



Berlin planning seeks guidance on growth

Commission votes to bring in urban designer to weigh where and how to do it

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The Berlin Planning Commission voted 6-0 on March 8 to recommend bringing

aboard an urban designer to determine how and where growth in the town should be handled.

Dhiru Thadani, a Washington, D.C. architect and designer, would come to Berlin for a few days and review several aspects of the town before putting together a presentation for the town and its residents.

"It's in this year's budget," Berlin

Planning Director Dave Engelhart said. "We want to go ahead and at least add that consultant, engaged and ready to go ... It's a start. We want to get some deliverables out of (this budgeted money). There is some work that we (should) all do on the comprehensive plan and the growth areas in it. Are they OK? Are they still good? Or do you want to see them

changed? Things like that."

Engelhart said that Thadani could get started in a matter of weeks. So far days have been discussed but contract talks have not happened.

Commission member Ron Cascio, who with Engelhart has been conferring with Mayor Zack Tyndall and Town Administrator Mary Bohlen

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Hailey Bianca awaits applicants at her booth at the Ocean Pines job fair last Saturday.

Job fair draws applicants

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association has stepped up its recruitment efforts, leading with a job fair at the community center last Saturday.

Those interested in working for Ocean Pines were advised of the advantages of employment with the as-

sociation, with its employee discounts golf, merchandise and children's camp programs, according to Lisa Carson, the human resources manager for Ocean Pines.

"Employees can save on the amenities they already use," Carson said. Retirees can get discounts for their grandchildren to go to camps in

See OPA Page 4

Finding firefighters tough as Pines population ages

Volunteers and career staff combine forces to keep community residents safe

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) Like many other communities across the country with aging populations, Ocean Pines, where the average age is 65, recruiting volunteer firefighters is becoming increasingly challenging.

"This is a difficult demographic to recruit from," said Dave VanGasbeck, president of the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department (OPVFD).

Some other fire departments may be able to recruit from diverse populations that include many young families and a sizable number of high school students, but Ocean Pines isn't one of them.

VanGasbeck came from Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department, which had 435 members.

"We always had a lot of young people joining the department," he said. "We are just the opposite here; we are primarily a retirement community. The average age is 65. People that age are not joining the fire department."

Ocean Pines is a combination volunteer fire department. That means the community relies on both volunteer firefighters and emergency med-

ical technicians (EMT) as well as career staff who work for the fire department to handle anything from a major house fire, of which there have been a significant number over the past few years, to checking on gas

See OPVFD Page 3



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Joe Enste signed up as a cadet when he was 15.

Wonder how your OP assessment's being spent? **See Page 12**

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OPVFD recruiting gets tougher

Continued from Page 1
leaks and responding to a health crisis.

Currently, the OPVFD has about 50 volunteers and 18 full and part time career staff.

VanGasbeck said the department gets few cadets. Statistically, when cadets or young members come in, only 5 percent make it to retirement in the volunteer fire service.

One exception is Joe Enste, 35, who joined the OPVFD as a cadet in 2003 at age 15 because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks two years earlier.

"I remember, as a high school freshman, seeing all of the news coverage and feeling like I wished there was something I could be doing to help."

Today, Enste is deputy fire marshal for the Ocean City Fire Department and continues to serve the OPVFD as a lieutenant, IT manager and public information officer. He is also a member of the department's board of directors.

Most new members, however, come to Ocean Pines from other departments once they retire or relocate to the coast.

"We have firefighters from Baltimore City and County, Montgomery County and some members from DC," VanGasbeck said. "These folks are coming into this community in their 50s, so their active shelf-life is very short, when you consider a firefighter has to carry 80 pounds of equipment on their back into burning buildings."

"We are performing at the highest level, with a full staff of firefighters, but we are always looking for volunteers to grow into the fire service," he said.

Recognizing that Ocean Pines is not alone in its recruitment challenges, VanGasbeck believes that the natural evolution in the U.S. is going from all volunteers through a combination of volunteer and career to, in many cases, a career department.

"The bottom line is, as your volunteers deplete, you eventually get to the point of needing more career staff in the fire department. We are a combination department now. We started with one paid paramedic and all volunteers," he said.

"The fact that the South Station is sorely in need of renovation or replacement does not help our limited



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department relies on volunteers and career staff to protect the community.

ability to recruit," VanGasbeck added.

Being a volunteer firefighter/EMT does bring with it some benefits. Maryland offers a state income tax deduction, retirement benefits, scholarship opportunities and professional development and leadership training and more.

For Enste, the personal benefits are two-fold. "I get an incredible sense of accomplishment and pride being there for our community when they need us most."

"Additionally, when I talk to members of our community and they tell me that they have recently checked their smoke alarms or had conversations with their kids about fire safety because of the programs we have initiated, I know we are making a difference and doing our part to make the community safer."

"I also really enjoy and appreciate the social aspect of being involved in the fire department. There are several of us with young kids and families and we have a great support system."

Enste's six-year-old son, Tripp, is already invested in the department's operations.

"He loves to talk shop when I get back from a call, asking what fire truck we took, did I drive it or what was my job, and was anyone hurt."

"He does get worried about my and all of the firefighters' safety so we will regularly talk about the training we participate in and the personal protective equipment we wear to keep us prepared and safe," he said.

"Ocean Pines is changing. We do have more and more working families moving in, which increases the candidate pool," Van Gasbeck said.

"We're ready and wanting to welcome you into our department," said Enste. "We provide all the training for free; no experience is necessary and no matter your background, we have opportunities for everyone."

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Growth and livability focus of comp plan considerations

Continued from Page 1
about the idea, said that it is imperative to brief residents on what exactly it is they're doing and why, especially if they're to have input on it.

"Sitting up here for 20 years, I can see the pressure building," Cascio said. "I can feel the pressure building and I hear that from fellow townfolk about our small town and how we need to keep the livability of the small town. Our plan ... and the county plans to just continue to physically expand. That's what the plan says. I think we really need to look at that and understand what that means to the livability of a small town. I think (Thadani) can help us understand that."

Cascio said he'd like Worcester County to be involved, since the town's plan needs to align with the county's.

Engelhart pointed out that the town has reviewed its comprehensive plan but, surprisingly to him, made no changes.

"This time around we can change it, amend it, chop it in half, anything we want, but it has to be, there's a process for that," he said.

The town would have to notify both the Maryland Department of Planning and Worcester County and then hold a public hearing before it amended its comprehensive plan.

"Once we do that, we're only required every 10 years ... to review it and make changes as we see fit," Engelhart said. "But we could make changes every year if we wanted to."

Cascio noted that a post-pandemic trend has seen more people leave big metro areas for smaller towns when they realize they could ditch the big-city costs for small-town quality of life while keeping their well-paying jobs.

He said it "could be really good" to have "that kind of people who have business in other places" in the area.

"Everybody's running out of space," Cascio said. "We're having a nicer party and everyone wants to come to it. But at some point, you run out of punch and run out of room."

"If we want to have the livability of a small town, well that's not the plan. The plan is to not be a small town. Everyone needs to understand that who wants to live in a small town."

OPA sells benefits of employment

Continued from Page 1
the summer. She said many people who live in the community work for it too.

"It's great that so many people in our community want to help," she said.

Lindsay Polera, 23, who was one of the Ocean Pines residents checking out the opportunities on Saturday, said, "I'm putting in an application for a front office job at the administration building."

Many jobs are available in Ocean Pines for the summer and beyond. Hailey Bianca was there recruiting for camp counselors.

"A lot of staff come back but we are always looking for fresh faces," Bianca said.

The camps work with 130 kids each week and run the kids activities during the 4th of July celebration.

The aquatics department continues to look for lifeguards for all five pools this summer.

Kathleen Cook, director of the aquatics program, has four veteran Red Cross instructors running a lifeguard certification class April 21-23. The class fee will be waived for those hired as Ocean Pines lifeguards.

"We are hoping to have a fantastic turnout and will offer successful candidates employment."

"We do have a high retention rate of kids coming back to work," Cook said. One reason is the flexibility the department offers.

"We will work with kids in the

community to accommodate vacation requests," she said.

The Ocean Pines Police Department was at the fair, working to recruit officers and dispatchers. The process to become an officer is rigorous and takes about a year.

"There's lots of classroom and practical work involved," said Lt. Greg Schoepf. "You start getting paid when you enter the academy."

As for the age groups the association hopes to draw from — it's open, as positions are available for candidates of all ages, from teens to retirees.

WOC harbor lot closed two days for space striping

(March 16, 2023) The West Ocean City Commercial Harbor parking lot will be closed Thursday and Friday for restriping, weather permitting.

The parking lot will be unavailable to residents and boaters during the restriping process, which should be concluded by the end of the week for the facility to reopen Saturday.

Alternate county boat launching facilities will be available at no cost at Gum Point Road east of Racetrack Road (MD Route 589), and the South Point boat ramp at the end of South Point Road.



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Town's skate park designer selected by We Heart Berlin

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The skateboard wheels are in motion in Berlin.

Last Tuesday, representatives from the nonprofit We Heart Berlin briefed the Berlin Parks Commission on the progress toward a town skate park, which is quickly headed toward the design phase.

We Heart Berlin's Brian Robertson said the nonprofit has contracted the services of the California design company Spohn Ranch, which led to the company coming to Berlin and to assess the feasibility of multiple locations.

"Spohn had the design aesthetic we were looking for that takes into consideration the environment," Robertson said. "It's not just a skate park, it's a gathering space and there's green space added in."

Robertson said the review considered accessibility, visibility, environmental impact, design canvas, amenities and infrastructure, barriers to shovel-ready, ADA compliance, operational maintenance, stormwater management, utilities, topography and geotechnical costs.

The next step in the process will be providing We Heart Berlin with feed-

back and in turn, the nonprofit would again brief the Parks Commission. After that, the project will be in the town's hands and the actual design phase can begin.

We Heart Berlin President and CEO Tony Weeg said the organization should have the report by this Friday.

Robertson added that findings will include a recommendation for a park location, leaving it up to the town and Parks Commission to weigh the input and make the ultimate decision.

Spohn Ranch will also conduct an online survey.

We Heart Berlin plans to raise awareness at upcoming local events with booths at upcoming events such as the upcoming Berlin Spring Celebration and Berlin Jazz, Blues, Wine & Brews later this spring.

Commission member Bruce Hyde asked if the design will consider future expansion, as well as the unique stormwater needs of the coastal town.

"I told the guy I need (him) to look at this as an artistic stormwater management system that looks like a skate park," Weeg joked.

"No matter where we put it, we're going to have to put down dirt because the water table will actually push a bowl out of the dirt."

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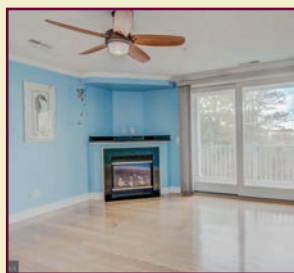


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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Shell Mill boat ramp in Bishopville will act as the county's guinea pig for plans to monetize on the glut of out-of-state boaters using county-owned ramps during the summer.

Commissioners approve boat ramp fee for non-Marylanders

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) It's going to cost non-Maryland boaters to launch at the Shell Mill boat ramp in Bishopville soon.

The Worcester County Commissioners voted 4-3, with commissioners Joe Mitreic and Ted Elder opposed and Diana Purnell abstaining, to initiate a pilot program that will charge out-of-state users \$10 to use the north-county ramp.

The one-year program could be a precursor to wider efforts around the county to mitigate boat ramp parking woes and at the same time cash in on the out-of-state summer rush.

"This gives us the ability to evaluate and adjust before implementing (the practice) at other boat landings," said Recreation and Parks Director Kelly Rados.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office has indicated that they would have no problem enforcing the program, Rados said.

Mitreic said he thought the program will simply clog up the other county ramps.

"We're going to push these boat ramp users to other boat ramps," Mitreic said. "I understand (Commissioner

Jim) Bunting doesn't care where it pushes them as long as it's not in his backyard ... (but) if we're going to do it we need to do it with all boat ramps in the county."

Commissioner Eric Fiori disagreed, reasoning that parking is so limited at the other boat ramps that such an idea is unrealistic.

"By 9 a.m. on a Saturday, these lots are already filled," Fiori said. "You're not going to take your family and boat to another ramp because of a \$10 fee."

Elder said he thinks the only difference the program would make is giving a little extra money to the county — that the parking issues that the program is supposed to address will continue.

Bunting said that the county must start somewhere.

"It's a problem (at Shell Mill)," he said. "This helps us track who's coming from out of state. We're going to get it straight and we'll have the ability to enforce the number of boats and trailers there. We won't have them stacked up the road and blocking, loading and unloading."

In another boating-related decision, the commissioners voted 4-3 to direct county staff to prepare recommendations based on concerns with special-

See COUNTY Page 9

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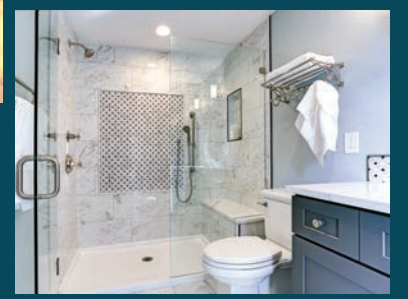
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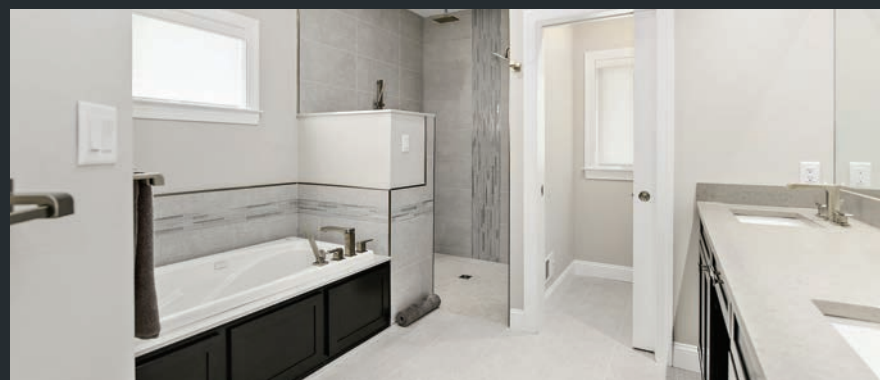
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Chart 1
Effects of the 2020 Census on Existing Worcester County Election Districts

District No.	District Name	Population 2010 Census	Population 2020 Census	Total Change in Population
1	Southern	7,321	7,224	-97
2	Central	7,279	7,197	-82
3	Sinepuxent	7,520	8,009	489
4	Western	7,032	6,981	-51
5	Ocean Pines	7,725	8,179	454
6	Northern	7,458	8,083	625
7	Ocean City	7,213	6,934	-279
Total:		51,548	52,607	1,059

Chart 2
2013 Redistricting Final Plan

District No.	District Name	Population 2010 Census	Mean or "Ideal" Population Per District	2010 Pop. Deviation to Mean (Recommended ± 5%)	Population Disparity (Recommended 10%)
1	Southern	7,321	7,364.0	-0.6%	9.4%
2	Central	7,279	7,364.0	-1.2%	
3	Sinepuxent	7,520	7,364.0	2.1%	
4	Western	7,032	7,364.0	-4.5%	
5	Ocean Pines	7,725	7,364.0	4.9%	
6	Northern	7,458	7,364.0	1.3%	
7	Ocean City	7,213	7,364.0	-2.1%	
Total:		51,548	51,548		

Chart 3
Impact of 2020 Census on Existing Election Districts

District No.	District Name	Population 2020 Census	Mean or "Ideal" Population Per District	Existing Pop. Deviation to Mean (Recommended Max ± 5%)	Population Disparity (Recommended Max 10%)
1	Southern	7,224	7,515.3	-3.9%	16.6%
2	Central	7,197	7,515.3	-4.2%	
3	Sinepuxent	8,009	7,515.3	6.6%	
4	Western	6,981	7,515.3	-7.1%	
5	Ocean Pines	8,179	7,515.3	8.8%	
6	Northern	8,083	7,515.3	7.6%	
7	Ocean City	6,934	7,515.3	-7.7%	
Total:		52,607	52,607		

PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY

Census data from 2020 reveals an overall population growth for Worcester County, but also a few declines, including Ocean City at 279 residents. The data will be used to redistrict the county.

County redistricting process underway with census data

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) With the 2022 election cycle out of the way and 2020 census data secured, Worcester County officials agreed to begin the redistricting process on March 7.

In a unanimous vote, the commissioners agreed that Director of Development, Review and Permitting Jennifer Keener will provide them with multiple options for redistricting

based on computer-assisted designations.

Keener briefed the commissioners on the process, which will address the 2-percent population growth and population shift within the county from 2010 to 2020.

The total population came in at 52,607.

“Some changes are going to have to be made. Some districts will have to

See REDISTRICTING Page 9



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Berlin looking at animal code insufficiencies

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The Town of Berlin could be adopting the Worcester County animal control code as some residents push for a more organized and stricter approach to defining pets and enforcing laws.

Resident Gina Velong briefed the Berlin Planning Commission on March 8 on research she's done that indicates the town's stance on animal control no longer suits the growing populace.

She described "not great pet ownership" in the community, including poor collaring and tagging of pets.

"You don't know your neighbors as well anymore," she said "You don't know peoples' pets."

She also pointed out that the term "dog" in the town code needs to be changed to "animal," as the idea of what can be considered a pet has changed.

"We had a pet pig loose on (Powellton Avenue recently)," Velong said. "I made a joke about it and then I saw a baby pig in my neighborhood running around. The definition of what a pet is and the ones that can cause issues have changed. They should have some kind of identifying tag, all of them, or a collar of some sort to easily identify them

as someone's pet."

She also suggested that the town adopt the state's definition of an "aggressive dog," which would make it easier to simply use the county's animal code language.

Since the town does not have its own animal control unit, mirroring the county's protocol would make it easier for the county to deal with Berlin and thus respond more to the town.

"Why can't we be proactive and not wait for something horrible to happen and then adopt rules that match the county so that the county can have an easier time?" Velong asked.

From January 2022 to February

2023, town police handled 61 animal control-related complaints, Berlin Planning Director Dave Engelhart told the commission. Of those cases, four were dog bites and three were complaints of animal cruelty.

"It's not a huge issue (to get this done)," Engelhart said. "The staff doesn't think we need to redo a text amendment to redo our whole ordinance."

A public hearing would be required, however.

Commission member Pete Cosby was on board with cleaning up the town's animal control code and punishing owners
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Redistricting to address population changes

Continued from Page 8
lose population and others pick it up," Keener said. "What we're asking today from you guys is just direction in how you want to accomplish that."

The criteria that redistricting must follow include ensuring that districts have near-equal populations with minimal deviation between the highest and lowest; maintaining a majority-minority district, which is currently the central district; and contiguity must be maintained and compact where possible.

Though the county grew in population, three of the county's seven districts lost population, with Ocean

City's 3.9-percent drop coming as the most drastic.

The biggest increases came in the Sinepuxent district, which includes Berlin, and the Ocean Pines district at 6.5 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively.

Giving the example of Ocean Pines, Commissioner Chip Bertino asked how redistricting would work if it lost population.

"District 5 (Ocean Pines) is surrounded by District 6 (northern district)," Keener replied. "So 5 would lose to 6 and what happens to 6 would be determined."

Keener said that natural features,

geography and community will all factor into how the districts are drawn up. She said there'll be multiple options.

Commissioner Ted Elder said he thought the census wasn't accurate.

"The census I think, the last one, was tremendously off," Elder said. (The western district) losing 4.5 percent just between 2010 and 2020, I know you've seen it in the permitting of all the homes that have gone in

those districts. This is all going to be based on faulty census numbers."

Keener said that her department will look at the American Community Survey data that are available each year to evaluate current population needs, but ultimately that redistricting must be based on census data.

"I think that all of it can be achieved," Keener said. "It's just a question of how we maintain that balance. We'll get there."

County approves boat ramp fee

Continued from Page 6
use boating permits.

Mitrecic, Elder and Purnell opposed the measure.

Rados presented the commissioners with a revised application that would allow a commercial user to request five specific dates per application, per year. Each application would require a \$50 nonrefundable application fee for administration costs.

An issue with the application that Mitrecic brought up was the limits on boat dealerships and repair shops since they're technically considered commercial.

Fiori said that what the dealers and repair shops do should be considered a service for residents.

"As a boat dealer, I consider myself an expert," Fiori said. "Boat dealers going to ramps are doing a service to residents. They're not doing it as a straight thing as far as profits go."

"We need to adjust what we're looking to do here ... For heavier commercial operations for construction, a bond process needs to be in place ... Allowing additional parking spots to be used for a for-hire guide. We can't be filling up our parking spots. We need to identify

what is commercial use and what isn't. We need to go back to the drawing board on this and define these fine items so we don't impact the community (unnecessarily)."

Bertino said it was "very stringent" the way the county currently defines commercial use including dealers and repair shops.

"I think we need to reevaluate that," he said.



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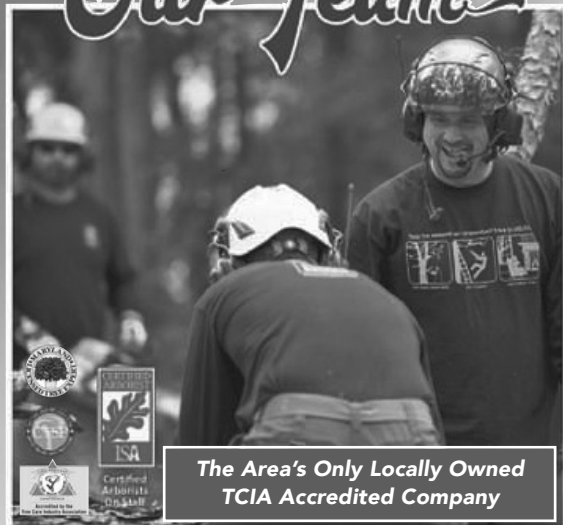
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Proposed changes should ensure accurate elections

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The Election Committee is gearing up for the 2023 election process. This year, two seats for the board are up for election. Both Doug Parks and Colette Horn cannot run again due to term limits. The deadline for candidates to file is 4 pm on Wednesday, May 10.

Last year, there were significant problems with the election process, resulting in an over count of ballots, which led to a 940-vote error. After reviewing the process, the current election committee identified in their second report to the Board on January 19, 2023, that "poor scanning software used in both 2021- and 2022 elections, opaque paper ballots and a lack of pre-flight testing resulted in the wrong initial count in 2022."

During the February board meeting, the board tasked the committee with making final recommendations for the 2023 election cycle. The committee has provided the board with their recommendations and the board will consider them during their March 18 meeting.

The recommendations are twofold. One: approval of the Election Committee to continue to research to obtain credible scanning software, conduct end user testing and hire an independent contractor to perform ballot scanning under the committee's visual supervision.

Two: approval of the Election Committee to suspend online voting for 2023 and continue research to find a contractor that has an alternative "control number" solution in order to eliminate "weighting" confusion experienced by multi-lot members in the 2022 election. Projected online implementation is 2024.

Committee member George Alston led the search for a new scanning software company and has identified REMARK out of Philadelphia, PA.

"REMARK is considered the Cadillac of the business," said Alston. "Our contractor Tom Gulyas says it's first class."

"This software is top of the line and, at \$250, is priced much less than Snap Survey," said Alston. Snap Survey was the software used for last year's elections and is not considered a ballot counting software.

"The product is made for voting and uses OMR, which is an optical mark reader," he said.

Optimum Mark Reader (OMR) is the process of reading information that people mark on surveys, tests and other paper documents.

"We don't need any new equipment," said Alston. The Xerox scanner purchased by the Ocean Pines Association for the 2022 elections can be used with the REMARK software. The current scanner can process 3400 ballots per hour.

General Manager John Viola has already approved the Elections Committee request to have Thom Gulyas of Ace Printing and Mailing develop test ballots and run them on OPA's equipment. The REMARK scanning software the Election Committee recommends can be temporarily downloaded for free for test purposes.

For the past 18 or more years, Gulyas has been awarded a contract to only print materials and process the envelopes and ballots. A separate, short-term contract was awarded to another independent contractor to physically perform the ballot count. At times, a member of the OPA IT Department assisted that contractor.

The expected process for counting ballots for the 2023 elections is that the contractor will count the ballots under the supervision of the Election Committee. No member of the committee will touch a ballot. The contractor will only show the committee any problem ballots, so they can rule on those.

To avoid the issues of the past, this year, multiple lot owners will receive an envelope and a ballot for each lot.

By using paper ballots, the committee can conduct an audit if necessary. This process, just like elections run by the state, will be open to election watchers.



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The intersection of the Maryland-Delaware railroad and Ocean City Boulevard will be the beginning point of a shared use bike and pedestrian path terminating at the town limits on Evans Road.

Berlin looking to move soon on 'Rails and Trails' project

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) After years of discussion, Berlin is gearing up to move on the "Rails and Trails" project that will place a shared-use bike and pedestrian path along the railroad in town.

Berlin Planning Director Dave Engelhart briefed the mayor and Town Council on construction funding and plans for the estimated \$1.26 million project. The town received grant funding from the MDOT Bikeway Program in FY17.

At that time, the engineering firm Davis, Bowen and Friedel completed a design that puts a 14-foot path with landscaped buffers along the east side of the Maryland-Delaware railroad's right-of-way through the town. The design is divided into two phases — from Heron Park on Old Ocean City Boulevard to Broad Street and from Broad Street to the town boundary at Evans Road.

Money already committed to the project from the last two fiscal cycles includes \$229,684 combined from the American Rescue Plan Act and matching funds from Worcester County.

Altogether, funding plus matches from the town will leave the town with a balance of \$86,135 to come up with for the project.

"This was put on tonight as a discussion item so you're aware in your budget talks that this is coming," Engelhart said. "We intend to move on this early."

He added that he'd like to see a draft for total funding completed by May 1 "so hopefully we can hit 'send.'"

Town administrator Mary Bohlen said what they're looking for is simply to make sure that the money will be there when the time comes.

"We just want to make sure that we're doing the work and the money is going to be there when we need it," Bohlen said.

In February, when towns were making their requests to the Worcester County Commissioners for budget funding, Mayor Zack Tyndall asked for \$116,013 specifically for "Rails and Trails."

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

The town's consultants provided the town with an estimate of \$42,000 to complete the design services up to 90 percent as mandated by the MDOT Bikeway Program.

Berlin addressing animal control

Continued from Page 9
who allow nuisances to persist.

"Dogs have created more problems for me in this town living here ... My front yard's a bathroom," Cosby said.

"It's not a dog problem, it's a people problem. The owners don't have any respect for their neighbors and it's constant. It shouldn't be so hard to nail somebody for a barking dog nuisance."

Velong pointed out that enforcing code violations with fines should be effective deterrents and would also be an additional source of revenue for the town.

Commission chair Chris Denny said he'd like to hear Town Attorney Dave Gaskill's opinion on what can be done, although Engelhart's staff will continue working with Velong to come up with a plan.



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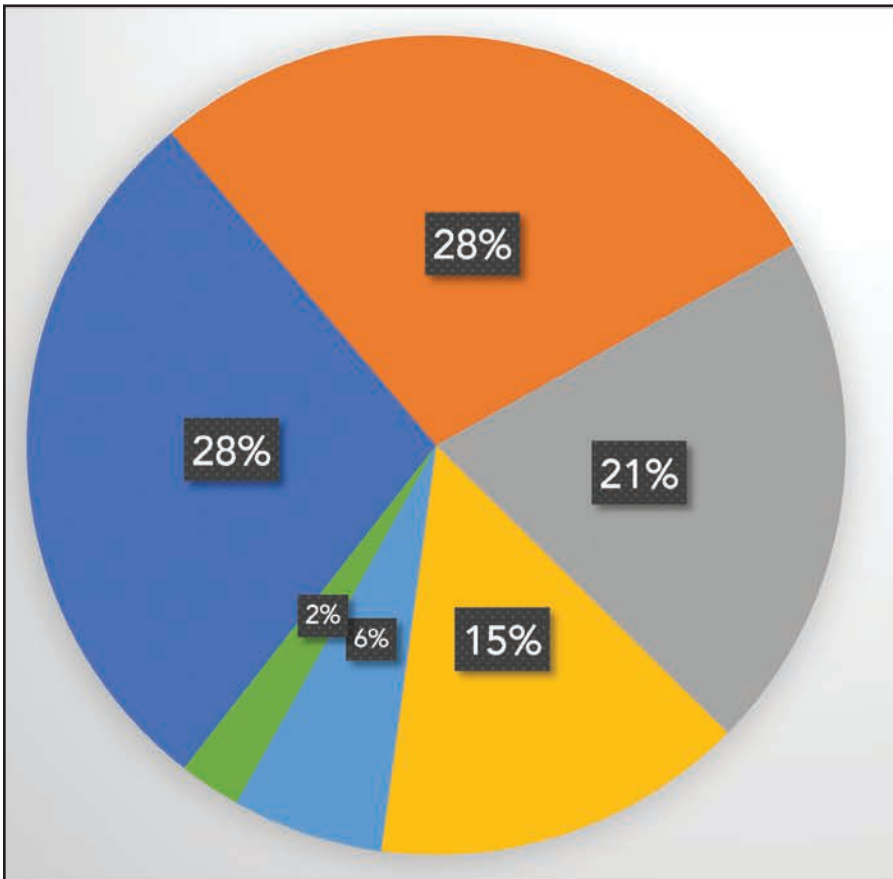
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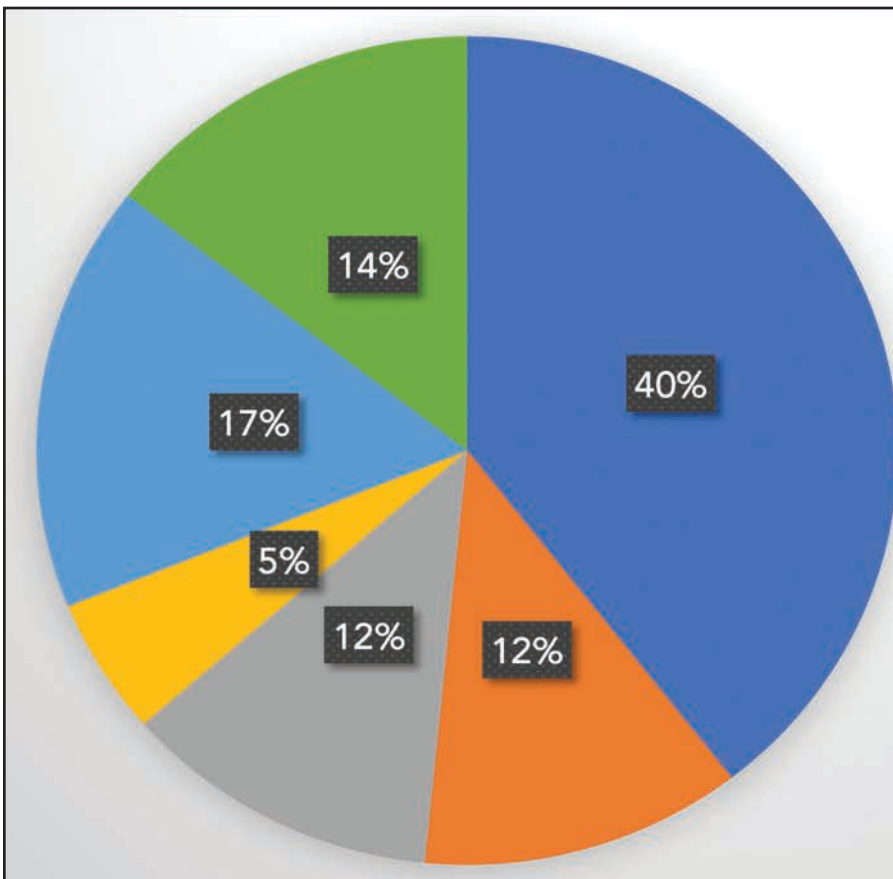
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- Rec and Parks (\$61)
- Bulkheads (\$25)



Amenities with profit reduce assessments

- Beach Parking \$509,769
- Yacht Club \$156,257
- Beach Club \$154,302
- Clubhouse Grille \$69,019
- Marinas \$215,404
- Golf \$186,567

CHARTS AND DATA COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

Where Assessment Dollars Go

- The majority of OPA homeowners' assessments dollars goes toward keeping the community safe and well maintained.
- Just over half, 56 percent, pays for public safety (including Police, Fire and EMS) and Public Works and Maintenance.
- Roughly 20 percent goes to funding for current and future year capital expenses, and about 15 percent pays for administration costs, which includes the GM Office, Finance and PR/Marketing departments, along with other administrative costs such as legal expenses, IT contracted services, bad debt expense, board expenses, etc.
- About 6 percent helps pay for Recreation and Parks programs, and 2 percent pays for common area bulkhead replacement.

Amenities With Operating Profit

- Four of Ocean Pines' six amenities were budgeted with an operating profit in fiscal year 2023-2024.
- That includes:
 - Beach Parking with a \$509,769 operating profit.
 - Combined Food and Beverage with a \$379,578 operating profit.
 - Marinas with a \$215,404 operating profit.
 - Golf with a \$186,567 operating profit.
- A fifth amenity, Racquet Sports, is budgeted close to breaking even.
- Combined amenities are budgeted with an overall operating profit of about \$1.2 million, meaning the amenities help to reduce the overall Ocean Pines assessment.

Trails, parks, signage all top priorities for OP committee

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Committee is developing a proposal for an Adopt and Park or Trail Program to be considered by the board of directors.

“Ocean Pines has had parks and trails adopted informally in the past,” said committee Chair Bill Barnard. This would formalize that process.

A typical program allows individuals, organizations and businesses to adopt a park or trail. Responsibilities usually include assisting in helping to keep the park or trail clean and safe so that everyone can enjoy them. Larger issues are reported for appropriate attention. Commitments tend to be a year in length and adopters are usually recognized with a sign.

The program is in the concept phase and the committee will give a proposal to the board in the near fu-

ture.

For those who love trail hiking, National Trail Day is coming up on June 3. Last year, the committee organized a number of guided trail walks and expects to do the same this year. Members are also looking at hosting a water trail tour for kayakers.

Committee member Tom Ottenwaelder is working on a “Conditions of the Parks” report, which he expects to present to the board of directors. He will use survey data released by OPA on Oct. 24.

The committee is still processing the results of the fall survey, especially the comments people provided. “We want people to know that their opinions count. Our priorities will be based on the survey,” said committee member Becky Lehnerd.

The committee is also looking at the signage issue for all of the Ocean Pines parks and trails.

Seasonal job fair Saturday at Princess Royale in OC

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

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

Along with hundreds of seasonal employment opportunities, the fair

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

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

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



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The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation fundraiser at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club raised funds for educational programs.
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Veterans Memorial event supports education progs.

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation fundraiser went off without a hitch, even with the original entertainer, Tony Pace, pulling out less than a month before the big day.

The foundation did not announce who was to replace Tony Pace in advance, saying only that it would be a top-notch entertainer from Atlantic City. Guests were not disappointed by Gerard Esposito, who entertained them with songs from Vegas to Broadway.

"Gerald Esposito was wonderful. He was a good match for the group. He played the music we like to hear," said Sharyn O'Hare, event organizer. "Everyone was dancing, there was even a conga line. One person said they felt like they were on a cruise."

The foundation reported that 130 tickets were sold for the event at \$70 each. The final total of funds collected was not available. Gilmore said they have not tallied expenses yet.

Matt Ortt, whose company operates the restaurants for the Ocean Pines Association, attended the event and donated \$1,000 on behalf of himself, his wife, Matt Ortt Companies and his employees.

Ortt told the audience that his father is a Marine.

"What my father taught me has led me to today: about strength and courage and taking care of each other. It takes a community to do what we do," Ortt said. "I am very happy to be part of this community. You have become family to me."

The funds will allow the organization to provide every fifth grader in Worcester public and private schools and homeschool students the opportunity to go on a field trip to the memorial.

During the trip, volunteer docents will teach them about the purpose of the memorial and what it means to be a veteran.

"We teach students about the sacrifices of veterans and their families
See FUNDRAISER Page 15

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Buckingham replacement design approved

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) A new Buckingham Elementary School is about to become more than a listing on the public school system's wish list, now that the Worcester County Commissioners agreed to spend \$60,000 on a design for the school's replacement.

Following a presentation detailing the two options for the school on Main Street — renovation and replacement — the commissioners last week unanimously voted to fund a replacement design, firmly placing the county down the road to an eventual replacement.

Brad Hastings and two other representatives from developer Becker Morgan detailed how building a school, costing an estimated \$55.9 million, would be nearly \$10 million cheaper renovating the existing one.

According to the representatives, the classroom sizes at Buckingham are insufficient for the school's needs. The cafeteria is undersized and can't support a school-wide gathering.

While a renovation would have included a two-story addition on the back of the school but little to address parking issues, a replacement will include a two-story addition but also move parking off West Street to alleviate the twice-daily Main Street backups.

The replacement design, according to the representatives, most efficiently meets square-footage requirements and, unlike the renovation model, will feature no windowless



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Worcester County Commissioners unanimously approved plans for a new Buckingham Elementary School in Berlin. School officials hope to break ground on the new school by December 2026.

classrooms. Construction is also estimated to take less time with a rough estimate of breaking ground in December 2026 and concluding construction in the fall of 2028.

Commissioner Eric Fiori looked at the \$200,000 price tag for demolishing the current school — which would occur over the preceding summer — and said he thought it was low for a 45,000-square-foot facility, but that \$75,000 relocation for some classrooms seemed high.

“More is going to recycling and

covering the cost, with site work here, they may be doing some onsite grinding with concrete, we see that more and more,” Hastings explained.

County schools Superintendent Lou Taylor added that they are only requesting approval of the feasibility study and recommendation for the replacement school right now, in-

cluding \$60,000 for design costs.

In another vote, the Commissioners voted 6-1, with Commissioner Ted Elder opposed, to form a committee that includes Commissioners Jim Bunting, Diana Purnell and Fiori as well as the Worcester County Board of Education to oversee the design process.

Fundraiser in Pines successful

Continued from Page 14

as well as the history and etiquette of the flag,” said Marie Gilmore, president of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation. “We are extremely proud of this award-winning program. A few years ago, we received an award for outstanding education program in the state of Maryland. At that time, we were told it is probably still the only program of its kind in the United States.”

The field trips run from May through October and educate approximately 650 students each year.

This year, as part of the education and outreach program, the foundation produced a video called Heroes All, which teaches students about the various branches of the military, the nation's conflicts, and the memorial.

A new student activity booklet will also be provided to participants this year.

“The booklet is meant to go home with each student after they visit, so they can begin a conversation at home with their parents,” Gilmore said.

ing those conversations, they first realize that their grandparent or their aunt or uncle or their father was in the military,” she added. “A lot of servicemen, when they come home from the war years, they don't want to talk about it anymore. It's very important for the students to learn about the sacrifices that their family has made to support our freedoms.”

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Worcester Preparatory School presented "The Lion King Jr." in the Athletic and Performing Arts Center on Feb. 24-25 led by teachers, Director Paulette DeRosa-Matrona, Music Director Christopher Buzby and Art Director George Zaiser. Upper School thespians and artists combined music, dance and an array of art mediums.

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DIAKONIA SUPPORT

The Alpha Delta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma worked with the students of Stephen Decatur Middle School Builders Club, SADD, SGA, National Junior Honor Society and the Ocean Pines Kiwanis Club to gather, package and distribute toiletries and essential items to Diakonia shelter in West Ocean City. This is a yearly project to help local shelters.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MAYOR VISITS

Town of Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall met with Erin Shimko and Kim Jankowski's fourth grade classes at Worcester Preparatory School to discuss this year's "If I Were Mayor" essay contest. Each year Worcester Prep students enter the essay contest, and this year's theme is "Preserving the Past to Power the Future."

Snapshots



DONATION
 Wicomico Retired School Personnel Association contributed \$18,756 to the United Way campaign this year. A new record for WRSPA, last year's donations totaled \$13,000.
 SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GUEST SPEAKER
 Worcester County G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity) Executive Director Nicholas Cranford, right, visited the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City as the guest speaker on Feb. 22. He is pictured with Kiwanis Club President Bob Wolfing. Founded in 1997, G.O.L.D. provides emergency financial assistance and basic needs items to county residents living in low-income circumstances.
 PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

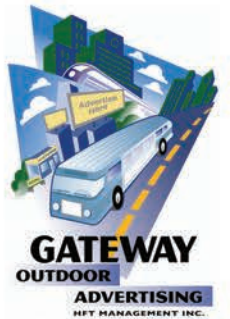
SPORT SUPPORT
 At the March 2 dinner meeting, the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club presented a check for \$3,000 to Force Baseball. Pictured, from left, are Chris Dolomount-Brown, president of the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club, with Dena, Lee, Cayden and Chris Holloway.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PENGUIN SWIM SUCCESS
 Atlantic General Hospital leadership, Atlantic General Hospital Foundation representatives and members of the 2023 Penguin Swim Committee came together to commemorate the success of this year's event. The swim raised a record \$116,000 for Atlantic General Hospital. Proceeds enable the Berlin hospital, a not-for-profit healthcare organization, to advance the health of the residents and visitors of the community through a coordinated care delivery system that provides access to quality care, personalized service and education. Penguin Swim Committee chairs Michael Cyle and Ryan Kirby present the check.

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Pharmacy Technician Kelly Kline wins award

(March 16, 2023) The Maryland Pharmacists Association named Atlantic General Hospital's Kelly Kline, CPhT-Adv, the 2023 Maryland Pharmacy Technician of the Year.

Kline earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. After graduating, she worked at an inpatient hospital pharmacy in Pennsylvania for 20 years as a certified pharmacy technician (CPhT), until she and her husband moved to

Willards, Maryland.

In 2017, Kline began her career at Atlantic General Hospital.

In 2022, she earned her advanced certified pharmacy technician (CPhT-Adv) credential, making her among 0.16 percent of all certified pharmacy technicians in the United States with the advanced status.

"Kelly is genuinely curious," said Atlantic General Hospital Director of Pharmacy James McGinnis. "She continuously demonstrates an unwavering commitment to advancing medication safety, and serves as a role model for other Certified Technicians to have the curiosity and drive to further their professional career and benefit the patients they serve."

She holds national certificates from the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board in medication histories, vaccination administration, hazardous medications management and regulatory compliance.

In addition, Kline received her technician product verification certification from the National Pharmacy Technician Association and her controlled substance diversion prevention certification from the Board of Pharmacy Technician Specialties.

Along with her wide range of pharmacological duties throughout the hospital and health system, Kline has maintained the role of buyer for the past two years.

Buyers, who are responsible for procuring medications and supplies for the hospital and supporting health system practices, play an integral role in daily operations.

During her time as buyer, Kline has been instrumental in developing, implementing and maintaining Atlantic General Hospital's inventory management system and drug dispensing devices.

Kline is board certified in supply chain and inventory management, a certification that is only held by 550 others nationwide.

Her expertise in the field was exem-

plified when, in 2022, she significantly reduced pharmacy inventory dollars, eliminating unnecessary costs to the organization.

As a result of her career-long accomplishments, Kline serves on the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board advisory committee, and is a member of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, Maryland Society of Health System Pharmacy, National Pharmacy Purchasing Association, National Pharmacy Technician Association, and the American Association of Pharmacy Technicians.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
The Maryland Pharmacists Association named Atlantic General Hospital's Kelly Kline, CPhT-Adv, the 2023 Maryland Pharmacy Technician of the Year.

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Peripheral Neuropathy Breakthrough!

"My feet feel like they are on fire."

"Each step feels like I'm walking through wet paint."

"I live in constant fear that I'll fall."

"I can't sleep, my hands and feet tingle all night."

What do all of these people have in common? They suffer from **peripheral neuropathy**. It's estimated that more than 20 million people in the United States have peripheral neuropathy. Unfortunately, this figure may be significantly higher as the disease is often misdiagnosed because of its wide array of symptoms.

Dr. Cynthia Salmond of Coastal Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine in Berlin shares this belief. "I've been treating neuropathy, in all its various forms, for over four years and so often my patients come to me because of the symptoms, not because of a diagnosis. They see one of my ads, or hear the testimonial of another patient and say to themselves, "Hey, I feel the same thing."

Frankie M. of Annapolis testified to this. "I remember my husband driving me to my consultation and I saw a woman running just outside our neighborhood. I was so envious - I just kept thinking, 'I would give anything just to walk again'. My primary care doctor told me my troubles with pain and balance were just symptoms of old age and gave me a prescription. I was so depressed."

Fortunately, Frankie would eventually see Dr. Salmond on the news and how she offers a real solution at Coastal AIM. "I just knew I had to see her. She was my last hope."

"Almost all of our patients come to us with a story similar to Frankie's. They've been everywhere else. They've been told there's no hope," shares Liz, a Patient Care Technician at Coastal AIM. "It just breaks my heart but I

know how much we can help people like Frankie, so I'm always so happy when they walk through our door."

Those diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy often face a grim reality; Western Medicine declares there is no solution while most alternative therapies carry large price tags and offer little to no resolution. Which is why Dr. Salmond and the staff at Coastal AIM pride themselves on being the 'last resort with the best results'.

Peripheral neuropathy is a result of damage to the nerves and this damage is commonly caused by the lack of blood flow in the hands and feet. A lack of blood flow results in a lack of nutrients; the nerves then begin to degenerate and die which causes pain ranging from discomfort to debilitation. Because neuropathy is a degenerative condition, once those nerves begin to deteriorate they will continue to do so until they are completely expired, leaving patients suffering from crippling balance issues. "In this case, the absence of pain is not necessarily a good thing," shares Dr. Salmond, "This usually indicates that your nerves are hanging on by a fragile thread."

So how exactly is Dr. Salmond able to reverse the effects of this degenerative condition? "Acupuncture has been used to increase blood flow for thousands of years which helps to get the necessary nutrients to the affected nerves. But the real magic happens when I integrate ATP Resonance BioTherapy. This is technology that was originally developed by NASA to expedite recovery and healing."

"I just can't say enough about Coastal AIM," Frankie shared through tears of joy. My husband and I moved here almost three years ago and he's gone to the beach almost everyday. I always stayed home because of the pain and discomfort. Yesterday, I walked on the beach with him! And next week, we're making plans for a weekend music festival. I am truly living life these days."

According to Frankie's test results, she has seen a 74% improvement in pain and functionality, which is "on par with the majority of our patients," shares Liz. "But more important than those test results is the joy she's expressed being here and hearing about all the amazing things she's able to do because she feels great!"

By seamlessly blending the ancient science of acupuncture with modern medical solutions, Dr. Salmond has achieved a 90% success rate in reversing the effects of neuropathy. She starts each patient with an initial consultation where a sensory exam is performed. This not only aids in making a proper diagnosis but it helps to define just how much nerve damage has occurred. She says, "This is important because if a patient has suffered more than 95% damage, there is little that I can do to help them. I'm familiar with medical miracles, but I know the limits as a practitioner and the limits of this medicine."

When it comes to treating peripheral neuropathy, regardless of its origin, early detection greatly improves chances of a full recovery.

If you or someone you love are suffering with chronic pain that presents as burning, tingling or 'pins and needles' or you've been recently diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy, it's important to know there are options.

There is hope.

Call (443) 513-4639 to schedule an initial consultation or visit coastalaim.com to read more success stories.



Opinion

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

Planners face tough problem with growth

As the Town of Berlin begins to reassess the direction of its 10-year comprehensive plan, the question officials, their advisers and residents will have to answer is how large can a small town become before it turns into something else.

Exactly what that something else might be is subject to debate, since the definition of a small town is more a matter of opinion than it is a census exercise.

The U.S Census classifies a small town as a community with a population of less than 5,000, while other definitions put the dividing line at 2,500 residents or all the way up to 30,000 inhabitants.

It all depends on the perspective of the individual and that's where the going gets tough for planners. They have to solve the knotty problem of how to balance the desire to keep things the way they are against the way things need to be to cover the growing cost of municipal services and supplies.

The latter can be accomplished in just one of two ways: raising taxes and fees as needed, possibly to the point of unaffordability for some residents, or spreading the burden by increasing the tax base and the number of taxpayers through growth.

That is one difficult line to draw because of residents' competing interests and opinions. Further, it's because of that divergence that the perfect plan doesn't exist.

No matter what the town's urban design consultants produce in the way of concepts and approaches, the best anyone can hope for is something at the crossroads of "disliked the least" and "the most tepidly endorsed."

Change is inevitable, for better or worse. Controlling that change fairly to benefit the most people is the job the town is setting out to do.

That's why keeping the public informed throughout this long process is so important. The more people understand about it, the more willing they might be to accept that balance and compromise are the key ingredients in moving forward.



"My eyesight is failing me. I need a box of balls like the pros use that leave a blue trail in the sky."

Town hall on preservation, parks plan

(March 16, 2023) The Worcester County Planning Commission will host a public hearing on the draft Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) April 6, at 1:05 p.m.

The hearing will take place in the Board Room on the first floor of the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill.

The State of Maryland requires counties to update their LPPRP every six years, one year prior to the revision of the statewide Maryland Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

The LPPRPs qualify local

governments for State Program Open Space grants and other programs related to three land resource elements: Recreation and Parks; Agricultural Land Preservation; and Natural Resource Conservation.

The draft Worcester County LPPRP was developed in accordance with guidelines provided by the Maryland Departments of Planning and Natural Resources.

The LPPRP contains key information, goals, and recommendations to guide the county's management and enhancement of its parks

and recreation facilities, and conservation of natural and agricultural lands for the next five years.

Visit <http://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/commissioners/hearings> to view the draft LPPRP.

Written and oral comments will be accepted at the public hearing.

Written comments may also be submitted to kmunson@co.worcester.md.us or mailed to Worcester County Environmental Programs, 1 West Market St, Suite 1306, Snow Hill, Maryland 21863.

Town of Snow Hill general election

(March 16, 2023) The Town of Snow Hill will hold its general election in-person on Tuesday, May 2, at the Train Station on 200 Belt Street. The polls will be open during that time between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Up for election this year are the offices of Central District and Western District Council.

Candidates for office will need to submit a request for an application to Carol Sullivan, Town Hall's executive administrator via email to: csullivan@snowhillmd.com.

The deadline to submit the application to Town Hall is Friday, March 31 at 4:30 p.m.

Citizens can register to vote by contacting the Worcester County Board of Elections at 410-632-1320, emailing them at Worcester.Elections@maryland.gov, or by visiting them at 201 Belt Street, Suite C, Snow Hill Maryland, 21863. The deadline to register to vote is Friday, March 31 at 4:30 p.m.

Those who wish to vote by absentee ballot can contact Sullivan at csullivan@snowhillmd.com to request an absentee ballot application.

The deadline to submit a request for an absentee ballot application is Friday, April 21 at 4:30 p.m.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Eagle rescued, injuries too severe to treat

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 16, 2023) Patti Adams, owner of Ruff Cuts Pet Salon in Ocean Pines, is no stranger to rescuing animals, even bald eagles.

She once rescued an eagle near Abi's Diner. And on Feb. 10, she was the one who found the eagle that was rescued on Racetrack Road.

"The eagle was right there near the North Gate entrance to Ocean Pines. It looked a little disheveled," Adams said. "I stopped traffic for a minute. I told him to get off the road and he did. Then I sat down and talked with him."

Adams is part Native American. "The bald eagle is our spirit guide. We absolutely worship the bald eagle," she said.

She sat with the eagle until the police arrived around 1 p.m.

"Here comes Joe Law, he put his lights on and he said, everyone had to go," Adams said. "He said the eagle was either wounded or sick and that wild animals can be very defensive when they are sick, so I told him to call DNR and he did."

The eagle was taken to Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, Inc. in Newark, Delaware.

The organization is not releasing



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTI ADAMS
Injured bald eagle found on Racetrack Road on Feb. 10.

any details on the status of the bird since it is under investigation.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is investigating the incident.

"Unfortunately, the eagle was euthenized due to the severity of its injuries," said Lauren Moses, a public information officer for the Department of Natural Resources.

Anyone who has information about the eagle should contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources at 443-433-4112 or by email at mwc.dnr@maryland.gov. Callers can remain anonymous.



Patti Adams, owner of Ruff Cuts in Ocean Pines, with her dog Karma. Adams found an injured bald eagle on Racetrack Road on Feb. 10, and talked it into moving onto the grass. She sat with it until help arrived.

CINDY HOFFMAN/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Police on alert holiday weekend

(March 16, 2023) The Maryland State Police Berlin Barrack will be participating in a statewide "Border to Border" initiative this week in an effort to keep motorists and pedestrians safe over the St. Patrick's Day weekend. The initiative began on Wednesday and will conclude on Sunday.

The Berlin Barrack will employ the use of DUI saturation patrols each night in an effort to locate impaired drivers.

The initiative will target the Route 50, Route 90 and Coastal Highway corridors.

These routes have been identified as having a high volume of impaired driving-related incidents.

The Maryland State Police always ask that motorists never drink and drive and always plan ahead to have a designated driver or utilize public transportation when consuming alcohol.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF OPVFD

Ocean Pines house fire caused by improperly discarded smoking materials draws firefighters from Ocean Pines, Ocean City, Showell, Berlin and Bishopville fire departments.

Multiple departments called to house fire in Ocean Pines

(March 16, 2023) The Worcester County Fire Marshal's investigation of a residential structure fire at 13 Hickory Way in Ocean Pines last Wednesday has found that the cause was accidental.

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched for a fire at 4:49 p.m. Upon arrival, crews reported smoke showing from the two-story single-family dwelling and requested assistance from Ocean

City, Showell, Berlin and Bishopville fire departments.

Firefighters quickly brought the fire under control which originated in second floor bedroom.

A joint investigation was conducted by the fire marshal's office, Ocean Pines Police Department and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Criminal Enforcement Team found that the fire was caused by improperly discarded smoking materials.

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Obituaries

MARY L. CASTORINA
Frankford

Mary L. Castorina, age 84, of Frankford, Delaware, formerly of Baltimore, Maryland, Rochester Hills and Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Atlanta, Georgia, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at her home.



Mary Castorina

Mary was born in Savannah, Georgia, on April 25, 1938 daughter of the late Russell Loncon and the late Julia (Skinner) Loncon.

She graduated from St. Vincent Academy in Savannah, and received her RN from St. Joseph's Infirmary School of Nursing in Atlanta, Georgia.

While living in Baltimore, she furthered her education by completing her BS in Nursing from Notre Dame College in Baltimore.

Mary served her community as a registered nurse with over 20 years of service as an OB/GYN nurse while living in Atlanta, Georgia, and Grand Rapids, Michigan.

After moving to Baltimore later in her career, she worked as an oncology nurse at Sinai Hospital before retiring to Sussex County, Delaware.

Mary gave of herself to each community she lived in.

She became involved with the Christian Family Movement in Atlanta, as the St. Thomas More Parish president couple.

Although raising her family and working preoccupied her time while she lived in Michigan and Maryland after retiring, she became heavily involved in several organizations in the area.

She was a member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary in Ocean City, Maryland, where she was the president from 2016-2017 and was awarded Lady of the Year Award in 2018.

She served in several capacities with the Sons and Daughters of Italy Ocean City Lodge.

Mary was the charity committee chair for 10 years, festival raffle and

silent auction chair for multiple years and was the recipient along with her husband, Sal as the Distinguished Citizen Award in 2019.

She was also a member of The Hamlet at Dirickson Creek HOA and founded the Ladies Club and served as the first president.

Mary loved and was devoted to her family, home, religion and her friends. She enjoyed entertaining family and friends.

She and Sal had an enthusiasm for travel and she always believed that her nursing career gave her an opportunity to minister to her patients by providing quality and loving care.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Russell Loncon, Jr. and Lawrence Loncon.

She is survived by her loving husband and best friend of 62 1/2 years, Salvador "Sal" Castorina; three daughters, Lane Bolyard and her husband, Mark of Sterling, Virginia, Claire Gregory and her husband, David of Roanoke, Virginia, and Anne Shiflett and her husband, Tony of Selbyville, Delaware; seven grandchildren, Corey Bolyard, Owen Bolyard, Ben Gregory, Max Gregory, Eliza Gregory, Kevin Shiflett and Sarah Shiflett; a sister, Sister Mary Bernarda, RSM "Charms" of Savannah, Georgia, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

A visitation will be held from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, March 19, 2023 at the Ocean View Chapel of Melson Funeral Services, 38040 Muddy Neck Rd., Ocean View, Delaware 19970.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at noon on Monday, March 20, 2023 at St. Luke Catholic Church, 9903 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, Maryland 21842, where friends and family may also call after 11 a.m.

Interment will be held privately at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Dagsboro, Delaware.

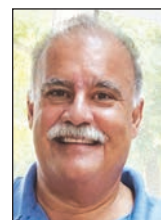
In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions in Mary's name to Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, Delaware 19963.

Online condolences may be sent by visiting www.melsonfuneralservices.com.

JOSEPH LOUIS PINO SR.

Berlin

Joseph Louis Pino Sr., age 64, of Berlin, Maryland, died suddenly Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023 in the Turks and Caicos Islands.



Joseph Pino Sr.

He was born in Washington, DC and was the son of the late Albino Pino and Irene Beatriz (Eduardo) Pino.

Joe owned United Restoration and was a charter member and chairman of trustees of the Community Church at Ocean Pines.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Patricia "Patty" Pino; one daughter, Nichole Davis and husband Chris of Ocean City, Maryland; one son, Joseph Pino Jr. and wife, Krystal, of Ocean Pines, Maryland; four brothers, John Pino of Ocean Pines, Maryland, Bobby Pino of Centreville, Maryland, Charlie Pino of Berlin, Maryland, and Billy Pino of Tyaskin, Maryland; and four grandchildren, Kinsley Davis, Christian Pino, Jackson Pino and Macie Pino.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday March 18, 2023 at 1 p.m. at Community Church at Ocean Pines 11227 Racetrack Road Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Burial will be in Garden of the Pines Cemetery.

In honor of our Dad, please feel free to wear shorts and boat shoes.

A visitation will be held on Friday March 17, 2023 from 5-7 p.m. and one hour before the service on Saturday at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

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

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Cuisine

Savor flavors and nourishment of beef pho

Just the other day I was reading about soups and how satiating they can be, especially broth soups.

I pondered this as the scents of cinnamon, cardamom and star anise wafted through the first floor of my house.

Of course, you could make out the aromas

of chicken stock and other ingredients coming from the pot, but it was the smell of the ubiquitous pho seasonings that caught my attention first and foremost.

Adding a plethora of vegetables to the cauldron only helps to make this not only satisfying but nutritious to boot.

It is safe to say that it is a touch healthier than a hearty cream of crab soup (which I had last night and was delightful), and is a soup that one can enjoy any month of the year.

The warming spices make it a perfect fit for winter, and the broth base makes it easily suitable for summer. Seasonally, pho is a one-size-fits-all bill of goods.

I have had pho in a number of Vietnamese restaurants and cafes, although never one located in Vietnam proper.

A good friend of mine just returned from a trip there and said it was his favorite of the five countries they visited.

As a chef, he was intrigued by the many styles of cooking and types of foods eaten throughout Asia, but he found that the flavors and cooking of Vietnam suited him perfectly.

No, I am not that lucky. Well, maybe someday I can make a trip like that.

My wanderlust has been kicking into high gear lately, so who knows? Maybe an overseas trip could be in order for me and my kids.

My youngest liked the pho, which is a huge win as I rarely cook at home.

I know, I know. My kids have heard for years that they must eat like kings and queens at home. Alas, as the old saying goes, the cobbler's children have no shoes. Or the plumber's pipes are always leaking.

Insert the quaint saying of your choosing and let's move on from this rather embarrassing moment in literature. I'm working on it.

What makes pho so special to me is



the level of freshness of everything from the soup itself to its toppings. I just started purchasing local, organic duck eggs, and topping the soup with a poached duck egg is absolutely mind-blowing.

On a side note, using duck eggs to make crepes is a phenomenal substitution for "normal" eggs.

I will not denigrate the almighty chicken egg, but if you can get your hands on duck eggs, you will find yourself eternally in my debt. I am that confident in your liking of this fantastic food.

Next up for discussion is the herbaeous topping of pho.

If you think about a banh mi with all of its herbs and greens on top of pickled vegetables and grilled meats, then it would also make sense to have similar herbs adorning your soup.

Herbs add such a unique layer of flavor to your dishes. And now that our last "blizzard" has passed (I can't remember a single accumulation of snow this winter. What a shame), it is time to either break out the rosemary, thyme and basil bushes or buy some hearty ones when they are stocked at all of our local garden centers.

It's hard for me to believe that last summer was my first in many years that I did not have an herb garden.

I let my mind get the best of me, and took on too many projects. This

season, I will buy my plants and nurture them.

And as I move forward this season, I will be making this soup at least once a month.

Honestly, I might make it more often than that. Who knows? Either way, add this to your arsenal and savor the flavors and the nourishment.

Beef Pho

makes about 1 gallon

5 quarts beef or veal stock
1# daikon or radish, peeled and chunked
6 scallions, charred under broiler or on flame
2 carrots, roasted and chunked
6 cloves of fresh garlic, bruised
4 Cardamom pods, slightly crushed
3" of lemongrass, bruised
3" of fresh ginger, peeled and bruised
1 ea. Large red onion, large chunk
4 ea. Whole star anise
1 ea. Cinnamon stick
1 tbsp. Black OR Szechuan peppercorns, whole

• Combine ingredients and bring to a boil.

• Turn down to a simmer and cook for an hour. Keep a lid on it so the steam goes back into the broth.

• Adjust seasoning and strain. Set aside and keep hot, or chill and reheat

at service time if enough time elapses.

• Follow instructions below for assembling your finished pho.

For The Finished Bowl

enough for 6 servings
12 oz. Shaved sirloin
1 package rice noodles, soaked, cooked and cooled
2 ea. Carrots, peeled and shredded
6 eggs, poached soft
1 bunch cilantro
18 ea. Basil leaves (at least)
12 ea. Mint leaves (optional)
3 ea. Scallions, fresh and sliced
2 ea. Shallots, shaved fine
6 ea. Lime wedges
3 ea. Jalapeno, sliced
1 bag bean sprouts

• When you are ready to assemble your pho, lightly poach the beef while the broth is piping hot.

• Divide noodles evenly between 6 bowls.

• Top with fresh vegetables, egg and beef.

• Serve with lime on the side, and of course Sriracha or another chili sauce.

— Paul Suplee is the owner of boxcar40 restaurants and is also Senior Lecturer of Culinary Arts at UMES. 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 16

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. For patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. Free service, but requires an appointment. Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726

2023 SEASON OPENING DAY AT DELAWARE BOTANIC GARDENS

Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek, 30220 Piney Neck Road, Dagsboro, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Featuring more than 200,000 spring bulbs. Admission is free to members and \$15 for non-members. Tour/class fee is \$10. Free to children 16 years and younger. Tickets: delawaregardens.org.

STORY TIME: 'HOW TO CATCH A LEPRECHAUN'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Fun, silly story and a great craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'GRANDMA'S TINY HOUSE'

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

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

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research followed by a Q&A session. Bring family information, if you can. Registration requested: 410-208-4014. www.worcesterlibrary.org

MOBILE MENTOR

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Providing one-on-one assistance for those who want to make the most of their tablet or mobile device. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BEACH SINGLES-55 PLUS

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

GROW IT, EAT IT!

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Master

Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz will talk about gardening basics as gardeners prepare for the growing season. 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

SURVIVAL SPANISH: STUDENT EDITION: GEOGRAPHY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4 p.m. Join Miss Morgan for this introductory Spanish program. The group will be learning about geography. 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

SLEEP APNEA SUPPORT GROUP

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 6-8 p.m. Staff from TidalHealth will present on sleep apnea. Additionally, representatives from medical supply companies will be on site. Registration is required: 443-944-7647, susan.hamilton@persante.com.

Fri., March 17

39TH ANNUAL HOME CONDO & OUTDOOR SHOW WITH ARTS & CRAFTS

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Featuring an array of new products and services for home or condo. Admission cost is \$6 for adults and free to those 13 years and younger and military, police and fire. www.oceanpromotions.info, 410-213-8090

STUFFY SLEEPOVER!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Drop off your stuffed animal and let them experience the library overnight. Bring home a special keepsake. Must be picked up on March 18. For all ages. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

LEPRACON

Visit participating establishments and enjoy grub, beer, shenanigans and drop your ticket in to win gift baskets at each place, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Cost is \$25. Tickets available at participating locations a week prior. 443-856-9309

HOBBIES CLUB: SCRAPBOOKING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Preserve your memories with this new hobby. Bring in your favorite photos and get help with the rest. For ages 6 years

and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'THE POET X' BY ELIZABETH ACEVEDO

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

IRISH POTATO LAUNCHER

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2:30-4:30 p.m. Build a catapult. Then practice launching Irish potatoes in the bin or try catapulting some coins into the Pot O' Gold. For ages 7 years and older. 410-957-0878. 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>.

Sat., March 18

39TH ANNUAL HOME CONDO & OUTDOOR SHOW WITH ARTS & CRAFTS

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Featuring an array of new products and services for home or condo. Admission cost is \$6 for adults and free to those 13 years and younger and military, police and fire. www.oceanpromotions.info, 410-213-8090

ACT EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM TRASH CLEANUP

The Sterling Tavern, 119 N. Main St., Berlin, 7 a.m. Meet in front of The Sterling Tavern. All clean-up tools will be provided for the clean-up. Bring work gloves and dress accordingly. Debbi Dean, 443-856-9309, outreach@actforbays.org

WALK WITH A DOC

Southgate Pond, Race Track Road, Ocean Pines, 9 a.m. Educate. Exercise. Empower. Join the group for its monthly Walk with a Doc. Alyce Marzola, amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org

OCEAN CITY SUMMER JOB FAIR

Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort, 9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-noon. Featuring hundreds of seasonal employers, housing assistance, transportation information and more. www.oceanpineschamber.org

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

CRAFTY SATURDAY: EVERYTHING GREEN!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Stop by the library to make some awesome crafts. For ages 4 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

11TH ANNUAL ST. JOSEPH'S FESTIVAL

St. Andrew's Hall, 14401 Sinepuxent Ave., Ocean City, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Featuring Italian foods, raffles, silent auctions and sale of specialty Italian items and St. Joseph religious articles. Free event. Sponsored by Sons and Daughters of Italy of Ocean City.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

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

GUIDED SPRING BULB TOUR

Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek, 30220 Piney Neck Road, Dagsboro, 2-3 p.m. Tour with Stephen Pryce Lea, Director of Horticulture. Admission is free to members and \$15 for non-members. Tour/class fee is \$10. Free to children 16 years and younger. Tickets: delawaregardens.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 19

39TH ANNUAL HOME CONDO & OUTDOOR SHOW WITH ARTS & CRAFTS

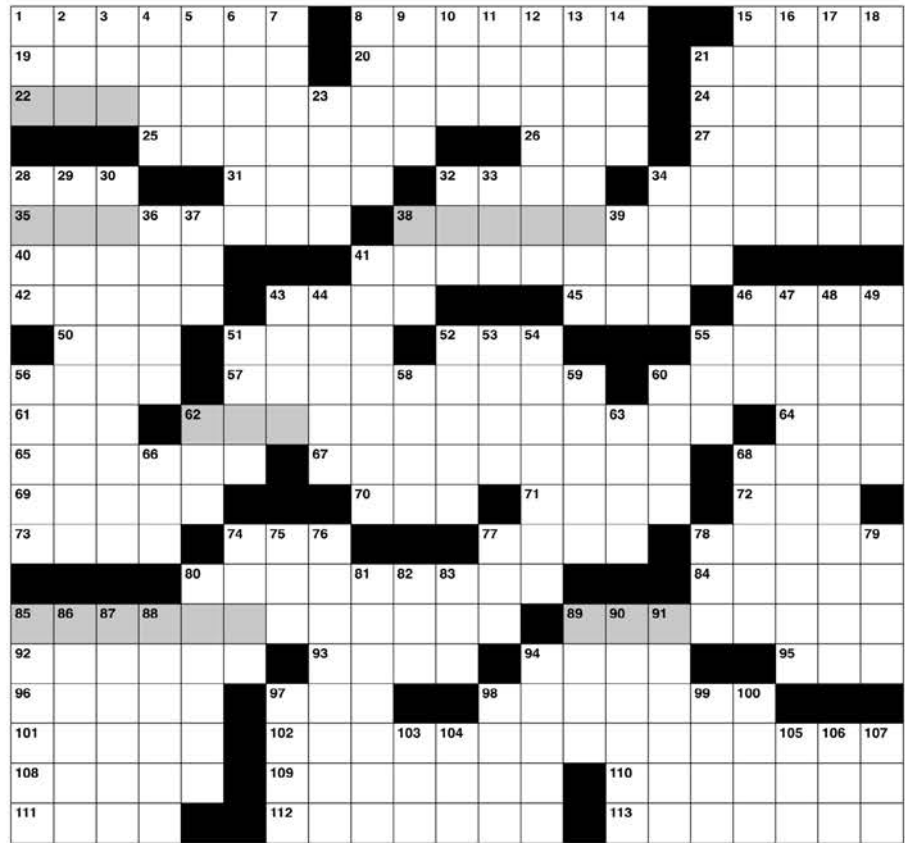
Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Featuring an array of new products and services for home or condo. Admission cost is \$6 for adults and free to those 13 years and younger and military, police and fire. www.oceanpromotions.info, 410-213-8090

Puzzles

AS HEARD AROUND THE DINNER TABLE BY JOHN-CLARKE LEVIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

John-Clark Levin, of Ojai, Calif., is a Ph.D. student at Cambridge, in England, studying how governments can better anticipate the impacts of artificial intelligence. In his spare time he does stage magic and stand-up comedy. With a partner, he once held the Guinness world record for the "longest continuous handshake" — 15-plus hours. That's even longer than it took him to make this puzzle. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Commuter's ticket
 - 8 They take bows
 - 15 G-rated, say
 - 19 "It's not coming to me"
 - 20 Floral brew
 - 21 Quintessential ingredient to borrow from a neighbor
 - 22 Dine out
 - 24 Competitive setting in Fortnite
 - 25 Like many phone cards
 - 26 Often-mispunctuated word
 - 27 Lets it all out, say
 - 28 Aurora, to the Greeks
 - 31 Powerful weapon, for short
 - 32 Pop option
 - 34 Firefly, e.g.
 - 35 Aid in some makeshift repairs
 - 38 Blackhead remover
 - 40 Company that created Pong
 - 41 They can make a huge impact
 - 42 Spongy mushroom
 - 43 Movie character who said "I love you" to 110-Across
 - 45 Network supported by "Viewers Like You"
- DOWN**
- 1 Tom Hanks movie featuring a giant piano
 - 2 It might turn out to be a drone
 - 3 Barfly
 - 4 Blue diamond in "Titanic," e.g.
 - 5 Lab-culture medium
 - 6 Star close to Venus?
 - 7 Take responsibility
 - 8 Bandleader Shaw
 - 9 Share the ____ (sign)
 - 10 Fort Collins sch.
 - 11 "____ Loss" (2022 No. 1 album by Drake and 21 Savage)
 - 12 Cyber Monday merchant
 - 13 Mall security guard, pejoratively
 - 14 Exams with a 400-1,600 range
 - 15 Soup-serving dish
 - 16 Interfacers with publishers
 - 17 Layer between the crust and the core
 - 18 Need for a tough crossword, perhaps
 - 21 Command for creating a revised draft
 - 23 Sushi-bar drink
 - 28 Wax-coated cheese
 - 29 Like words this clue the in?
 - 30 Easily frightened sort
 - 32 Where you might go down in the ranks?
 - 33 Bauxite or galena
 - 34 Things usually made in the morning
 - 36 What's in
 - 37 'Fore
 - 38 MADD ad, e.g.
 - 39 Lefty
 - 41 Apple wireless file transfer
 - 43 Do nothing
 - 44 Paris bar tender?
 - 46 Reddit Q. and A.
 - 47 "The nerve!"
 - 48 Finally
 - 49 Under siege
 - 51 Turned red, say
 - 52 Like an allegro tempo
 - 53 Landed
 - 54 Subjects of VH1's "I Love the ..." series
 - 55 'Fore
 - 56 Packaging string
 - 94 Barelles who sang "Love Song"
 - 95 Tribe native to the Great Basin
 - 96 Suit fabric
 - 97 Agcy. impersonated in some scam calls
 - 98 Crouched in terror
 - 101 Private
 - 102 Vegetarian options ... or what the shaded letters in this puzzle are, phonetically
 - 108 "The Three Musketeers" action scenes
 - 109 Flatten
 - 110 Movie character who replied "I know" to 43-Across
 - 111 They may be long and shocking
 - 112 Clink
 - 113 Gray matter?



- 58 Actress Ward
- 59 Many teens' rooms, to parents
- 60 Pulitzer-winning columnist Stephens
- 62 "Du-u-u-ude!"
- 63 Large coffee vessels
- 66 Made a fast stop?
- 68 "Previously on ..." segment
- 74 "The kissing disease"
- 75 "Coming face to face with yourself," per Jackson Pollock
- 76 Otherworldly
- 77 Minority in New Zealand's parliament
- 78 What goes "up to 11," in "Spinal Tap"
- 79 Pot grower?
- 80 Skinflints
- 81 Does well on a test, say
- 82 Wild donkey
- 83 Fellow
- 85 Along
- 86 Many a Monopoly property
- 87 Ear piece?
- 88 Marx's co-author for "The Communist Manifesto"
- 89 They can be passed but not failed
- 90 Franklin who sang "R-E-S-P-E-C-T"
- 91 Robin Hood's love
- 94 On the wagon
- 97 Little mischief-makers
- 98 Veggie that's often pickled
- 99 Virgil described its "cloud of pitch-black whirling smoke"
- 100 Sign of neglect
- 103 Channel that airs old MGM and RKO films
- 104 ____ Bankman-Fried, fallen crypto mogul
- 105 Excessively
- 106 Boston's Liberty Tree, for one
- 107 Kind of sauce for dim sum

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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 99

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

T	O	F	F	P	E	S	T	S	E	P	I	C	A	R	T	S			
A	C	E	R	A	L	E	V	E	T	A	P	E	S	L	E	A	P		
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	C	A	R	R	O	L	L	O	H	I	
T	O	N	E	P	O	E	M	D	U	E	S	A	C	T	I	O	N		
D	I	O	R	E	A	R	N	P	O	O	R	M	E						
A	S	S	O	R	T	A	D	M	I	T	T	S	D	E	F	E	A	T	
L	A	T	K	E	A	G	O	A	E	R	I	A	L						
A	V	E	R	E	X	I	L	E	D	D	A	D	S	W	I	S	P		
B	E	E	A	T	T	I	T	U	D	E	S	M	E	H	A	N	T	I	
A	S	L	R	O	N	A	N	S	U	B	S	F	R	E	O	N			
S	T	Y	L	I	N	G	C	R	E	M	A	C	H	A	S	E	R	S	
T	A	D	A	S	C	H	A	R	L	I	L	A	C	D	Y	E			
E	T	A	S	F	B	I	W	E	L	L	C	O	M	E	M	A	T	T	
R	E	N	T	O	L	L	A	T	A	O	I	S	M	O	N	I	T		
T	R	U	I	S	M	P	O	N	E	F	R	A	M	E					
F	O	R	T	H	E	E	A	S	S	K	I	N	G	K	E	E	P	E	R
A	V	O	L	A	S	P	E	S	M	A	L	L							
R	E	M	I	N	I	T	S	A	R	G	A	R	L	A	N	D	S		
I	R	A	N	M	I	S	S	I	N	N	F	O	R	M	A	T	I	O	N
N	I	N	E	B	R	A	I	N	B	L	I	N	I	E	L	S	A		
G	T	O	S	A	I	N	T	C	Y	N	I	C	R	E	A	P			

Calendar

Continued from Page 25

BLIPPI: THE WONDERFUL WORLD TOUR

Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 2 p.m. Dance, sing and learn with Blippi and special guest Meekah. Also monster trucks, excavators and garbage trucks. Tickets: <https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events/BLIPPI>.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., March 20

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS FOR CHICKEN & DUMPLING CARRYOUT

Bishopville Volunteer Fire, 10709 Bishopville Road, Bishopville. To be held March 25, noon to 2 p.m. Chicken, dumplings, green beans and sweet potatoes. Cost is \$15/dinner and \$8/pint of dumplings. Call 619-922-9950 to reserve your dinner and pint by March 20.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF WORCESTER COUNTY MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines. 10 a.m. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Guest speakers, Dr. Annette Wallace, Chief Safety and Academic Officer and Denise Shorts, Chief Academic Officer, will discuss the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

STORY TIME 'SPRING BEGINNINGS'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate the start of spring with stories, songs and a craft all about the changing of the seasons. For ages 2-5 years. 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

GROW IT, EAT IT!

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz will talk about gardening basics as we prepare for the growing season. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.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.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m.



OPP SHOW CONTINUES

After a nearly sold-out opening weekend, the results are in: "Four Old Broads," presented by Ocean Pines Players, is a smash hit. The final two performances are on Friday, March 17 and Saturday, March 18, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway in Ocean City, with a curtain time of 7:30 p.m. Tickets are going fast, but reserved seats may be purchased in advance for \$21 from <https://oceanpinesplayers.org>. Walk-in tickets are \$25, if available.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The discussion will focus on the introduction to "The Second Sex" by Simone de Beauvoir. The group meets twice a month to discuss classic and modern selections. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

Tues., March 21

STORY TIME: WELCOME SPRING

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

STORY TIME 'BABIES'

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and finger plays. Take-home activity included. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

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

BLOCK PARTY

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

Tuesdays - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 7 p.m. www.jw.org

TRIVIA WITH JIM MECKLEY: 'ANOTHER MARCH MADNESS'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 3-4:30 p.m. A basketball-themed trivia contest. Prizes awarded to the top three teams

and refreshments provided Individuals and teams welcome. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

LEPRECHAUN RACES

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Design a balloon leprechaun and see which will reach the pot of gold first. For ages 6-11 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WOMEN IN ART

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 p.m. Looks at women artists from the medieval era through the 18th century. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. - A TRIBUTE TO ARETHA FRANKLIN

Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$85, \$75 and \$65. <https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events/r.e.s.p.e.c.t>

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.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Tuesdays - Worcester County Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 3:30-4:30 p.m. TOPS is a weekly support and education group promoting weight loss and a healthy lifestyle. 410-289-4725

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

OC KNITTING CLUB

Tuesdays - Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m.

Wed., March 22

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.

SENSORY STAY AND PLAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Get ready to squish, build, splash, shake and scoop through several fun stations. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DIABETES EDUCATION

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4-6 p.m. Education on the topic of diabetes. Alyce Marzola, amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org

CHERRY BLOSSOM PAINTINGS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5 p.m. In honor of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, the group will make cherry blossom painting. Limited to 15. Register: 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5:30-7 p.m. Providing participants with hope for the future. Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

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

HELP WANTED



Now Hiring!!!
67th St., Coastal Hwy.
FT. PT Positions Available
We are looking for friendly, energetic people to join our crew
Experience preferred

- Pizza Maker
- Counter Server
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- Dishwasher

Competitive Pay and Great Tips!
Serious inquiries only!
Apply within or email us mionespizza67@gmail.com

HELP WANTED

BOAT BOTTOM PAINTER
for West Ocean City Boat Yard. Call 410-213-2296.

Barn 34
Hiring Kitchen Help
Apply in person
Wed. & Thurs. between
9am - 12pm
3400 Coastal Hwy.

ASSATEAGUE OUTFITTERS

Seasonal Positions:
-Kayak Guides
-Managers
-Rental Staff
-Retail/Buyers

Enthusiasm for the outdoors is encouraged.

Apply online at:
AssateagueOutfitters.com

HELP WANTED

Maintenance Positions
available in local high-rise condominium. Part time and full time available. Good starting pay w/salary increase and bonuses available annually.
Send resume to
apurnell@legumnorman.com



NOW HIRING!!
Production Crew
for our WOC kitchen facility
Up to \$20/hr.
Apply online at:
www.delmarvadd.com



Hiring for the following positions

- Groundskeepers
- Houseman
- Housekeepers
- Front Desk Agents
- Lifeguards
- Part-Time Bartender/Concession

Seasonal positions

Apply in person at
12806 Ocean Gateway or
email:
info@fskfamily.com

HELP WANTED

Landscaper Needed. Why pay to workout when you can work OUTSIDE?! Low stress, get fit, sleep great. Competitive pay. Must have active driver's license and be available to work M-F.
Call 410-251-4649.

FULL-TIME, YEAR ROUND
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Training available.
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Hiring Cooks, Audio/Video Techs, Maintenance Staff, Painters, Carpenter, Plumber, Housekeeper, Boat Mates
Apply in person or online at seacrets.com

Classifieds
410-723-6397
www.baysideoc.com
www.oceancitytoday.com
By Monday, 5 p.m.

HELP WANTED

PGN Crab House
29th Street & Coastal Hwy.
Now Hiring for
• Waitstaff
• Kitchen Help
Apply within in person after 11:00 am

Small Engine Mechanic.
Year-round.
Competitive wages.
443-754-1047

The Spinnaker, Now Hiring
Day Shift Maintenance Assistant/Houseman.
Apply in person
Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm.
1800 Baltimore Avenue,
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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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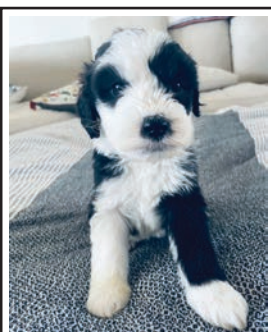
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