



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Blue Frog Sanctuary has a spacious 'catio' for the cats to safely enjoy the great outdoors. Town Cats plans to expand the 'catio' this spring.

Towns ask for more county \$\$

Requests reflect inflation's affect on local budgets

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) Across the board, Worcester County municipalities and the Ocean Pines Association want more money to keep up with the costs associated with inflation.

Each municipality plus the Ocean Pines Association made its FY24 budget requests to the Worcester County Commissioners on Tuesday and while there were no audible gasps in reaction to the requests, each one asked for more than what they received in FY23.

Berlin's funding request by itself is actually less than what was approved in FY23 — \$2.41 million this year compared to \$2.6 million last year — but the town is also requesting \$700,013 in grant funding.

In his formal letter explaining the request, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall wrote, "In fiscal year 2022, the Worcester County Commissioners granted the Town of Berlin \$39,875 for a Phase I grant application for the Rails and Trails program. Due to the timing of the grant application, we

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Town Cats marks 25 years of fixing felines

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) Free roaming, feral and abandoned cats that live in Worcester County and surrounding areas have been lucky to have Town Cats around for the last 25 years.

Many summer visitors regularly feed the cats they find outside, but

when they leave in the fall, most of these cats are left behind to face the winter struggling to find food and shelter.

Those that survive inevitably breed in the spring, producing litters of feral kittens that will eventually produce even more unwanted kittens.

Keeping a handle on the cat popu-

lation is an ongoing effort. Kitten season occurs between April and October, although cats can give birth any time of the year.

According to Animalleague.org an unspayed female and her un-neutered mate and all of their offspring can produce 67 cats in seven years.

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Restaurant Week in Ocean Pines

Seventeen local eateries offering special menus now through Thursday

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) Whet your appetite for the second annual Ocean Pines Restaurant Week, which begins Friday and runs through next Thurs-

day.

Seventeen Ocean Pines restaurants will offer food and drink specials throughout the promotion. In addition, prospective diners will be encouraged to pick up a restaurant week card at participating locations and then visit at least three participating restaurants to get the card stamped.

Completed cards would then be

turned in at ERA Martin & Associates/Shamrock Division office at 11049 Racetrack Road no later than 10 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17, to be entered into the raffle drawings.

Kelly MacPherson, Realtor at ERA Martin Associates Shamrock Division and Kerrie Bunting, president of the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce

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Friends of felines mark 25th year of controlling cats

Continued from Page 1

In 1998, Jean Donovan decided that something had to be done to stop the cycle and established Town Cats. And while Donovan has passed away, the dedication of Town Cats volunteers continues to live on as her legacy.

Town Cats provides medical care through Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR), and affordable adoption services.

"We live on donations," said President Susan Mohler. "We try to help as many cats as we can." But it takes money. No one associated with Town Cats takes a salary, so all of the money raised goes to caring for the cats. "Last summer, we had a lot of sick cats. We paid \$30,000 in vet bills in three months."

Town Cats has a significant infrastructure considering it is an all-volunteer organization.

It has three sanctuaries, the newest of which is named Blue Frog in Parsonsburg. Tori Martin, a Town Cats volunteer, purchased a house with a large garage in May 2022 to create a new sanctuary for needy cats.

"I was ready to retire, with no mortgage when I decided to go into debt to provide a home for cats," said Martin. "After my husband died, I felt dead inside. Town Cats gave me a litter of five cats and my heart melted. That was three years ago. I am now so happy. I found my mothership."

With the help of volunteers and generous donations, she has insulated the garage, now the cat cottage, which is currently home to 25 cats.

There is also an attached "catio" where the cats can lounge in the sunshine and play safely outside. Boxes to sleep and hide are set up both inside and out, as well as cat towers to climb up and platforms for resting and observing the outside world.

"Half of these cats are adoptable. Six to seven are feral. Most are older and may have some kind of disability," Martin said.

Mohler hopes to raise \$5,000 for another cat cottage on the property. And volunteers will be expanding the "catio" this spring.

For those looking for their next cuddly kitten or cat, National Adoption Week is March 6-12.

"We will be hosting an adoption event on March 11 at Petsmart," Mohler said.

Cats of all ages and sizes will be available.

"People can also come to the Blue Frog Sanctuary to see the cats ready for adoption," Martin said. She welcomes visitors.

Any cat adopted from Town Cats will be spayed or neutered, treated for fleas, rabies and distemper and any other medical issues. The organization charges an adoption fee of \$91, a bar-

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Town Cat volunteers, from left, Pat Chance, Christine Aument, Susan Mohler, Karen Lutz (behind), Dianne Spatcher, Elisabeth Scott and Tori Martin.

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Town Cats help local felines with spay, neuter, adoption

Continued from Page 2

gain for anyone who has ever taken a pet to the vet. Town Cats works with VCA and Precious Paws and other local vets for medical care. Last year, Town Cats adopted out 200 cats.

"We always have cats that are ready for adoption at Petsmart," Mohler said.

Petsmart Charities provides an adoption center free of charge to Town Cats.

Cat lovers can help Town Cats through numerous volunteer activities too. Mohler said the organization always needs more people to foster cats.

There is also a great need for volunteers to care for feral cat colonies, animal transport, and to care for the cats at Petsmart, she said.

For those who don't want to be hands-on with the kitties, Town Cats can use support planning and promoting events, fundraising, and administration support. High school students can fulfill their service hours at Town Cats.

Beyond saving so many lives, Town Cats also tries to educate people about cats.

"We want people to understand the need to keep cats indoors to help reduce the population. Cats should not live outdoors," advises Mohler.

She also encourages cat and pet owners to have a plan for their pets if something should happen to them.

All pet owners should arrange for a friend to take the pet or identify a rescue that can help place the pet with another loving family.

"A lot of people will just throw the cat outside," said Mohler. Doing so contributes to the problem of outdoor cats.

Town Cats take care of a few feral colonies. They spay and neuter the cats in these colonies to keep the population from growing. They also see to the adoption of feral cats as barn cats for farmers to help control rodent populations.

Town Cats is recognizing its 25th anniversary with some new T-shirts and encouraging people to give \$25 for 25 years in operation.

The organization hosts monthly meetings at 1 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at the Ocean Pines library or the community center. Check the website for the location.

To visit cats at the Blue Frog Sanctuary, contact Martin at 410-279-3131. Visit their website at <https://towncats.net> to volunteer or learn more about adoption opportunities.

Shamrock Slam Pickleball Tournament March 18-19

(March 9, 2023) The two-day Shamrock Slam Pickleball Tournament at the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill will take place March 18-19.

Saturday will be men's and women's doubles, and Sunday will be mixed doubles.

Doors will open and check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m. Games will start at 8 a.m.

The tournament is open to ages 18 and older.

The cost per person is \$40, which includes a T-shirt. The price per event is \$15.

The Shamrock Slam will be the fourth event in this six-part, stand-alone Eastern Shore Pickleball Addicts Tournament series, which will pit the best against the best in the final championship in June.

Players will earn points for every event they enter based on their finishing places.

The registration deadline is Sunday, March 12. To register online,

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OP's eateries put together menus for Restaurant Week

Continued from Page 1
are sponsoring the event.

Ocean Pines Restaurant Week was initiated by MacPherson last year. She approached Bunting to see if she had an interest in helping organize it. "I was surprised to see that this has not been an event coordinated before, since other towns like Berlin and Ocean City host a restaurant week."

"Last year, after our first Restaurant Week, we asked the participating businesses if they saw an increase in business," MacPherson said. The answer was yes.

"We were constantly busy with happy residents saying they loved the idea." Diners dropped off their stamped cards at the ERA Martin Shamrock office at 11049 Racetrack Road. "Some dropped off cards more

than once, meaning they dined in at least six places or more. We originally ordered 1,000 cards and had to order more throughout the week," MacPherson said.

Many of the restaurants will be having daily specials. Southside Deli will be offering \$2 off their Italian sub, the Southside Slam, the Rachel and Ruben sandwiches. Paradise Pizzeria will be offering a large cheese pizza with 10 wings for \$22.99. Kaiju Sushi and Ramen Bar will be offering \$5 off for orders of \$35 or more for dine on only

The raffle will be broadcast live on the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Facebook page at noon on St. Patrick's Day. Three winners will be chosen to receive restaurant gift cards.

Participating restaurants

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Poseidon's Pub at Ocean Downs, 10218 Racetrack Rd | Plaza Tapatia, 11007 Manklin Creek Road #9 |
| Paul and Vinny's Pizza, 11070 Cathell Road | Abi's Diner, 10514 Racetrack Road |
| Southgate Grill, 11033 Nicholas Lane | A Bagel And..., 11304 Manklin Creek Road |
| Southside Deli, 11021 Nicholas Lane #7 | Windmill Creek Vineyard, 11206 Worcester Hwy |
| Paradise Grill and Pizzeria, 11022 Nicholas Lane | Taylor's Neighborhood Restaurant, 11021 Nicholas Lane #1 |
| Kaiju Sushi and Ramen Bar, 11436 Samuel Bowen Blvd Unit 1 | Crabs to Go, 11247 Ocean Gateway |
| Don's Seafood and Chophouse, 11310 Manklin Creek Road | Sue's Asian Cuisine, 11007 Manklin Creek Road |
| The Snowball Stand, 11065 Cathell Road #9307 | Ocean Pines Golf Club, 100 Clubhouse Drive |
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RELIABLE & LOCAL NEWS

Towns, OPA hit up county for FY24 funding

Continued from Page 1

did not receive notification that our grant was unsuccessful until after we received funding from the Worcester County Commissioners in fiscal year 2023 for a Phase II grant application.”

This year’s grant application will combine the two phases, therefore Tyndall wrote that the town is asking that its funding be retained for \$116,013.

The town is also still in the first phase of the Flower Street traffic mitigation project for which it received funding for \$122,000 and is requesting to maintain that as well.

Finally, the town is requesting \$465,000 to offset some of the public safety funding for police, fire and EMS. At the meeting, Tyndall noted this dollar figure is consistent with what the town has asked for in previous years.

“Our budget is taking shape and we’re seeing some of the impacts of inflationary pressure on business that we do day-to-day,” he said. “We’re asking for some assistance in helping divert this \$122,000 in funding.”

“(In developing our budget) we’ve come to a significant deficit that we’re trying to overcome. We’re ... pulling various levers to try and help keep things whole. We’re not adding new services or anything this year. We’re just trying to maintain the services that we do have. So we’re asking for your help and support in that process as well.”

Taking everything in, Commissioner Chip Bertino said that the town’s request is a “big ask” that shouldn’t fall on county taxpayers to shoulder.

“I just caution you that the likelihood of (having this approved), I would have a plan B if I were you,” Bertino said.

The Ocean Pines Association, on the other hand, requested \$1.87 million, close to \$200,000 more than its FY23 total.

The lion’s share of this increase could be found in a new \$150,000 request for road and bridge repairs. Another increase of about \$36,000 was requested for ambulance grants.

OPA President Doug Parks pointed

out that the \$550,000, the second-biggest line item on the request sheet, requested for police aid was “commensurate with last year.”

Bertino then asked Parks what is going on with the Ocean Pines Police Department in terms of whether everything is under control, presumably in light of Ocean Pines Police Chief Leo Ehrisman being placed on administrative leave in January, following the robbery of a police-owned shed in December.



Zack Tyndall

“You’re putting me on the spot, Chip,” Parks replied. “It’s an ongoing situation, an ongoing issue that’s in progress. I’d be remiss to make any incorrect statements.”

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said that the association “has been in the law enforcement business for 50 years” and has no plans to cease.

“There are some things going on,” he acknowledged. “We are looking at it and I’ve been to the (Ocean Pines Board of Directors) and gotten direction to go forward with being more competitive with everyone else. We’re not in LEOPS because we’re a homeowners association. We’re looking at comparable compensation packages to be competitive.”

Parks added that the board is “100 percent behind supporting the police department,” a proven commodity.

Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan

took to the podium at the commissioner’s meeting and requested a 5-percent increase to the city’s undesignated grants, which helps offset service costs that the city provides in lieu of the county doing so.

Resort government’s overall request came to \$9.13 million, about \$290,000 more than in FY23.



Doug Parks

Meehan requested changes in grants for tourism, recreation, the Ocean City Development Corporation, the Convention Center Bureau or Park and Ride services. Likewise, Ocean City asked to carry on with money supplied by a formula that allows the resort to provide fire and EMS to unincorporated West Ocean City.

“Public safety remains our number one priority,” Meehan said. “One of the things we’re doing in Ocean City is expanding city watch program (cameras) (which help) reconstruct accidents, identify people who have left crime scenes.”

Those cameras, an \$80,000 endeavor, helped mitigate the “H2O crisis,” as Meehan described the unofficial pop-up car rally that descended on the town every summer, causing plenty of headaches for local

government and law enforcement. The unofficial rally hasn’t materialized in either of the last two summers.

Meehan also highlighted the downtown recreation project that’s redeveloping a property on 3rd and 4th streets at \$5.5 million.

He also cited the redeveloping of the skate park, which he described as one of the oldest in the country and a consistent hotspot, with a request of \$250,000 in open-space funding to “move forward with the project in a timely manner.”

He noted that the city has not requested open-space funds since 2017 when they asked for \$20,000.

Pocomoke City’s budget request came in at \$1.86 million, just \$5,000 more than its FY23 allotment.

Mayor-elect Todd J. Nock, who assumes office in April, said the increase would help cover rising costs of support and materials. It will be used for public works, police, economic development and water and wastewater services.

Snow Hill requested \$2.27 million, about \$170,000 more than FY23. The request included \$161,600 for a Byrd Park Grant which breaks down to about \$98,000 to help address flooding issues and \$62,000 to replace the “aging” basketball court at the park, Mayor Michael Pruitt said.

Snow Hill hosts Shamrock Slam

Continued from Page 3

visit pickleballbrackets.com?ShamrockSlam.

For more information, contact Tyler Keiser at 410-632-2144 x2505 or email tkeiser@marylandscoast.org.

To view a full list of upcoming special events, visit www.playmaryland-coast.org.

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Globe leaseholder and HDC meet over property concerns

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) After an incendiary February meeting in which the Berlin Historic District Commission tore into a representative for a property owner of The Globe for ignoring the commission's orders and protocol, March's meeting with the property's leaseholder went much smoother.

Jon Lane, the former operator of Braddah Barney's in West Ocean City, took over The Globe property last month, but only took control of Tiki Tim's three days ago.

Tiki Tim's is the addition that HDC members described as looking like "a shanty town" last month. Lane told commission members this week, however, that he is looking at what needs to be done to satisfy them.

"I just got into the building. I know you said it's been going on (for a while) but I haven't even opened my doors yet," Lane said while assuring the commission he has every intention of alleviating their concerns.

At the February meeting, the commission directed the property owner to take down the wall and roof that had been put up without its approval. As of Tuesday, the wall was gone but the roof remained.

The commission informed Lane that no further changes could be approved until a six-foot fence is constructed around the exterior walk-in freezer located on Gay Street.

"Our stipulation in our last meeting was nothing could be brought back to this board for approval until this fence was constructed," commission chair Nornie Bunting said.

"We approved it and it was not done. There were three years. What happened then was we looked at the minutes of when the outside walk-in freezer was put in. When put in, there

was a stipulation of a fence covering it up. Now we have to have that fence or the walk-in would have to go. You're not going to do that."

He added that a "simple fence to cover up that area" is all that is needed. A door or gate could be installed on it. As long as nothing is visible to traffic, they can "have stuff behind it" as well.

"We are willing to work with you," Bunting continued. "We were willing to work with (property owner) Bryan (Brushmiller) and The Globe. Come to us and we'll work with you. Don't do it behind our backs because that's when things get a little hairy and I don't like to see that."

While the commission rejected a request from Lane to address the Tiki

Tim's wall and roof situation before the fence over concerns about equipment that has been subjected to cold temperatures, commission member Carol Rose said it was acceptable to focus on opening up for business.

"If you're trying to get open tomorrow, you concentrate on that," Rose said. "Nornie will bring the packet (of requirements) over to you, look at it and then if you have

questions, call on any of us. We're not asking you to do it ... tomorrow."

In other action, the HDC approved the plans to install planters, benches and window halls on and around the Berlin town hall facility.

The project will be funded through the Main Street Improvement grant.

The Berlin Horticultural Advisory Board, previously the Berlin Beautification Committee, designed the planters and benches to be installed along William Street. Window boxes will go in two windows in the town hall building itself.

There will be five benches in total, board member Andrea Weeg said, with the board replacing one existing bench in front of town hall.



JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The walk-in freezer located along Gay Street and behind Tiki Tim's will have to be covered by a fence before any more development or remodeling can occur at The Globe property.



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'We approved it and it was not done. There were three years. What happened then was we looked at the minutes of when the outside walk-in freezer was put in. When put in, there was a stipulation of a fence covering it up. Now we have to have that fence or the walk-in would have to go. You're not going to do that!'

Commission Chair
Nornie Bunting



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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Float of Hope shoots confetti into the air while traveling down Coastal Highway during the 2019 St. Patrick's Day parade in Ocean City.

OC St. Pat's parade, festival set Sat. if weather holds out

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) The last time Ocean City hosted its St. Patrick's Day parade and festival, the world was a different place.

It was 2019. Donald Trump was still the president, the pandemic had not yet happened, and the end of the parade route at the 45th Street Village had a lot more space for spectators.

Now, as members of the Delmarva Irish American Club prepare to bring the event back this weekend, they're expecting the festivities to be "bigger and better than ever" — assuming an early rain forecast doesn't cancel it for the fourth consecutive year.

"We're optimistic" Mayor Rick Meehan said Monday of the parade happening on Saturday despite early forecasts showing rain and wind throughout the day.

If it happens, this year's free-admission festival is set from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the 45th Street Village along Coastal Highway. The parade procession, complete with high school marching bands and festively decorated floats sponsored by local businesses, groups and organizations will begin at noon at 57th Street and march south to a judging stand and bleachers set up at 45th Street.

According to a news release from the promoters, former BJ's on the Water owners Billy and Madlyn Carder will serve as the grand marshals of the parade, and former Gov. Larry Hogan will be an honorary

See COVID Page 9



Larry Hogan

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Former BJ's on the Water owners Billy and Madlyn Carder will serve as the grand marshals of the St. Patrick's Day parade, and former Gov. Larry Hogan will be an honorary grand marshal.

FILE PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Covid, weather forced event cancellation last three years

Continued from Page 7
grand marshal.

The release said trophies will be awarded for best marching band, best commercial and non-commercial floats, best motorized unit, and best adult and youth marching units. Special committee, judges' choice and best overall entry awards will also be granted.

Members of the Board of Zoning Appeals granted a special use exception on Feb. 23 to allow the Irish American Club to set up tents in the 45th Street Village for the festival. The elements include live music from the Pat O'Brennan Trio, with the sale of Irish apparel, souvenirs and a variety of food and drinks. The exception was needed because build-out in the area changed the dynamics.

Meehan, who attended the BZA meeting as a representative of the Delmarva Irish American Club, said the request has the support of all the surrounding property owners and tenants, who are looking forward to the festivities because of the amount of business they bring to the area.

"It's a great tradition. The St. Patrick's Day parade has become the kick-off to the season and really creates the largest weekend of the year between Labor Day and Memorial

Day," Meehan said.

The Irish American Club's release said the resort's first St. Paddy's Day parade was held in 1980, and over the years grew to be known as the largest of its kind in the state. The club, a social nonprofit organization, has donated more than \$530,000 of the parade proceeds to local high school students, as well as other charities and organizations over the years.

As an outdoors event, the organizers will cancel the parade and festival in the event of inclement weather, which forced last year's cancellation just days before it was supposed to commence. In 2020 and 2021 the pandemic halted the festivities.

Meehan said the organizers will try to give as much notice as possible if they end up canceling this year. He added that the severity of any inclement weather will determine whether the parade and festival are held. For example, he said a forecast of a nor'easter or other serious weather event with high winds and flooded streets would force a cancellation. However, if there is drizzly or intermittent rain, or other more mild weather, it could still go on.

"It's unpleasant, but everyone wants to have a parade," Meehan said.



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OC St. Patrick's Day 5K race this Sat.

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) As of Monday, around 800 runners had registered for the 11th annual St. Patrick's Day 5K, hosted by OC Tri-Running Sports, this Saturday on the Ocean City Boardwalk.

"This time last year we had over 1,000 runners," said OC Tri-Running Sports Owner Chris Klebe. "So, we're about 700 off, I guess. I mean, 300 off from our pace at this moment."

Registration for the race closed on Wednesday.

A percentage of the revenue will go to the Ocean City Surf Club, Klebe said, a nonprofit group founded by local surfers dedicated to charity and service efforts for education, environment and communities around Delmarva, according to its website.

"It's part of the festivities for the weekend and adds another event for family members and people who enjoy walking and running to be a part of, and enjoy the festivities at Shenanigan's before they head to the parade," Klebe said.

Participants can pick up their race packets at Shenanigan's Pub on Fourth Street and the Boardwalk from 5:30-8 p.m. on March 10, and from 7:30-8:40 a.m. on the morning of the race.

The packets will include a computer chip that can be attached to runners' shoe laces to track their race time.

Participants will take off south down the Boardwalk from Fourth Street at 9 a.m.

From there, they will travel around the pier and pass through the tram station before turning around to head north up the Boardwalk.

Once competitors hit 16th Street, they will turn south again on the Boardwalk and head for the finish line at Fourth Street.

The runners and walkers will have to narrow down on areas of the Boardwalk that are under construction, Klebe said.

Every 5K participant will receive a wooden medallion made by local company Plak That, and all participants 21 and older will get one Guinness drink ticket that can be cashed in at Shenanigan's.

The awards ceremony will begin at 10 a.m., where winners in each category can collect a wooden plaque, also made by Plak That, Klebe said.

Award categories include first and second place overall. Awards will also be presented to the top three finishers in different age groups. There are male and female categories for the overall winners and for all age groups.

The race officially ends at noon.

In the fall of 2010, Klebe approached Shenanigan's owner Greg Shockley with the idea of holding a St. Patrick's Day race before the local parade and using the restaurant as a hub, Klebe said. They had the first 5K the following March.

"I'm a triathlete and (have) done many events myself personally, so I don't just put them on because I do it for the heck of it," Klebe said. "I put them on because it was something that was a passion of mine."

In 2020, OCTRS canceled the race just days before it was set to go on due to covid concerns.

OCTRS brought the event back in 2022, but runners had to wait-out several lightning delays, Klebe said. After the strikes subsided, many of the runners still ran in the torrential downpour.

"Some of them enjoy it only because of the fact (that) when you're completed you feel like you've really completed something," Klebe said.

Websites like Accuweather and The Weather Channel are calling for some rain and temperatures below 50 degrees on Saturday in Ocean City.

"The fair-weather runners are watching that weather forecast, so we See ST. Page 11



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Ocean Pines Players set to perform 'Four Old Broads'

(March 9, 2023) Riding the wave of a sold-out hit performance of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "A Grand Night for Singing" last November, the Ocean Pines Players is poised to get audience members rolling in the aisles with laughter with its upcoming show.

The next production, "Four Old Broads" by Leslie Kimbell and directed by Ed Guinan, is a hysterical mystery. Only a few weeks into rehearsal, the cast itself is still laughing from the quips and hijinks of these ladies.

A mystery unfolds with laughter as the denizens of Magnolia Place Assisted Living try to outsmart the evil Nurse Jones and make it to the Sassy Seniors Caribbean Cruise.

Performances are March 10, 11, 17, 18 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, in Ocean City.

Tickets are available at

<https://oceanpinesplayers.org>. All tickets are reserved seating.

The 2022-2023 season is somewhat of a comeback for the Players.

Like many community groups, the recent pandemic limited any face-to-face rehearsals and canceled more than one event.

Recovery has been slow but steadfast, and the current board of directors and roster of new members are energized and focused with a three-year strategic plan.

Ocean Pines Players is a local all-volunteer 501-(c)(3) charitable organization. For general information about the group, visit oceanpinesplayers.org or follow [oceanpinesplayers](#) on Facebook.

"Four Old Broads" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc., www.concordtheatricals.com.

Construction to temporarily close ramp, marina parking

(March 9, 2023) Installation of new gas docks at the Ocean Pines Marina is expected to have some impact on parking and boat travel in that area.

Public Works Director Eddie Wells said new equipment is scheduled to be delivered using the Mumford's Landing boat ramp and marina park-

ing lot on March 13 and March 20.

Both areas will not be accessible during those times. Wells said installation of the new gas docks would take about one month, weather permitting.

For questions, email info@oceanpines.org or call 410-641-7717.

St. Pat's 5K on OC Boardwalk

Continued from Page 10 can have anywhere between 1,000 to 1,300 signed up and then, you know, I don't know what will happen that day," Klebe said. "Even if they're calling for some rain - I don't think they're calling for nowhere near what we got last year with the storm - I think we had three seasons in one day [last year]."

The run will go on rain or shine, unless there is lightning, Klebe said.

"The runner safety is the most important," Klebe said.

For more information, visit OC Tri-Running Sports' website, <https://octrirunning.com>.

"The event is not possible without all the volunteers who give up their day to help," Klebe said.

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Commissioners decry change to sex ed bill

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) As far as Worcester County government's leadership is concerned, the state's comprehensive health education framework bill just keeps getting worse.



Chip Bertino

The House bill found its way in front of the House of Delegates Ways and Means Committee on Monday and left with amended language that might make it harder for parents to keep their children away from a curriculum that will teach them aspects of sex education and sexual health that some parents are not comfortable with.

The amendments make ... the bill even more horrible than it was in its original format," Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino said at the end of the commissioners meeting on Tuesday. "Among other things, it takes out the parental oversight. It does not allow for parental opt-out of the program."

The actual amendment to the bill, in part, requires "the state superintendent to provide notice to a county board if the state superintendent determines that the county board is not following the state board policy and guidelines or is author-



Caryn Abbott

izing students to opt out of instruction in a manner that is not approved by the state board; requiring the state superintendent to direct the state comptroller to withhold certain funds from the county board if the county board does not resolve the discrepancy within certain periods of time."

If a school board fails to adopt the curriculum in its entirety, the bill stipulates that the state comptroller withhold 10 percent of that district's funding for that fiscal year.

The amended bill does not specify what would be considered "a manner that is not approved by the state board."

"This yet again flashes a full light on what I believe is an assault on parental rights in this county and throughout the state," Bertino said. "It's very disappointing that the state legislature is moving forward with a bill that disrespects and disregards the parental right we all have to raise our children the way we want."

Commissioner Caryn Abbott said the bill will further limit local control.

"We have an elected school board that we pick as taxpayers to represent us," she said. "They're strong-arming them into doing whatever they send down or they're going to take part of



Ted Elder

family values.

their funding away. I hope that everybody in this room and listening (online) will write letters not supporting this bill."

Commissioner Ted Elder said the bill is an attack on families and

"It's a further attempt that's been going on for quite some time now that the state is ... trying to become the parents," he said. "No one will care as much about a child as their own parents. The fact that they're even considering something like this, I mean 10 or 20 years ago it would have been unheard of.

"It's something you'd hear about from some Communist country," he said.

Bertino holding town hall at Ocean Pines library March 15

(March 9, 2023) Worcester County Commissioner President Chip Bertino will hold a town meeting on Wednesday, March 15, at 6 p.m. at the Ocean Pines library.

Commissioner Bertino plans to give an update on what county government affairs and actions.

"This will be an informative meeting," Bertino said. "There's a lot going on in the county and I believe my two guests will have a lot to share."

Bertino's guests are Worcester County Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young and Atlantic General Hospital President and CEO Don Owrey.

Young has served as county govern-

ment's top executive since August 2021, when he was promoted from assistant chief administrative officer.

He is a certified professional engineer, having graduated from the University of Maryland.

Prior to joining Worcester County, he has worked for the City of Hampton, Virginia, Salisbury and Wicomico County, primarily in administration and public works.

Owrey has more than 30 years of health care experience and leading regional health care strategy.

Prior to joining Atlantic General in 2022, he spent 20 years in various lead-

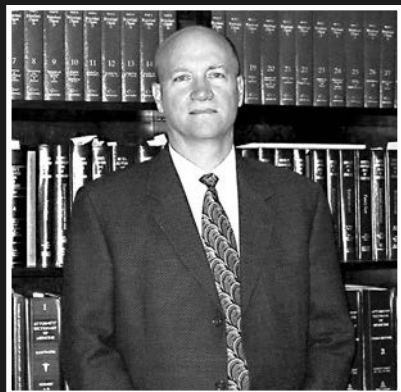
See BERTINO Page 14

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Business Briefs

Joins AGH

Allison Pusey, FNP, has joined Atlantic General Health System to provide primary care services to the Ocean Pines community.

Pusey was born and raised in Worcester County and began providing patient care in 2014, when she joined Atlantic General Hospital as a nurse technician and began working on her nursing education.

She is a recipient of Atlantic General's Barrett Nursing Scholarship and earned her associate's in nursing from Wor-Wic Community College and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wilmington Uni-



Allison Pusey

versity while working at the hospital.

Pusey has been active in the Showell Volunteer Fire Department since 2010, most recently serving as vice president of their auxiliary.

In May of 2022, she completed her Master of Science in family nurse practitioner studies at Wilmington University and is certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

She lives in Bishopville, with her husband and daughter. She is currently providing care at Atlantic General Primary

Care in Ocean Pines and will transition her practice to the Gudelsky Family Medical Center on Racetrack Road when construction is complete.

She is currently accepting new patients. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 410-208-9761.

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i.g. Burton Auto Group is preparing for the opening of its new Chevrolet showroom in Berlin with a hiring event on March 17-18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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CC7019834 (0323-3H04) ADP119092R-00 (09/22) 00278560 SCH9807-109

Ocean Pines Association to host job fair this Saturday

(March 9, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association will hold a job fair on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Ocean Pines Community Center at 239 Ocean Parkway.

Openings are available in for seasonal and year-round positions in multiple

Bertino town hall at OP library Wed.

Continued from Page 13 ership roles with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

Most recently, in addition to his role as president of UPMC Williamsport, he served as the COO for UPMC's northern region, which comprised six rural and community hospitals, a 450-provider medical group and more than 5,000 employees.

He graduated from Thiel College, in Greenville, Pennsylvania, and earned a master's degree in business administration from Robert Morris University, in Pittsburgh.

Ocean Pines departments and amenities.

"Ocean Pines has vacancies in a variety of fields and for all ages. Whether you're a 15-year-old looking for your first job, a retiree looking for part-time work or someone interested in a full-time, year-round career, we'd like to meet you," said Ocean Pines Human Resources Manager Lisa Carson.

Individuals interested in serving as police officers, lifeguards, public works laborers, junior and senior camp counselors, racquet center attendants, golf cart attendants or seasonal front desk clerks are encouraged to attend.

Representatives from departments including Police, Aquatics, Public Works, Racquet Sports, Recreation and Parks, Golf and Administration will be on site to meet with potential candidates and discuss available job opportunities.

Job fair attendees are asked to bring a completed employment application, available at oceanpines.org/we/pages/work-here. Applications will also be available at the event.

For more information, contact hr@oceanpines.org or call 410-641-7717 ext. 3007.

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Ocean Pines Anglers Club asks fishers for catch data

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(March 9, 2023) The Ocean Pines Anglers Club is asking local anglers to log and submit their catch data to help make recreational fishing statistics more complete.

The catch data is part of the NOAA Fisheries' Marine Recreational Information Program, a state, regional and federal partnership that develops, implements, and seeks to improve a national network of recreational fishing surveys to estimate total recreational catch.

These estimates are combined with commercial catch data and biological research to help scientists and managers assess and maintain sustainable fish stocks. To view the form, visit <https://fishinoc.com/fish-data>.

Data collected includes the name and

contact of the angler, the species, date and location of catch, length and whether the fisher released or kept the fish. The form is short and will take less than a minute to fill out.

"This is a massive program that runs along both coasts of the country and the Gulf," said Buddy Seigel of the Ocean Pines Anglers Club.

The concern, according to Seigel, is that when the agency does not have enough data, it takes the number from previous years or regions.

"We are advocating for people to submit data, so their data is more accurate," Seigel said.

These data are used to provide the states with information necessary to assign limits to the fisheries (e.g., four summer flounder at 16 inches), so that the states can catch their rightful limits.

Gallery artists featured at March 10 open house event

(March 9, 2023) During the month of March, the Worcester County Arts Council will present an exhibit featuring artwork by two Gallery Co-Op Artists: Jim Coltellino, mixed media, and Mary Fishel, photography.

The opening reception of this exhibit will be held on Friday, March 10, from 5-7 p.m. Come meet the artists and enjoy complimentary refreshments.

Exhibit on display through March 31.

Selected pieces of artwork, donated by featured artists, are available for bidding during the silent auction to benefit the Arts Council's Arts Scholarship program.

Visit the Arts Council's Gallery, located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin, Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to view the exhibits and place a bid.

In addition to the featured artists' exhibit, artworks created by 30 artists

and members of the Co-Op Gallery are on display and available for purchase.

For more information about featured artists and Arts Council's programs and services, visit www.worcestercountyartscouncil.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.

As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County official 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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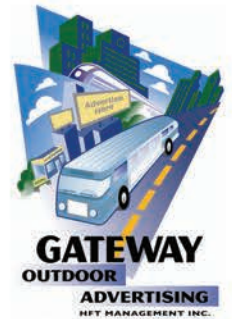
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Delmarva Blood Bank declares emergency

(March 9, 2023) Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD) declared its first blood emergency of 2023 this week.

The blood emergency is due to several evolving factors, including school breaks, cold and flu season, and the lingering effects of covid-19.

In January, BBD received 1,000 fewer donations than the previous January.

The number of blood donations still are not back to pre-pandemic levels.

Compounding the problem is a continued lag in first-time and youth donors, which remain one-third below (33 percent) pre-pandemic levels.

This has caused a long-term ripple effect as BBD introduces its youngest

donors to the importance of donations at high school and college blood drives.

In addition, office and community blood drives and visits to local centers and mobile drives are significantly down.

“Each winter, we struggle to get folks to donate blood and this year is no exception. We need more [people] to donate blood and platelets, host blood drives and spread the word about the need for donations this spring,” said Emily Cunningham, vice president, Blood Bank of Delmarva. “We recently announced new donor guidelines from the FDA that expanded the pool of donors; we are growing in every way we can in order

to reach new donors. This March, make a blood donation and bring a friend.”

In addition to whole blood donors, platelet donors are urgently needed. With a shelf life of just five days, BBD relies on dedicated platelet donors to help patients undergoing chemotherapy, those with bleeding disorders, new mothers, and more.

Blood donors can give every 56 days, and platelet donors can give twice per month.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently lifted eligibility restrictions for individuals who lived in Europe during certain periods of time.

The need for blood products is con-

stant, but the supply is not. Visit www.DelmarvaBlood.org to schedule an appointment to donate, or call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8.

Founded in 1954, Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD) is a non-profit community service organization that provides blood and blood products to 19 hospitals on the Delmarva Peninsula.

More than 79,000 blood donations are needed in this area each year for about 20,000 patients across the Delmarva Peninsula.

Blood Bank of Delmarva merged with New York Blood Center in August 2019 and is a member of America’s Blood Centers, AABB and Blood Centers of America.

Seasonal job, resource fair Mar. 18

(March 9, 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>.

Foundation offers students \$600K in scholarships

(March 9, 2023) More than \$600,000 in scholarships are available for area students through the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore.

The foundation, which awarded scholarships to over 400 students last year, has recently opened applications on its website. Many of the scholar-

See FOUNDATION Page 21

Locals' Favorite

2023 Soup & Sandwich Sales

FINAL EVENT FOR 2023

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Benefiting Atlantic United Methodist Church

4th Street & Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842

A 'Thursday Must', 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

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March 16, 2023

Winter is here, there's a bite in the air, but the cooks at Atlantic United Methodist Church have planned winter soup specials to keep you warm.

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- ❖ Homemade Vegetable Beef Soup
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Mar 16 2023 Ad for Local Papers



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Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FUNDRAISER

(Above) Worcester Prep Head of School Dr. John McDonald is joined by fellow Miami Dolphin fans in support of his college roommate and teammate Army Cpl. Chris Coffland and the Catch a Lift foundation. Pictured with Dr. McDonald, from left, are Wesley Wisniewski, McKenna DePalma and Vivien Ruggerio. Worcester Preparatory School held "Super Bowl Friday" on Feb. 10, and for a \$2 donation to Catch a Lift (CAL), students and staff were able to wear their favorite team's jersey or colors. (Left) Worcester Prep Lower School Philadelphia Eagles fans take a photo with Assistant Head of School/Head of Upper School Mike Grosso.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Prep seventh graders were happy to wear their favorite jerseys in support of Catch a Lift. Pictured, in front, from left, are Scarlett Shimko, Rani Yonker and Harper Hertrich, and in back, Samantha Kuon, Nora Gorfinkel and Vivien Ruggerio.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Prep third graders, from left, Tobi Blaska, Carter Harrison, Jack Fitzgerald Parks, Jace Zervakos and Peter Van Dalen show off their jerseys.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PORTRAIT DONATION

A portrait of Commodore Stephen Decatur Jr. was gifted to the Worcester County Historical Society by Catherine Spence. It will be displayed in the Maryland Room of the Berlin Branch Library. Pictured are Jennifer Ranck, Worcester County Library director, and Newt Weaver, Worcester County Historical Society president.



SENATE PAGE

Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-District 38) is pictured with William Kozma, a Senate Page and a senior of Stephen Decatur High School, on the Senate floor.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW MEMBERS

The Coastal Association of Realtors welcomed 18 new members during New Member Orientation on Feb. 16. Pictured, in back, from left, are Wesley Rogers with Long and Foster, Joe Martenson with Keller Williams, Kevin Brittingham with eXp Realty, Erin Failaev with ERA Martin, Jesse Thompson with Compass, Charles Riccio with Redfin, Michael Payan with Atlantic Shores Sotheby's, and Austin Connick with Atlantic Shores Sotheby's; middle row, Cortney Dayton with Keller Williams, Zlatica Koscina with Coldwell Banker, Michele Steele with eXp Realty, Rachel Shapiro with Coldwell Banker, Haley Jackson with Compass, and Anisa Impastato with Century 21; and on front, Haille Spicer with Long and Foster, Sarah McGee with Keller Williams, Robyn Kaspersky with Vision Realty and Eden Cavich with Atlantic Shores Sotheby's.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

AARP LUNCHEON

AARP Ocean City Chapter 1917 President Bob McCluskey attended the organization's luncheon at Blue Fish restaurant on Feb. 8, with over 50 members. The AARP Ocean City Chapter 1917 meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Ocean City Senior Center on 41st Street, beginning at 9:30 a.m.



SENIOR BREAKFAST

The Worcester Prep Alumni Association sponsored a breakfast to celebrate the last 100 days of school for the senior class on Feb. 10. Seniors gathering with their parents, from left, are Anna Bushnell '96 with her son, Brody; Parker Tingle with his mom, WPS Director of Development Amy Tingle; Head of Middle School Megan Wallace with her son, Cayden; and Alumni Association President Chris Hoen '90 with his daughter, Caitlyn. (Below, left) Pictured are seniors Sajiv Satyal, Cayden Wallace, Ian Lewis, Luke Loeser, Rory Pugh and Jason Todorov. (Below, right) Pictured are seniors Kathy Zhang, Sophia Spadaro, Annie Carter, Caitlyn Hoen, Ava Wilsey, Jenna Hess and Anma Iqbal.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Opinion

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

Towns, OP and county play annual tax game

When Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino said one of the budget requests from the Town of Berlin on Tuesday shouldn't fall on the shoulders of county taxpayers, he overlooked a significant point — Berlin taxpayers are county taxpayers too.

All taxpayers in Worcester's municipalities are also county taxpayers, and they contribute a huge portion of the county's tax revenue. Considering that, what Bertino should have said is that a portion of Berlin's request should not fall on the shoulders of county taxpayers who live elsewhere.

But that really isn't the point. In the game of tax rates, it isn't a question of property owners having to pay taxes for things and services that don't benefit them directly — there's quite a bit of that — it's a matter of whose tax rate gets blamed.

Obviously, the county's elected officials want to be re-elected, as do their counterparts in Berlin, Ocean City, Snow Hill and Pocomoke, so it's in the interest of all these officials to try to shift the tax burden to another entity. Meanwhile, the taxpayer will still have to pay, assuming that the particular service or improvement to be funded is needed or wanted by residents.

In the meantime, the county has its own problems with tax burdens imposed by another entity over which it has no control. State-required education spending dominates the county's budget and there's not one thing the county can do about it.

The bottom line is all the municipalities and the Ocean Pines Association want to push the expense of something they desire onto the county's books, while the county wants to keep as much as possible of the communities' contributions to help cover its own to-do lists and obligations.

There just isn't enough money to go around, not that there ever was, which reduces the whole business of tax rates and property assessments down to a matter of who can brag about holding the line and who can't.



“Too early? Have you never heard of the Twelve Days of Saint Patrick!?”

Letters

Speed camera spot suggestion

Editor,

Since the Town of Berlin is exploring locations for speed control cameras, I believe Old Ocean City Boulevard between Route 113 and Route 50 should be added to the list.

The road is less than half a mile from Stephen Decatur high and middle schools.

Also on the street are Atlantic General Hospital and two veterinarians' offices.

Even though the speed limit is 40 miles per hour, I have seen many vehicles speeding over the limit.

At times it is almost suicidal to exit the medical parking lots, especially those of the veterinarians.

Maybe if the pockets of some of the speeders were emptied they would learn to slow down.

Bob Faszczewski
Berlin

Arts Council showcasing youth art

(March 9, 2023) In celebration of Youth Art Month, observed nationally in March, the Worcester County Arts Council will showcase a vibrant selection of artwork created by Worcester County Public Schools' elementary students who participated in the Arts Camp program sponsored by the Arts Council.

“We are grateful for the continued partnership with the Worcester County Public School system that allows the Arts Council to make art experiences available to a more inclusive and diverse student population in Worcester County,” said Anna Mullis, Worcester County Arts Council executive director. Youth Art Month celebrates

exceptional arts education programs by highlighting the value of art education for all students and encouraging support for quality school art programs.

“The Arts in Education program, sponsored by the Arts Council, emphasizes lifelong learning, and supporting arts programs in our local schools is one of the Arts Council's core priorities,” Mullis said. “Youth Art Month is a tribute to teachers that inspire their students to explore new avenues of creative expression.”

The exhibit of students' artwork is on display until the end of March at the Arts Council Gallery located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday,

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information about the Arts Council's programs and services, visit www.worcestercountysartsCouncil.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.

As the official county arts agency, designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County, 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.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Two Delaware men arrested for murder, other charges

(March 9, 2023) A Delaware man wanted on murder charges was arrested in Berlin last week, according to a release issued by the Delaware State Police.

Police arrested Jaron Curtis, 24, of Dagsboro, Delaware, and Kevin Stone, 61, of Georgetown, Delaware, for murder and related charges following an incident on Feb. 27.



Jaron Curtis

tim several times. The suspects then reportedly fled on foot.

Emergency Medical Services took the victim to an area hospital, where he died from his injuries, police said.



Kevin Stone

Detectives soon determined that Curtis and Stone were the suspects in the homicide and obtained warrants for their arrest.

On March 3, a search warrant was conducted by members of the Maryland State Police and the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force at a residence on Bethel Road, in Berlin.

During the execution of the search warrant, Curtis was taken into custody without incident.

Curtis was arrested on an out-of-state fugitive warrant and is being held by the Department of Corrections pending extradition to Delaware on the charges of murder 1st degree, possession of a

See POLICE Page 23

At approximately 8:28 p.m., the Georgetown Police Department went to the Dunbarton Apartments for a reported shooting.

When officers arrived in one of the apartments, they found a man suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. A preliminary investigation revealed that the victim was a visitor at the apartment at the time of the shooting.

According to police, a woman knocked on the apartment door and the victim let her in but was soon followed by an unknown male who shot the vic-

Foundation offers scholarships

Continued from Page 17
ships have an April 1, deadline, and details are available within each application.

“Scholarships are an investment in our future leaders and create an incredible impact in our local community,” said Community Foundation President Erica Joseph. “The foundation offers a wide variety of scholarships, each with their own unique criteria, and the foundation’s expertise in scholarship management allows us to help our donors grow these opportunities.”

The foundation, which holds more than 200 scholarship funds, has steadily increased the number of scholarships available each year. It has also seen an expansion in areas of scholarship focus, as well as scholarships for non-traditional students.

“While many scholarships are for high school seniors, we are seeing an increased interest in scholarships for non-traditional students and trade schools,” Joseph said. “For instance, the Naleppa Family Healthcare Scholarship focuses on students who have already been accepted into a healthcare education program, such as a two-year nursing program, whereas the Beattie Healthcare Careers Scholarship is for students who have already begun their undergraduate study in a healthcare field.”

Some scholarships are based on the student’s prospective area of study, like The Richard and Patricia Hazel Minority Scholarship which is for students who are interested in pursuing a career in education, STEM, or nursing.

Other scholarships available at the foundation may have criteria based on

what school a student went to, athletic activities, church affiliations, or civic involvement.

“Scholarship funds at CFES are a valuable resource for people who want to help local students,” Joseph said. “They are created by individuals, families, or businesses that are passionate about encouraging an area of study, memorializing a loved one, or simply extending a helping hand, so there is a little something for everyone.”

For a full list of scholarships, criteria, and applications, visit CFES.org/scholarships.

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Resident and dog rescued from Pocomoke house fire

(March 9, 2023) The Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office investigated a house fire at 1936 Cedar Hall Road in Pocomoke City on Sunday.

When the Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company was dispatched for a house fire at 7:45 a.m., the company arrived to see smoke and fire coming from the second floor of the home. Crews were quickly able to assist the resident and a dog out of the

residence and the fire was swiftly brought under control.

One firefighter was injured during suppression operations and was taken by Pocomoke EMS to Tidal-Health in Salisbury where he was treated and released.

Fire investigators determined the fire was accidental and originated from an appliance in the kitchen. Smoke alarms were present and operational at the time of the incident, the fire marshal said.

Pocomoke was assisted by Snow Hill, Stockton, Girdletree and New Church, Virginia Volunteer fire departments.

The Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office investigated a residential structure fire, which occurred at 1936 Cedar Hall Rd in Pocomoke City on March 5.

PHOTO COURTESY POCOMOKE CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

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www.baysideoc.com

Police seek help in murder case

Continued from Page 21
firearm during the commission of a felony, and conspiracy 2nd degree.

Also on March 3, Stone was charged while in custody at the Sussex Correctional Institution.

He was charged with murder 1st degree and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

Stone was arraigned in the Justice of the Peace Court #2 and remained in the custody of the Sussex Correctional Institution on a \$1,060,000 cash bond.

Detectives are asking anyone with information regarding this case to contact Detective B. McDerby by calling 302-741-2821.

Information may also be provided by sending a Private Facebook Message to the Delaware State Police or contacting Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-847-3333.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of a crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and need assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit / Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll-free hotline at 1-800-VICTIM-1 (1-800-842-8461). Or, email the Victim Services Unit at DSP_VictimServices-Mail@delaware.gov.

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Cuisine

Two layers of strawberry shortcake dessert

St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner, or as many of us in the area call it, "Amateur Night."



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

It is an evening, and in some instances an entire day, of drinking and shenanigans.

Why do we celebrate the day in the first place? Well, it has something to do with St. Patrick, but as a dissident

Catholic I have forgotten most of what I learned as a child.

I do recollect, however, that the day celebrates the death of this saint as opposed to his birth as we celebrate other celestial celebrities, which I always found strange. But that is neither here nor there.

We celebrate the man's death by tearing up downtown bars and spending days in rehab and detox. Or at least "they" do.

As much as I like to imbibe, I have only been out on St. Patrick's Day once or maybe twice.

Of course, I have worked many of them, but as far as going out and tearing up the streetlights, it has never been my jam, as quoth the youth.

With all of my curmudgeonly griping aside, the day does signify something that is so near and dear to many of us here at the beach.

For restaurant and bar managers, it means the nightmare of the season is impending. For line employees – servers, cooks and bartenders – it means that more hours and more money are almost at-hand.

And for restaurant and bar owners, it means that we are about to dig out of the winter doldrums and start catching up on bills. Ah yes, the halcyon days of summer are almost upon us.

By the time this goes to print, we will be eight days from St. Patrick's Day and before you know it, winter will be back and I will be complaining about the slush and sleet. And so it goes in my Groundhog Day of a writer's existence.

But what pray tell does strawberry shortcake have to do with St. Patrick's Day, you may ask?

Absolutely nothing, except that the day ushers in the spring and summer seasons, and absolutely nothing screams summertime dessert like this ubiquitous offering.

We are about two and a half



months-ish away from picking our own strawberries at our local farms, and we used to love taking the kids to pick a batch.

Who remembers that? Taking little kids to the patch, wanting to support small business and also teaching our tykes the proper berry to pick. And, then you have that one kid who prefers the small, green berries because they are prettier.

So your one tub is filled with dead, premature berries that you still end up paying for so as to support your local farmer. It's all in a day's work.

No, this dessert is a reminder of the season to come.

It is a tribute that says farewell to the hearty stews and roasts of winter, and ushers in the fresh and vibrant menus that will be adorning our tables soon.

And it literally could not be simpler. This is as 'grandma wants to sit down with her gin & tonic now' as you can get.

So, I say welcome spring, welcome Summer, and laissez les bons temps roulez!

Strawberry Shortcake

serves 6

- 1 loaf pound cake, sliced into 12 slices
- 2 c. Mascarpone whipped cream (recipe follows)
- 4 c. Macerated strawberries (recipe follows)

2 c. Strawberry coulis (recipe follows)

- After preparing all of the ingredients below, set 6 chilled bowls on the countertop for assembly.
- Pour 1/2 c. coulis into each bowl.
- Place a piece of pound cake in the coulis.
- Top with some whipped mascarpone, then some berries with their juices.
- Repeat for a second layer, with the berries and juices drizzling off the top.
- You may garnish this with mint if you personally need more color, but it is a bit superfluous, as mint is nowhere else in the recipe. The berries shine through and speak for themselves in this dish.

2 c. Strawberry coulis (recipe follows)

Mascarpone Whipped Cream

makes about 2 cups

- 1 c. Heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 c. Mascarpone cheese
- 1/4 c. Powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. Vanilla extract
- Combine all ingredients in a stand mixer or bowl to whip by hand.
- Whip until just under stiff peaks. You want to go a little further than soft peaks, as you will be stacking this dessert.
- Set aside until ready to assemble.

Macerated Strawberries

makes about 4 cups

- 4 c. Hulled and sliced strawberries
- 1/2 c. Granulated sugar
- Mix the ingredients and allow to stand refrigerated for at least an hour. The sugar is hygroscopic, which means it draws moisture out of things. That is exactly what it does here, and the juice from the strawberries will combine with the sugar to create the most amazingly simply and crystal clear strawberry syrup.
- Keep chilled until ready for use.

Strawberry Coulis

makes about 2 cups

- 2 c. Sliced and hulled strawberries
- 1/2 c. Sugar
- 1/4 c. Water
- Put all ingredients in a small saucepan, cooking until the water comes to a boil and the sugar has dissolved.
- Stir until well combined and remove from heat.
- to cool enough to place in a good blender and puree until perfectly smooth.
- Strain if needed (if it is a good blender, you will not need to) and chill until service.

— Paul Suplee is the owner of the boxcar restaurants and is also Senior Lecturer of Culinary Arts at UMES.
www.boxcarrestaurants.com

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., March 9

OCEAN PINES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10 a.m. Maureen Kennedy, from "My Backyard," will speak about hummingbirds and other backyard birds. Guests/new members welcome. Ann Shockley, 410-688-1975; Patti Lookner, 410-973-1243

PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Join the group for a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

INTERACTIVE PUPPET SHOW: THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Fun, interactive version of this adorable fable. Stick around after for a craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CHESS CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Meet new friends and play some chess. Bring your boards. All are welcome. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WORCESTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT JOB FAIR

Worcester County Human Resources, 1 W. Market St., Snow Hill, 12-3 p.m. Meet professionals from Human Resources and other departments to discuss career options. Computers available onsite. For a complete list of job opportunities: <https://worcesterr.co.worcester.md.us/>. 410-632-0090

TRIVIA WITH THE LIBRARY

Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st St., Ocean City, 2 p.m. Test your knowledge and win prizes. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH COLLAGES

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 3:30 p.m. Celebrate Women's History Month by creating collages inspired by art from the '90s. For ages 13-16 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SURVIVAL SPANISH: STUDENT EDITION: SPORTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4 p.m. Join Miss Morgan for this introductory Spanish program focusing on sports. For ages 7-12 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ZUMBA

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

MARYLAND AND COASTAL BAYS TRIVIA NIGHT

Seacrets - Morley Hall, 117 49th St., Ocean City, 5:30-8 p.m. To prepare for the event, participants can check out Maryland Coastal Bays Program's social media posts, publications and creature features. There will also be a bucket raffle. lwist@mdcoastalbays.org

WSW'S 21ST ANNUAL PINK RIBBON BINGO

Willards Lion Club, 36393 Hearn St., 6 p.m. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 in advance/\$40 at door. Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wsw-21st-annual-pink-ribbon-bingo-tickets-473548144247?aff=ebdssbdestsearch> our at the office.

FREE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING

Ocean City Public Safety Building, 6501 Coastal Highway, 6:30 p.m. 2023 CERT classes will run each Thursday for seven weeks. Providing citizens with basic information for preparedness and techniques when dealing with emergencies. Register: 410-723-6616.

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., March 10

JON LAMPLEY JOINS MARC ROBERGE PERFORMANCE

Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8 p.m. Marc Roberge, lead singer of O.A.R., will be joined by Jon Lampley, an established multi-instrumentalist. Tickets: <https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events/Marc-Roberge>.

BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes and finger plays. For children aged up to 2 years and their caregivers. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

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

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM' BY MARIE BENEDICT

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the Ocean Pines Library front desk. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SUPER POWERED STEM: LEPRECHAUN TRAPS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Using the materials provided, build your best trap to catch the famed Leprechaun. For ages 7 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. Cost is \$14 for platter with one crab cake sandwich, \$24 for platter with two crab cake sandwiches and \$10 for crab cake sandwich only. Eat in or carry out. Bake table available.

WORCESTER COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

Ocean Pines Yacht Club, 1 Mumford Landing Road. Doors open at 4:30, buffet dinner at 5:30 p.m. and show at 7 p.m. Cost is \$70, cash bar. Single tickets and tables of 10. Checks may be sent to WCVMF, PO Box 1576, Ocean Pines, MD 21811. 410-603-4777

'FOUR OLD BROADS' PERFORMANCE

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 7:30 p.m. "Four Old Broads" is a hysterical mystery as these ladies try to outsmart the evil Nurse Jones to make it to the Sassy Seniors Caribbean Cruise. Tickets: <https://oceanpinesplayers.org>.

Sat., March 11

ST. PATRICK'S PARADE & FESTIVAL

At noon, the parade runs south on Coastal Highway from 57th Street to the 45th Street Shopping Center, where the viewing bleachers, judging stand and festival (11 a.m. to 3 p.m.) will be located.

OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION JOB FAIR

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 9 a.m.-noon. Seasonal and year-round positions are available for all ages. Bring a completed application, available at oceanpines.org/we/pages/work-here or at the event. hr@oceanpines.org, 410-641-7717, Ext. 3007

TINKER TIME: LEPRECHAUN TRAPS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Drop in anytime to build a leprechaun trap. Supplies provided. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 a.m. Don Pino of "Hook Optics by An Optical Galleria" will speak on "Protecting Your Eyes On The Water." Members will also be conducting a seminar on trout fishing. All welcome. Jack Barnes, 410-641-7662

ARTIST'S TALK

Germantown School Community Heritage Center, 10223 Trappe Road, Berlin, 10 a.m.-noon. Patrick Henry will discuss his show, "Untold Stories: Chronicling our Delmarva History." Space is limited. Reservations: germantownschool@gmail.com, 443-235-9803, 410-641-0638.

FAMILY LIBRARY: SPRING CRAFTS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10 a.m.-noon. Featuring a variety of spring-related crafts for all ages. 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

SATURDAY MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. A showing of the New York Times Best-selling novel written by Delia Owens turned into a movie. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

'FOUR OLD BROADS' PERFORMANCE

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 7:30 p.m. "Four Old Broads" is a hysterical mystery as these ladies try to outsmart the evil Nurse Jones to make it to the Sassy Seniors Caribbean Cruise. Tickets: <https://oceanpinesplayers.org>.

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., March 12

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR SHAMROCK SLAM PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Two-day Shamrock Slam Pickleball Tournament at the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill from March 18-19. Register: pickleballbrackets.com?ShamrockSlam. 410-632-2144, Ext. 2505.

A KIDS CARNIVAL - UNSTOPPABLE JOY

Carousel Oceanfront Hotel & Condos, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12-3 p.m. Carnival games, performances, DJ, face painting, art and raffles. Cost is \$25 per family (up to 6 people), \$5 per additional child. Pre-register: Berkleigh.UJC@gmail.com, www.unstoppablejoyco.org.

Continued on Page 27

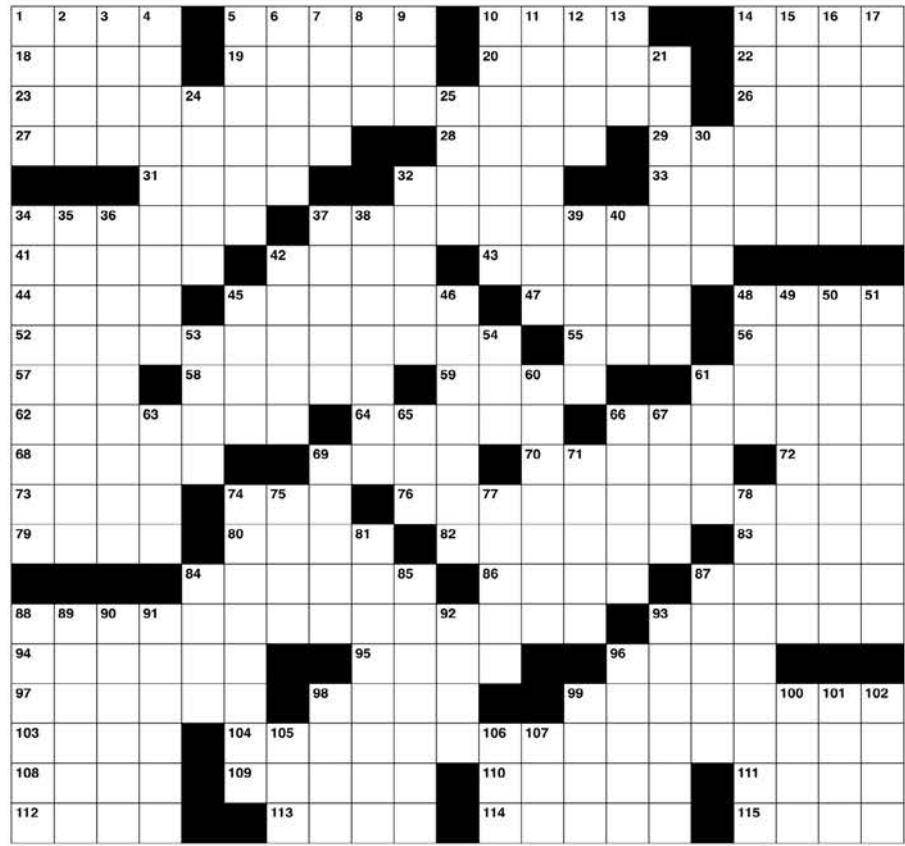
Puzzles

DOUBLE-DOUBLES

BY WILL NEDIGER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Will Nediger, of London, Ontario, is a professional crossword constructor. This is his 46th puzzle for The Times. A typical Sunday crossword has 140 answers, but this one has only 136, affording some longer "fill" outside the theme. Occasionally, as here, constructors include things personal to them in their grids. Will writes, "As a parent of two young kids, 49-Down next to 50-Down really resonates with me." — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 British dandy
 - 5 Dennis the Menace types
 - 10 Really grand
 - 14 The "A" in STEAM, for educators
 - 18 Maker of the Aspire laptop
 - 19 Pain-relief brand
 - 20 Recordings for oral historians
 - 22 Bound
 - 23 Slow-driving holiday parade in December?
 - 26 "Huh, didn't expect to run into you here!"
 - 27 Musical piece like Smetana's "Vltava"
 - 28 Club collections
 - 29 Movie genre ... or a shout on a movie set
 - 31 Onetime Yves Saint Laurent employer
 - 32 Make
 - 33 Words at a pity party
 - 34 Arrange by category
 - 37 Update Wikipedia after the 2012 election?
 - 41 Yiddish for "pancake"
 - 42 Enthralled
 - 43 Like some landscape photography
 - 44 Assert confidently
 - 45 Banned, in a way
- 47 Brand of "old-fashioned" root beer
- 48 Delicate bit of hair
- 52 Subject of study for an insect psychologist?
- 55 "Don't love it, don't hate it"
- 56 Against
- 57 Communication method that may be written with Stokoe notation, in brief
- 58 Investigative journalist Farrow
- 59 Heroes that don't wear capes
- 61 Trademarked refrigerant
- 62 Kind of gel
- 64 Condiment drizzled on a taco
- 66 Shot followers
- 68 Drumroll followers
- 69 Blacken
- 70 Pale purple
- 72 Holi powder
- 73 Some announcements interrupting in-flight movies, for short
- 74 Intelligence grp. featured on "Quantico"
- 76 Promise from actor Damon's friends regarding his movie premiere?
- 79 "To Sontag, to Sondheim, to anything taboo" musical
- 80 Ceramic stewpot
- 82 Philosophy influenced by the "I Ching"
- 83 Eager assistant's declaration
- 84 "It is what it is," e.g.
- 86 Corn _____
- 87 Art-shop purchase
- 88 Words accompanying an offering to the ruler of the donkeys?
- 93 Partner worth holding on to
- 94 Open acknowledgment
- 95 Uncreatively draws from
- 96 Busy locale in December
- 97 Leah who wrote "Troublemaker: Surviving Hollywood and Scientology"
- 98 Ivan the Great, for one
- 99 Some holiday-tree decorations
- 103 Home of the poet Forugh Farrokhzad
- 104 Arrive too late to see a hotel being built?
- 108 Number of worlds in Norse myth
- 109 Thought spot
- 110 Russian pancakes
- 111 Disney's Queen of Arendelle
- 112 Pontiac muscle cars
- 113 "The Crown _____ Worth Much" (Hanif Abdurraqib collection)
- 114 One who questions people's motives
- 115 Collect from the fields
- DOWN**
- 1 Arbitrator's asset
 - 2 Eight, in Spanish
 - 3 Plant with no flowers or seeds
 - 4 Southern dish often made with buttermilk and cornmeal
 - 5 Tuchus
 - 6 Film composer Bernstein
 - 7 Ore locale
 - 8 Electronics-aisle array
 - 9 Jiffy
 - 10 Ancient Italian region
 - 11 Dealt with minor issues?
 - 12 Some business-news topics, for short
 - 13 What's still in cartoons?
 - 14 Many
 - 15 Bring back on board
 - 16 Mount Rainier's _____ Glacier
 - 17 Small piano
 - 21 Done hurriedly and carelessly
 - 24 Skyscraper feature
 - 25 First of all
 - 30 Screenwriter/actress Michaela
 - 32 Moved cautiously
 - 34 Soft white mineral
 - 35 Snapshot of a gamer's progress
 - 36 Duo inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 2001
 - 37 Aggravation
 - 38 Grab a midday meal with someone
 - 39 Trolleys
 - 40 Heads or tails
 - 42 Getting rid of
 - 45 Berkshire school since 1440
 - 46 Western settlement area led by Brigham Young



- 48 Major conflicts
- 49 Tired expression?
- 50 When to read aloud to kids
- 51 Bowling-alley device
- 53 Swimming/cycling/running competitions, informally
- 54 Zero-_____ game
- 60 Grow to a huge size
- 61 Part of a clock
- 63 Booby-prize winner's place
- 65 Unflinchingly candid as scores
- 66 Within a point or two, as scores
- 67 Two-time Olympic gold medalist in soccer
- 69 Flagella relatives
- 71 Medium for a birthday message
- 74 Body part that a dog uses to shake, e.g.
- 75 77-Down's color
- 77 75-Down gemstone
- 78 "To be continued ..."
- 81 Charlotte Corday, to Jean-Paul Marat
- 84 Word after better or worse
- 85 Simple graphics editor, informally
- 87 Guy
- 88 Getting along
- 89 No longer obsessed
- 90 Italian-style cheese
- 91 Strong strings
- 92 Adjust the spacing between, in typography
- 93 Like a deserved comeuppance
- 96 Soprano Nixon
- 98 Director Ming-liang
- 99 Pass the threshold
- 100 Memphis's river
- 101 Pancake served with sambar
- 102 Onesie closure
- 105 Plan for the future, in brief?
- 106 "America's Got Talent" network
- 107 Do the Wright thing?

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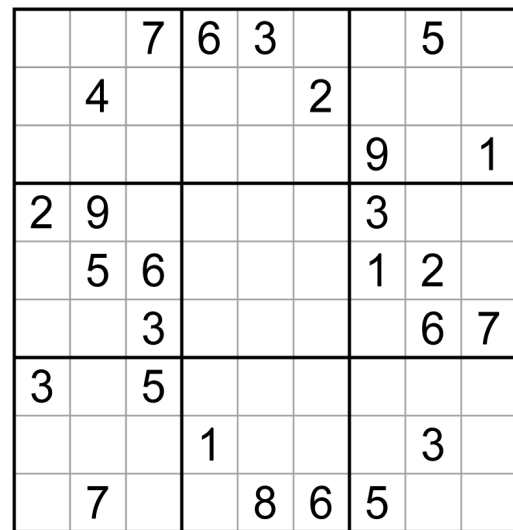
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© Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 100

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

NEON	ROBE	AVIV	PLANA
ALPO	CHIAOBAMA	LOAVES	
CLEAR	ASCRYSTAL	DERBIES	
LECHE	TENS	MUONS	OLDE
SHOPS	GREENASGRASS		
HIGHTOPS	AAAS	SLOMO	
ALLIED	ENLIST	ANTFARM	
SOUNDASABELL	ALBS	LIEU	
USED	CNBC	KRIS	CODAS
PED	MOOD	DETEST	SAVEME
PRETTYASAPICTURE			
BIGAIR	HOTPOT	ROMP	NSA
ODORS	SELA	WIIG	SOWS
BOAT	DUNK	SMARTASAWHIP	
ALLYSON	SWEARS	ELAINE	
PASHA	HARM	GOGETTER	
SMOOTHASSILK	BORAT		
PALO	OTHER	PEON	ABOUT
ARMPITS	PLEASEDASPUNCH		
STEEPS	TEMPTFATE	MILE	
MACRO	ADUE	STEW	STAY

Calendar

Continued from Page 25

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon. March 13

STORY TIME 'ST. PATRICK'S DAY'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Crafts, songs and stories about St. Patrick's Day. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TODAY IN HISTORY: SPACE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. What happened today in 1781? Come find out and learn about his out of this world discovery. For ages 7 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 p.m. Writing about stressful experiences like illness may boost health and psychological well-being. Group uses exercises to stimulate creative expression. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WOMEN'S HISTORY IN OCEAN CITY

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Learn about Women's History in Ocean City from the Ocean City Life Saving Station Museum. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

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

NOTABLE AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN HISTORY

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. The African American Heritage Society of Snow Hill will present a talk about the many contributions of Black women in history. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

'CRAFTS FOR A CAUSE' BURLEY OAK FUNDRAISER

Burley Oak Brewing Company, 10016 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, 6-9 p.m. Guests bartenders, prizes, drawings, 50/50 raffle. Music by Stringbuzzards. Proceeds benefit ACT. Debbi Dean, 443-856-9309, outreach@actforbays.org

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., March 14

POP UP CRAFT: PIZZA PI DAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Pizza-themed crafts and math activities will be available all day in the children's area to celebrate 3.14, Pi Day. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'NIGHT ANIMALS'

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

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Songs, experimenting with instruments and rhythmic play. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Bring whatever project you happen to be working on. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MONTHLY MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Catch a recent movie you might have missed in the theaters. Check for movie details at www.worcesterlibrary.org or call 410-208-4014.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3:15-4 p.m. Group provides discussions, along with education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765, kkinikin@atlanticgeneral.org

IRISH HERITAGE FILM SCREENING

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 4 p.m. Mike Healey hosts this screening with two shorts he created. Q&A to follow. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ATLANTIC COAST SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION MEETING

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7 p.m. The speaker will be Captain Eric Shoaff of the charter vessel, "Judith M." Public cordially invited. Food and refreshments available at 6:15 p.m.

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



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

DIAKONIA GIFTS

The Kiwanis Club at Berlin Intermediate School, known as the Builders Club, is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City. Builders Club and teacher advisor is Jane Slotter. Kiwanian Sue Wineke is the advisor to the club. She is pictured with Kiwanis Club President Bob Wolfing, displaying one of the 30 blankets the students are making as gifts through Diakonia for Mother's Day and Father's Day for residents.

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., March 15

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

EASTERN SHORE SEWISTS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Promoting needle arts through sewing education, activities and textile crafts. For artisans of all skill levels. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BACKGAMMON CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Drop in for a game of strategy that dates back 5,000 years to Mesopotamia and Persia, All skill levels welcome. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

John H. "Jack" Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center, 9707 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 1-2 p.m. For survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880

'O'KEEFFE: SUNSET OF AN ARTIST' BY MARTHA FUREY AND PERFORMED BY KELLY ROUSE

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Join independent, visionary artist, Georgia O'Keeffe, as she reflects on her life. Q&A to follow. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3-4 p.m. For stroke survivors, family and friends. 410-641-4765, bgtime@atlanticgeneral.org

WASHER NECKLACES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Learn how to make washer necklaces. It's a perfect craft. For ages 10 years and older. Adults welcome too. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ART STUDIO: DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Showcasing several artists followed by activities that explore creating artwork in the artists' manner. For ages 10 years and older. Registration required: 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

BERTINO TO HOST TOWN MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 6 p.m. Commissioner Chip Bertino will give an update on the county. Guest speakers are Worcester County CAO Weston Young and AGH President and CEO Don Owrey.

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

Wednesdays - March 15 will be a pizza luncheon in the Ocean Pines Library at noon. Cost is \$8. RSVP: Dick Clagett, 301-788-1517. Guests are welcome. www.kiwanisofopoc.org

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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



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

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By Monday,
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UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

University of Maryland Extension seeks
4-H Program Assistant

This position works under the direction of the 4-H Educator to support the Worcester County 4-H Educator with various programming efforts including 4-H outreach within the after-school and in-school settings, as well as community outreach programs and club development. This position will work within the office, schools, community events and outside locations. High School Diploma or GED AND five years experience performing a variety of duties in support of the teaching, demonstration, and advising work of Extension agents or in community outreach, health care, research, or social services programs.

All candidates MUST apply online. See the detailed position announcement at <https://ejobs.umd.edu> for position #128153.

Base salary of \$37,418.

The University of Maryland offers an extensive benefits package, more information regarding employee benefits can be found by visiting <https://uhr.umd.edu/benefits/>.

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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.

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

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

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