to the timing of the grant application, we did not receive notification that our grant was unsuccessful until after we received funding from the Worcester County Commissioners in (FY23) for a Phase II grant application."

The town is seeking MDOT's input to strengthen its application, the letter said. This year's application will encompass phases one and two as a combined project.

The only new funding in the request is \$465,000 to help offset some of the town's public safety funding for police, fire and EMS services.

"This funding request is consistent with the Town of Berlin's request for police, fire, and EMS services in (FY22-23)," the letter states.

The only sticking point for the town council was \$122,000 for phase one of a Flower Street roundabout project that some councilmembers weren't aware had even been agreed on.

In the end, the council agreed to replace "roundabout" in the letter with

"traffic mitigation."

"When did we decide that the roundabout on Flower Street was an actual endeavor of this council?" asked Councilmember Dean Burrell.

Councilmember Shaneka Nichols said she thought that the project would be talked about again before it went to the commissioners.

Mayor Zack Tyndall said that the project was in the draft capital plan as a project meant to address the issue of speeding on the road that has become a popular alternative route to Ocean City for tourists in recent years.

Burrell said that he wasn't sure a roundabout would be the best way to address speeding and that he's been under the impression that a roundabout is better used to facilitate the flow of traffic.

"I really don't think a roundabout is the best way to proceed. I know that a roundabout would be liked on very negatively by our community," Burrell said. "I really believe it would be perceived as another (inconvenience) imposed upon the community."

Tyndall stressed language in the letter that left the possibility open for this project to be changed or dashed altogether and added that he wasn't saying definitively that the best solution is a roundabout.

Burrell suggested that the requested money for the roundabout could be used elsewhere, but Tyndall said that there's no guarantee that money if approved for a roundabout, would also be approved for anything else.

"That \$122,000 is not plucked out of thin air," he said. "(It) is taking into consideration as a potential easement that may need to be secured, design and engineering costs that (the project may have). That's how we arrived at the total cost of the project which is actually split between the Town of Berlin and the county commissioners."

"The logic for that was the traffic flow is not just Town of Berlin traffic. We're getting a lot of impact from out-

See TOWN Page 8



Zack Tyndall

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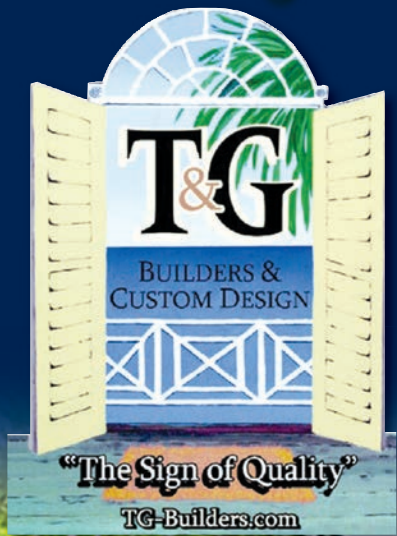


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Berlin joins police pension system

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) With the stroke of a pen at the Berlin Mayor and Town Council meeting Monday night, the town proved it was willing to invest in its police by entering into the Law Enforcement Officers Pension System (LEOPS).

“This is something we should have done a long time ago and I’m glad we were able to do it now,” Tyndall said.

The town hopes this move will help ease the exodus from the department, as Berlin police officers leave for better-paying jobs with better retirement prospects. For years, local law enforcement and its advocates have lobbied for the town to pull itself abreast of other departments in the region as an attractive

employment destination.

Mayor Zack Tyndall signed documents confirming the move following an hour-long work session when the panel and other town officials, including Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing, discussed the findings of a LEOPS study.

The move enrolls the town into the program through the Maryland State Retirement System, which will bill the town annually, according to a memo from town human resources Director Kelsey Jensen. Annual bills are sent each December and include the prior fiscal year. The town will not see its first bill until December 2024.

Ultimately, Jensen wrote that enrolling in the program is a win for the town.

“I would recommend that we pur-

sue the LEOPS program for our officers,” Jensen wrote in her memo. “Public and staff safety is a top priority. This program will allow our officers to retire at an earlier age which will create a safer work environment for them and the agency. It will make us competitive with surrounding agencies and will assist with recruitment and retention efforts, as employees are our number one resource”

The total cost for LEOPS in FY24 is projected to be \$349,815, according to the memo.

However, in another memo, Tyndall said that findings from the LEOPS study projected that the total financial impact will be \$236,000 in FY24. This is due to the casino funds the town plans to use to offset some of the cost.

Town sends letter

Continued from Page 6
side areas and that’s why we’ve asked the county to partner with it.”

Councilmember Steve Green claimed the money would go back to the commissioners for a vote while Councilmember Jay Knerr said he had heard from two commissioners that they would support reallocation.

One suggestion made was to ask for community center help, but Tyndall cautioned that the commissioners rejected a past \$15,000 request for community center help.

From the other letter, the town’s state transportation priority requests included a pedestrian bridge across Route 113 at Bay Street, a traffic signal at Route 50 and North Main Street, sidewalks on Old Ocean City Boulevard from Sunlight Lane to Main Street and Main Street to William Street, a roundabout at the intersection of Old Ocean City Boulevard and Main Street and crosswalks on routes 818, 374, 376, 377 and 346.

Boat show helps local students

Continued from Page 3
OC/Berlin Scholarship Fund for Stephen Decatur High School. In addition, the Opti-Ms members will be selling chances for gift baskets. Each basket has a theme, including beauty, beach, date night and outdoor adventure.

Tickets for the baskets are \$1 each and the winner doesn’t have to be present at the drawing to win.

“All the money from the baskets will go toward scholarships and other organizations we receive requests from, such as the Cricket Center, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore, Ocean City Recreation and Parks, GOLD, and others,” Eileen Deutsch of the Ocean City/Berlin Opti-Ms said.

Income raised from the Seaside Boat Show and other Optimist projects benefits thousands of young people annually.

“This year marks our club’s 50th year in helping the youth of our community,” Optimist Club President Christina Dolomount Brown said. “Every year we provide funding for not only scholarships, but numerous programs from sports activities to the arts. With 14 public schools and over 6,700 children in Worcester County, there is an endless list of possible funding opportunities.”

The show runs from Friday through Sunday at convention center on 40th Street.

“Friday and Sunday are good days to come. Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. it will be wall-to-wall people, Dorman said. “We usually see about 15,000-18,000 people at the show.”

Show times are Friday, Feb 17, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Worcester County Schools offers look at state blueprint

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) If there's one thing the leadership of Worcester County Public Schools knows for certain about the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, the massive overhaul of the state's education funding practices, it is that nothing is known for certain.

There are strong indicators of what Worcester County and the state's 23 other school districts can expect — this will cost county governments (and taxpayers) more money — but in a meeting with the County Commissioners, Board of Education and the public last week, school Superintendent Lou Taylor likened the blueprint's construction to building an airplane "as it's going down the runway."

"In some cases, they're building the airplane as it's taking off," Taylor said. "So that worries me ... (as to) where we will land."

One of the bigger financial sticking points is the implementation of a \$60,000 base salary for teachers starting by July 2026, the last point of a nearly four-year timeline that began this past December with the state Accountability and Implementation Board adopting the blueprint officially.

The next major milestone in the timeline is March 15 when public school systems must submit implementation plans.

"To be quite frank, I do not know," Taylor said regarding what the finished product will look like. "I don't even know if the plan is going to change tomorrow or a month from now."

Nevertheless, Taylor and other school officials broke down the blueprint, which is composed of five "pillars" — early childhood education, high-quality and diverse teachers and leaders, college and career readiness pathways, resources to ensure student success and governance and accountability.

Dee Shorts, the local system's chief academic officer for Pre-K through eighth grade, is responsible for developing the early childhood education pillar. She told the commissioners the blueprint significantly expands full-day pre-K for all the county's 4-year-olds.

"It's new and very exciting," Shorts said. "Now according to the blueprint we really have to be tracking and following what kids are doing, whether they're in Worcester County Public Schools ... or whether they're at (other schools and daycare centers)."

The county will need to assist childcare providers that want to be part of the blueprint. Should one apply, it will be up to the local system to reach out to it and ensure that it

See BLUEPRINT Page 10

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Blueprint breaks down to five general 'pillars'

Continued from Page 9

has the same resources and support as any other county school.

"In the big picture, when they become 5 years old (they will transition seamlessly to public school)," Shorts said. "That's what we're doing through the blueprint. They're all our kids by the time they reach kindergarten."

Chief Operations and Human Relations Officer Dwayne Abt, who is overseeing the high-quality and diverse teachers and leaders pillar, said the blueprint will make the process of teacher licensing more rigorous.

One incentive for meeting the standard is that teachers who receive National Board Certification will receive a \$10,000 salary bump. Abt said that the county's schools currently employ six such teachers and 20 more are working toward certification.

Principals are now recommended to teach for 10 percent, or 90 minutes, of their workday now while vice principals must teach for 20 percent of their workday.

To meet July 2026 teacher salary mandate, a five percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will be required for the next four years, Abt said.

"We have a workgroup now with our teacher's union and with management to ... look at that requirement

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- Early Childhood Education
- High Quality & Diverse Teachers & Leaders
- College & Career Readiness Pathways, including CTE
- Resources to Ensure Every Student Succeeds
- Governance & Accountability

PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is divided into five pillars which officials say all feed into each other.

and how we're going to get there," he said. One possibility, he said, would be to remove some of the current pay schedule's steps to allow teachers to get \$60,000 more quickly.

Annette Wallace, the schools' chief safety and academic officer who is spearheading the college and career readiness pathways pillar, said that

these pillars are all connected.

Her pillar, for instance, ties into the first pillar by synchronizing students' paths through the public school system back to kindergarten.

"The goal of this pillar is for us to never have a student leave third grade who can't read, to never have a sixth grader who is not on grade level, to

never have a ninth grader who hasn't earned the number of credits in their ninth-grade year that they'll graduate by the time they're a senior, to be college and career-ready by 10th grade," Wallace said.

She stressed how important it is to have students reading by third grade, See MD Page 11

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County irate over school sex education bill in Annapolis

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners agreed on Feb. 7 that they will deliver a “strongly worded” letter to numerous state officials and politicians regarding their vehement opposition to the Maryland Comprehensive Health Education Framework bill.

The legislation, HB119, now being debated in the Maryland General Assembly requires the state’s health and education departments to develop a comprehensive health education framework that includes, at a minimum, specified topics, according to the bill’s fiscal note.



Jim Bunting

In turn, each local board of education in the state would have to develop an age-appropriate curriculum that is consistent with the framework.

Under the proposed legislation, parents could opt their children out of the curriculum, except for lessons that deal with the prevention of HIV and AIDS.

“The laws, regulations, and framework ensure students have access to scientifically and medically accurate information and that all students are treated equitably and with dignity and See COMMISSIONERS Page 12

Md. blueprint coming to schools

Continued from Page 10

saying that many correctional institutions are built based on the number of local students who can’t read in the third grade.

“If you can’t read in third grade, you are more likely to be incarcerated,” Wallace said. “That’s a formula that’s used in this country. We want our kids to be educated and we know it starts there.”

School health services coordinator Lauren Williams, who is responsible for the human success pillar, said the blueprint will ensure that resources are spent where they are most needed, highlighting additional support for English learners, low-income students and special education students.

“(The goal is) that it’s not serving the population of the school but really the dollars are being used to make an impact with that population,” she said.

For instance, a school is eligible for “Concentration of Poverty” grants if more than 70 percent of the student body lives in poverty. Pocomoke Elementary, Pocomoke Middle and Cedar Chapel Special School all qualify for this grant.

The school system’s Chief Financial Officer Vince Tolbert rounds out the leadership team with his work on the fifth and final pillar — governance and accountability.

“(This pillar is) basically making sure we’re doing what we’re supposed to be doing with the blueprint. doing the reporting, getting stakeholder feedback, those types of things,” Tolbert said.

He said one concern for the school system is the requirement for school systems to demonstrate that at least 75 percent of per-student formula funding follows students to their schools.

“We’re going to have to work over the next year or two to really fine-tune

how we allocate those resources to each individual student,” Tolbert said.

“I think this is a little flawed from the state because for special (education), not all special ed kids require the same level of services.”

Despite all the information presented, Tolbert reminded his audience that none of it is certain yet.

“The costs we provided today are the best estimates based on available information,” he said. “We don’t know what future enrollment in the programs is going to be, student needs, collective bargaining has to happen and additional clarification in the blueprint. All these things that we shared today could change and probably will change.”

Commissioner Chip Bertino said one of his main takeaways was that the blueprint will cost the taxpayer more — but how much is not yet certain.

While thankful that county and school officials appear to be on the same page and working together, Bertino criticized what he said was a loss of local control being mandated from the other side of the Chesapeake Bay bridge.

“We are taking what I believe should be handled by us and the special relationships we have and we are losing that local control,” he said. “It’s costing us more. We’re losing local control and I think that is something we need to deal with in some form or fashion.

“We will get through this together but at some point, I very much believe that the taxpayers of this county are going to look at this and say, ‘We’re already spending more per pupil. What are we getting for our money, especially when the state is telling us that we need to spend more?’

“That is something that’s on our radar ... But at some point, the state has to recognize it can only do so much.”

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WCPS pacing most of state in assessment

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Maryland State Department of Education recently released statewide performance data with Worcester County Public Schools outperforming the majority of school systems in the state across content areas.

"Results were encouraging," Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor said. "We know we still have work to do, but there is a lot to celebrate in Worcester's performance on these assessments. I am incredibly proud of the hard work and determination of our students, teachers and leaders, all of whom contributed to Worcester consistently topping the state in student performance."

The full presentation of statewide scores can be viewed at the 5:10:00 mark on the State Board of Education livestream at <https://maryland->

publicschools.org/stateboard/Pages/meeting-agendas/2023/2023-01-24.aspx.

During the State Board of Education meeting on Jan. 24, State Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury and staff provided an update on student performance on state assessments administered in spring 2022 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

These results reflect the new assessment and standard setting that the state has completed over the past year.

Statewide, student performance in ELA demonstrated a return to pre-pandemic performance.

In Worcester County, student performance on the spring ELA assessments in grades 3-8 topped all other school systems in Maryland with 64

percent of students scoring as proficient or higher, 20 percentage points above the state average.

A particular highlight in the early grades is Ocean City Elementary School, at which 94 percent of third graders scored proficient or higher, a whopping 74.8 percentage points above the state average, and 87.6 percent of fourth graders reached proficiency, nearly 79 percentage points above the state average.

At the high school level, 72 percent of Worcester County students taking the English 10 assessment scored proficient, topping the state average by 19 percentage points, and landing second overall in the state, with only three percentage points separating Worcester and Calvert counties.

Snow Hill High School shined on the assessment with 80.2 percent of students reaching proficiency, nearly 27 percentage points above the state average.

In Mathematics, students statewide fell short of returning to

pre-pandemic levels; however, Worcester County once again topped the state by 15 percentage points, with 37 percent of students reaching proficiency.

Snow Hill Elementary School's third graders bucked statewide trends by showing marked improvement from their pre-pandemic performance with 65.1 percent of students reaching proficiency in math.

Students in eighth grade math across the county also saw improvement from their pre-pandemic performance; in particular, 42 percent of students at Stephen Decatur Middle School reached proficiency, over 35 percentage points above the state average for that assessment.

Similar to scores in earlier grades, student performance statewide in Algebra I experienced a decline, and while Worcester County scores also indicate some decline from pre-pandemic levels, school system performance was still second in the state, behind only Howard County.

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Commissioners upset at sex bill

Continued from Page 11

respect," the Department of Education stated in a report released last year.

The report goes on to say that the goal of the curriculum is for students to comprehend concepts related to mental and emotional health, substance abuse prevention, family life and sexuality, safety and violence prevention, healthy eating and disease prevention and control.

Further, the legislation calls for students to be able to demonstrate an ability to access valid information, products and services that enhance health; demonstrate interpersonal communication skills to reduce health risks; demonstrate healthy decision-making and goal-setting skills; demonstrate the ability to practice healthy behaviors that reduce or avoid health risks; and demonstrate the ability to advocate for personal, family and community health.

The commissioners, however, object to how the curriculum's developers would have students meet those goals.

For instance, Commissioner Jim Bunting took umbrage with criteria from the report that states that students in the seventh grade should be able to "identify solo, vaginal, anal, and oral sex along with possible outcomes of each" in one example and students in the eighth grade should be able to "identify proper steps to using barrier methods correctly."

"This whole thing is really encroaching upon my opinion of what the family job is to do," Bunting said. "Education should not be involved in this type of smut. I can't tell you how. I just think this is wrong. If I was a young person and I had children pre-K to 8th grade,

I would work three jobs just to pull them out of the county school system if this became a mandate."

Regarding parts of the framework that deal with gender identification from pre-K through the third grade, Bunting said "it's kind of disgusting."

Commissioner Ted Elder commended Bunting for "even being able to talk about this stuff in public" and concurred that it was "horrible" to expose children to this material.

"I'm sure most of us in this room, (when we were in school), you wouldn't hear anything like that unless you were somewhere you weren't supposed to be," Elder said. "I strongly support sending a letter, strongly worded, whatever we can come up with."

Commissioner Caryn Abbott said the opt-out process is backward and that the whole curriculum should be offered on an opt-in basis.

"(That way) parents have the control in their corner and not vice versa," she said. "I strongly oppose this bill."

Commissioner Chip Bertino said that the bill will only stoke existing concerns that local taxpayer money shouldn't be used to fund an education system teaching this material to children.

"This is abhorrent to all of us who live here in Worcester County, I believe," Bertino said. "Yet another step forward in the state trying to take away the rights of parents. I believe (this is) victimizing the innocence of our children and denying parents a way to parent the way they see fit."

To see the framework in its entirety, visit https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/DCAA/Health/Health_Education_Framework_July_2022.pdf.

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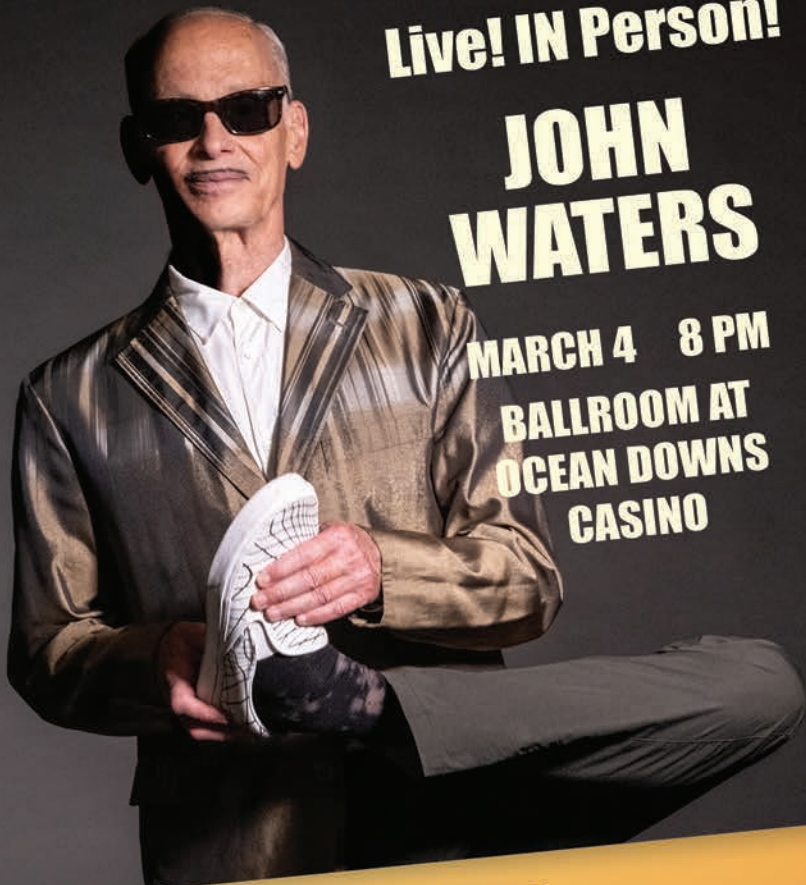
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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Out-of-state boaters may find themselves paying for the privilege to use county-owned boat ramps as the commissioners wait for more info on the idea's feasibility.

Out-of-state boating fees discussed

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) Out-of-state boaters may have to open their wallets to launch their boats in Worcester County, depending on how the Recreation and Parks department responds to a request from the county commissioners on Feb. 7 for more information.

The commissioners' request arose out of a discussion of parking recommendations and special-use permits at county-owned facilities.

Recreation and Parks Director Kelly Rados appeared before the commissioners to discuss with them the considerations for any such moves, which include legislation, potential staffing additions and restrictions based on the use of federal funds.

For instance, Rados pointed out, if the county used federal funds to replace the George Island boat ramp, it would not be allowed to charge different rates to out-of-state users than those in-state.

Commissioner Ted Elder said they would need to determine how to differentiate between who has to pay and who doesn't as well as who has paid and who needs to but saw a benefit in exploring the issue.

"This is an opportunity now to have some more income," Elder pointed out. "Quite an expense this year across the county with the extra mandates coming down from the state and the inflation that we'll have to take care of our employees also."

Commissioner Diana Purnell said that added revenue will need to be weighed against the cost of the personnel needed to facilitate the new process and questioned the vetting process.

"That will constitute more funds coming out of us to pay personnel and bring them in to do that," she said. "And how do we identify these people? Honor system? You have all that to take into consideration. If my mom and dad lived in Ocean Pines ... I'd park my boat on their property ... use the landing (there), would they have to pay? How would we handle all of this?"

Mitrecic pointed out possible traffic consequences.

"Anything we do is going to push people to West Ocean City or into Ocean City's boat ramps and exacerbate the traffic issues we have on any given weekend anyway," he said. "I have huge concerns. I can see in the future the sheriff coming in saying he needs another deputy just to patrol the boat ramps. I don't know how Ocean Pines ramps are run but it could push a lot of people into Ocean Pines to use the boat ramps there."

Commissioner Jim Bunting, whose district runs up against the Maryland-Delaware border, asked where all the residents moving in just across the border are going to go.

"They don't have any respect," he said. "They'll pull up their boat and leave. We've got to do something. There's no respect. There are arguments and fights (between people trying to launch boats) ... It would be very simple. If it's an out-of-state person ... the sticker should be on the vehicle, not the trailer."

The information that the commissioners requested for their next meeting includes personnel needs, a timeline for implementing a new parking system and associated software, and ways to shore up the county's process of granting special-use permits for commercial purposes.

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Worcester County Commissioners Briefs

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners discussed the following during their Feb. 7 meeting:

State's attorney vehicle

The commissioners approved the purchase of one new 2022 Ford Explorer for the State's Attorney Office for \$41,600 from Hertrich Ford in Pocomoke. The car will be assigned to a new position associated with the Vulnerable Adult Task Force, according to a memo to the commissioners from County Procurement Officer Nicholas Rice.

Pocomoke Library

Worcester County Library Director Jennifer Ranck updated the commissioners on the progress of the \$9.35 million, 13,000-square-foot Pocomoke Library project.

Current designs have the library featuring a community room, children's library, adult library and young adult area. Other amenities will in-

clude a history room, two small meeting rooms and a "maker" space for craftspeople.

Ranck's memo to the commissioners said the library was "deeply appreciative" to see \$2.2 million for the library in the proposed state capital budget for FY2024 and will continue applying for additional funding in FY2025.

Investigator vehicles

The commissioners approved the purchase of two new 2023 Chevrolet Traverse SUVs for \$30,459 apiece to replace two vehicles assigned to the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Bureau of Investigation.

With key fobs included, the total comes to \$62,868, according to a memo from Rice. The vehicles will need "minimal" equipment because they will be used for investigators and not patrols, according to the memo.

Ice rink

The commissioners tabled a discussion about what to do with the

county-owned portable ice rink, instructing county departments to return with proposals at the next commissioners for how they would donate the rink.

Sunday hunting

The commissioners agreed to support Del. Charles Otto on two of his sponsored bills: HB167, which permits turkey hunting on Sundays during the open season; and HB466, which permits game bird and game mammal hunting on Sundays during their respective seasons.

Length of Service Award

The commissioners approved a modification to the Length of Service Award Program for volunteer members of the county's chartered fire companies and ambulance companies.

According to a memo from chief Administrative Officer Weston Young, money was set aside each year for each eligible, certified volunteer. Upon reaching 25 years, the accumulated amount for each volunteer would be paid out.

The modification ensures that payouts are not lower than the \$10,000 intended for award recipients.

Promoter liquor license

On request from the Ocean City mayor and City Council, the commissioners agreed to send a letter of support to the Eastern Shore delegation for HB113/SB155, a state bill that would establish an Ocean City promoter's liquor license and authorize the county liquor board to issue a license to a for-profit organization to sell and serve alcohol at an event within the corporate limits of the resort.

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RELIABLE & LOCAL NEWS

The Baldy Barber joins West OC community

Entrepreneur Scott Heise brings small businesses to Pizza Tugo shopping center

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) Remember the old-time barber shop? Red, white and blue pole out front, bunch of guys hanging out, not just for a haircut or a shave, but to enjoy each other's company?

That's the vision for The Baldy Barber, which opened three weeks ago in

the Pizza Tugo shopping center, according to shop owner Scott Heise.

Patrons who enter the shop will see cool wooden stations, barber chairs and a huge chandelier.

Heise says he buys things he likes and puts them in storage until he finds a place for it. Hence, the chandelier. Expect a pinball machine and maybe a motorcycle soon. He wants the place to be fun.

"It's a community space that is needed. I am not the front person for the barber shop. Patti is running the shop," said Heise. "She has a vision of what the shop should be."

Patti Marino is the main professional barber.

She says she has one more barber working part-time at the shop. There is room for eight chairs, and Heise hopes to get a Hispanic and an African American barber to expand the clientele.

Marino offers all the traditional barber services to adults and kids.

Heise is not a barber but he is bald, hence the name. He also owns the whole shopping center. He owns Pizza Tugo and was happy to take over the shopping center.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Baldy Barber opened three weeks ago in the Pizza Tugo shopping center in West Ocean City.

"It's the gateway to Ocean City and it looked like crap," he said. "We got rid of the gas pumps and expanded the liquor store, which filled a need over here."

He said he likes the mix of businesses he has in the shopping center now, which includes Pizza Tugo, a huge liquor store, Awakened Spirit Reiki and Massage, Audrey Rose

Beauty and other small businesses.

"The last thing we were missing was a barber shop, there was none until ours," he said. "Come in and hang out."

The Baldy Barber is located at 9935 Stephen Decatur Hwy. unit 115 in West Ocean City. It is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Barber Patti Marino and Scott Heise opened The Baldy's Barber at 9935 Stephen Decatur Hwy. unit 115.



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Authorities seeking help to ID armed robbery suspect

(Feb. 16, 2023) Maryland State Police are seeking the public's assistance in identifying a man wanted in an armed robbery that occurred Saturday in Worcester County.

The suspect is described as a Black male, 6-foot to 6 feet 2 inches tall, approximately 50 to 60 years old with a gray beard and a thin build.

He was last seen wearing a multi-colored sweatshirt, a black knit hat, dark-colored sweatpants, white and black Nike shoes and black gloves.

According to a preliminary investigation, the robber entered Smith Market in Showell shortly before 9:35 a.m. on Saturday.

Police said he approached the cashier, displayed a handgun and obtained an undisclosed amount of money from multiple cash registers.

The robber is believed to have fled the area in a white Honda Accord and was last seen traveling north on old Route 113.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Maryland State Police Berlin Barrack at 410-641-3101.



PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND STATE POLICE
Maryland State Police are seeking the public's assistance in identifying a man wanted in an armed robbery that occurred Saturday in Showell.

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Opinion

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

Did AGH stand ground against cyber bullies?

No one is saying whether Atlantic General Hospital's recovery from a ransomware attack two weeks ago came about because it paid the ransom or because it restored its computer services on its own with the help of outside experts.

The public should assume the latter, considering how long the hospital's computer network was locked and the FBI's advice against paying ransoms. It's also a safe bet that AGH's and other IT people spent those two weeks instituting workarounds, recapturing control and restoring data, as the AGH administration and board of trustees elected not to respond to attackers' demands. If that's so, good for them.

As the FBI asserts, the best way to discourage these ransomware ambushes is to make them financially pointless.

This doesn't mean that AGH and the hundreds of other victims of ransomware got through this crisis at no cost. Restoring computer systems can be extremely expensive because of the level of expertise computer rescue specialists must have and the round-the-clock effort to produce the desired result.

AGH officials aren't saying how much recovering from this incident cost, but among the first to know should be the hospital's insurers, who could end up paying some or all of the bill. That's one of the reasons AGH's communications with the public were so cautious. Guidance from communications professionals advise against saying too much during ransomware incursions for fear that use of the wrong word could affect how an insurance claim is viewed.

Whether that's right or wrong is beside the point — that's just the way it is and why the FBI and other experts tell victims to have a good script and stick to it. In that regard, AGH did exactly what it needed to do.

Still, if hospital officials stood up to these cyberbullies and rejected their demands, they should say so ... and say it proudly. In addition to the computer damage it causes, a ransomware strike can also harm an institution's reputation. That may not be fair, but just saying no to criminals and succeeding is one of the best ways to burnish an image.



Great Backyard Bird Count Monday

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program will observe the Annual Great Backyard Bird Count with a bird count outing at Heron Park in Berlin from 9-11:30 a.m. on Monday.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an inter-organizational effort between the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society, and Birds of Canada to help scientists learn more about global bird populations.

It was created as a community science project to encourage people to collect data on wild birds and to display their results in near real time at least once from Friday through Monday.

The Coastal Bays program's bird experts, Dr. Archer Larned and Kim Abplanalp, will lead the count for the Berlin event.

A few species participants may spot include the American Wigeon, White-throated Sparrow, and Pied-billed Grebe. A variety of waterfowl, forest birds, and possibly eagles and other raptors may be spotted as well.

Participants don't have to be birding experts to take part the event as it will be led by expert guides, making it possible for novices to help the local organization compile data for the international effort.

Recommended gear for

participants should include cold weather gear, some sturdy boots, binoculars and a coffee mug for those who want to take advantage of the hot coffee provided at the site.

For additional information, contact Dr. Larned at alarned@mdcoastalbays.org. Space is limited so register through the coastal bays website at mdcoastalbays.org. Heron Park is located at 10009 Old Ocean City Blvd.

More information on the Great Backyard Bird Count is available at birdcount.org, which also explains how to join in the count in yards and other local outdoor spaces.

County job fairs set for March, April

(Feb. 16, 2023) Worcester County Human Resources will host job fairs in the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill from noon to 3 p.m. on March 9 and April 13.

Meet with professionals from human resources and other departments to discuss career options.

Computers will be available for job seekers to complete and submit applications onsite.

Those seeking rewarding work in a welcoming, team-centered environment are invited to attend.

Worcester County Government offers full benefits for full-time employees, career advancement opportu-

nities, and membership in the Maryland State Retirement System.

For a complete list of job opportunities, visit <https://worcesterrh.co.worcester.md.us/>.

For more information, contact Human Resources Specialist Ann Hankins at 410-632-0090.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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OP Chamber of Commerce to host job fair March 18

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce will conduct a seasonal job and resource fair on Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Princess Royale Ocean Front Resort at 9100 Coastal Hwy. in Ocean City.

Spaces are available for \$150 for chamber partners and \$200 for non-member businesses, although the fee for businesses that join the chamber upon registering for the fair would be \$250, with \$100 going toward a down payment toward your first year's dues. Businesses that do join through this process will be sent the partnership application and invoice for the balance.

Along with hundreds of seasonal employment opportunities, the fair

will feature resources available in Ocean City such as housing assistance, transportation information, legal aid providers, safety information, urgent care facilities and other information.

Employers may reserve space at the fair via the internet link, <https://business.oceanpineschamber.org/events/details/2023-ocean-city-seasonal-job-and-resource-fair-14875>. A flyer at the reservation web site can be distributed to potential employees to help spread the word.

Information about the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce, its dues and benefits can be found at <https://business.oceanpineschamber.org/member/newmemberapp>.

Worcester Co. Arts Council scholarship program begins

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Worcester County Arts Council's Student Arts Scholarship award program has begun, with scholarship awards ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 for qualifying high school seniors who are Worcester County residents interested in majoring in the arts.

Scholarships are also available to college art majors wishing to continue their education in the arts.

In 2022, a total of \$10,000, including the John Sisson family's contribution, was awarded to five students pursuing an arts education.

The Worcester County Arts Council's Student Arts Scholarship program is designed to identify, recognize, and encourage talented students who demonstrate excellence in Creative Writing, Culinary Arts, Dance, Music, Theater, or Visual Arts.

This is a merit scholarship and award decisions are based on the evaluation of talent, dedication, and potential – not financial need. The number and amount of the award are based on the funds' availability.

Funds are provided for tuition costs and fees and are paid directly to the applicant's school.

Application and Scholarship Guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website: www.worcester-countyartscouncil.org.

All applications must be received by May 2.

For further information, please contact Anna Mullis, executive director, at anna@worcestercountartscouncil.org.

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



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Pine'er Craft Club has chosen Debra Jiwa as the February crafter of the month.

Pine'er Club names Jiwa February crafter of month

(Feb. 16, 2023) The Pine'er Craft Club has chosen Debra Jiwa as the February crafter of the month.

Jiwa is a multi-talented crafter working with paints, sewing and crocheting.

She paints on a variety of surfaces including stone, glass and even gourds.

Jiwa joined the Ocean Pines Pine'er Craft Club in May of 2019 and has recently become a co-manager of the shop.

As a co-manager of the artisan gift shop, Jiwa finds herself in Ocean Pines frequently even though she doesn't live there. She moved to nearby Salisbury in 1989.

After owning a jewelry store for almost 30 years, she now shares ownership of the Finish Line Car Wash with her two sons. Being an entrepreneur allows her to spend time on her true passion—crafting.

Jiwa loves the community of crafters she has found and has been very involved in the Pine'er Craft club since joining.

It was the camaraderie that convinced her she should manage the shop, alongside friend and co-manager Barbara Herzog in January of

this year.

"While visiting family here a few years ago, I stopped into the shop for the first time and thought it was such a little gem," she said. "We have so many talented crafters. If you haven't stopped in, do yourself a favor and check it out."

The Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in White Horse Park.

"New creations are added weekly," she added. "So, if you are looking for a special valentine gift for someone or anything unique for yourself, you are sure to find it at the Artisan Gift Shop."

The club is always seeking new crafters, and its meetings are open to the public. Artisans who would like to sell their creations at the shop should contact Jiwa or Herzog, or email opcraftclub@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.

More lessons and clinics at OP golf with new instructor

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Feb. 16, 2023) Ten years ago, a junior golfer named Matt Ruggiere could be found at the Ocean Pines Golf Club before and after school, his car headlights pointed at the driving range as he practiced chipping before class.



Matt Ruggiere

"I used to spend almost every day after school practicing and walking the course until dark," said Ruggiere. "In high school I won the medalist honors for our match that Ocean Pines hosted, and that same year I won the club championship."

Ruggiere took advantage of the junior clinics and junior tournaments at Ocean Pines Golf Club.

He grew up in the South Gate area of Ocean Pines and played golf for Stephen Decatur High School. He also toured the Mid-Atlantic region on junior golf teams.

He then went to Florida for five years to tour the southeastern United States and West Coast as a competitive golfer. He played in several U.S. Open qualifying rounds and built up his professional resume working at courses like the LPGA International in Daytona Beach, Florida, and the Indian Peaks Golf Course in Boulder, Colorado.

He said he learned from some of the best LPGA and PGA instructors during this time.

The 26-year-old said the Ocean Pines Golf Club is still a favorite, because of the Robert Trent Jones design.

"Ocean Pines was always my home course. The design is just spectacular," Ruggiere said. "I do think it's one of the most challenging in the area."

After suffering from a nagging wrist injury several years ago, Ruggiere decided it was time to transition from playing to teaching.

Ruggiere has his PGA membership, which means he is regarded as an expert in the golf industry.

"I chose teaching and coaching as my career path and what I will specialize in as a PGA member," he said. "It

gives me access to several tournaments, qualifiers, and seminars that without membership I would not be able to attend or compete in."

Ruggiere created the www.ruggieregolf.com website that helped brand his teaching program.

A few months ago, he messaged Ocean Pines Golf Director Bob Beckelman about bringing that program to the community where he grew up.

"It's just really exciting to be able to go back and be the face of the instruction program, because I have great memories of growing up and playing in Ocean Pines," Ruggiere continued. "Hopefully, I get some juniors who have the same passion that I did, and I can help them grow and pursue their goals."

"I will be offering group and private lessons for all ages and skill levels. I will have clinics for beginners that have never touched a club as well as clinics for advanced players looking to compete in amateur events," he said. "In the fall and going into future seasons I am excited to bring PGA Hope, a program to introduce Veterans and Active-Duty Military to the game of golf, to Ocean Pines Golf Course."

The golf academy officially starts on March 7, but players can start booking private and group lessons now. There will be an eight-week spring and summer program for juniors and women, and a spring break clinic for junior golfers on April 6-7.

Ruggiere said his vision is to have large enough junior groups that require multiple instructors to run the classes.

"I think it creates a fun and social environment for the kids to learn the game of golf," he said. "From a performance standpoint it makes sense as well, students get used to performing and executing golf shots with spectators and feeling nerves."

For more information and scheduling for the Golf Academy at Ocean Pines, visit www.ruggieregolf.com, call 386-846-3505, or email mruggiere54@gmail.com.

For more information on the Ocean Pines Golf Club, visit www.oceanpinesgolf.org.



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The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City on Feb. 8, presented a \$1,000 donation to 4STEPS local Therapeutic Riding Program. Kiwanis Club President Bob Wolfing is pictured with 4STEPS Founder and Director Sandy Winter.

PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

Cuisine

Pickled green beans staple in New Orleans

Reprint from Jan. 31, 2019

Temperatures in the teens, the polar vortex splitting arctic air into pieces that are saturating us with frigid weather, and firewood that just won't light despite every effort are all playing their role in this being a chilly morning in the home-
stead. [Pause]



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

OK, I was able to get the fire started and the room has that smoky hint, warming nicely. The weather a balmy 23-degrees outside, I am going to knock this out before I go to school to wrestle that gorilla.

For the time being I, like so many of you, am dreaming of warmer climes – of warmer days and of course of days in and on the water.

I reminisce of lovely trips last year to the Keys and New Orleans, and of upcoming work and military reunion trips both in Florida. Of course, the convention trip is in Orlando in August, so I imagine I will be shedding a few pounds in water weight down there. But the April trip to Madeira Beach to see some Marine buddies that I haven't seen in 26 years will be a welcome respite from The Shore.

Honestly, as long as I get to travel, the weather doesn't bother me one bit. I have always suffered from wanderlust, as you may well know if you have been reading these scintillating musings for more than a few months.

There is simply too much to see out there in this big, beautiful world to stay put for too long. And as much as the Eastern Shore has grown on me, and as much as this will more than likely be my home base for the rest of my tiny amount of time on earth, I still plan to see much, much more.

For me, it is not just "getting away" from responsibilities that does it for me. If it was, then staycations would be a regular thing for me. No,

I just know that I don't know what I should yet, and if I can see it, live it, experience it and then share it with my children and anyone else, than I have lived a pretty darn charmed life. Of course, this "charmed" life comes at a cost, hence working around the clock to build the war chest so that such extravagances can be afforded, but I digress.

One of my favorite trips is to New Orleans. I have been five times, and



went last July for conference, being lucky enough to have my girlfriend accompany me. It was her first time to the Big Easy, and it did not disappoint.

There is just something about this ancient town, with its smells and sights, memorials and haunting cemeteries and of course the locals; vibrant and colorful in tradition, music, food and soul.

An incredibly diverse population lives in the French Quarter (our stomping grounds for the duration of the trip), and I have never been anywhere that is so invigorating and lovely, to be frank.

When middle school children can march down the street in unison as a rag-tag band playing better than some university marching bands, there is simply something unique and precious in that. Then again, I am a music person, so it could mean a great deal more to me than others.

As far as food and drink go, we ate everything from old school New Orleans (K. Paul's and Arnaud's) to new school (Longway Tavern).

Of course, we had to eat Beignets, but then it really is nothing more than

overpriced funnel cake and we get enough of that down here, don't we?

However, from bar to restaurant, breakfast to dinner, even I was surprised at how ubiquitous the bloody Mary had become.

Not only that, but spicy pickled green beans were the required garnish, period. I don't remember them from my last trip six years prior, but I was not disappointed. Neither was Dawn, as we started asking for extras.

Something as simple as a pickled green bean was transformative. I guess you could say that it does for the drink what the Big Easy does for us.

It's just that certain something that we need to elevate ourselves – to learn a little more and to enjoy life, and to make us just a little bit better.

Pickled Green Beans

makes 1 quart

1 pound Fresh green beans, whole & snipped
2 cups White vinegar
1 tsp. Fresh dill
1 Tbsp. Yellow mustard seed
1 tsp. Crushed red pepper flake

1 whole jalapeno, sliced
6 peeled cloves fresh garlic
1 cup Sugar
2 Tbsp. Salt

1. Clean the green beans and set aside in a container that has the beans standing straight up, but with enough room for the remaining ingredients

2. Combine the remaining ingredients and bring to a rolling boil and remove from heat immediately

3. Adjust seasoning if you like, and then pour over the green beans

4. Ensuring that the beans are covered in liquid, cool them completely. Either can them (you can find procedures for that online) or vacuum pack them

5. If you have access to a vacuum chamber, you can start eating these on day two. otherwise, you're looking at a two-week wait before you dive in. They will be edible before then, but the will not be as good.

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Students from all four Worcester County high schools received awards in the annual art competition sponsored by the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club. A total of 26 entries were submitted and are showcased in the exhibition held at the Worcester County Arts Council's Gallery in Berlin.

Wor. students presented awards for artwork

(Feb. 16, 2023) Students from all four Worcester County high schools received awards in the annual art competition sponsored by the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club.

A total of 26 entries were submitted for the contest and are showcased in the exhibition held at the Worcester County Arts Council's Gallery in Berlin.

The selection of artwork entered for the competition, including paintings, drawings and digital media, was judged by artist and former art educator, Sandy Glassman.

The competition offered a total of \$2,000 in cash prizes to the student artists.

- The winners are:
- Drawing: first place, Jacob Payne (Pocomoke High School); second, Makayla Murphy (Snow Hill High School); third, Angie Todorov (Worcester Preparatory School); honorable mention, Payton Carlile (Pocomoke High School).
 - Painting: first, Alexa Arnold (Snow Hill High School); second, Izzy Huber (Worcester Preparatory Upper School); third, Olivia Brink (Stephen Decatur High School); honorable mention, Kady Haley (Stephen Decatur High School).
 - Digital: first, Alexia Shepherd (Pocomoke High School); second, Cayden Wallace (Worcester Preparatory Upper School); third, Anisha Batra (Worcester Preparatory Upper School).
 - People's Choice: Jacob Payne (Pocomoke High School).
 - Blick gift certificate: This award was presented by Doris Glover, a local artist and WCAC board member to Luke Laeser (Worcester Preparatory Upper School).

The exhibit of students' work will continue to be on display at the Arts

Council's Gallery until Feb. 27. Winning artwork may be also viewed online

at: www.worcestercountyartscouncil.org
Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Worcester County Arts Council is a nonprofit organization whose

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

As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County arts agency, the Worcester County Arts Council is committed to fostering the excellence, diversity, and vitality of

arts, artists, and arts organizations and increasing access to the arts for all members of our community.

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

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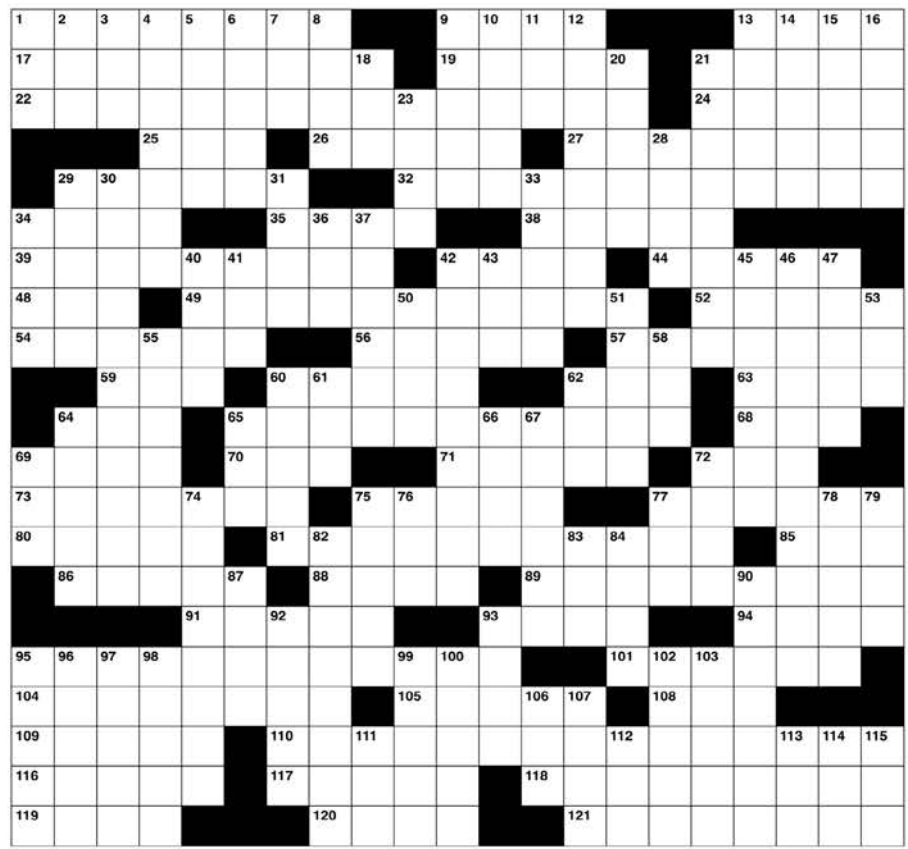
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Puzzles

HOLLYWOOD REMAKES BY JEREMY NEWTON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Jeremy Newton, of Austin, Tex., is an engineering manager for mobile games at SciPlay. He's been making crosswords for The Times since 2008. He says this one is a special accomplishment, because the idea for it has been kicking around since 2010. He finally managed to find a consistent theme set he was happy with. While creating the puzzle, he mumbled a lot. You'll soon see why. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 King, queen, etc.
 - 9 Overly impulsive
 - 13 Something in a cocoon
 - 17 It may produce both a cringe and a laugh
 - 19 Acclaimed rock 'n' roll biopic of 2022
 - 21 Emerald or aquamarine
 - 22 "That cult's initiation ceremony is brutal!" [1983]
 - 24 Creator of the games Xybots and Klax
 - 25 Bit of memory, for short
 - 26 It's quite the stretch
 - 27 Not stay outside, informally
 - 29 Spurred into action
 - 32 Bronzed New York basketball player from Bangkok [1997]
 - 34 Junk
 - 35 Prominent features of Sphinx cats
 - 38 Treaty that was dissolved in 2020
 - 39 Neighbor of a return key
 - 42 Places
 - 44 ___ Stavro Blofeld, enemy of 007
 - 48 Therein lies the rubbed
 - 49 Why the Devil was forced to pay "The Greatest" [1969]
- DOWN**
- 52 Parks at a pier
 - 54 Anise-flavored liqueur
 - 56 Passes (out)
 - 57 Not play by oneself, perhaps
 - 59 "Remarkable!"
 - 60 Bucatini, ziti and rigatoni, e.g.
 - 62 High point of a trip to Europe?
 - 63 Total breeze
 - 64 Do some making up
 - 65 Cry after remembering to meet at noon [1984]
 - 68 Somewhat off
 - 69 English football powerhouse, to fans
 - 70 Time out in pre-K?
 - 71 Change for the better
 - 72 Belly, cutesily
 - 73 "You didn't fool me!"
 - 75 One way to cross a lake
 - 77 One in the oil business?
 - 80 Actress Davis
 - 81 "You there, hoarding the Quattro razor! Scram!" [2002]
 - 85 Losing line in tick-tack-toe
 - 86 Wryly comical
 - 88 Word with pie, pot or port
 - 89 Subject of SETI space scans
 - 91 Partner of Clark in American history
 - 93 Stefani who sang the 1996 hit "Don't Speak"
 - 94 Six-foot runners?
 - 95 How one cannibal felt after devouring the other [2000]
 - 101 Like "threads," for clothing
 - 104 Latest releases, of sorts
 - 105 Neighbor of an Emirati
 - 108 Anxiety condition, for short
 - 109 I.T. bigwig
 - 110 Some optical illusions created with one's fingers [1999]
 - 116 Rival of a 'Vette
 - 117 "Socrate" composer
 - 118 Auditing a class, maybe
 - 119 Part of H.K.
 - 120 Miffed, with "off"
 - 121 Compliment to Daisy during a game of fetch
 - 1 Many a Zoroastrian
 - 15 Line at a karaoke bar
 - 16 "Hogan's Heroes" colonel
 - 18 Ambassador, in brief
 - 20 Pile of papers
 - 21 Cosmic comeuppance
 - 23 Big drinkers
 - 28 Pay (up)
 - 29 Freak
 - 30 What you get upon reading aloud the answers to the seven italicized clues
 - 31 "Works for me!"
 - 33 Historic builders of rope bridges
 - 34 Recipe qty.
 - 36 Syst. of unspoken words
 - 37 Diamond shapes
 - 40 Make an appearance
 - 41 Many a watch display, for short
 - 42 1983 No. 1 hit for David Bowie
 - 43 Work of appreciation
 - 45 Dozes after a dose, say
 - 46 Category for which every 30-Down in this puzzle was recognized, aptly
 - 47 Its loss can cause baldness
 - 50 Ganja
 - 51 Didn't go anywhere
 - 53 Filling-station brand
 - 55 "Not good, amigo"
 - 58 Missions, in brief
 - 60 "___ OK!"
 - 61 One who makes calls
 - 62 Writer Rand



- 64 Like the death of 19-Across, some claim
- 65 Grammy-winning DiFranco
- 66 Out of control
- 67 Cowboy's cry of excitement
- 69 Aerial threat during the Cold War
- 72 Classic Disney film that opens at Flynn's arcade
- 74 On display, as a painting
- 75 Tapped
- 76 Feel bad
- 77 Travel through time?
- 78 Easily persuaded sort
- 79 Things pandas have 20 of
- 82 Chew the fat
- 83 Jubilant cheer
- 84 Options for "bee's knees" cocktails
- 87 Alternative to Levi's
- 90 End of a flight, in two senses
- 92 Serves, with "on"
- 93 Nickname for Mom's mom
- 95 Grind
- 96 Brought about
- 97 "Well, shucks!"
- 98 Contacting on Twitter, for short
- 99 Compadre
- 100 Journalist in a field
- 102 Ball game?
- 103 Like the smell of burnt rubber
- 106 Rapper behind the "King's Disease" trilogy
- 107 "Copy," to a cat
- 111 Great Basin people
- 112 D.D.E.'s W.W. II battleground
- 113 Sci-fi film staple, for short
- 114 White-wine aperitif
- 115 Show with a "What's Up With That?" segment, for short

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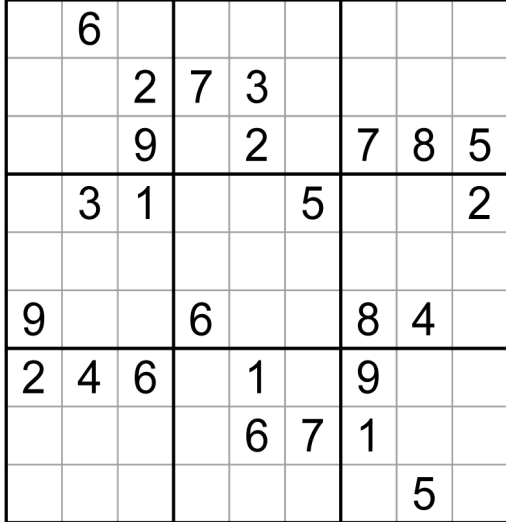
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HARD - 3

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

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



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., Feb. 16

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR RWWC FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

To be held Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. at the Worcester Technical High School in Newark. Cost is \$23.50. Reservations: gop-womenofworchester.org by Feb. 16. Info: gopwomenofwc@gmail.com.

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. By appointment only: 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 'HIBERNATION'

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

STORY TIME: ALL KINDS OF FAMILIES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Come and celebrate all different kinds of families. Stick around for a fun craft. For children ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OCEAN CITY BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'SAY NOTHING: A TRUE STORY OF MURDER AND MEMORY IN NORTHERN IRELAND'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join the group with coffee as they discuss this book by Patrick Radden Keefe. Stop by the library to check out a copy of the book. Facilitated by Michael Hayes. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin. 11 a.m. Workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research by Tom Dempsey followed by a Q&A session. Bring a laptop, tablet or papers containing family information. Register: 410-208-4014.

CROCHETED RUGS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market 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 1.25" wide strips with as long a length as possible. Register: 410-957-0878.

ICICLE & SNOWFLAKE CRAFTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines

Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 3:30 p.m. Practice fine motor skills while making unique winter crafts. For ages 4-8 years. 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.

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., Feb. 17

40TH ANNUAL OC SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Featuring 350 boats, more than 140 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. Admission cost is \$10 for adults, \$1 for children under 14 years and \$15 for weekend pass. 443-880-3602, www.ocboatshow.com/index.cfm

LEGO LAB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 12:30 p.m. Calling all master builders. Bring some of your own or use the library's LEGOs. For ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BERLIN BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'THE BLUEST EYE' BY TONI MORRISON

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

FISH DINNER

Bowen Church, 8421 Newark Road, Newark, 4:30-7 p.m. Dinners cost \$10 and include flounder filet, green beans, Mac and cheese, corn bread and dessert. Beverage included for those eating in.

Sat., Feb. 18

40TH ANNUAL OC SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Featuring 350 boats, more than 140 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. Admission cost is \$10 for adults, \$1 for children under 14 years and \$15 for weekend pass. 443-880-3602, www.ocboatshow.com/index.cfm

WALK WITH A DOC

Tune in to the Atlantic General Hospital Facebook page (9 a.m.) for a video message from an AGH representative, then

spend the next hour taking a walk on your own. Alyce Marzola, amarzola@atlantic-general.org

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS ON DELMARVA

Germantown School Community Heritage Center, 10223 Trappe Road, Berlin, 10 a.m.-noon. Dr. Clara Small, History Professor Emeritus of Salisbury University will lead this discussion. Free and open to the public. Limited seating. Register: germantownschool@gmail.com, 443-235-9803.

PROJECT(W)EEN: CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. The possibilities are endless. The library will provide the materials, you bring your imagination. Be ready for a mess. For ages 11 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

FEBRUARY FILM NIGHT

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 7 p.m. Previewing the films to be screened at the Ocean City Film Festival. Followed by a Q&A with attending filmmakers. There will be a suggested donation of \$5 at the door. Viewer discretion is advised. 410-524-9433

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., Feb. 19

40TH ANNUAL OC SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Featuring 350 boats, more than 140 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. Admission cost is \$10 for adults, \$1 for children under 14 years and \$15 for weekend pass. 443-880-3602, www.ocboatshow.com/index.cfm

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., Feb. 20

ANNUAL GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Heron Park (formerly Berlin Falls Park), 10009 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 9-11:30 a.m. Maryland Coastal Bays Program's bird experts will lead the count.

Novice and expert birders welcome. Dress accordingly and bring binoculars. Register: mdcoastalbays.org. alarned@mdcoastalbays.org

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF WORCESTER COUNTY MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10 a.m. Social begins at 9:30 a.m. Speaker will be Dr. Nicole Hollywood, Board President of Salisbury PFLAG. PFLAG is a non-profit coalition of LGBTQ+ persons, their families, friends and allies.

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

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., Feb. 21

STORY TIME 'NUMBERS'

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and crafts about numbers. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'MICE'

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

BLOCK PARTY

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Babies, toddlers and preschoolers, join the block party. Play with blocks and other toys while socializing with other families. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Focus will be on "Death in the Woods," a short story by Sherwood Anderson. The group meets twice a month to discuss classic and modern selections. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

POLAR BEAR DEN CHALLENGE

Continued on Page 29

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For best consideration, apply by 2/24/2023, or until a suitable candidate is identified. Background check required. EEO/AA

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Base salary \$19,616/year.
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For best consideration, apply by 2/24/2023, or until a suitable candidate is identified. Background check required. EEO/AA

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YARD SALE

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
Sat., Feb. 18, 7am-1pm. South Gate, Ocean Pines, Johnnys Pizza. Spaces available. **Call John, 443-880-2486.**

Worcester County Health Department

ACCOUNTANT SUPERVISOR I - Full Time, State Benefits. This position is responsible for preparing and managing the operating budget for the Worcester County Health Department. Duties include, but are not limited to managing the accounting, financial and statistical data for the presentation of budgets to upper management, as well as managing and performing all accounting functions in accordance with applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures. This position creates, monitors and manages internal controls for the department. Background check required.

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WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Worcester Preparatory School is seeking

EXPERIENCED TEACHERS

Candidates for this position should possess a degree in education. Previous experience teaching lower, middle and upper school students is desirable. State certification is not required. Candidates with experience and an interest in coaching are desirable.

Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore in Berlin just fifteen minutes from the Ocean City beaches. Worcester Preparatory School is a co-ed independent day school of over 500 students in grades pre-K - 12. The school has comprehensive facilities on a 45-acre campus just a mile from the vibrant town center in Berlin. Governed by an independent board of trustees, WPS was founded in 1970 and enjoyed rapid growth in the decades that followed. It is the premier independent school on the Eastern Shore, drawing students from Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware; some travelling over an hour to reach campus. All graduates matriculate to four-year colleges or universities, many among the most selective in the nation.

Worcester Preparatory School is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or any other status protected by law.

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

Interested persons should send a letter of interest, employment application, resume, and educational philosophy (if available) to **Linda Watson, Director of Human Resources**, at lwatson@worcesterprep.org.

WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Worcester Preparatory School seeks an experienced

FULL-TIME UPPER SCHOOL MATH TEACHER

This position reports to both the Head of Upper School and the Head of Middle School.

Candidates for this position should possess a BS degree in Mathematics, with the demonstrated ability to teach Algebra at the above referenced level. Previous experience teaching middle and upper school students is desirable. State certification is not required. Candidates with the experience and interest to coach are desirable.

Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore in Berlin just fifteen minutes from the Ocean City beaches, Worcester Preparatory School is a co-ed independent day school of over 500 students in grades pre-K-12. The school has comprehensive facilities on a acre campus just a mile from the vibrant town center in Berlin. Governed by an independent board of trustees, WPS was founded in 1970 and enjoyed rapid growth in the decades that followed. It is the premier independent school on the Eastern Shore, drawing students from Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware; some travelling over an hour to reach campus. All graduates matriculate to four-year colleges or universities, many among the most selective in the nation.

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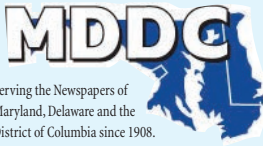
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Calendar

Continued from Page 27

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 3:30 p.m. Build a shelter for the polar bear using only the materials provided. For ages 8 years and older. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4:30-6:30 p.m. All-you-can-eat. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children and free to children 5 years and younger. Carry-out available. Proceeds support Stevenson's Children and Youth. 410-641-1137

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3 Church St., Berlin. 5-7 p.m. A free will offering is suggested.

'PROVIDING CARE AND COMFORT AT THE END OF LIFE' PRESENTATION

Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, 6 p.m. Presented by Arnold Bienstock, Chaplain of Coastal Hospice. 410-641-5433

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.

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.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 5:30-7 p.m. Includes regular, chocolate chip, blueberry or gluten free pancakes; sausage; juice; coffee; tea; and ice cream. A \$10 donation for adults and \$5 for kids 11 years and younger. Everyone is welcome.

Wed., Feb. 22

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

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

FIRST STATE DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 12 p.m. Marines and Navy Corpsman who have served in the Corps, living in Worcester and Sussex counties, are welcome to join in on camaraderie and volunteerism. 410-430-7181, websergeant@firststatemarines.org

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Church Mouse Thrift Shop, 101 N. Main St., Berlin. 12-1 p.m. Fr. Carl Mosley will be distributing ashes in front of the Church Mouse. Stop in your car or walk by and get ashes. An Ash Wednesday Service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

at 7 p.m.

'WASTE TO WEALTH - THE POWER OF COMPOSTING' & SOIL ANALYSIS PAIRED UP WITH A MURDER MYSTERY TASTING

Assateague Coastal Trust, 10959 Worcester Highway, Berlin, 5:30 p.m. Part of the "Sip and Science Series." Registration required: <https://www.actforbays.org/calendar>. Cost is \$25 and includes both workshops, soil test kit and a tasting. BYOB. outreach@actforbays, 443-856-9309

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, gmanzell@atlanticgeneral.org

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Third Wednesday meetings are offsite and will be updated monthly. Guests are welcome. www.kiwanisofopoc.org

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Soup supper begins at 5:30 p.m. Worship service begins at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

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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, 12:30-2:30pm	32763 Widgeon Road, Ocean View, DE	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$749,900	The Warns Group/Long & Foster
Saturday, 12-2pm	308 13th Street, #9B, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$439,000	Lauren A. Smith/Keller Williams Realty
Saturday, 12-3pm	33 Salt Grass Road, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$454,999	Ed Balcerzak/BHHS PenFed Realty
Saturday, 12-2pm	9410 Lake View Dr., Berlin	4BR/3BA/1HBA	Single Family	\$535,000	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday, 12-2pm	9410 Lake View Dr., Berlin	4BR/3BA/1HBA	Single Family	\$535,000	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday, 12-3pm	3 Tail of the Fox Drive, Ocean Pines	4BR/2BA/1HBA	Single Family	\$549,000	Sandy Dougan/BHHS
Sunday, 11am-2pm	3 Tail of the Fox Drive, Ocean Pines	4BR/2BA/1HBA	Single Family	\$549,000	Sandy Dougan/BHHS
Friday, 2-5pm	10615 Point Lookout Rd., Ocean City	6BR/6BA/3HBA	Single Family	\$5,599,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday, 12-3pm	10615 Point Lookout Rd., Ocean City	6BR/6BA/3HBA	Single Family	\$5,599,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday, 11am-3pm	108 120th Street, #76, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$299,900	Nancy Reither-Smith/Coldwell Banker Realty
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