



Parks calls out group for aggressive tactics

Justice for Gavin supporters said to threaten vandalism if benefit took place at club

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) In uncharacteristically strong opening remarks, Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors President Doug Parks began the March board meeting Saturday by taking issue with the aggressive tactics some advocates for Justice for Gavin have been employing recently. He acknowledged the heartache

that the family has experienced because of the loss of their 14-year-old son, Gavin Knupp, who was killed by a hit-and-run driver on July 11 last year.

“No one can imagine the grief and suffering being endured by the parents at the loss of their child. As the investigation into this tragedy is ongoing, it is no surprise that frustration is growing as the time passes without official action by the state attorney and the state police conducting the investigation,” said Parks.

While he said he did not oppose targeting businesses and conducting



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Doug Parks reads his statement.

protests and boycotts, he did object to some aggressive actions such as “bullying of the business staff, bullying of children at school and threatening organizations, customers and OPA board members. Their actions demonstrated a move away from justice to a support for vengeance.”

Using a prepared statement, he said harassment led the Ravens Roost organization to move their fundraising event from the Yacht Club to another venue.

When asked later about other examples, he said, “In one instance that

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MARINA DOCK

Part of the new dock is in place at the Yacht Club. Ocean Pines is replacing gas lines, fuel dispensers and the C dock. All work is scheduled to be complete before Memorial Day. See story on page 8.

Berlin looks to county for skate park money

By **Jack Chavez**
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) Looking to model its pursuit after Ocean City’s course of action, Berlin is going to county government for skate park

funding.

At the March 13 meeting of the Berlin mayor and Town Council, Councilmember Jack Orris broached the subject of the town skate park project as it relates to the findings of

a county survey on what draws people to local parks — walking, exercising, relaxation and children’s play.

“I think this is an opportunity for us to collaborate with the county,”

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OP elections solutions still not decided

Paper vs online balloting debate continues by board

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) The election debacle of 2022 continues to be a point of contention during the Ocean Pines Association (OPA) board meetings.

Significant problems with the election process in 2022 resulted in an over count of ballots, which led to a 940-vote error. The current Election Committee found 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.

In the March board meeting held Saturday, the Election Committee requested the approval of two recommendations pertaining to the processes for the 2023 Board of Directors election.

The Election Committee requested permission to continue research into obtaining creditable scanning software, conduct end user testing and to hire an independent contractor to

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The current sign at the north entrance to Ocean Pines. The Communications Committee has suggested replacing the sign with an electronic one that would be easier to update.

Electronic signs proposed for OP North Gate entrance

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) The results are in and 61 percent of those who answered the survey are in favor of electronic signs in Ocean Pines.

The survey, issued by the Ocean Pines Association's Communications Advisory Committee, sought to determine interest in "replacing the marquee-type information signs located throughout the community with an electronic version." The survey drew responses from 401 residents.

According to the poll's findings, residents said the current signs on Ocean Parkway are useful, with 17 percent considering them extremely useful, 30 percent very useful and 38 percent somewhat useful. Only 5 percent considered them not useful at all.

A significant percentage, 43 percent, said the current signs are hard to see at night, and 50 percent would like to see them updated more frequently.

The Communications Committee has proposed to change just the North Gate sign at this time. The new sign would be similar to the current one, but with the map on the right, and the lettering on the left side. The

lighting would be the same and the basic appearance would remain the same, with a white background and black lettering.

"There will not be any pictures or traveling text. The lighting will be just like it is now, no neon lighting or commercial messaging," said Cheryl Jacobs, the committee's chair.

"It is only for the purpose of changing, via Wi-Fi, the message to make it more timely on matters directly related to Ocean Pines," she said. "The signs we have are old. Some like the charm of those signs. But we live in a digital age. We should be moving into the 21st century."

The electronic sign costs about \$20,000 and is not in the 2023-24 budget. The committee will have to make the request to the board for the next year's budget.

Beyond the electronic signs, the committee plans to hold a contest for new signs to encourage people to vote in the upcoming elections. The committee is expected to select the winner in April so signs can be produced for the August elections. Two board seats will be open this election season, with Colette Horn and Doug

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Worcester to address issue of non-local emergency calls

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) Worn down by what they describe as a series of one-sided relationships, the Worcester County Commissioners are sending letters to neighboring counties to let them know Worcester's fire and EMS services cannot continue assisting them under the status quo.

In a unanimous vote on Tuesday, the commissioners elected to contact Sussex (Delaware), Accomack (Virginia) and Somerset counties to request meetings to discuss how the relationship can proceed.

Originally, the issue brought before the commissioners was to address Sussex County only, where the Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department has often sent its crews on emergency runs over the last three years.



Weston Young



Joe Mitrecic

According to data provided by the county Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young, Bishopville went into Sussex County 98 times over the last three years, versus just five times that Sussex responded to Bishopville's area. In 2020, Sussex didn't come into the area at all.

"This is an unsustainable trend that is pulling units out of Worcester County to basically clean up the lack of response in our neighboring counties," Young said, roping in Accomack and Somerset counties as well.

Young added that when there isn't an ambulance in Bishopville, it leaves the department exposed if a local emergency call comes in. This in turn affects the Showell Volunteer Fire Department, which would be the first

station to pick up the slack.

Young said it's a "bunch of downstream impacts, every one of these calls."

On the southern end of the county, Commissioner Joe Mitrecic said emergency service trips into Accomack and Somerset counties are affecting the Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Department, which has the longest distance to travel to make it to a hospital.

In at least one case last year, Showell actually made it to Snow Hill first — a 20-mile drive — because Pocomoke was indisposed on another run, Mitrecic said.

"We're one call away from a complete, total meltdown," Mitrecic said. "That's been stressed to us. If we have somebody in Virginia or Sussex County and we get that call, it certainly won't be good."

Earlier, while updating the commissioners on the progress of a committee comprised of Worcester County Fire and EMS leadership, Young, Mitrecic and Commissioners Jim Bunting and Ted Elder, Mitrecic said that they're making headway in determining what budget needs will look like in the future, a "funding mechanism" for those needs and where current deficiencies are.

But how spread-thin the county's resources are with these extra runs into neighboring counties was the chief concern discussed on Tuesday.

"I think basically we need to tell (these counties) the same thing Ocean City told us about West Ocean City — that either they come up with the money it costs to run those areas or we stop running it. We can no longer continue to allow the cost of running these other areas to affect the WC taxpayers," Mitrecic said. "We keep giving more and more money to these emergency medical companies and we're not getting anything out of Sussex (or Accomack, although) I think Somerset does pay us \$25 a run, something ridiculous like that."

OP considering electronic signs

Continued from Page 2
Parks ineligible for reelection because of term limits.

The committee has also been in discussions with the police department about accessing drone footage the department already has on hand. The committee would like to access this free footage and make it available under the historic tab on the Ocean Pines website.

"The purpose of the drone footage is for historical records, along with all the other things we have preserved," Jacobs said. "It will be available to anyone who wants to see it, now and in the future."

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Berlin wants county help on skate park funds

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Orris said. “We, as a municipality, can offer an amendment, if that’s the best way to go, suggesting a fixed amount to request for the skate park to happen here in town. A skate park here in Berlin won’t only be for Berlin residents, so I think this is a good opportunity for another partnership between us and the county — and the state (since) these are state funds.”

Orris threw out figures of \$200,000 and \$250,000 for requests.

Mayor Zack Tyndall asked if this was related work that the parks department staff does, to which town administrator Mary Bohlen replied yes and no.

“The (Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan) is one thing. The program in its phase and devel-

opment plan is another,” Bohlen said. “But they do tie together. Unfortunately, when the county reached out to us about the [plan], they gave us 24 hours to respond. Things got missed. However, I’m currently working on the Program Open Space development plan, which does include phases 1 and 2 of the skate park. At the point of the Parks Commission meeting (earlier this month), we thought we had more time. But then they reached out the following day and said we need this by March 31st.”

She added that the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) is a different document but is still worth addressing specifically.

The organization “We Heart Berlin” has been spearheading the movement to get a skate park into town and its founder Tony Weeg said

at the meeting that they’re “at the cusp” of getting the state park under the LPPRP.

A report from developer Spohn Ranch expected to show the project complete up to 75 percent was supposed to be in hand on Friday, but as of Monday Weeg had yet to receive it.

Tyndall said that there’s no reason this couldn’t be a request for the county, seeing as the council had already made it a priority issue.

Weeg said that he had spoken to multiple commissioners about it and the reception was positive.

“One said that, on the coattails of Ocean City’s past and the popularity of what that brings to town, it would be the high time to get on the coattails of that ask and make that (happen now),” Weeg said.

Tyndall said that they could include the LPPRP in their Consolidated Transportation Plan or the Community Parks and Playground (CPP) grant application.

According to Bohlen, the town has a grant outstanding for its inclusive playground project.

“CPP only opens for funding rounds at one time of the year,” she said. “It’s not a grant we could apply for at any time.”

“Right now, the way the develop-

ment program is developing, is the public restrooms at Stephen Decatur Park, as we just have a little more to get that done. The CPP application for the inclusive playground has to be included on it because there’s a grant application sitting out there. After that is phase 1 of the skate park and phase 2.”

Orris said they can still reach out about the skate park.

There was some disagreement among the council members present on what the asking price should be. Orris said that \$250,000 would represent a “good start,” since that’s what Ocean City requested for its skate park, but Councilmember Jay Knerr pointed out that theirs was a larger \$700,000 project.

“I think we should ask for less,” Knerr said.

Weeg said that the goal was to get the skate park to phase one and the LPPRP report in front of the county commissioners for their April 6 meeting.

“(We should) have a letter from the Berlin Town Council saying that we’d like to have a skate park as an amendment under the playground on the LPPRP,” Weeg said. “(It) would be beneficial for us in the future for other asks.”

OPA vote narrowly approves Election Committee’s plans

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perform ballot scanning under committee visual supervision.

While board member Steve Jacobs congratulated the committee for its efforts in addressing the issues related to the paper ballots, he raised concerns about paying an outside vendor to count the ballots when there was never any evidence of a conflict of interest.

“I have no understanding of why an outside vendor is needed,” Jacobs said.

The Election Committee also asked to suspend online voting for 2023, return to paper ballots effectively used for decades 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 voting implementation is 2024.

Colette Horn countered that the Election Committee’s assertion that paper ballots have been used flawlessly for decades was unfounded.

“We’ve never looked backward at our paper ballot process to ensure that our paper ballot system was flawless. That’s a premise that doesn’t hold together,” said Horn. She said she reviewed Election

Committee meeting videos and their reports and saw no evidence that the committee provided any support to the contention that the online voting system is unable to be audited.

Frank Daly echoed Horn’s concerns. “We are left with the recommendation that we should stop electronic voting when no problems existed,” he said.

Board President Doug Parks expressed his confidence in paper balloting, but Jacobs called him on the “double standard.”

“There was no issue with electronic voting. All the problems existed in the paper ballots. That does not follow logic in any shape or form, to suggest that we should go to the tried-and-true method, when that was where the problem existed,” Jacobs said.

Daly questioned why the committee has still not been able to say how many lots voted. “The information is on the envelopes, which are still intact. Run the list of lots that voted manually and electronically. If you see my lot on both lists, you have a problem. Why has this not been done?”

Eventually, the board approved the motion to allow the Election Committee to proceed, with Horn and Jacobs voting against and Daly abstaining.



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Parks says tactics seek revenge, not justice

Continued from Page 1

was shared, a high school student who worked at the Yacht Club was told by some other students that he should just go kill himself since he worked there.”

“The Veterans Memorial Fundraising event was disrupted by this group as the planned entertainer backed out from performing,” he said. He added that organizers were told if the event was held at the Yacht Club, the memorial would be vandalized.

A police report concerning that threat was shared with board members, two of whom received threats via text messages.

Parks said he welcomed a conversation with representatives from the Do It for Gavin group to “understand why they want to disrupt the Ocean Pines community and how their actions would serve to move forward with justice.”

Parks suggested that the group should be focused on those in charge of the investigation, not Ocean Pines and its amenities. He added that activities such as those directed at the Veterans Memorial fundraiser could have a financial impact on the community.

“Talk to your friends, talk to your neighbors and talk to other association members to let them know these situations are taking place and that this group is promoting a level of disruption to our community that at some point will affect us financially,



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

During the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors monthly meeting last Saturday, Chairman Doug Parks read from a statement on the impacts of some of the actions taken on behalf of the Justice for Gavin group on Ocean Pines amenities and community members. Pictured, from left, are Steve Jacobs, Colette Horn, Monica Rakowski, Parks, Rick Farr, Stuart Lakernick and Frank Daly.

which in turn will most likely lead to an increase in annual assessments.”

Parks later noted that the board and he had been approached by OPA members asking what was being done to address these matters. “As the leadership group it was our responsibility to ensure the concerns of the membership were made public.”

Parks, who said his statement was spurred by the Veterans Memorial issue and complaints from the community, shared it with board members in advance. Five of the seven board members supported Parks

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Full text of opening remarks by Board President Parks

The following is a statement from Ocean Pines Association President Doug Parks read during last Saturday's board meeting:

Everyone is aware of the terrible tragedy that occurred last summer regarding 14-year-old Gavin Knupp. No one can imagine the grief and suffering being endured by the parents at the loss of their child. As the investigation into this tragedy is ongoing, it is no surprise that frustration is growing as the time passes without official action by the State Attorney and the State Police conducting the investigation.

Beyond the foundation that was created in Gavin's honor and the wonderful things that have been accomplished, a Facebook group named Do It For Gavin was formed to among other things, share information and opinions regarding the issue.

We have been told that for the most part the group discussed things in a reasonable manner but at some point, the tone changed from sharing information to targeting businesses

and conducting protests and boycotts.

Quite frankly, while some may disagree, we see no issue at all with that course of action. However, their actions also included bullying of the business staff, bullying of children at school and threatening organizations, customers and OPA board members.

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Marvin Steen started career in Ocean Pines

Builder bought into Boise Cascades' vision for large water front community

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) Most people in Ocean Pines know the name Steen. Many residents regularly drive by the Steen Homes sign in front of their office on Ocean Parkway.

But what some might not know is that Marvin Steen, the founder of Steen Builders, has been instrumen-



Marvin Steen

tal in the development of Ocean Pines since the first house was built.

Steen was in charge of building houses for Boise Cascade/Kingsbury Homes. He joined up with Harvey Hastings, a friend from his time at Goldey-Beacom College in Delaware.

In 1968, 28 parcels comprising more than 2,500 acres of land, were purchased by Boise Cascade for a

total of \$4 million. Later, the company purchased two parcels in Ocean City for \$400,000, where the beach club is now.

"I grew up on the Indian River. I drove through here and saw all this money being spent and I knew good and well it was going to work," Steen said.

But when Steen told his wife's grandfather where he was working, he could not believe it. He said, "All that's there is water and trees."

"And when they started in this place, that's all it was."

Steen and Hastings worked out of a model home that Boise Cascade/Kingsbury Homes built on Ocean Parkway. "There were about 25 models for buyers to choose from," he said.

"Kingsbury had the best salesforce. They sold \$1 million in lots in one week, priced at \$10,000 for a wooded property and \$25,000 for a water property."

"Boise Cascade had deep pockets," remarked Steen. "Everything they said they would do, they did."

"They built the beach club, the yacht club, the country club, and a golf course," he said. "Everything they did was first class."

"They would fly potential buyers in, put them up in hotels in Ocean City. They had a boat that came across the bay from the beach club to the yacht club."

"They brought every customer to the country club and the yacht club."

He said the food at all the restaurants was great. "They were good or they would be fired. Boise Cascade knew what they were doing."

"After a few years, Harvey walked into the office and said he was going to travel the world," Steen said. "I followed him out the door and started building on my own after that."

"I built a model home next door to their [Boise Cascade/Kingsbury] model home," he said. "I was a small custom builder. One at a time."

At first, most of his customers bought lots from Boise Cascade and then came to him to build a custom home.

Then in 1975, Steen bought more than 500 developed lots from Boise Cascade in Ocean Pines and in 1978, he bought waterfront property in the Pines and developed it into Wood Duck Isle.

"It was just Boise Cascade and me," Steen said. "No other big developer came into Ocean Pines."

By 1981, Steen bought Wood Duck Isle II and III and developed it into single-family lots, on which he built large luxury homes.

He built townhomes in Wood Duck IV. And in 1992, he purchased 185 lots and sold them as lots and lot-and-house packages. Today he is selling 100-foot-wide lots in a new section of Ocean Pines. His son, Greg, has joined him in the family business as vice president.

"Most people cannot believe what is here," Steen said. "The vision of Ocean Pines was developed and sold just like they said it would be."

Today, three generations of Steen's live in Ocean Pines. Steen and his wife, Beverly, and his daughter and son also live in Ocean Pines with their families.

Steen said most of his buyers bought beach houses here and are now wanting to settle here full time in a larger house. He also gets a many buyers who started out in Ocean City, but now want more of a community to live in full time.

Most people think that retirees all want to move to Florida. But Steen said, "The whole world wants to come to Worcester County. We are getting a lot of people here too."

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Full text of opening remarks by Board President Parks

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Their actions demonstrated a move away from justice to a support for vengeance.

What we have issue with is, given that the targeted business has been sold, the group has now turned its attention to Ocean Pines. Their tactics have been to bully and threaten organizations and entertainment providers from having events at our Yacht Club.

As an example, because of the harassment that was going on in the community by this group, the Ravens Roost organization decided to move their planned fundraising event from the Yacht Club to another location.

The Veterans Memorial Fund-Raising event was disrupted by this group as the planned entertainer backed out from performing. Organizers were told if the event was held at the Yacht Club, that the Memorial was going to be vandalized.

On another note, the band that was scheduled to perform at the St. Patrick's Day event last week backed out at the last minute due to being harassed by this group. Do these actions convey a desire for justice or vengeance?

When will they stop? I can answer that – they won't!! This is a call to all Ocean Pines Association members – raise your voices and be heard. We cannot let this vigilante group run roughshod over our community. By their actions and social media posts,

they have demonstrated they care nothing about Ocean Pines and will go to whatever lengths it takes to disrupt our community and our livelihood.

We would welcome a conversation with representatives from the Do It For Gavin group with the hope of understanding why they want to disrupt the Ocean Pines community and how their actions would serve to move forward with justice.

Trust that justice regarding this case is what all of us want. Perhaps we could convince them that their anger should be directed towards those who are in charge of the investigation.

Talk to your friends, talk to your neighbors and talk to other Association members to let them know these situations are taking place and that this group is promoting a level of disruption to our community that at some point will affect us financially, which in turn will most likely lead to an increase in annual assessments.

We must continue to do what it takes to protect our community and the amenities we have paid to enjoy. I ask the members of the Association to continue to support our amenities and fund-raising events as together we can maintain the things that make our community what it is for us.

We all want justice for Gavin and our hope is that the case is resolved as soon as possible.

Parks calls for justice, says revenge will hurt community

Continued from Page 5

reading it in public as his president's remarks, he said.

The larger-than-normal crowd that had gathered for the board meeting erupted in applause at the end of his statement.

Social media pages related to Gavin and Ocean Pines blew up over the weekend with debate over Park's statement.

Efforts to contact Gavin Knupps mother went unanswered at press time.

The Knupp case also affected the election of one candidate for an OPA committee position.

Sherrie Clifford volunteered to be on the OPA's Search Committee, but a debate ensued because of her support for the Justice For Gavin group. Board member Stuart Lakernick objected to her appointment, claiming she openly endorses boycotting our food establishments.

"Her name appears on a petition," Lakernick said. "How can you be on a committee to work to better our town when you openly endorse hurting our town?"

"The applicant served on the search committee last year," Colette Horn responded. "She successfully carried out the functions of the job, which were essentially clerical. She has done a lot of work to better this community. To quote our chair, we do not turn away volunteers."

Added board member Steve Jacobs, "My overall view is that boycotts are an acceptable form of social protest, as long as they are not violent. This [search] committee has nothing to do with the amenities."

Frank Daly agreed, saying, "There is no legitimate reason why they cannot serve on this committee."

The committee rejected her nomination for the Search Committee by a 4-3 vote.

OP committee announces '23 election season dates

(March 23, 2023) The Ocean Pines Elections Committee this week announced the dates for the 2023 board of directors election process, including filing and voting deadlines.

The seven-member volunteer board is the governing body of Ocean Pines. Terms for elected directors are three years.

This year, two seats on the board of directors will be up for election. They are currently held by Doug Parks and Colette Horn, both of whom are serving the last year of two consecutive terms and cannot run again because of term limits.

The deadline to file is by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 10.

"We encourage anyone who is thinking about running to do their homework, read up on the association's governing documents, attend the regular meetings, and volunteer," Elections Committee Chairperson Tom Piatti said. "Volunteers have helped make this community what it is today, and there's no better way to give back than to serve

on our board of directors."

Applications are available at the administration building or on the Ocean Pines website at <https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/53744/OPA+Board+candidate+registration+form.pdf>.

Important upcoming election dates include:

Eligible Candidate Draw and Workshop (to determine ballot order and seating during candidate forums) – Friday, June 2 at 2 p.m. in the Blue Room of the Administration Building.

Voter eligibility deadline – Wednesday, July 6.

First Candidate Forum – TBD.

Second Candidate Forum – TBD.

Ballot deadline – Wednesday, Aug. 9 by 4 p.m.

Ballots counted and vote totals announced – Friday, Aug 11.

Annual Meeting – Saturday, Aug. 12.

For questions about the election, contact elections@oceanpines.org.

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Ocean Pines GM report for March positive

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) General Manager John Viola provided updates on various efforts around Ocean Pines during Saturday's Board of Directors meeting.

He noted that the Police Department is still aggressively looking to fill five to six positions. The department has begun using a written and physical test before cadets go into the academy in hopes that they will be better prepared.

During the last board meeting, resident Jack Lemring spoke about issues with the dog park. That triggered work including a new cabinet for tools, an upgraded walkway and mulch. Viola also noted that agility equipment has been ordered and is expected soon. Lemring thanked Viola and his team during public comments for the quick and good work and suggested there might be a need for handicapped access to the dog park.

The Racquet Club is getting a significant amount of attention, including repairs and painting; landscaping, and a shed cleaned out for equipment. A shade structure is being built and will be installed in April. This Spring, the resurfacing of the Har Tru tennis courts to address

the cracks will be done. Viola met with the team on March 14 to prepare preliminary sketches for a new building and warming hut. He hopes to have design sketches by September, so that it can be considered for next year's budget.

At the marina, gas lines and fuel dispensers are being replaced. The marina fuel C Dock will be installed prior to May 1.

"We will have a top-notch marina dock when we are done," Viola said.

Safety AEDs have been installed outside of the racquet center and will be unlocked by staff every day. An AED has been ordered for the Police Station. AED training scheduled for OP staff starting in March.

The leaf program in Ocean Pines will change this fiscal year. Linda Martin, senior executive office manager reported that the association will no longer be vacuuming the leaves out of the ditches with the vacuum truck.

Homeowners will now be responsible for bagging up those leaves. The association will continue to pick up bagged leaves in November and December, which complements efforts by Republic.

The yard will be open for yard debris drop off in the fall and spring. To obtain a yard waste sticker, contact



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The new walkway to reach the docks sits in the Yacht Club parking lot. Ocean Pines is replacing gas lines, fuel dispensers and the C dock. All work is scheduled to be complete before Memorial Day.

410-641-7425. The sticker will be free the first year. Residents can also call public works prior to dropping off debris on an as needed basis.

As for the future use of the vacuum truck, it will be put to work on drainage ditch maintenance only.

...

Board member Monica Rakowski delivered the Treasurer's Report. As of Feb. 28, the association had approximately \$13 million in cash. Cash increased \$700,000 from the same time period last year. Cash decreased \$900,000 from January 2023. Altogether, \$11.1 million is invested in CDARs. The remaining \$1.9 million is invested in insured cash sweep, money market and other operating accounts.

She noted that with interest rates continuing to increase in the marketplace, there will continue to be an upward trend of interest income realized within the reserve accounts in the coming months.

Viola reported a February positive

net of \$34,000 with a year-to-date net of \$1.1 million. Ninety percent of the revenues are generated by amenities, driven by golf and food and beverage. Based on the unaudited reserve report, the association has a \$7.6 million balance at the end of February. The forecast for the end of the fiscal year is a \$6.6 million balance.

Viola met with bankers due to the recent banking crisis in the national news.

"I assure everybody that we have met with our bankers. They were in the GM's office first thing Monday morning," he said. "And everything is secured."

Viola said association dollars are safely invested in CDARs that are FDIC insured by the federal government.

"We deal with the Bank of Ocean City. And the Bank of Ocean City takes everything that we have invested there in CDARs. That money

See GM Page 9

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GM assures OP funds safe from current banking crisis

Continued from Page 8
is in probably 20-30 banks.”

“We are also opening another bank account with another bank, and we are transferring some money there, working with the Bank of Ocean City so that we have money in another place, as we cover operations throughout [the year].”

They are looking at investing money in treasury bills as well.

Resident Richard Malone spoke during the public comment period about a property near his home that has multiple broken-down vehicles including two motorcycles, a propped-up golf cart and a broken-down car on Nottingham Lane. He has brought this up in the past, but it continues to be an issue and has been for years.

Horn said the Architectural Committee has been asking the board to restrict property owners’ rights for violators. The board has agreed to do that. The individual would not be able to vote or enjoy the amenities. “Most of the sections that have violations do not have fining authority.” There is a current effort to expand fining authority to all sections.

Malone suggested that violators be publicly listed in the weekly Ocean Pines publication. “Maybe the embarrassment of that would be enough to move things forward.”

Members of the board thought that would be a good idea and Viola said they will start to do that.

Resident Laura Pangratz, who is a member of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, suggested that the timeframe for keeping committee meeting videos be expanded. She said it can take more than two months to get a topic before the directors meeting and it is helpful to have the ability to refer back to video of past meetings.

Other business included the review of various resolutions.

The board voted to revise Resolution B-07, which states that a person making a presentation on behalf of petitioners must be a member eligible to vote on the petition.

The board voted in favor of Resolution F-03 to establish a separate reserve account to aid in funding future expenditures for drainage in Ocean Pines.

The board voted in favor of revisions to Resolution M-05 to allow Ocean Pines Police to enforce animal control issues if Worcester County Animal Control is unable to take custody of an animal and collect fees for

impoundment.

The board also approved a pension plan for the Ocean Pines Police Department to make it more competitive. It will add an employer match with a six-year vesting schedule. Viola said this would cost about \$175,000 a year. The plan is comparable with the Law Enforcement Officers Pension Plan.

Viola asked for a transfer from realized retained earnings to cover the costs for the budget year starting May 2023.

The board reviewed various appointments to advisory committees. They approved the following appointments: Patricia Benner for a second term with the Environmental and Natural Assets Committee; Angela Hunter for a first term on the Racquet Sports Committee; Helen Johnson for a second term on the Strategic Planning Committee; Gary Miller as Chair of the Aquatics Committee and Susan Morris for a second term on the Golf Committee.

Third annual tennis event to honor Rusko, March 25

(March 23, 2023) Worcester Prep will face the Severn School during the third annual Paul Rusko Memorial Tennis Tournament on Saturday at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

Rusko, a Pennsylvania native who later retired to Ocean Pines, was the coordinator of physical education and athletics in Anne Arundel County for more than three decades.

He later became active in the Ocean Pines tennis community and formed the “Early Bird” group of players, known for starting very early in the morning.

He passed away in 2021, and a ceremony was held at the Racquet Center that year in his honor.

“Paul was a man of true integrity and character. He instilled these traits not only in his family, but those who had the privilege

and honor of knowing him. There is no greater role model greater than Paul Lawrence Rusko,” event organizer Tim McMullen said.

The opening ceremony is scheduled to start at 10 a.m.

Worcester Prep were regular season and ESAC Tournament conference champions in 2022/2023. The Severn School were the runner up this year in the MIAA Conference.

Both coaches, Terry Underkoffler from Worcester Prep and Bill Gilroy from the Severn School, have ties to Ocean Pines. Underkoffler is the Ocean Pines Racquet Sports program coordinator, and Gilroy owns a home in Ocean Pines and teaches tennis at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center each summer.

For more information, contact McMullen at 443-827-2091.

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Power Squadron to teach safe boating in Ocean Pines

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) The Ocean City Power Squadron is offering local boaters a free three-day course focusing on safety at the Ocean Pines Library starting Tuesday.

OCPS is a volunteer organization dedicated to cultivating safe and skilled boating. It serves as part of the United States Power Squadron, according to the OCPS website.

Anyone who wishes to drive a recreational boat or personal watercraft is required to attend the entire eight-hour course and pass its one-hour final exam, said OCPS Education Officer Fred Stiehl.

The class covers topics like proper boating equipment, navigation, right-of-way, reading buoys, boating in bad weather, knot tying and radio communications, Stiehl said.

"I think if you're going to be a boater, if you're going to be on the water, you really need to understand what's required to operate safely, and you might be surprised at how many people do not know the basics of boating," Stiehl said.

Maryland residents born before July 1, 1972 are exempt from the class, but with recent changes in Maryland boating laws, Stiehl also encourages well-seasoned boaters to attend, if just as a refresher.

"Even if you are the son or daughter of a very experienced fisherman, a very experienced boater, and your father or your mother has taught you lots of stuff, that's great, and it's really helpful and useful, but you still legally have to take this class or one like it to operate legally on the waters of Maryland or Delaware (or) Virginia," Stiehl said.

The course runs from 6-9 p.m. each night. There will be a final exam on the last night.

Prospective boaters can register on the first night and are asked to arrive 15 minutes early to do so.

While there isn't a minimum age requirement, Stiehl said middle school and higher is most appropriate.

Once passed, boaters are registered with the state and receive a

Maryland Safe Boating Certificate, a document Stiehl compared to a driver's license. The certification is valid in most states including Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and Pennsylvania, Stiehl said.

"If you are in a boat, operating a boat, and you do not have the certificate, but someone else on board, whose boat it is (does have the certificate), then you're okay to operate it," he said. "So for example, if I go on my boat with my grandchildren, and I'm trying to teach them how to maneuver on the water, that's okay as long as I'm in charge and I've got either the required certificate or I'm grandfathered in."

OCPS usually offers the course to the general public every spring and fall with around 20 attendees, but they also present the class to middle and intermediate schools during the school year, Stiehl said.

Students of the basic boating course can buy a \$20 course book from the OCPS or rent one with a refundable deposit of the same price. The book is also free for highschoolers and younger students, Stiehl said.

"We hope they (the students) get the basic knowledge of how to operate your boat safely. It's not going to tell you everything you need to know," Stiehl said. "You need to learn by experience. You need to understand various situations that you might get yourself into. We can't cover them all. We try and cover as many as we can think of."

Stiehl said when boaters are through with the course they will know all the legal requirements that come with boating, and he hopes they apply their knowledge to make boating safer for everyone.

"I like boating. I like other people to like boating and I want to make sure that both they and I are safe out on the water," Stiehl said.

For more information, visit ocusps.org.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary also hosts a Safe Boating Class once a month at the Ocean Pines Library, and the next one begins April 11.



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Coastal Acupuncture offers treatment for chronic pain

By Hunter Hine

Staff Writer

(March 23, 2023) Berlin has a new acupuncture practice coming to town.

Cynthia Kerr Salmond, DNP, CRNP, LAc, owner of Coastal Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine, said the practice will open March 28 in unit 108 of the Berlin Professional Center on Franklin Avenue.

Acupuncture is a holistic medical application where practitioners insert small metallic needles into a patient's skin at certain acupoints, or particular spots around the body, in order to improve a patient's Qi, according to Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Qi is the flow of energy in a person that is responsible for their general health, so improving the flow of Qi is thought to improve patients' health and wellness.

Salmond's practice will focus on treating chronic illness like pain, stomach problems, neuropathy and more, she said.

While there are various styles of acupuncture, like Japanese, French and scalp acupuncture, Salmond practices Five Element acupuncture and Traditional Chinese medicine, or TCM.

"I don't have to use any chemicals. I don't have to do anything beyond talking to somebody, using my diagnostic tools to come up with a diagnosis," Salmond said. "There's over 360 acupoints. I can create a combination of those to treat somebody. So the most exciting thing for me is that we can do something a little more naturally and patients get long lasting effects."

Along with standard acupuncture, Coastal AIM will offer electroacupuncture, where electrodes are attached to acupuncture needles to transfer a small amount of electricity to the acupoint, according to



HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Cynthia Kerr Salmond, DNP, CRNP, LAc, owner of Coastal Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine, plans to open her practice March 28 in unit 108 of the Berlin Professional Center on Franklin Avenue.

WebMD. Salmond will also provide a treatment with patches that can be applied to a patient's skin for electrical stimulation, she said.

"We are electrical beings," Salmond said. "So this is another way that we can help the Qi move through the body."

To diagnose a patient, Salmond reviews their medical history, checks what medications they are taking and gives them a physical exam.

A pulse reading helps Salmond understand a patient's blood and Qi flow, and examining a patient's tongue can act like a window into their internal state, she said.

"I was lucky because I come from Western medicine, so it was a little easier for me to kind of understand

See ACUPUNCTURE Page 12



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Acupuncture offers pain relief without pills

Continued from Page 11

diagnosis and management in Chinese medicine, but it's still a completely different arena and there were a lot of other things that I needed to learn," Salmond said.

From these indicators, Salmond decides if acupuncture is right for a patient and, if so, chooses an acupuncture regiment that suits their needs.

Sessions last around 20-30 minutes, and patients usually return for regular appointments, Salmond said.

"When I'm treating you and your symptoms, I'm really helping a lot of other things that are going on in your body, which I hadn't found to be true with Western medicine," Salmond said. "Western medicine is very siloed. You have a gastroenterology doctor to take care of your stomach, your neurology doctor for your brain, a cardiologist for your heart, but they don't always necessarily speak to one another, whereas the acupuncturist really sees the whole person and can identify things going on in different organ systems."

Salmond will be the sole acupuncturist, but as of Monday she was onboarding two employees: a receptionist and a patient technician, who will prepare people for treatment.

With the opening date approaching, Salmond has already scheduled appointments and begun releasing advertisements.

"I'm looking forward to meeting all new people, all new patients," Salmond said.

In her previous career, Salmond focused on pain management as a nurse practitioner in Baltimore. She worked in the Shock Trauma Center for four years and managed a team at two local community hospitals for another four.

When the opioid epidemic reared its ugly head, Salmond no longer wanted to be a part of a system that gave people medication endlessly, she said.

"So you think about symptoms like pain, chronic nausea, insomnia, those types of things, we as Western providers just want to give pills, but there are ways through acupuncture and other tools that we have, that we can offer relief from those things without needing to do something invasive or having to do with pharmaceuticals," Salmond said.

Salmond made the shift from Western medicine to TCM because she had studied acupuncture in the past.

While achieving her doctorate in nursing practice, or DNP, Salmond wrote a thesis about how acupressure

could help reduce anxiety and treat Acute Stress Disorder for orthopedic trauma patients.

Where acupuncture uses needles to stimulate acupoints on the body, acupressure uses only the touch and pressure of practitioners' hands, according to Columbia University Department of Pediatrics.

Salmond attended Maryland University of Integrative Health in Laurel, graduating in 2021 with a masters degree in Acupuncture, and adding MAC to her qualifications.

"I chose not to do the doctorate (of acupuncture) because the curriculum was how to speak to Western practitioners. I'm already a Western practitioner, I talk to myself enough already," Salmond said.

After acupuncture school, Salmond rented out space at East West Healing Arts in Annapolis. Her business was her own, but she shared the office with other practitioners.

A year later, Salmond heard the call of the beach, a place she'd visited every summer since she was an infant, and where she always dreamt of retiring.

Salmond originally searched for office space and housing around the Bethany and Fenwick area of Delaware, but after struggling to find a fitting space, she turned to Berlin.

"Berlin was the town that popped up with good office medical spaces, good place for me to live, and it's such a great town. It made sense for me to land here, so I don't regret it at all," Salmond said. "But it really was like my gut saying maybe we should go there and I arrived and everything kind of fell into place, so I'm thrilled to be here. I'm so excited to be part of the community and meet other business owners and community members."

Salmond's office had no signage as of Monday, but it is in the works and she is hoping to have it by next week. Besides for some finishing touches, Salmond said that everything inside the office is set up.

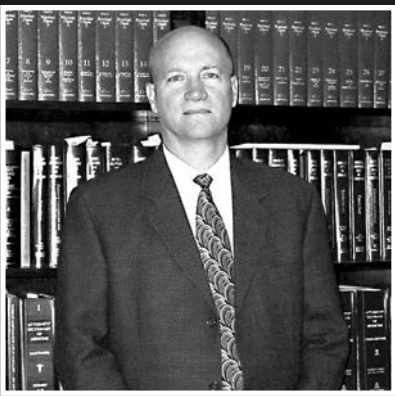
"Thinking about a patient coming through the door and saying 'I've had this leg pain for years, I can't get rid of it,' and then we do a treatment plan with them, and they're feeling relief in some form or fashion, and they're able to walk on the beach or the Boardwalk or play with their grandkids, whatever their hopes are," Salmond said. "To get them through that, and to be able to arrive at a place where they say, 'I can do one of those things,' that's the greatest feeling in the world."

For more information, visit coastalaim.com, call 443-513-4639 or email admin@coastalaim.com.


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The Pine'er Craft Club chose Charles Davis as the March Crafter of the Month. SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pine'er Craft Club honors Charles Davis during March

(March 23, 2023) The Pine'er Craft Club chose Charles Davis as the March Crafter of the Month.

Davis creates woodwork using a scroll saw and wood lathe. He sources materials from Chesapeake Woodworkers Supply and Lowes, both in Millsboro.

Davis retired to Dagsboro three years ago with his wife, Amy. He said being fully retired gives him more time to devote to his hobby and truly hone his craft.

Around the same time, he joined the Ocean Pines Pine'er Craft Club to be around crafters and have exposure to the Artisan Gift Shop.

As a crafter, Davis is known for his attention to detail and striking woodwork pieces.

"I have been working with wood my whole life," he said. "I just love creating pieces from wood."

The Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The club is always seeking new crafters and meetings are open to the public.

To inquire about selling items at the shop, contact Debbie Jiwa or Barbara Herzog, shop managers, or email opcraftclub@aol.com for more information.

All new crafters must go through a juried process and, when items sell, some proceeds go back to the community. Since its inception, the Craft Club has donated nearly \$179,000 back to Ocean Pines.

The Pine'er Craft Club has been active in Ocean Pines for 49 years.

For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-gift-shop.

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Large On-Line Only Auction – Whaleyville, MD!

Personal Property located at: 11517 Dale Road, Whaleyville, MD 21872
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(2) Onsite Online Only Auction: 3 May 2023 - Large On-Line Only Auction – Bridgeville, DE! Personal Property located at: 13 Champions Drive, Bridgeville, DE (Heritage Shores). Auction Held Online Only w/Bidding ending Wed. May 3rd, 2023 Starting at 5 PM! Antique and Modern Furniture, Designer Sculptures, Collectables, Artwork, Persian Rugs & more! 31 May 2023 - On-Line Only Auction – Onancock, VA! Personal Property located in Onancock, VA; Address provided soon! Auction Held Online Only w/Bidding ending: Wed. May 31st, 2023 Starting at 5 PM. Antique and Modern Furniture, Sterling Silver, Artwork, Primitives, Tools, Estate Vehicle & more!

(1) Upcoming Auction at 8000 Esham Rd. Parsonsburg, MD: 5/10 & 5/11/23 - 2023 Spring Sportsman & Firearm 2 Day Auction! Wed. 5/10/23 & Thur. 5/11/23 with bidding Starting @ 5PM each day! This Auction will Feature Online Only bidding. Items are located @ the A&M Auction Facility - 8000 Esham Road, Parsonsburg, MD 21849. 300+ Decoys, 100+ Firearms, Sculptures, Ammunition, Carvings, Sporting Collectables, Original Sporting Art, Duck Stamps & More!

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Snapshots



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DIAPER RESTOCK

The ladies from the local Shiner's Auxiliary recently restocked the diaper supply at the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin. The Grace Center was selected as a nonprofit to make this donation to because it is a safe haven dedicated to improving the maternal health and well-being of women in the community. Pictured are April Lewis, illustrious commandress, and member Michelle Briddell.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Barbara Purnell, president of Germantown School Community Heritage Center, receives a commendation on her 80th birthday from Diana Purnell, left, on behalf of the Worcester County Commissioners.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

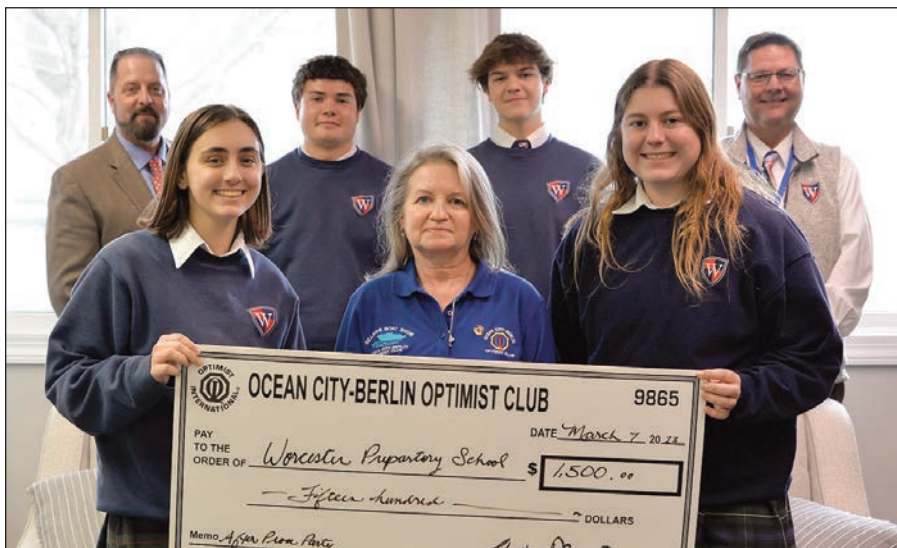
The Republican Women of Worcester County presented a \$500 donation to the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health of Berlin. Pictured, from left, are Vera Beck, Caring for America chair RWWC; Joann Manole, Grace Center executive director; Sandy Zitzer, president RWWC; and Amy Mike, recording secretary RWWC and a Grace Center board member.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ART SHOW WINNERS

Worcester Preparatory School junior Izzy Huber, pictured holding her piece, "Shattered," which won first place in the high school category of the Shirley Hall Youth Art Show, and seventh grader Elena Gjoni with her artwork titled, "Self Portrait," which earned first place in the middle school division. For over 30 years, the Art League of Ocean City has featured artwork by Worcester County middle and high school students in the annual Shirley Hall Youth Art Show.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SCHOOL SUPPORT

Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club President Christine Dolomont-Brown presented Worcester Preparatory School with a \$1,500 donation to support the 2023 prom afterparty. Pictured, in front, from left, are senior Sophia Spadaro, Dolomont-Brown, and senior Jenna Hess, and in back, Assistant Head of School/Head of Upper School Mike Grosso, seniors Riley Moyer and Owen Schardt, and Head of School Dr. John McDonald.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

TOP ESSAYS

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club hosted the winners of its essay contest during the March 2 dinner meeting. Pictured, from left, are Kathy Cater, Optimist member and chair of the essay contest; Jude Damouni, third place; Marian Hanna, second; and Sydney Todorov, first.

Snapshots

CHESS WINNER

Worcester Preparatory School's Chess Club Tournament winners were recognized and awarded with a trophy on March 9. Fourth grade student Arian Zheng is pictured with Head of Lower School Dr. Sara Timmons. He won the Grades 2-4 bracket of the chess club this year. Led by Dr. Timmons and Upper School Social Studies teacher Paul Cyryca, the chess club had much interest this year maxing out at 40 students participating.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW MEMBERS

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club welcomed four new members during its March 2 dinner meeting. Pictured is Vicki Shrier, left, with club President Christina Dolomount-Brown. Other new members recognized included Em Hench, Ron Hamm and William Outten.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Teachers Nick Busko and Mike Mariotti are joined by Vikki Mariotti.

HOEDOWN

Nearly 250 parents, alumni, teachers and friends of Worcester Preparatory School attended a western-themed gala on March 4 at Seacrets. Proceeds will be used toward campus updates to be completed over the summer. Pictured are parents Mike Ramadan, Noor Khalaleh, Kozma and Artiola Gjukuria and Emily and George Tunis.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Attending the event, from left, are teacher Allison Bescak, Owen Nally ('17), Olivia Bescak ('17), Mia Geraghty, Luke Buas ('17), Madison Buas ('17) and Todd Bescak.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pictured are Hugh Cropper (WPS '81) and wife, JL, with Courtney and Jim Baeurle.

Opinion

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

Fire depts. must be reimbursed for calls

Two or three decades ago, local volunteer fire departments were flourishing in terms of membership and finances. People wanted to join them not just for the sake of the community, but also for the prestige associated with what was then one of every town's most powerful organizations.

They were politically powerful, socially connected and, because of the danger and excitement that was part of every fire call, appealed to young men looking for adventure.

Things have obviously changed since then, as the demands of the job, the pool of potential members, and the communities themselves have experienced numerous changes, some of which continue to affect small town fire departments today.

These are difficult times for many of these smaller departments, leading them to become increasingly reliant on local government for assistance.

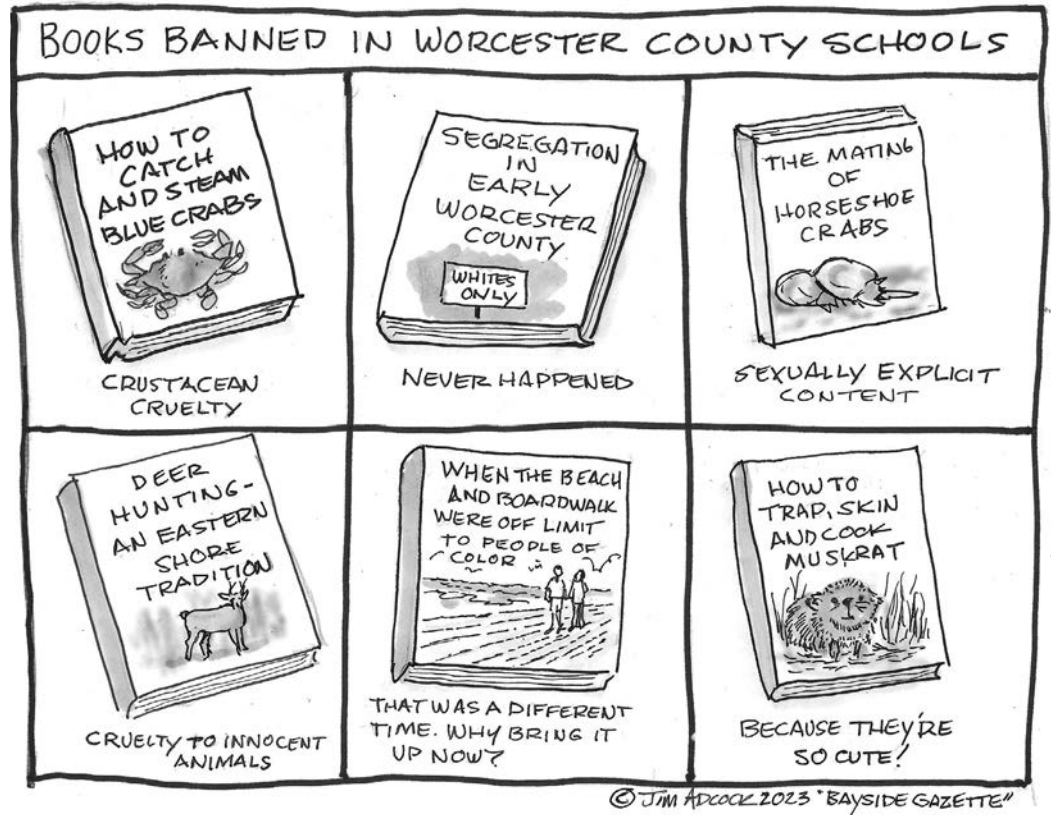
This is why the Worcester County Commissioners made the right call this week when they voted to advise neighboring county governments that the time has come for them to pay for services that this county's companies have been providing them for years for little or no charge.

As much as helping a neighbor in need is the right thing to do, it is no longer practical for this county's fire departments to reach out to county government to subsidize their responses to out-of-county emergencies.

The commissioners know the day is coming when much of the financial burden of providing emergency services in Worcester will be county government's responsibility, and they know it's going to be expensive.

To delay that eventuality, the commissioners are asking the neighbors to pay their fair share, as Ocean City has done with the county for serving unincorporated West Ocean City.

These neighboring jurisdictions — Sussex County, Delaware; Accomack County, Virginia; and Somerset County, Maryland — have two options: They can expand their own departments at a high price or pay a more reasonable amount to Worcester's companies for services rendered.



Youth outdoor soccer and flag football

(March 23, 2023) Worcester County Recreation and Parks officials invite area youth to get up, get out, and get active this spring with outdoor soccer and flag football leagues.

The soccer session will run from March 26 through June 11, on Sundays at John Walter Smith Park in Snow Hill. Players will practice basic soccer skills and compete against teams from other local towns.

Open to youth ages 3 to grade 8, participants will be

split into competing age divisions (ages 3-4, grades k-1, grades 2-4, and grades 5-8).

The flag football season will run from March 29 through May 31 on Wednesdays at John Walter Smith Park in Snow Hill.

Youth of all skill levels are welcome. Open to youth in grades 1-8, participants will be split into age divisions (grades 1-3, grades 4-5, and grades 6-8).

Participants will complete drills, learn route running, and work as part of a team.

For each league the cost is \$35 per person to play and \$30 for each additional child. Registrations may be completed online at www.playmaryland-coast.org.

Volunteers are needed to run both leagues. Interested volunteers are urged to call the WCRC at 410-632-2144.

For more information on the soccer or flag football program, contact Derek Jarmon at 410-632-2144 x2509 or email djarmon@marylandscoast.org.

Arts scholarship program underway

(March 23, 2023) The Worcester County Arts Council's Student Arts Scholarship award program has begun, with scholarship awards ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 for qualifying high school seniors who are Worcester County residents interested in majoring in the arts.

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

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

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

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

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

school. Application and Scholarship Guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website: www.worcestercountycouncil.org.

All applications must be received by May 2.

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

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

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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MCBP to hold meetings for landowners of saltmarshes

(March 23, 2023) Two meetings for saltmarsh landowners will be held by the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Lower Shore Land Trust and the Mid-Atlantic Audubon Society.

One will be held at the Berlin Library on March 29 from 6-7:30 p.m., and the other will be held at the Snow Hill Library on March 30 from 6-7:30 p.m.

The purpose of these meetings is to tell saltmarsh landowners in the Maryland Coastal Bays watershed about the work local organizations are doing to safeguard and improve the health and state of local saltmarshes, and to start building relationships with saltmarsh landowners.

The goal is to give people tools and resources to help protect saltmarshes in the coastal bays by giving them information on current saltmarsh proj-

ects, opportunities for restoration, monitoring methods, and ways to protect land.

Saltmarshes are coastal wetland areas that fill and empty with the tides. The health of fisheries, coasts, and communities depends on these intertidal habitats, as more than 75 percent of fisheries species — shrimp, blue crab, and many finfish — depend on them for food, shelter and reproduction.

Saltmarshes also reduce shoreline erosion by blunting the force of waves and catching sand. They protect water quality by filtering runoff and eliminating excess nutrients that would otherwise flow into the bays.

Food and refreshments will be served. Questions about the sessions should be directed to Carly Toulan at ctoulan@mdcoastalbays.org or 410-213-2297 ext. 103.

Commissioners welcoming senior budget accountant

(March 23, 2023) Lynn Wright has been named the new senior budget accountant for the Worcester County government administration, the county commissioners announced this week.



Lynn Wright

"I am thrilled to have Lynn join the budget team," Budget Officer Kim Reynolds said. "With her prior knowledge and experience, she will be a true asset."

Wright, who earned an associate degree of science in accounting and a bachelor of arts degree in human resources management from Wilmington University, brings 19 years of experience in local government to her new position.

From 2011 to 2023, she worked for Wicomico County Government, where she served as the human re-

sources manager and later as the accounting supervisor. Prior to that time, she served with the City of Salisbury.

"I would like to thank the commissioners for allowing me this opportunity to serve the residents of Worcester County and to work alongside a dedicated group of talented professionals," Wright said.

Wright resides with her husband, John, in Somerset County. They have three grown children and two grandchildren. During her time off, she enjoys spending time at the beach, kayaking, gardening, and being outdoors with her dogs.

She will administer grants procurement and grants compliance, track capital projects, and assist the budget officer in all phases of budget preparation, maintenance, and analysis of financial data and audit compliance.



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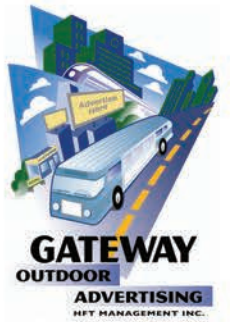
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Police continue investigating Berlin crash that claimed one

(March 23, 2023) State police are still looking into the fatal crash that happened in Berlin on Saturday afternoon and involved Worcester County.

Linda Brown, 69, of Berlin, was the deceased. She was the driver of a 2009 Toyota Tacoma. At the scene, Brown was declared dead.

A Volvo truck pulling a 2015 trailer was the other involved vehicle. The truck driver was not reportedly hurt.

Troopers from the Berlin Barrack responded to a reported crash on US 113 northbound at Georgetown Road in Berlin on Saturday shortly after

3:30 p.m.

According to the preliminary investigation and eyewitness accounts of the incident, the Tacoma's driver went through a stop sign and into the path of the truck in an attempt to cross the northbound lanes of US 113 while traveling west on Georgetown Road.

Also responding to the scene was the state police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, Berlin police officers and deputies from the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and members of the Berlin Fire and EMS Department.

County Commissioners' new board in search of residents

(March 23, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners are looking for residents to serve on the county's new trial board to hear cases involving police discipline matters.

The trial board will consist of three members, be chaired by a retired or administrative law judge, and will conduct hearings if an officer does not accept the disciplinary measures recommended by the "Charging Committee," the body that initially reviews complaints of police misconduct.

Members of the trial board will receive training and compensation for their services.

Applications to serve on this board are available at www.co.worcester.md.us.

Send the completed application, along with a letter of interest and a resume or cover letter outlining any pertinent experience, to PAB@co.worcester.md.us or Worcester County Administration at One West Market Street, Room 1103, Snow Hill, Maryland 21863.

Library offering garden passes

(March 23, 2023) The Worcester County Library has partnered with the Delaware Botanic Gardens to offer free passes to the Gardens this summer.

Passes are available to borrow from the Berlin and Ocean Pines branches using a current library card.

Admission to the 37-acre Delaware Botanic Gardens is normally \$15 for adults, with children aged 16 and under admitted for free.

The passes, issued one per adult, may

be used for one week for free adult admission. However, users should note that extra Garden offerings, such as guided tours, may require an additional fee.

The Delaware Botanic Gardens are located at 30220 Piney Neck Road, Dagsboro, Delaware. It is open March through November, Thursday through Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, visit www.delawaregardens.org, or one of the Worcester County Library branches.

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Cuisine

Recipe for refreshing Gin-Gin Mule drink

Reprint from March 25, 2021

Misery loves company, and I have come to discern that no populace holds this truism closer to its heart than parents of young children in Disney, and now that it has finally reopened to the dismay of many a father, I smile an evil little grin, knowing that I am free.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

My observation lies in the sheer desperation on the faces of parents as they manage strollers, screaming children, diaper bags and water bottles as they fumble onto the tram.

It lies in the fact that most parents simply wanted this vacation to be over so they could go back and tell the neighbors how amazing the experience was. Of course, a few probably bragged about their week in Club 33, a myth in its own rite, but I digress.

I smile with near sympathy, as I recall the face of many a father, before whom I had traveled along this wearying path, as they imagined the peace and quiet of their workweek seven days later. It will be so much more relaxing then, they are telling themselves. I could see it.

When someone shouted, "Who lost their binky?" or "Someone dropped their sippy cup," I chortled as I knew that it certainly was not I. I had not been found in the good company of either of these in more than a few years.

As our children were older, the last time we went to Disney, it was almost enjoyable. Almost.

We made sure to spend some quality time in three of the parks, and the scenery was good as was the weight loss regimen, as I believe that I dropped at least six pounds during the trip.

One day, halfway through the trip, we were in Hollywood Park, which shall forever be MGM Studios to me, but what can you do? So many employees were having a hard time with 'Disney Springs,' which is the renaissance of Downtown Disney, so I certainly couldn't feel too terrible about the misnomer.

After meeting the kids in the early afternoon, we went on a few rides, checked out the architecture and movie sets (we were and still are nerds) and tried to find anywhere that we could all agree upon for dinner. Weighing our options, we decided on the Lounge at the Brown Derby. It was



outdoor seating and an extremely limited menu, but I may have persuaded the kids to eat there. I really wanted to.

Since the menu was so limited outside, my daughter ordered the Wagyu sliders, and it didn't even register with me that she disdains burgers.

That's just the kind of dad that I am. My son ordered the sliders as well, foregoing the duck slider that should have accompanied it as did his sister. Duck? I don't think so. Not with these kids.

I ordered the classic Brown Derby Cobb Salad (of course), a braised pork belly starter and a Gin-Gin Mule, the latter being a cocktail that I have never tried before.

A playful rendition of the Moscow Mule, this variation on a theme became my new summer beverage of choice back here at beach outings and barbecues.

I grew up in a gin house, with Tanqueray and Tonics being the drink of choice for decades; ergo I have a taste for juniper-laced spirits. With the bite of the ginger beer and the freshness of the lime and mint, this is such a win-

ning combination that I seriously might have to mix one up to reminisce one of the last decent times I had in this over-extracted wasteland of gift shops and souvenir kiosks.

As for the Cobb Salad and the burger, let me just tell you that my kids were converted on different levels on this one fine evening.

My daughter could now deal with burgers. However, they must be Wagyu burgers – damn you, universe.

Both of my younger kids adored the salad, despite the fact that they can't walk around a piece of bleu cheese without at least a touch of the old gag reflex.

All in all, I would call it one of our more successful evenings on that trip. And after experiencing the overstimulation of the closing show, I ended up sitting in the laundry room in a Disney resort, sweating profusely and drinking a large Gin-Gin Mule that I had made myself.

I could only afford so many in the park. And that was a mere two hours before my young son and I were kicked out of a Disney pool, but it had nothing to do with the mule.

Gin-Gin Mule

Per drink

2 Mint leaves

1 1/2 oz. Hendrick's Gin

1 oz. Simple syrup

3 oz. Ginger beer or ale

Lime and mint for garnish

1. Place mint leaves in the bottom of a hi-ball glass, and add a splash of gin.

2. Gently muddle the leaves, but do not smash them like you do for a mojito. I like to think of this drink as a much more demure cocktail, as it reflects the royalty of gin. At least, I hold it in regal regard.

3. Add ice, remaining gin, simple syrup and ginger beer and gently shake.

4. Pour into the glass and garnish with more mint and lime. This drink will be a bit on the sweet side, so I prefer a more-than-fair amount of lime. Do so at your discretion.

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

Community Briefs

Dean's List

Several Worcester County residents earned Dean's List honors for their academic performance at their respective schools for the fall semester.

Named to the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary were: Myra Cropper, Maeve Donahue and Elsa Quillin of Berlin, and Mohammad Ali of Snow Hill.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

College of Charleston Dean's List honorees were: Miles Thompson (majoring in Geology) and Hayes Peterson (majoring in Political Science), both of Berlin.

Named to the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) Dean's List were: Elizabeth Carter, Antonio Franco-Loosemore, Alexis Hearn, Sibel Lorentz, Blake Moore, Steven Pacobit, Matthew Reilly and Josephine Sidleck of Ocean City; Jennifer Hardester, Robin Higdon, Allison Hunter, Saphara Lambrinos, Alexis Million and Megan Runyon of Berlin; and Nina Tomaselli of Ocean Pines.

To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

Margaret A. Mathews, of Berlin, earned a spot on the Clark University Dean's List.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

The following students were named to the Dean's List at Hood College: McKayla Stale of Berlin and Madison Knight of Pocomoke City.

The Dean's List recognizes degree-seeking students who completed at least six semester hours of Hood work with at least a 3.5 semester GPA.

President's List

College of Charleston students from Berlin named to the President's List for the fall semester were: Samantha Repass of Berlin, who is majoring in Communications; and Elizabeth McGuinness, a Political Science major.

Coastal Carolina University President's List honorees included Sophia Edens, from Berlin. Students who made the President's List have achieved a 4.0 grade point average during the semester.

Recognition

Parker Tingle, a graduating senior at Worcester Preparatory School, has been named one of more than 5,000 candidates in the 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

The candidates were selected from nearly 3.6 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2023.

Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

All selected candidates are invited to apply to the program by submitting essays, self-assessments, leadership and service activities, secondary school reports and transcripts. A distinguished panel of educators will review these submissions and select approximately 600 semifinalists in early April.

The Commission on Presidential Scholars, a group of up to 32 eminent citizens appointed by the President, will select the finalists, and the U.S. Department of Education will announce the Scholars in May.

Finalists

Two Worcester Preparatory School

seniors are one step closer to earning a Merit Scholar title by being named finalists.



Parker Tingle

In September, Parker Tingle and Christopher Todorov were named 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalists, and this month they have now been named finalists.

The seniors qualified for the accolade by taking the 2021 PSAT. They are among 16,000 students selected as semifinalists, representing less than 1 percent of all

U.S. high school seniors.

As finalists, they have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,250 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be offered in spring.



C. Todorov

Approximately half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholarship title.

Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

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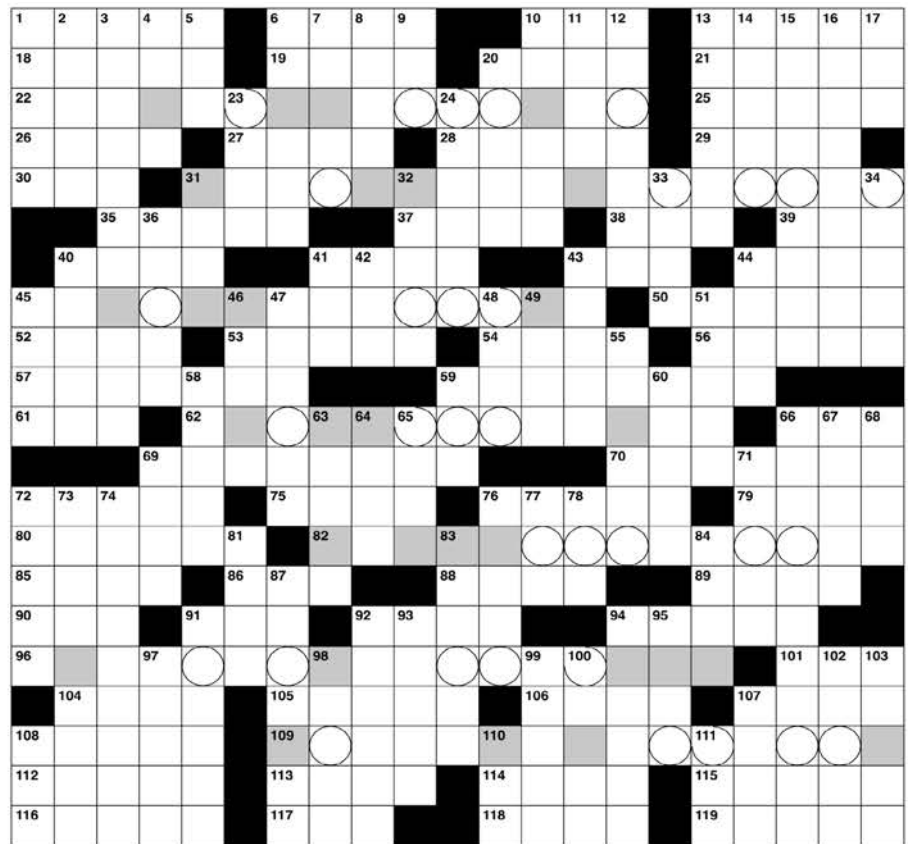
Puzzles

THIS AND THAT

BY DAVID TUFFS / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

David Tuffs, of Pacific Grove, Calif., is a master's student in linguistics at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He's writing a thesis on negative verb forms in Mixtec, an Indigenous language in Mexico. To find potential theme answers for this puzzle, he used Java and a database of English phrases, then worked to get the most elegant examples. This is David's sixth puzzle and second Sunday for The Times. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Turn off
 - 6 Make a trade
 - 10 Emulate Rockin' Robin, in a 1958 hit
 - 13 Poke
 - 18 "Go me!"
 - 19 Somewhat, musically
 - 20 Hemingway's home for over 20 years
 - 21 Skatepark trick
 - 22 One in charge of Browns and cookies?/Easy to understand
 - 25 Put away for now
 - 26 Drink with a domed lid
 - 27 More than just compact
 - 28 "Consequently ..."
 - 29 Feature of an ungulate
 - 30 Dance move used to teach children how to limit spreading germs while sneezing
 - 31 Post-dryer chore/Splendid
 - 35 Game stoppers
 - 37 Shawkat of "Arrested Development"
 - 38 It's a stretch
 - 39 Steamed Chinese bun
 - 40 Apt name for a horticulturist?
 - 41 Wispy, as hair
 - 43 Buzzer
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
- 44 Ring or belt, essentially
 - 45 One whom the bride and groom didn't invite/Steal a meal
 - 50 Now
 - 52 Traveled on horseback
 - 53 Predators whose genus name translates to "of the kingdom of the dead"
 - 54 Moonfish
 - 56 Speaker of the catchphrase "Did I do that?" on 1990s TV
 - 57 Inoffensive
 - 59 Deep cut?
 - 61 Brit's clothespin
 - 62 Utopia/Occasionally, poetically
 - 66 With 72-Across, post-sledding mugful
 - 69 Settles the score
 - 70 Potential result of a strike
 - 72 See 66-Across
 - 75 Green isle
 - 76 Plus
 - 79 Akbar's tomb locale
 - 80 Despises
 - 82 German deli meat/Discussion
 - 85 One might be raised on a farm
 - 86 "Washboard" features
 - 88 M.L.B. player with over 600 career home runs, to fans
 - 89 Mushy ____ (British side dish)
 - 90 Poehler of "Inside Out"
- 91 Palm product
 - 92 Mexican capital
 - 94 Some steel beams
 - 96 They might result in booby prizes/Physical discomforts
 - 101 Sportsman of the Century, per Sports Illustrated
 - 104 Stop running, in a way
 - 105 Words with motion or stone
 - 106 ____-do-well
 - 107 "Don't Matter" singer, 2007
 - 108 Arduous journeys
 - 109 Issue featuring celebrity issues/Repeatedly
 - 112 "Bloody" English monarch
 - 113 "Gotcha"
 - 114 John known as the "Father of the National Parks"
 - 115 More adorable
 - 116 Fightin' words
 - 117 2012 Seth MacFarlane film with a 2015 sequel
 - 118 Vocal nudge
 - 119 Notification
- DOWN**
- 1 Unyielding
 - 2 Feminist writer Jong
 - 3 Westminster competitor
 - 4 Popular French periodical
 - 5 Article in a French periodical
 - 6 Stolen goods
 - 7 Like yarn and old film
 - 8 Intermission follower, often
 - 9 Party person, informally
 - 10 Siddhartha Gautama by another name
 - 11 Like Nero Wolfe
 - 12 One getting out early
 - 13 California's ____ Tree National Park
 - 14 Brown of the Food Network
 - 15 Donation center
 - 16 Paris-based carrier
 - 17 Tiny prop
 - 20 "Pleeease?"
 - 23 Impatient contraction
 - 24 National birds of Germany, Egypt and Mexico
 - 31 Stereotypical name for a female poodle
 - 32 Grannies
 - 33 Calculus calculation
 - 34 It might end on a high note
 - 36 Lent a hand
 - 40 Sierra ____
 - 41 TV monitor, in brief?
 - 42 Glass of "This American Life"
 - 43 Praise for a diva
 - 44 Tedious sort
 - 45 Lettuce, in many a low-carb recipe
 - 46 Big jazz combo
 - 47 It smooths the way
 - 48 Part of a goat or Africa
 - 49 Weapon with a spring
 - 51 Behind, in slang
 - 55 Lee who wrote "Go Set a Watchman"
 - 58 "Am I understood?"



- 59 Grift
- 60 Assert
- 63 What gerunds are formed from
- 64 Not just bad
- 65 "99 Luftballons" singer
- 66 Three sheets to the wind
- 67 Gumbo vegetables
- 68 "Go, ____!"
- 69 Continue
- 71 Modern lead-in to -ade
- 72 Coup group
- 73 Many a 21st-century liberal
- 74 PT Cruisers, e.g.
- 76 Ohio site of the first Quaker Oats factory
- 77 NorCal hub
- 78 Grassy surface
- 81 Go with the wind, in a way
- 83 Where you hope to get a good deal
- 84 Spots to relax
- 87 "Fiddlesticks!"
- 91 Clicks "I agree," maybe
- 92 Where to let a sleeping dog lie
- 93 Do some taxing work online?
- 94 Start of many a T-shirt slogan
- 95 Most of it is found underwater
- 97 Home of the world's busiest train station (3.5 million daily commuters)
- 98 Come to an end
- 99 River through Pakistan
- 100 Many interstate vehicles
- 102 No party person
- 103 Like noble gases
- 107 Blue: Sp.
- 108 "Am I oversharing?"
- 110 Childish nuisance
- 111 Major health legislation of 2010, in brief

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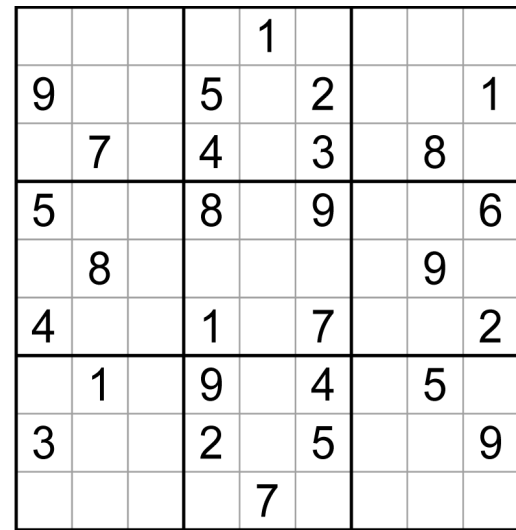
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© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 98

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



Answers to last week's puzzles

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



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 23

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR CHICKEN & DUMPLING CARRYOUT

Dinners cost \$15 and include chicken, dumplings, green beans and sweet potatoes. Dumplings cost \$8 per pint. Reserve dinners and pints by calling 619-922-9950 by March 23. Pick up March 25, 12-2 pm.

STORY TIME 'DOG'S COLORFUL DAY'

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

MID-MORNING CRAFT: GARDEN FRIENDS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Come and make some fun crafts. Be prepared to get messy. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CHESS CLUB

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

CARD AND GAME PARTY LUNCHEON

Grand Hotel - Terrace Room, 2100 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person. For reservations and lunch selection: Marilee Horner, 410-641-6110.

STEM LAB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. An afternoon of fun STEM experiments and activities. Be prepared for a mess. For ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SURVIVAL SPANISH: STUDENT EDITION: WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

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 wild animals. For ages 7-12 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

EARTH HOUR @ STORYWALK®

John Walter Smith Park, 6030 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill, 4 p.m. Join in to read the newest StoryWalk® and celebrate Earth Hour with fun activities. 410-632-3495, 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



CELEBRATION

Worcester Preparatory School celebrated reaching its 100th day of school on Friday, March 3. Pre-K through Grade 5 students dressed as 100-year-olds, and participated in a variety of educational and philanthropic activities. Pictured, from left, are kindergarteners Savannah Baker, Romie Crevecoeur, Daniel Kauffman, Ilya Buinovskis, Parker Moreland and Natalie Gjikuria.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

mood. Registration required: 410-641-0650. www.worcesterlibrary.org

ROMANCE BOOK CLUB: 'LOVELESS' BY ALICE OSEMAN

The Buzzed Word, 11805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6 p.m. Join the Ocean City Library with The Buzzed Word for an afternoon of Queer Romance and Wine. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BEACH SINGLES-55 PLUS

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

Fri., March 24

LIFE-SIZE HI HO CHERRY-O

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 6:30 p.m. Join in for a fun-filled evening as the library turns the meeting room into a giant version of this classic game. Registration required: 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

Sat., March 25

OCEAN CITY'S SPRING CLEAN UP

Held 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Free residential bulk pick-up of large household items such as furniture, appliances, bicycles, carpet, etc. Yard debris and shrubs are also permitted. No large demolition or commercial. 410-524-0318.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET

Whaleysville United Methodist, 11716 Sheppards Crossing Road, 7-10 a.m. Buffet includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, scrapple, scrambled eggs, chipped beef, hash brown potatoes, toast, fruit and assorted beverages. Cost

is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

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

ARTIST'S TALK

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

CRAFTY SATURDAY: SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Celebrate spring with some great crafts. For ages 4 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MARYLAND DAY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Dr. Ray Thompson talks about the Bogertown Hundred in Worcester County, an early colonial community. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ATLANTIC GENERAL HOSPITAL SPRING FLING UNITED WAY BASH

Pickles Pub, 706 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 6-10 p.m. Come out to Pickles Pub on March 25th to support the AGH United Way Campaign! Featuring DJ Wax and a special guest recording artist Jada Lee. 50/50 raffle and silent auction. 410-641-9620

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 26

SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON & SILENT AUCTION

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12-3 p.m. Menu includes spaghetti, salad, bread, desserts and drinks. Donation: \$20 for adults, \$10 for ages 6-12 years and free to kids 5 years and younger. Tickets available at the Community Life Center door. 410-524-7474

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., March 27

STORY TIME 'OUTER SPACE'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Learn about the planets and stars through fun stories, songs and games. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TODAY IN HISTORY: NATURAL DISASTERS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. What do Alaska and Washington have in common today? Learn all about what shook the nation on this day in history. For ages 7 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SPRING WREATHS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Make easy but beautiful spring-themed wreaths. All materials provided. 410-

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Worcester Preparatory School is seeking

EXPERIENCED TEACHERS


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

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

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

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

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




ENGLISH TEACHER

Worcester Preparatory School is located in beautiful Berlin, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The school is an independent, coeducational college preparatory day school serving over 500 students in grades PK -12. We are seeking an experienced and motivated Upper School English Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

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



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MISSING CAT

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AUCTIONS

The contents of mini storage units will be sold online at Lockerfox.com. Ocean City Mini Storage.

Units to be auctioned; B28-B50-B77-O29-O115-O164-L15-O46-O104-O128-O158C-O170-O175-S13-S29-S35-S739. Units are being sold due to non-payment of rent. Common items in units are, household items, furniture, tools, fishing equipment, paintings, antique and vintage items.

**Date: Friday, March 31st, 2023
Time: 10:00 am**

This will be an online auction. Please go to Lockerfox.com and register.

Feel free to call 410-213-2029 for any questions regarding the online auction.

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Calendar

Continued from Page 23

641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

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

FRIENDS' BOOK SWAP

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. All are invited to the spring meeting of the Friends of the Berlin Library. An informational meeting followed by a book exchange. Refreshments provided. 410-641-0650, 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

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

Tues., March 28

BUILD IT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Play with a variety of building and construction toys. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'NURSERY RHYMES'

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

SAFE BOATING COURSE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 6-9 p.m. Held March 28-30 including an exam on the last night. The course is free, however there is a \$20 charge of the course book. Arrive 15 minutes early on the first night. ocusps.org

DANGEROUS WOMEN: THE POWER OF THE FEMININE IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY

Held via Zoom, 6:30 p.m. Dr. Jennifer

Ballengue from Towson University Zooms in to talk to the group about these ladies of myth. Registration required: 443-783-6164. www.worcesterlibrary.org

BEACH HEROES-OC

Tuesdays - Volunteer beach clean-up group meets from 9-10 a.m., year-round. Trash bags, grippers and gloves provided. Check the Facebook page "Beach Heroes-OC" for weekly meeting locations. All are welcome.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

OC KNITTING CLUB

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

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

Tuesdays - Experienced dancers and others interested in watching or learning more are welcome, 7-9:30 p.m. No partner required. Info: TangobytheBeach.com.

Wed., March 29

KIWANIS TO HOLD SOCIAL NIGHT

Don's Seafood & Chophouse, 11310 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines, 5 p.m. Come and socialize with Kiwanis members. Drinks and food available for purchase. <https://kiwanisofopoc.org/meetings-%26-events>

'SPARK JOY: THE KONMARI METHOD'

Held at all five branches of the Worcester County Library, 5:30 p.m. Learn how to declutter and organize your spaces. Free event. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under "Events." Elena Coelho, 443-783-6164

SALTMARSH LANDOWNER MEETING

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6-7:30 p.m. Informing saltmarsh landowners about the work local organizations are doing, discuss the current health of local saltmarshes and begin to development relationships with the organizations. 410-213-2297 - 103

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

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

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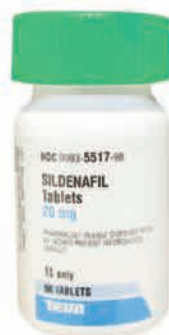
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