



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## NATURE'S BOUQUET

Daffodils show their colors along the road in front of an abandoned house on Racetrack Road.

# Council sticks with tax rate ... for now

Last year's 81.5-cent levy might be in notice, but not necessarily in new budget

**By Jack Chavez**  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The Town of Berlin will advertise that the property tax rate of 81.5 cents may stay the same in FY24, but plenty could change before a final vote.

On Tuesday, the Berlin mayor and Town Council agreed that newspaper public notices that will advertise an April 24 public hearing will show 81.5 cents as the proposed tax rate.

"The information tonight will not set the tax rate," Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said on Monday. "We are required to run this exact advertisement prior to the public hearing for the tax rate and prior to the introduction of the tax rate ... We have to send it to the newspaper tomorrow to have it in next week's paper."

She added that the number is intended to just give an idea of what the tax rate might look like.

For FY23, it is expected that the town's estimated real property as-

sessable base will increase from \$515.23 million to \$537.94 million.

Keeping the tax rate the same would result in a 4.4 percent increase in real property tax revenues, resulting in about \$185,000 more.

To offset the effect of increasing assessments — and produce the same revenue as the year before — the rate should be reduced to 78.06 cents, which is the constant yield tax rate for FY24.

Councilmember Steve Green said he felt it's too early to throw a number on anything yet.

"My gut would be that we let the ad run as proposed but, speaking for myself, I do think we're looking at some sort of adjustment to the tax rate because of pressures, helping our employees," Councilmember Steve Green said.

"However, I do believe this notice is not a protocol, it's a matter of process and it's important to show the constant yield tax rate does bring in new revenue."

Bohlen said the mayor and council would not be running wrong information by running an identical tax rate. See BERLIN'S Page 2

# Stop diamondback terrapins from drowning in crab pots

Bycatch reduction device must be used to prevent access by other species

**By Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) Crabbing season is almost here. That's great news for crab lovers, but not so great for Maryland's state reptile, the diamondback terrapin.

Diamondback terrapins are aquatic turtles that were once plenti-

ful but today are struggling to survive, largely because of the human presence: their greatest threat is drowning in crab pots.

"Crab pots don't kill crabs, because crabs don't need air," Sandi Smith, outreach and marketing coordinator for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program said. "But they do kill turtles. Once the turtle gets inside the crab pots, they can't escape and drown."

Terrapins are drawn into crab pots by the same bait crabbers use to at-

See TERRAPIN Page 2



PHOTO COURTESY TIMOTHY RUSSELL

Diamondback terrapins found alive inside this crab pot will be released.



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## Terrapin population suffering from unprotected crab traps

Continued from Page 1

tract blue crabs. However, unlike blue crabs, terrapins must rise periodically to the surface for a breath of air. Terrapins trapped in a fully submerged crab pot will eventually drown.

“Most recreational crabbers don’t realize that it is illegal to use a crab pot without what is called a “bycatch reduction device” or BRD,” Smith said. “It’s not a new law, just an unknown law and one that is hard to enforce.”

The law, which was passed in 1999, requires each entrance to a crab pot be equipped with a BRD.

Waterfront property owners are legally allowed to crab with a maximum of two recreational crab pots, but they must register through the Maryland DNR for a free license.

The BRD is pretty simple; it is a rectangular piece of metal or thick 11-gauge galvanized wire that is too small for a mature turtle to get through to enter the crab pot (1 3/4 inches by 4 3/4 inches). This keeps out adult turtles, but easily allows even the biggest crabs to enter.

“When one [turtle] gets trapped in a pot, it starts to panic, which attracts others into the pot,” Smith said.

Without the BRDs, more than just diamondback terrapins can get stuck in the crab pots. Smith has seen otters and even raccoons stuck in the crab pots as well.

Ghost crab pots (a pot that has lost its float) are a real issue. “Recreational boaters may run over a buoy and the crab pot will sink to the bottom,” Smith said. “It’s the gift that keeps on killing.”

Maryland Coastal Bays Program works with watermen in the winter to locate and remove ghost crab pots.

“Local places like Elliott’s Hardware sell crab pots with BRDs,” Smith said. “But crab pots at Walmart don’t, although they are amenable to having volunteers put the BRDs on the pots in the store.”

Commercial crabbers do not need to use the BRDs because they monitor their crab pots daily and can therefore release the turtles fairly quickly.

The diamondback terrapin is currently under consideration as a species of concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Its habitat is brackish waters in the bays and creeks of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. It’s the only turtle in North America restricted to estuaries.

Terrapins provide high quality food for many species. They also control numbers of periwinkle snakes which, left unchecked, can damage marshes, and they clean the bay bottom by consuming dead estuarine organisms.

Crabbers can get free BRDs from the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. Contact Sandi Smith at sandis@md-coastalbays.org.

Smith will be at the Ocean Pines Fishing Flea Market on April 22 with an education booth and free BRDs.

## Berlin’s tax rate will be proposed at April session

Continued from Page 1

rate in the advertisement.

Councilmember Jay Knerr said that his family’s home saw a 7 percent increase with the updated assessments.

“Keeping the tax rate the same, everyone is going to feel the pain of paying more at tax time,” he said. Personally, I don’t want to even consider raising the tax rate so I would like to keep it exactly where it’s at.”

The tax rate will be proposed at the April 10 meeting of the mayor and Town Council.

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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Maryland Open Meetings Compliance Board violated Berlin for a closed meeting about the Berlin Fire Company. Town officials say the rule is too narrow.

# Berlin disagreeing with state board open meeting violation

**By Jack Chavez**  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The Town of Berlin received a wag of the finger on Friday from a state advisory board after it issued an opinion that a closed meeting earlier this year should have been open to the public.

But some officials, including town attorney Dave Gaskill and Mayor Zack Tyndall, contend the town did nothing wrong.

The Maryland Open Meetings Compliance Board (OMCB) found that the Jan. 23 meeting about the Berlin Fire Company violated the state Open Meetings Act and should have been held publicly. It's the town's second violation in two years.

The board investigated the meeting after Berlin resident Jason Walter filed a complaint.

According to the opinion issued by the board, the town closed the meeting to discuss proposed contracts for FY23 and FY24 and revisions to the terms of previous contracts.

The board reported that the reason for the meeting represented a "quasi-legislative" function, which must be discussed publicly, unless an exception applies, which the town did cite.

The exception invoked by the town is known as a procurement exception, which stipulates that a meeting may be closed if the subject matter is directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal and that public discussion would harm the public body's ability to participate in the bidding and proposals processes.

"Based on the facts before us, we conclude that this exception did not authorize the (Berlin Mayor and Town Council) to close its January 23 meeting to the public," the opinion stated.

The rule is not an exception for every type of negotiation that a public

body might engage in, the opinion continued, but is based on the existence of a competitive bidding or proposal process.

"Here, nothing in the submissions indicates that the contracts at issue were connected to a competitive process," the opinion continued. "We thus find that the discussions of these contracts did not fall within the procurement exception of § 3-305(b)(14), and the (Berlin Mayor and Town Council) violated the Act by excluding the public from the discussions."

Gaskill, during the Mayor and Town Council meeting on Monday, said he disagreed with that reasoning.

"Of course, there is not (a competitive bidding process) for our contract with the fire company," Gaskill said. "They've stretched it too far. I don't agree. But there's no right of appeal."

He pointed out that the board is strictly advisory and that "there are no teeth to it."

"What the statute provides is after (the opinion), the statute indicates that we're supposed to announce that

See BERLIN Page 5

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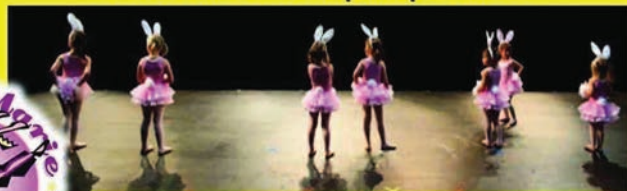




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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Observation decks at Heron Park round out the top nine projects prioritized on the Town of Berlin's 2024 Program Open Space wish list.

# Mayor and Council OK wish list topped by new skate park

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The Town of Berlin reordered its project priorities for the state's 2024 Program Open Space (POS) Monday, as it prepares to seek grants to help pay for the recreational undertakings that it hopes to pursue.

The official order of the list is the first phase of a new skate park; the second phase of the skate park; purchasing automated external defibrillators for Stephen Decatur, Dr. William Henry, John Howard Burbage and Heron parks; partial conversion of tennis courts to pickleball courts at Decatur Park; purchasing water-side, life-saving devices for Decatur and Heron parks; an ADA-compliant walking path from parking to and around the lagoons at Heron Park; an entertainment venue at Heron Park; a town dog park and observation platforms for the Heron Park lagoons.

While some items on the list — pickleball courts, the entertainment

venue, a dog park and observation platforms —have no estimated price tag yet, everything else comes into around \$2.1 million combined between local, state and federal funds.

Construction of permanent restrooms and an inclusive playground at Stephen Decatur Park originally topped the wish list's first draft, but the mayor and council decided that since the restrooms are already built and a grant application for the playground is currently out, it made more sense to bump everything else up. Pickleball also leapfrogged other items in front of it.

"We've indicated for (the restrooms and playground) that we sought local-level funding for that," Mayor Zack Tyndall said during the discussion over the list. "When the county looks at documents for that, they're going to see (those) are handled and go straight to (the skate park items)."

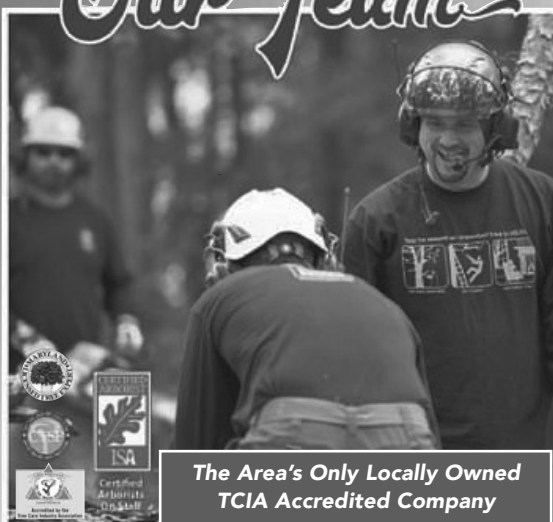
The playground's price tag of \$1 million piqued the interest of Coun-

See TOWN Page 6

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# Teacher of the Year Jaimie Ridgely of Decatur Middle

By **Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) Jaimie Ridgely, a 7th and 8th grade literacy and tech ed teacher at Stephen Decatur Middle School, has been named Teacher of the Year by Worcester County Board of Education.

“There are so many amazing educators across our county and cohort,” Ridgely said. “This is humbling, amazing, exciting. I really have not wrapped my brain around everything yet. I feel privileged to do it [teach].”

“Jaimie will be a fantastic representative not only for her school, but our entire school system as she progresses to the state-level program. Her passionate advocacy for building student literacy is to be commended,” Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor said.

Ridgely’s teacher genes kicked in at a young age.

“I am the oldest in my family. When I was young, my parents bought me a chalkboard, and I forced my siblings to play school with me. I did not realize I wanted to be a teacher; it was just something I liked to do.”

Mrs. Dominga Joyce, her 5th grade



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**Worcester County Public Schools named Jaimie Ridgely of Stephen Decatur Middle School Teacher of the Year.**

teacher in El Paso, Texas, talked about going to college. “No one had ever talked to me about going to college,” Ridgely said. “I remember being absolutely taken. I wanted to go to college and be a teacher.

“I tried to fight the urge. I wanted to  
See TEACHER Page 6

## Berlin violates state rule again

Continued from Page 3

at our meeting which I’m doing right now and a copy of the opinion is to be (signed and returned),” he said. “We should (do that) but that is not mandatory either. No enforcement mechanism if we blow it off.”

Tyndall said that he doesn’t take the board’s findings lightly, but he shares Gaskill’s opinion, though he will sign the document as requested.

“I think what we discussed was squarely within our understanding of that parameter (that Gaskill outlined),” he said.

Councilmember Steve Green asked Gaskill if he thought the board cited the wrong clause.

“No, I just disagree ... because they

say it only applies in a competitive bidding process,” he replied.

“If we wish to make changes to the contract or aren’t satisfied with pertinent parts of it, we should be able to meet in closed session to discuss what our negotiating strategy should be.”

Councilmember Jack Orris suggested that they ask the OMCB how they should respond when a resident objects to a closed meeting decision, especially since not every councilmember — including Shaneka Nichols who was absent for the Jan. 23 meeting — was aware a complaint had been filed.

Tyndall said the best way to ensure a complaint is seen by everyone involved is that it is sent to [info@berlinmd.gov](mailto:info@berlinmd.gov).

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# Town project wish list numbers nine

Continued from Page 4  
Councilmember Steve Green, who asked why it's that high, especially seeing as Ocean Pines has one that cost \$250,000.

"(It's the) scope (of the project)," Tyndall replied. This was designed to bring everybody into one space that could be used so that if you have children of different ages and abilities they can play in the same area and parents could tend to one spot."

"The \$1 million price tag is not the one we're going to buy if we get that."

Moving pickleball up a few spots — originally it was ahead of only the dog park and observation decks — came after Councilmember Jay Knerr pointed out how popular the sport is.

Town administrator Mary Bohlen said its original rank was determined because, at an estimated cost of \$92,000, it was believed other projects were "a little more attainable."

The projects outlined in the wish list are consistent with the "12 visions" outlined by the Maryland Department of Planning. Those visions are quality of life and sustainability, public participation, growth areas, community design, infrastructure, transportation, housing, economic development, environmental protection, resource conservation, stewardship and implementation.

# Teacher of the Year Jaimie Ridgely

Continued from Page 5  
make money. I was going to be a lawyer. But after the first semester, I switched to education."

She graduated from Salisbury University with a degree in literacy. Ridgely earned her masters and doctoral degrees at Salisbury, where she also serves as an adjunct professor. She was the first person in her immediate family to attend college.

"There's so much I love about teaching. My days are full of joy and excitement. I learn more from my students than they learn from me. It is amazing to see how they transform as they discover and develop their own literate lives."

Ridgely prioritizes writerly identity exploration, joy, and agency in her Enrichment and Technology Education classes. She believes community, voice, choice, and reflections are the cornerstones of building a student-centered classroom.

"Many students lament not having the freedom to write. They don't like writing in school."

"But they have a writerly identity. They see themselves as writers. They have self-selected genres that pull them into writing. Even if that identity is not what they are in school, they have rich writing lives at home."

Ridgely cultivates that.

"I want them to know that when life

requires them to write, they can write and do it competently and confidently."

She gives them the encouragement and support to do that.

"Opening up space for them to explore writing processes, preferences, genres they want to write; they can figure out for themselves what they enjoy bringing to the page. And learning what it takes to be successful writers."

She cultivates their interests from graphic novels, to YouTube scripts, to manuals on how to beat a video game.

"Writing is hard. I help them to see what they can be successful with. They grow from there."

"Some of them still don't like to write. I help them get ideas from their heads to words on the page."

"The future is writing. The more people write, the more they read," Ridgely said. "They will be judged by their writing before people have the pleasure of meeting them."

"It's important that the things we are doing in the classroom really prioritize the development of literate lives. Preparing kids not for more school, but what happens after school. We need to use our time wisely," Ridgely said.

If Ridgely had it her way, "we would have more books! Books everywhere, in every classroom," she said. "I would have teacher libraries, graphic novels, access to literacy and field trips to ex-

perience the world."

With over 21 years of teaching experience, Ridgely also serves on her school improvement team, is a peer mentor and professional learning facilitator, and Worcester LEAD teacher. She also dedicates time after school to stoking the interests of her students through programs like her Book Club, Dungeons & Dragons, and tutoring sessions.

Ridgely was one of four finalists announced during the program, who were in the running for the prestigious title. The other outstanding finalists were Michelle Bradley of Pocomoke High School, Silviya Gallo of Worcester Technical High School, and Wendy Macrides of Ocean City Elementary School.

Ridgely was selected by a panel of judges representing experts in the field of education, community leaders, and the current reigning 2022 Worcester County Teacher of the Year.

All candidates were judged based on a rigorous set of criteria in alignment with both the state and national level Teacher of the Year programs, which include instructional abilities, collaboration, building connections with the community, leadership and innovation both in and out of the classroom, and the ability to articulate their education beliefs and advocate for how to better this field.

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# Board of Education Briefs

**By Hunter Hine**  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The Worcester County Public Schools Board of Education discussed the following during its March 21 meeting:

## Kindergarten Readiness Assessment results

The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) results showed that 73 percent of Worcester County's incoming kindergarteners were primed for the classroom, with the rest of the state trailing behind that figure, said Early Childhood Education Coordinator Diane Shorts.

The KRA, which is based on an assessment kindergartener's take in the first two months of school, evaluates children's skills, knowledge and behaviors as part of Maryland's Early Childhood Comprehensive assessment system, according to the BOE meeting agenda.

The average percentage of kindergarten-ready children throughout the state was 42 percent in 2022, which WCPS topped by 31 percentage points, according to data presented by Shorts. Worcester County had the highest score in the state of Maryland.

"So we're significantly above. Do we have some more to go? Absolutely. Seventy-three is not all of our students, so we need to figure out what we need to do to get 100 percent," Shorts said.

The KRA began in 2014 by census testing, or testing every kindergartener entering school, according to the slides.

From 2016-2022 schools could choose to evaluate based on a sample group of children or continue census testing, but for the 2022-2023 school year, all kindergarteners were required to participate.

"The research out there shows that, the assessment here, if we do not intervene, it is what they will kinda look like in high school," Shorts said. "And so this is valuable, valuable information for us to have so early in their career so that we can help out in any way."

## Blueprint for Maryland's Future submitted to AIB

Denise Shorts, chief academic officer for grades PK-8 said that on March 15, the board submitted its initial plan for implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future to the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB).

The AIB is partnered with the Maryland State Department of Education, and it was created to oversee the Blueprint's implementation in state and local education, according to the MSDE website.

The AIB will provide feedback for the initial plan between April and May, rating the 164 questions presented in the plan as "met," "partially met" or "not met." For full approval, no question can be "partially met" or "not met." Then the AIB will send it back to WCPS for a second draft.

By July the board is expected to re-submit the implementation plan for final approval, Shorts said.

## Security cameras, HVAC updates for local schools

The board approved a \$1.26 million upgrade of security cameras in Snow Hill High School, Pocomoke High School, Worcester Technical High School and Ocean City Elementary School, after a presentation from Maintenance and Operations Manager Sam Slacum and Coordinator of Safety and Security Shawn Goddard.

ARK Systems, a Maryland-based company specializing in data communications, video, security alarm systems and more, is contracted to complete the upgrade.

The project is mostly funded by money set aside by the County Commissioners which amounts to about \$1.5 million, of which \$975,000 is going to the camera upgrades, said Chief Financial Officer Vincent Tolbert.

Directly after the camera project approval, the board also approved rooftop HVAC unit replacements at Pocomoke and Snow Hill middle schools through a \$548,295 contract

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## Public Notice



### NOTICE of a Public Hearing of the Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals

Pursuant to Berlin Town Code Section 108-165, The Berlin Board of Zoning appeals will hear an appeal received from Megan and Brett Hines for a Special Exception from building setback lines for the proposed construction of a mixed use building to be built at 21 Jefferson Street, Berlin, MD.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 5:30 PM in the second floor Council Chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD.

OCD-3/30/1t



### TOWN OF BERLIN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP # 2023-06  
**Smart Water Meter Installation**

Due Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023  
Time: 3:00 PM EST

The Town of Berlin is seeking Proposals for the installation of Town provided equipment including smart meters, transmitters and appurtenances, for the Town of Berlin's Smart Meter Upgrade Project. The Smart Meter Upgrade project scope includes upgrading all Town owned water meters to Neptune smart meters, any necessary repair or replacement of existing meter assemblies, and coordination with the Town, the Town's meter supplier (Core & Main), and the Town's Meter Reading and Billing systems provider (Tyler Technologies) for startup and testing of all smart meter reading and billing systems. Qualified contractors are encouraged to visit the Town of Berlin website at [berlinmd.gov/government/request-for-proposals/](http://berlinmd.gov/government/request-for-proposals/) or contact Town Administrator Mary Bohlen at 410-641-4314/ [mbohlen@berlinmd.gov](mailto:mbohlen@berlinmd.gov) for the official RFP. EEO.

OCD-3/30/2t

## Grievances aired by many regarding sex ed in HB119

By Hunter Hine  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) When the Worcester County Board of Education opened the floor to individual comments at their meeting on March 21, many took the chance to air concerns about the Health Education Framework Bill (HB119), state legislation that outlines sex education requirements for public schools.

Most community speakers used their two minutes to criticize the bill, with only a few speaking in its defense.

Jennie Rice, of Pocomoke, made the first stand of the night against the bill, which continues to work its way through the Maryland General Assembly.

"I personally have been disgusted by parents having had to bring up such topics concerning anal sex, oral sex and things of this magnitude," Rice said. "I along with many others represented here tonight cringe at the mention of these topics being introduced to our children. It's repulsive and demonic."

Kate McCloskey, of Ocean Pines, suggested that since this county's schools rely less on state funding than other counties, they could withstand the loss of funding if they don't comply with HB119.

The bill states that, if passed, Maryland school boards who don't follow the bill's programs and instructions could lose 10 percent of their state funding. Worcester's public schools received 16.69 percent of its funding from the state in 2022, according to the FY23 budget.

"I don't think these radical political ideas are helping us or our proficiency levels," McCloskey said.

Richard Addis thanked the board for sending a letter against HB119. Addis said that Superintendent Taylor's editorial in *OC Today* was a glowing endorsement of HB119, and questioned the rest of the board why they allowed him to contradict them.

The board offered no response to this or any other questions or comments posed by community members.

Scott and Stacy Wilkins, husband and wife from Ocean Pines, told the board that they recently removed all five of their children from public schools because, as they saw it, politics got too involved in the classroom.

"We would love our kids to be in public school, taking advantage of our taxpaying dollars, but we pulled them out to put them in Christian school, and I don't know how long we can continue that," Stacy Wilkins said.

Joan Roache, of Ocean City, was  
See HB119 Page 9



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# SHORE UP! Inc. seeks foster grandparents

(March 30 2023) Anyone 55 or older who is ready to make a difference in the lives of children, is invited to participate in the AmeriCorps Seniors' Foster Grandparent Program sponsored by SHORE UP!, Inc.

Established in August 1965, the Foster Grandparent Program offers

an opportunity for eligible individuals to serve as mentors for children with special or exceptional needs.

SHORE UP! foster grandparents are placed in Head Start centers and public schools, and typically work no more than 20 hours per week.

"AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers

are role model mentors," said Joyce Farrare, program director. "They enrich the lives of students by providing one-on-one support to help improve students' academic, social and emotional development."

In return for their time and services, foster grandparents receive a small tax-exempt stipend and monthly training. Foster grandparents are also recognized during an awards program held annually.

Fifty-seven foster grandparents currently serve in Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester

counties.

For more information on how to apply for the program, contact Farrare at [jfarrare@shoreup.org](mailto:jfarrare@shoreup.org), or call 410-749-1142 ext. 10504.

SHORE UP! Inc. is a private, non-profit Community Action Partnership.

Formed in 1965, SHORE UP! is an acronym for "Self-Help on Rural Economics and Urban Problems." The agency's main focus is to help low-income and disadvantaged individuals reach economic security and long-term independence.

## HB119 raises alarm for some

Continued from Page 8

the third speaker, and the first to speak in favor of the bill.

"A person can decide that they don't want to read a certain book, a person can decide if they don't want their child to read that book, but a person can't decide whether an entire school, or an entire town, can't read that book," Roache said.

"To remove from schools whatever you don't like, or don't want your children to learn, is not freedom, it's tyranny."

Linda Linsay of Ocean Pines also defended the bill, saying state and local education experts select curriculums that are best practices and based on research.

Debra Fisher Reynolds, a retired teacher from Berlin, cited data about HB-119 that was presented to the board at the meeting it had on Feb. 21.

"According to a 2017 study in the

national library of medicine, and a one-poll survey in 2022, 20 percent of parents will never talk about sexed with their child, and 93 percent of parents want health ed and sex ed taught in schools," Reynolds said.

Later in last night's meeting, the board voted to send another letter of opposition to state legislators regarding the bill, which has passed its third reading in the House.

Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino has also criticized the bill and sent a letter on Wednesday morning affirming his position.

"This legislation is yet another effort to remove from our county local control," Bertino wrote. "Further, and more egregiously, it demonstrates a perverse influence by many in the Maryland Legislature over parents on how best to rear children. Such condescension is alarming and it is wrong. Parents know what is best for their children."

## Board of Education Briefs

Continued from Page 7

with Wilfre, Co, a mechanical contractor from Hebron, Maryland.

Funds from the County Commissioners will also cover the project, Tolbert said, along with local funding and Delmarva Power Rebate dollars, Slacum said.

### FY24 proposed budget approved

The board approved the proposed FY24 Operating budget with numerous increases in expenditures and revenue after a presentation by Tol-

bert.

The proposed total revenue for the budget is almost \$132 million, about 80 percent of which will come from county appropriations.

Just over 19 percent of the revenue will come from state aid, a \$2.86 million increase in state funding compared to last year.

Expenditure increases will include an over \$4.25 million increase for salaries, a \$1.1 million, or 9.49 percent, increase in health insurance and \$403,742 in bus contractor increases, raising the hourly wage from \$25 to \$28.

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# Crash shuts down Route 589 for four hours

Suspect arrested for DUI in multi-vehicle accident, two hospitalized with injuries

(March 30, 2023) Maryland State Police are investigating a multi-vehicle suspected impaired driving crash in Worcester County shortly before 11:30 p.m. last Friday.

Police said troopers from the Berlin Barrack were called to a multi-vehicle accident on Route 589 at Adkins Spur Road in Berlin.

According to a preliminary inves-

tigation, a 2011 Honda CRV, driven by Shannon Handy, 43, of Selbyville, Delaware, was traveling south on Route 589.

A 2008 Ford F-150 truck, driven by Antonio Aguilar, 42, of Berlin, was attempting to make a left turn onto northbound Route 589 from Adkins Spur Road.

While attempting the turn, the Ford truck crashed into the Honda CRV in the southbound lane of Route 589.

Handy was flown by Maryland State Police helicopter to the R

Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center for treatment of her injuries.

A 41-year-old female passenger was taken to TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Hospital in Salsibury for treatment of her injuries.

Aguilar was arrested for suspected driving under the influence of alcohol. Aguilar was taken to the Berlin Barrack for processing.

The Worcester County State's Attorney's Office has been notified of the details of the investigation and addi-

tional charges are pending in this case.

The Maryland State Police Crash Team is leading the investigation into this case.

The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, along with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office, assisted with road closures and traffic control following the crash.

Route 589 was closed for approximately for approximately four hours following the crash.

## Jury finds Ocean Pines man guilty of child abuse, assault

By Hunter Hine  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) On March 15, a Worcester County Circuit Court jury found Connor Paul Kelly of Ocean Pines guilty of second-degree child abuse, three counts of second degree assault and neglect of a minor, said Worcester County States Attorney Kristin Heiser.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 19.

The offenses took place between Jan. 15, 2021 and Feb. 15, 2021, according to the Maryland Case Search. Judge Beau Oglesby issued an arrest warrant for Kelly on March 24, 2021, which was served on March 25, 2021.

Ocean Pines Police Department was the charging agency and wrote the reports, and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office assisted with the investigation, Heiser said.

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## Peripheral Neuropathy Breakthrough!

"My feet feel like they are on fire."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Worcester County passes on WOC quitclaim

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners voted 4-3 to take no action on a quitclaim for a property on the West Ocean City Commercial Harbor on March 21.

Commissioners Eric Fiori, Caryn Abbott and Chip Bertino opposed the measure.

U.S. Wind requested the quitclaim deed as part of a contract it holds to purchase the parcel known as the Reese property.

According to county attorney Roscoe Leslie, the quitclaim would not affect the

county's interests in the area.

The property lies on the southeast side of the harbor.

Commissioner Ted Elder questioned why the matter is any concern for him and his colleagues in the first place.

"I don't see any reason that the county commissioners should even be involved in this whatsoever," he said. "We have no claim on the property right now. We have no deeds on it of any kind. I don't think we should do anything."

"I don't know what their purpose is in trying to ask for a quitclaim from the county. And maybe it's something that they're looking into the future that they

can use ... county for any kind of claims for anything that went wrong. We don't rent quitclaims to anyone (with whom) we don't have a claim on the property to start. So I don't see why we should break that right now."

Elder did ultimately vote to approve the quitclaim request.

In a letter to the commissioners, attorney John Robins, representing Pat and Dawn Reese, said that U.S. Wind had the option to purchase the parcel as part of its plan to construct offshore wind turbines.

"For reasons I cannot figure out, the title company for U.S. Wind has requested that Mr. and Mrs. Reese obtain a quitclaim deed from Worcester County (for this property)," Robins wrote.

Robins continued, according to the realtor for the property, the title company believed that the county could have an interest in it because of a 97-year-old deed for a parcel located "nowhere near" the Reese property.

"You can clearly see that it is on the opposite side of the harbor from my client's parcel," he wrote.

A representative from US Wind said that the property acquisition is related to operational support.

"One of US Wind's highest priorities is to create good-paying jobs in Maryland as we deliver clean energy to the region. As such, we are exploring multiple options to support operations of our wind farms locally," said Nancy Sopko, senior director of external relations.

## Worcester County Commissioners Briefs

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners discussed the following during their meeting on March 21:

### Playground equipment

The commissioners unanimously approved the purchase of new playground equipment for Newark Park and Bishopville Park. Funding was approved for \$200,000 for Newark and \$225,000 for Bishopville. The Local Parks and Playground Infrastructure grant funding for the project is "100 percent reimbursable," according to a memo from county procurement officer Nicholas Rice.

### Pipe costs

The commissioners unanimously approved a proposed rate increase for driveway pipe installations that the Public Works's County Roads crew performs. This represents the first price increase to the service provided by the county since 2008.

"Historic practice has been that the public can request driveway pipe installation by (us so long as they pay the cost of the pipe and the crew labor," Public Works Department Director Dallas Baker wrote in a memo.

### Bikeways project

The commissioners unanimously approved bringing the greenways-bikeways project, approved via the Tri-County Rural Maryland Grant, under Worcester management.

The project was to be managed by the Lower Shore Land Trust, but the Office of Tourism and Economic Development Director Melanie Pursel suggested that the county would be better suited for the job, considering its existing involvement with bikeways and the individual municipalities developing their own bikeways.

The project will come under her office's supervision with help from the Departments of Public Works, Environmental Programs, Parks and Recreation and Development, Review and Permitting.

### Property sales

The commissioners unanimously approved the scheduling of a public hearing for the sale of two surplus properties. Talkie Communications proposed purchasing the former Liquor Control Warehouse for \$380,000 and the former Economic Development Building received two bids. One bid was for \$125,000 by Davis Stretch Development and the other was a \$280,000 all-cash bid from Garibay Construction.



JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Worcester County Commissioners took no action on a quitclaim to a property on the Ocean City Commercial Harbor that US Wind is interested in acquiring.

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# Dearing raises funds to aide other colon cancer patients

By Cindy Hoffman  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) Colorectal cancer, or CRC, is the second deadliest cancer in the United States.

This issue hits close to home for Linda Dearing and her husband, Michael, owners of Copy Central on Cathell Road in Ocean Pines. They lost their daughter, Gina to the disease in 2014 at age 37.

To honor their daughter, they created Gina's Warriors Comfort Fund, an effort that helps patients undergoing chemotherapy to afford wigs, cover the cost of pain therapy or acupuncture treatments, along with expenses related to nourishment, transportation, house-keeping and childcare.

"The money goes directly to colon

cancer patients," Dearing said.

During March, which is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, the Dearing's decorate their store to raise awareness for colon cancer and raise money for Gina's Warriors. The month is almost over, but residents can still help by dropping off a donation at the shop.

The Dearings have raised about \$500 this month for Gina's Warriors and about \$15,000 since the launch of the foundation. Those who donate \$5 or more by March 31, will be entered into a drawing for a painting by local artist Shirley Eppard.

The money goes to colon cancer patients at Carroll Hospital Center (CHC), where Gina was treated. CHC manages the distribution to patients at no charge.

See FACTS Page 13



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Linda Dearing, owner of Copy Central in Ocean Pines, lost her daughter, Gina, to colorectal cancer at age 37. She created Gina's Warriors Comfort Fund to help patients undergoing chemotherapy.

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# Crew commended for inlet rescue

**By Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(March 30, 2023) The crew of the Ocean City headboat Ocean Princess, Capt. Victor Bunting of Berlin and mates Jeff Nottingham and Matthew Moran of West Ocean City, were honored Monday night by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for helping to rescue a group of personal watercraft operators on Aug. 30 last year.

“We were coming back into the Ocean City Inlet from a day of fishing. The inlet just happened to be rough that day. The tide was going out, and an east wind was blowing, causing the seas to stand up more than they normally would.” Bunting said.

“Two Jet Skis with three people each on them got into a rough patch of water. The tide was coming out and one Jet Ski flipped over. One person got back on the Jet Ski, but the other two could not.

“I was watching them and tried to give them a second to get back on ... I immediately told my crew to stand by,” said Bunting.

“We got our man overboard ladder and life rings and we were ready to assist,” Jeff Nottingham said.

“We are a Coast Guard-certified vessel. I called the Coast Guard on the radio and told them of the situation,”



PHOTO COURTESY HEATHER NOTTINGHAM

The Ocean Princess crew was recently commended for their rescue efforts of Jet Skiers in August. Pictured, from left, are Acting Lt. Col. Kelley Johnson, Ocean Princess mate Jeff Nottingham, captain Victor Bunting, Shirley Moran (accepting on behalf of her son, Matthew, a mate on the boat) and DNR Secretary Josh Kurtz.

Bunting said.

“Luckily, one of the MD DNR boats heard me call for assistance. As I pulled up to the victims in the water, DNR pulled up at the same time.”

Bunting blocked boat traffic with his boat while DNR performed the rescue.

“The inlet was rough that day and DNR was having problems getting them out of the water. The Jet Ski ended up sinking, but everyone made it out OK,” Bunting said.

“It’s fairly unusual for us to have to help on the water. But we are always willing to help when we can,” Nottingham said.

Bunting, Nottingham and Moran received a Superintendent’s Letter of Appreciation signed by Acting Lt. Col. Kelley Johnson. The letter states, “The Natural Resources Police commends their actions and is thankful for their keen observation and quick action. Without their help, the incident could have easily turned tragic.”

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**\$724,900**



# Business Briefs

## Joins AGH

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



Allison Pusey

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

She is a recipient of Atlantic General's Barrett Nursing Scholarship and earned her associate's in nursing from Wor-Wic Community College and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wilmington University while working at the hospital.

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

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

She lives in Bishopville, with her

husband and daughter. She is currently providing care at Atlantic General Primary Care in Ocean Pines and will transition her practice to the Gudelsky Family Medical Center on Racetrack Road when construction is complete.

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

## Leadership promotions

Taylor Bank recently announced several promotions:

David Lee was promoted to information systems administrator.

Meagan Farber was promoted to finance and accounting supervisor.

Carl Vandivier was promoted to senior information systems administrator.

Carolynn Vogel was promoted to compliance officer/internal auditor.

Casey Robinson, manager of Ocean Pines branch, was promoted to assistant vice president.

Heather Godwin, regional manager/relationship officer of South Ocean City branch and Ocean Landing branch, was promoted to assistant vice president.

Eureka Herring, electronic services manager, was promoted to assistant



David Lee



Meagan Farber



Carl Vandivier



Carolynn Vogel



Casey Robinson



Heather Godwin



Eureka Herring



Tori Grundman



Jen Scott



Sandy Duncan

vice president.

Tori Grundman, marketing director, was promoted to assistant vice president.

Jen Scott, manager of Main Office branch, was promoted to vice president.

Sandy Duncan, vice president, was promoted to director of deposit operations.

Kathy Allam, vice president, was promoted to chief information technology officer.

Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company, the bank subsidiary of Calvin B. Taylor

Bankshares, Inc. (OTCQX: TYCB), founded in 1890, offers a wide range of loan, deposit, and ancillary banking services through both physical and digital delivery channels.

The Company has 12 banking locations within the eastern coastal area of the Delmarva Peninsula including Worcester County, Maryland, Sussex County, Delaware and Accomack County, Virginia.



Kathy Allam



More than 70 community members gathered to cut the ribbon and open the doors to the new Worcester County Tourism and Economic Development (WCTED) Office and Visitors Center at 107 West Green Street in Snow Hill on March 2.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/  
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

# Worcester Tourism visitors center opens in Snow Hill

(March 30, 2023) More than 70 community members gathered to cut the ribbon and open the doors to the new Worcester County Tourism and Economic Development (WCTED) Office and Visitors Center at 107 West Green Street in Snow Hill on March 2.

"I'm truly thankful to the town for welcoming us with open arms," WCTED Director Melanie Pursel said. "After rebranding and combining tourism and economic development, we felt it was paramount for our five-person team be able to collaborate more closely, have ample storage and meeting space, and be centrally located in downtown Snow Hill."

Event hosts included Snow Hill Chamber of Commerce Director Car-

rie Phillips, County Commissioners Caryn Abbott, Diana Purnell and Eric Fiori, as well as Pursel who highlighted WCTED resources and promotions.

"Thanks to Davis Strategic Development, the new WCTED is so much more than just an office," Pursel said. "It's a welcoming visitor center, complete with a kitchen and public conference room."

Residents and visitors alike are invited to stop in and meet the team, tour the facility, and visit frequently to learn more about places to tour and to discover upcoming events on Maryland's Coast - Worcester County.

For more information about the county, resources, events and things to do, visit [www.marylandscoast.org](http://www.marylandscoast.org).

# Facts about colorectal cancer

Continued from Page 12

"My mission is to help someone else not go through what we went through," Dearing said. "Gina was a mother of three and she worked. She did not take the time to take care of herself. By the time she did, she had stage 4 colon cancer."

Knowing that the foundation is giving back and helping others gives her peace.

"If I could win the lotto or the Powerball, I would have a whole wing added to the hospital for colon cancer patients."

In addition to the March fundraising campaign, the foundation hosts other fundraisers including a golf tournament, which this year will be in Littlestown, Pennsylvania.

• • •

## Facts about Colorectal Cancer

• Colorectal cancer (cancer in the

colon or rectum) first develops with few, if any, symptoms. Be proactive and talk to your doctor.

• The incidence rate of colorectal cancer is rising by about 2 percent annually in young people. By 2030, researchers predict that colorectal cancer will be the leading cause of cancer deaths in people ages 20-49.

• If you're in the high-risk group or have a family history of colorectal cancer, you should be getting screened earlier than age 50.

• In the U.S. approximately 10 percent of colorectal cancer cases are diagnosed in individuals under age 50.

• New guidelines state that all average-risk people aged 45 and above should begin screening for colorectal cancer.

Information provided by the Colorectal Cancer Alliance at [www.ccaliance.org](http://www.ccaliance.org)



The Tyler Groton Memorial Fund was recently established by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. Pictured, from left, are Erica Joseph, Community Foundation president, with Althea Groton and Judge Thomas Groton, who hold a photo of their son, Tyler.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/  
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



# Tyler Groton Memorial Fund to support LGBTQ+ youth

(March, 30, 2023) The Tyler Groton Memorial Fund was recently established by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore.

Created by Judge Thomas Groton III and Althea Smith Groton to honor the memory of their late son, the fund will award grants to nonprofits which provide support to LGBTQ+ youth.

Tyler Groton grew up in Snow Hill and passed away suddenly in the fall of 2021.

“Tyler was a swimmer, Eagle Scout, organ donor, and dedicated time to building shelters for homeless cats, but his greatest passion was theater,” said his mother, Althea Groton.

“As a gifted actor, he performed in numerous plays in the Baltimore region, most notably at the Chesapeake Shakespeare Theater. He loved working on theatre projects with children and was a talented director,” she said.

The fund was inspired by Tyler’s advocacy of the LGBTQ+ community.

As the assistant theater director of the McDonogh School, Tyler’s great-

est accomplishment was directing “The Laramie Project. The play details the brutal killing of gay college student Matthew Shepard.

Groton said at the time he not only wanted to stretch the actors’ ability with the demanding piece of documentary theater, but he also wanted to foster discussion about the treatment of LGBTQ+ people.

“The experience was eye opening and enlightening as noted by all involved including students, parents, and faculty,” said Judge Thomas Groton, Tyler’s father. “LGBTQ+ youth are often mistreated and stigmatized in society and the resulting mental health issues are all too real. Through this memorial fund we want to continue our son’s work by helping to create safe spaces and support for those in crisis.”

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund visit CFES.org/donate and select the “Tyler C. Groton Memorial Fund” in the drop-down menu.

# 8 Auctions by A&M Auctions!

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## On-Line Only Auction – Ocean Pines, MD!

Personal Property located at: 82 Windjammer Road, Ocean Pines, MD 21811  
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Personal Property Preview: Monday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 from 5 PM – 6 PM

## On-Line Only Auction Sale – Parsonsburg, MD!

Selling from the Estate of Shirley Truitt and many Eastern Shore Estates and Consignors!  
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## 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 Starting at 5 PM!  
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(3) Onsite Online Only Auction: 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Starting at 5 PM. Antique and Modern Furniture, Sterling Silver, Artwork, Primitives, Tools, Estate Vehicle & more! 1 June, 2023 - On-Line Only Auction – Fallston, MD (Harford County)! Personal Property located at: 2412 Rochelle Drive, Fallston, MD 21047. Auction Held Online Only w/Bidding ending Thursday June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Starting at 5 PM! Antique and Modern Furniture, Glassware, China, Collectibles, Housewares & more! SUMMER 2023 - On-Line Only Auction – Lewes, DE! Personal Property located at a home in: Lewes, DE. Date to be listed soon! Glassware, China, Collectibles, Housewares & more!

(2) 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!

14 June, 2023 - On-Line Only Auction Sale – Parsonsburg, MD! Selling from the Estate of Shirley Truitt and many Eastern Shore Estates and Consignors! Auction Held Online Only w/bids ending: Wed. June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Starting @ 5PM. Items located @ the A&M Auction Facility, 8000 Esham Road, Parsonsburg, MD. Selection of Antique & Modern Furniture, Artwork, Glass/China, Collectibles, Jewelry, Oriental Rugs, Large Selection of Sterling Silver, Jewelry & more!

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# Opinion

Please send all letters and other editorial submissions to [editor@baysidegazette.com](mailto:editor@baysidegazette.com) by 5 p.m. Monday.

## School children learn about mass shootings

As parents become more vocal about what they believe children should be taught in school, they may not have given much thought to what their kids have been learning; that they can be shot in their classrooms for no reason.

That has to be a more of a problem for young minds — and parents — than whether the lyrics of “Rainbowland,” a Dolly Parton/Miley Cyrus tune about everyone getting along, is too controversial for first-graders to sing. A Wisconsin school district said it is, without much explanation, after its inclusion in a children’s spring concert was questioned.

Meanwhile, down in Nashville, 28-year-old Audrey Hale shot her way into Covenant School with an assault weapon and killed six people, three of them apparently third-graders. And they weren’t singing anything.

The randomness of this and other school shootings should be more frightening to parents than what their kids might pick up from books and song lyrics. Obviously, these kinds of attacks can happen anywhere, as more kids are learning.

Bear in mind that Hale obtained her stash of seven firearms legally even though she was reportedly being treated for an emotional disorder.

Surely, some people will say in defense of putting curriculum monitoring above gun sales, Hale’s disorder was that she was gay, and that factored into her murder/suicide rampage. But whatever her gender preference was, she didn’t learn it at school. As a former student of this Christian institution, her early education surely did not suggest that any kind of alternative lifestyle was something to consider.

The problem, of course, has nothing to do with her gender identity or how it came to be, but is how she acquired the weapons when she was in treatment and others knew it.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee has argued that “red flag” laws like Maryland has won’t prevent criminals from getting guns. Maybe so, but Hale, like so many others, wasn’t a criminal until she started shooting people. Maybe society just has to accept that some losses are acceptable and that the best we can do is to respond rapidly like police did in Nashville once the shooting starts ... and lie to scared little kids by telling them don’t worry, it can’t happen here.



“Time to move on. The free buffet is about to end”

reprint 03.24.22

## OP hosts Resident Golf Day, April 9

(March 30, 2023) Ocean Pines Golf Club will hold a “Resident Golf Day” on Sunday, April 9.

The event will feature free greens fees for Ocean Pines residents, playing tips, activities, and a chance to learn more about Ocean Pines golf groups.

Tee times have been set aside for residents from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Greens fees are free; cart fees are \$25 per

player for 18 holes and \$15 per player for nine holes. An Ocean Pines resident ID card (available at the Ocean Pines Administration Building) must be shown at check in to receive the special rate.

Free greens fees are for registered golfers only – no additional riders or walkers are allowed.

Representatives from the new Golf Academy in Ocean Pines, the Ocean Pines

Men’s Golf Association, the Ocean Pines Ladies’ Golf Association and the Ocean Pines Golf Advisory Committee will be on hand with information and sign-up opportunities.

Golf professionals will be on the driving range offering tips, and other activities will be available.

For more information, or to make a tee time, call the Golf Shop at 410-641-6057.

## BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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## Worcester Arts Council offers grants

(March 30, 2023) The Worcester County Arts Council is seeking applicants for art events and projects to be held in Worcester County between July 1 and Dec. 31.

Organizations that have art projects and activities year-round may request grants which cover the entire fiscal year 2024 (July 2023 through June 2024).

The deadline for applications to be received is April 15.

The event or activity must be open to the public. The applicant must be a non-profit group, and the amount requested must be matched one-for-one by organization

funds.

Grant application and guidelines are available on the Arts Council’s website: [www.worcestercountycouncil.org](http://www.worcestercountycouncil.org).

The Community Arts Development Grant program is the foremost means by which the Worcester County Arts Council invests in the development of arts organizations and other nonprofit, tax-exempt entities presenting or producing arts in Worcester County.

Last fiscal year the council awarded close to \$50,000 to local organizations through this program.

The council believes the county’s heritage should be maintained and supports the diverse art forms of all ethnic and racial groups with special consideration of projects that serve audiences comprised of citizens who are not regularly served by the arts.

The Worcester County Arts Council’s Community Arts Development Grants program is funded and supported by the Maryland State Arts Council.

For further information or assistance, call Anna Mullis, WCAC executive director, at 410-641-0809 or e-mail: [anna@worcestercountycouncil.org](mailto:anna@worcestercountycouncil.org).



# 'Vote' sign contest to help spread word on OPA Board

(March 30, 2023) The Ocean Pines Communications Committee is sponsoring a design a "vote" sign contest to help spread the word for the 2023 Ocean Pines Board of Directors election.

Homeowners and residents in all age groups are asked to design an 18 x 24-inch lawn sign.

The winning sign or signs will be announced by the committee on June 2. The winners will receive a \$100 Yacht Club gift card.

Winning signs will be displayed around the community as part of the voter turnout effort.

"We hope our homeowners and residents will show off their artistic talents and send us their best work," Committee Chairperson Cheryl Jacobs said. "The committee feels strongly about increasing voter turnout in Ocean Pines, and we believe this is a fun and, hopefully, effective way to help spread the word for the upcoming board election."

Sign submissions may be sent to Jenny Cropper-Rines at jcrines@gmail.com. All submissions must be received by May 15. Submissions must be in either jpg, png, or pdf formats.

# GOLD launches campaign to help those in dire need

(March 30, 2023) Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity), a nonprofit organization that provides emergency financial assistance to low-income county residents, has launched a campaign to raise \$16,000.

According to GOLD's findings, many Worcester residents are living paycheck to paycheck, struggling to make ends meet.

Unexpected expenses, such as medical bills or car repairs, can push these individuals into financial hardship, making it difficult to afford basic necessities like food, rent, and utilities.

"We see firsthand the relief that even a small donation can offer," said GOLD's Executive Director Nicholas Cranford. "Our Emergency Financial Assistance Program is designed to help those with a verified need live a decent life with dignity and avoid

falling into a cycle of poverty." GOLD works with eight local agencies to provide immediate assistance for their clients facing potentially tragic outcomes like homelessness and hunger.

"We know our community is incredibly generous, and we believe we can reach our fundraising goal," said Cranford. "People should donate to GOLD if they want to maximize the local impact of their charitable contributions."

To donate to the campaign or to learn more about Worcester County GOLD's Emergency Financial Assistance Program, visit Worcester-GOLD.org.

Founded in 1997, GOLD is committed to helping individuals and families facing financial crises relieve stress and achieve self-sufficiency. For more information, visit www.WorcesterGOLD.org.



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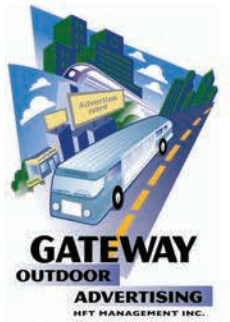
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# Delmarva blood bank continues call for donors

(March 30, 2023) Blood Bank of Delmarva is continuing the call for blood donors.

Although all blood types are needed, BBD has an immediate need for O negative, B negative and O positive blood and platelets.

O negative supply remains critical at just a 1.5-day supply, while B negative is at three days and O positive is at four days.

BBD needs a seven-day supply of all blood types to ensure coverage for all of its hospitals and patients.

Donor behavior has completely changed since March 2020 and corporate, school and college blood drives have not returned to pre-pandemic levels.

BBD's mobile blood drives are still down 38 percent and first-time youth donor turnout is down 33 percent.

"Upon the third anniversary of the pandemic, we are asking everyone who is able to come out and donate blood. One hour of your time can save a life," said Emily W. Cunningham, vice president at Blood Bank of Delmarva.

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

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

To view current eligibility guidelines, visit [delmarvablood.org](http://delmarvablood.org) or call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8.

The need is constant, but the supply is not. Visit [www.DelmarvaBlood.org](http://www.DelmarvaBlood.org) to schedule an appointment to donate, or call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8.

Founded in 1954, Blood Bank of Delmarva is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) community blood bank with a simple mission: saving lives.

The Blood Bank of Delmarva, a division of NYBCe, achieves its mission every day by providing safe blood and blood products to all 19 hospitals in Delmarva and relies on over 80,000 volunteer blood donors each year to ensure patients' needs are met.

The Blood Bank of Delmarva distributes over 130,000 blood products annually and operates four donor centers. Each year, the Blood Bank of Delmarva normally hosts over 600 blood drives.

These blood drives would not be possible without the commitment of community organizations that volunteer to serve as sponsors or coordinators, which provides opportunities for blood donors to give blood and help patients in need. BBD is a New York Blood Center Enterprises affiliate and a member of AABB and ABC.

For more information, please visit [delmarvablood.org](http://delmarvablood.org) or follow us at [facebook.com/delmarvabloodbank](https://facebook.com/delmarvabloodbank).



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Volunteers from The Dress Ministry - Eastern Shore Maryland, met on Feb. 18 to make jump ropes for Guatemalan children in orphanages and schools.

# Jump ropes for Guatemalan youth

(March 30, 2023) Volunteers from The Dress Ministry - Eastern Shore Maryland, met on Feb. 18 to make jump ropes for Guatemalan children in orphanages and schools.

The jump ropes are made out of 100 percent cotton T-shirts and will be distributed by Kelly and Rob

Smith of Living Sent Ministry.

The Dress Ministry (formerly Pillowcase Ministry) began in 2011 after Barbara Entwistle made her first dress. Since that time, thousands of items have been sent to the poor, both in the US and internationally.

Recently, 692 dignity pads, 112 hy-

giene bags, four cases of diapers, peanut butter, shower kits, flip flops and sleep mats were sent to Living Sent Ministry in Guatemala.

Anyone who would like to help with this project or contribute money for postage, should call Entwistle at 410-641-0415.

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# Cuisine

## Add cilantro puree to shrimp, potato dish

I have been told by quite a few good folks that they have been reading this article for years, and some even claim to have read it since its inception in 2005. My stock response is, "I am so sorry, and I hope that you can heal from what I do to you."



By Paul Suplee,  
MBA, CEC, PC-3

I love this column, as many of you know, but I don't believe that it's much more than the nonsensical drivel of a rambling old chef.

Be that as it may, I always hope that it brings something to the table: a laugh, a tear, something in the kitchen that someone may have never thought about, a new technique, who knows?

The one critique that I get more than any other is that my recipes are too difficult, and while some of them may possess a certain *je ne sais quois* to the average home cook, for the most part the vast majority of them are simple and straightforward.

Of course, they are to me, because I have been cooking for decades ... many, many decades. It is second nature to me.

I play guitar and piano as well, and years ago I tried to teach my kids, but one by one they all ran away in fear, as I would not be able to come down to their level.

Instead of teaching them a simple three-note progression, I would rip into some inane riff that made no sense. And then I would ask them what they weren't understanding.

No one is perfect, and while I enjoy teaching, I certainly was not able to teach music to my own children.

So here we are, pondering the greatness of learning and teaching (well, that is what I am pondering now, anyway).

Imagine how maddening life would be if we never learned anything new, if we were so set in our ways that we didn't want to venture out of our little box?

There are way too many great things to try in this world to me. And imagine if we never had an interest in teaching what we know to anyone willing to learn. How lost we would be.

Perhaps you've noticed that I enjoy travel. For me, traveling can be as simple as an overnighter in Lewes or



New York or even Philadelphia.

A short drive dumps me onto the Outer Banks, and a longer drive will by its very definition send me somewhere farther away.

The point is, I love to travel and explore. By the college there are a number of islands that I have yet to check out.

So, after school, I tend to explore our own neck of the woods. I eat in local places, and I listen to the cooks. I learn from them.

At the end of the day, this dish is incredibly simple, yet flavorful.

Make it, eat it and tweak it to your tastes and fancies. That is where the real learning begins.

### Napa Shrimp, Sweet potatoes

*Serves 2*

- 12 ea. large shrimp, peeled, deveined and butterflied
- 1 Tbsp. Avocado oil
- 2 tsp. Blackening seasoning
- 4 c. Napa cabbage, chopped into 2-inch pieces
- 1 lemon, halved
- 2 sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into wedges
- 3 Tbsp. Melted butter
- 1 tsp. Thyme leaves

- 1 tsp. Granulated garlic
- 2 Tbsp. Tajin hot sauce
- Salt & Pepper to taste
- 2 Tbsp. Cilantro puree (recipe follows)

- Toss potatoes in butter, thyme, garlic and place in a single layer on a roasting pan.

- Swipe the hot sauce back and forth, giving the illusion of 'grill marks' on the potatoes.

- Season with salt and pepper and roast until tender, about 30-40 minutes.

- For the shrimp, ensure that the tails are removed. This is an absolute pet peeve of mine, as no guest of mine should ever have to stop what they're doing and dig into their dish to remove tails.

- Heat the oil and toss shrimp and seasoning in the pan, cooking until done and then removing to a plate to keep warm.

- Quickly add the cabbage to the same pan and cook, allowing the water that will escape the cabbage to deglaze the pan for you. You will have some shrimp and other flavors already in the pan, but taste and season accordingly.

- Put the shrimp back in pan with any juices, and squeeze a little bit of each lemon half on top.

- Take the lemon halves and set over an open flame (or a smoking hot cast iron pan) to give them a nice char. Some chefs claim that this gives flavor to the lemon, but I personally think it makes the dish look a little more "Gucci." That's good enough for me.

- Plate with the cilantro puree (or herb puree if you hate cilantro, which a fair number of people, in fact, do) and the roasted sweet potatoes,

### Cilantro Puree

*makes about 1 cup*

1 bunch cilantro, stems removed and washed

1/4 c. Olive oil

1/4 c. Red wine vinegar

salt & pepper to taste

- Combine all ingredients in a blender and turn into a delightful puree. Keep this in your icebox and use it to garnish anything to your whimsy. You can also add Italian parsley, basil and other herbs of your liking. With the oil and vinegar, this will last quite some time in the refrigerator.

*Paul Suplee is the owner of the boxcar restaurants and is also Senior Lecturer of Culinary Arts at UMES. [boxcarrestaurants.com](http://boxcarrestaurants.com)*



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., March 30

### STORY TIME: 'STACEY'S EXTRAORDINARY WORDS'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate Women's History Month with this amazing story by Stacey Abrams. Followed by a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Featuring a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### SPRING PLANTERS CLASS

Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek, 30220 Piney Neck Road, Dagsboro, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. With Jan Pool, DBG Designer. Admission is free to members and \$15 for non-members. Tour/class fee is \$10. Free to children 16 years and younger. Tickets: [delawaregardens.org](http://delawaregardens.org).

### ARTISTS' HIGHLIGHT: DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Showcasing several differently abled artists followed by activities that explore creating artwork in the artists' manner. Registration required: 410-957-0878. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### IRISH HERITAGE FILMS SCREENING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Mike Healey hosts this screening with two shorts he created. TRAD is about traditional Irish Music and Still Standing explores stone circles, round towers and high crosses. Q&A to follow. 410-208-4014

### FIRESIDE CHAT

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3 p.m. A popular and entertaining discussion featuring books attendees have read and want to share. Come and find your next read. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### COCKTAILS FOR CONSTRUCTION FUNDRAISER

BLU Crabhouse & Raw Bar, 2305 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 4-6 p.m.

Featuring free appetizers, happy hour drink specials and a basket raffle. Donations also accepted at the event. Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Worcester County. [www.habitatworcester.org](http://www.habitatworcester.org)

### ZUMBA

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4:30-5:30 p.m. Join certified Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required: 410-641-0650. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### ACT, 'SIP AND SCIENCE SERIES'

Assateague Coastal Trust, 10959 Worcester Highway, Berlin, 5:30-7 p.m. Maryland Coastal Bays Program Educational Forum about the Conservation Bird Project. The event is free. BYOB, light fare provided. Registration: Debbi Dean, [outreach@actforbays.org](mailto:outreach@actforbays.org), [www.actforbays.org](http://www.actforbays.org).

### SALTMARSH LANDOWNER MEETING

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 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

### 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](mailto:BeachSingles.org)

## Fri., March 31

### BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Time just for you and your teeny tiny. Stay after to socialize with other families. For children younger than 2 years and their caregivers. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## Sat., April 1

### TINKER TIME: BLACKOUT POETRY

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Drop in anytime, use the library's supplies and your imagination to create. This month, explore blackout poetry. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PET TREAT TASTING EVENT

Tractor Supply Co., 1701 Market St., Unit 109, Pocomoke City, 10 a.m.-noon. Giving pets the chance to sample a variety of pet treats available at Tractor Supply Company. Also enjoy Pet Adoption,

Pet Photos, Animal Training and Pet Care 101. Open to the public. 410-957-3491

### GENEALOGY HELP

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10 a.m.-noon. The library's Local History librarian will be on hand to help participants with finding their roots. Appointment only: 410-632-3495. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### FIRST SATURDAY WRITERS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Novice and established writers gather to share their writing projects. Critiques and appreciation, market leads and writing exercises. Drop in welcome. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### CRAFTY SATURDAY: SILLY CRAFTS FOR SILLY FRIENDS!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Happy April Fool's Day. Silly crafts perfect for all of our silly friends. For ages 4 years and older. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### EASTER EGG HUNT

Stephen Decatur High School - Softball Field, 9913 Seahawk Road, Berlin, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Hunts held every 30 minutes, photos with Easter Bunny, bake sale, face painting, egg decorating and games. Burgers, hot dogs and drinks for sale. Suggested donation is \$10. Benefiting softball team.

### ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN BUFFET

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 36540 Mount Pleasant Road, Willards, 11 a.m. Vegetables, beverages and dessert included. Carry outs and bake table available. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children and free to those 5 years and younger. 410-835-8340

### 9TH ANNUAL DOWNTOWN POCOMOKE SPRING FESTIVAL

Downtown Pocomoke City, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Featuring Easter Bunny, live entertainment, vendors, fishing, children activities and Cruise-In. Kids bring Easter baskets for Easter Egg Loop. Rain date April 8. <https://www.downtown-pocomoke.com>

### 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.

### QUARTER AUCTION

Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company Headquarters, 1409 Philadelphia Ave., 5-10 p.m. A chance to win big baskets, prizes on the Dalmation Draw Big

Boards, 50/50 and more. Tickets are \$5 in advance \$7 at the door. Admission gives you 1 paddle and a door prize ticket. Family friendly.

### LEWIS BLACK - OFF THE RAILS

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. 8 p.m., Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$57. Tickets: <https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events/LewisBlack>. Handicap accessible seating: 410-289-2800.

## Sun., April 2

### PALM SUNDAY SERVICES

Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, Three service with communion held at 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. <https://www.ccaop.org>

### PALM SUNDAY

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3 Church St., Berlin. Two services, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. <https://stpaulsberlin.org>.

### 'YOU CAN FACE THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE' PRESENTATION

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 W. St., Berlin, 10-10:30 a.m. The global program is designed to give all those who attend tangible reasons to face the future with confidence. Admission is free and no registration is required. [jw.org](http://jw.org)

### PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 10 a.m. For more information, call 410-641-2186 or email [Bethany21811@gmail.com](mailto:Bethany21811@gmail.com) or visit [bethanyberlin.org](http://bethanyberlin.org).

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

Sundays - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 10 a.m. [www.jw.org](http://www.jw.org)

## Mon., April 3

### ACT, SWAP CLOTHING DROP OFF

Assateague Coastal Trust, 10959 Worcester Highway, Berlin. Please contact Debbi Dean, 443-856-9309 or [outreach@actforbays.org](mailto:outreach@actforbays.org) to coordinate a time to drop off clothing. <https://www.actforbays.org/actclothingswap>.

### STORY TIME 'EGGS'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Listen to eggs-quisite stories, sing songs and create an egg craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

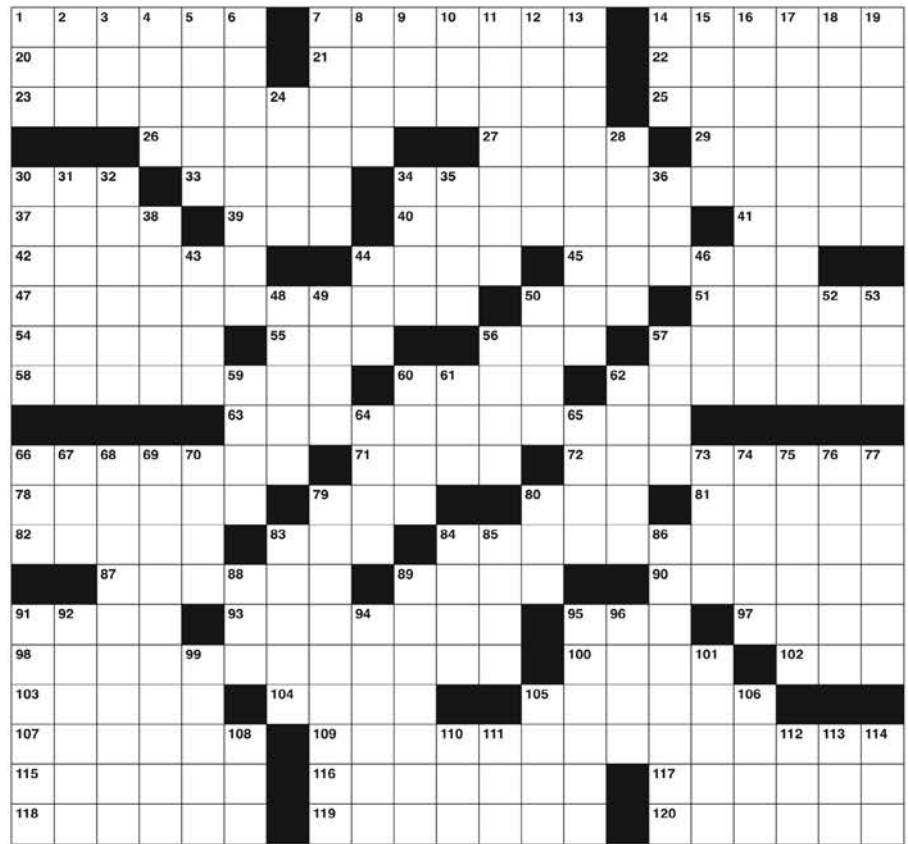


# Puzzles

## GIVE ME A BREAK! BY ROBERT RYAN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Robert Ryan of London is an economist for Britain's Competition and Markets Authority. He grew up in Ireland, where he used to sit on his father's knee and "help" him solve the cryptic crossword in the back of a television guide. He subscribed to The New York Times in 2020 for its election coverage and soon got hooked on the crossword, which he now does every day. This is Robert's first puzzle for the paper. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Texas terminus of I-35
  - 7 Place for a plug
  - 14 Sport coached by Ted Lasso
  - 20 Relative of a June bug
  - 21 Animal farm facility
  - 22 Shining intensely
  - 23 Zone out?
  - 25 Milton who designed the "I ♥ NY" logo
  - 26 Off
  - 27 A handful
  - 29 Channel for watching N.C.A.A. games
  - 30 Aid for a novice guitarist
  - 33 Fool, from the Yiddish
  - 34 Beginner's edition?
  - 37 Home of Bahla Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
  - 39 German article
  - 40 Certain vaccine target
  - 41 Big mouths
  - 42 Fairy look-alike
  - 44 God who lent his name to a weekday
  - 45 Bruce Wayne in the Batman comics, e.g.
  - 47 Seat at the dining table?
  - 50 Meds often come in them, for short
  - 51 Identifying statement
  - 54 Real name that becomes a fake one by changing its first letter
  - 55 Tranquil state of mind
- 56** Character at the center of "Dunkirk"?
- 57** Without holding back
- 58** Kicked out of school, say
- 60** Atop
- 62** Beverage that can be served hinata-kan ("sun-bathed")
- 63** Beauty that runs in the family?
- 66** Family member
- 71** Brazilian currency
- 72** Price of ignorance, so to speak
- 78** Like much baby food
- 79** U.S. agcy. originally set up to fund war expenses
- 80** Words of praise
- 81** "Psycho" mother
- 82** Search blindly (for)
- 83** Some significant others, for short
- 84** Boys' club?
- 87** Shape of a certain bean
- 89** Expose
- 90** Bounded
- 91** Result of some bargaining
- 93** Words to a pet at the door
- 95** Dollop
- 97** Greasy garage job
- 98** Swindle by instant messaging?
- 100** Reproductive cell
- 102** Something to aim for on a golf course
- 103** Irish name meaning "lover of hounds"
- 104** Toronado or Cutlass, informally
- 105** Pointed at, say
- 107** Tone deafness, medically
- 109** Use a family crypt?
- 115** Like Halley's comet every 75 or so years
- 116** Not tell a soul
- 117** House floor manager?
- 118** Formal
- 119** Adventure-seeking travelers, in old usage
- 120** Polynesian language
- 18** Thus far, poetically
- 19** You might see them now and again
- 24** Fortune 500 company whose logo is a blue infinity symbol
- 28** Wisconsin politico Tony
- 30** Cornhole attempts
- 31** Lab vial
- 32** Long, narrow piece of jewelry
- 34** "If u ask me ..."
- 35** He can be found above it
- 36** Particularly: Abbr.
- 38** Pester with little bites
- 43** "Rubbish!"
- 44** Food container
- 46** Jazz great Al
- 48** Third-largest city of Turkey
- 49** It comes after nine but not after 10
- 50** Flowing tresses
- 52** Subject of D.C.'s Stone of Hope memorial
- 53** Word before tooth or candy
- 56** Chancellor who oversaw Germany's reunification
- 57** Centers of attention
- 59** Gave a thumbs-up
- 60** Exploits
- 61** Organizer of a school field day, for short
- 62** Extra-crisp, informally
- 64** Goofs up
- 65** Sea change?
- 66** Dealership stat
- 67** The "Noster" in "Pater Noster"
- 68** Rhinoplasty target, maybe
- 69** Some vintage photo tints
- 70** Got started, with "off"
- 73** At some point
- 74** Come to
- 75** Cause to stumble
- 76** It divides and multiplies
- 77** Friend of Buffy on "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
- 79** "So to speak"
- 80** Shout heard in the Plaza México
- 83** \_\_\_ box (lunch option)
- 84** Long-handled hammer
- 85** Affectedly creative
- 86** Pink Floyd's light-refracting prism, for one iconic example
- 88** Cancel
- 89** Reinforce
- 91** Predecessor of a USB drive
- 92** Like a screw after being turned counterclockwise
- 94** Gilda of the original "S.N.L." cast
- 95** Clay figures in Jewish lore
- 96** Like the Toyota logo
- 99** People of western New York
- 101** "Same"
- 105** More than just a sec?
- 106** One-named singer with the 1961 No. 1 hit "Runaround Sue"
- 108** Word with where and how, but not usually why
- 110** Org. established by 111-Down
- 111** Prez who established the 110-Down
- 112** Initial shock?
- 113** Suns setting, for short
- 114** Japanese honorific



- 68** Rhinoplasty target, maybe
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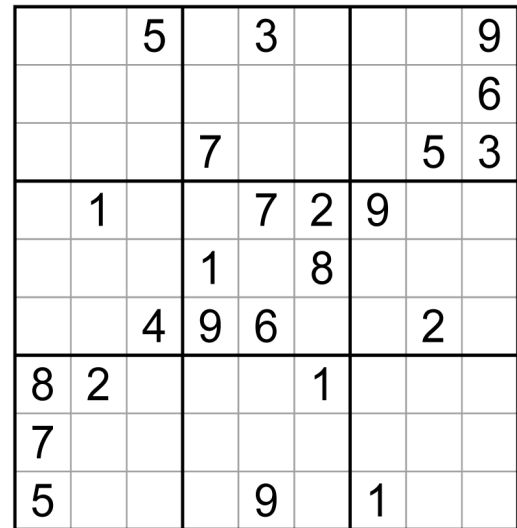
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© Puzzles by Pappocom  
HARD - 97

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

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





# Calendar

Continued from Page 21

## POET SPOTLIGHT: SHEL SILVERSTEIN

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. During National Poetry Month the group will be diving into the world of poetry and highlighting some great poets. For ages 7 years and older. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Examine the poems of Richard Wilber and others in the anthology "America's Favorite Poems," edited by Robert Pinsky. This group meets twice a month. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## YOUR NOSE KNOWS: THE SCIENCE OF SMELL

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. First of a three-part series about senses. Learn all about the anatomy of a nose and experiment with smelly things. For ages 6 years and older. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://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

## VINTAGE SEED PACKET PAPIER-MÂCHÉ BOXES

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. Boxes are great for holding seed packets. The box tops will be decorated with vintage seed packet covers. Limit 10. Registration required: 410-632-3495. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

## Tues., April 4

### STORY TIME: LET'S EAT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and crafts about food groups and healthy eating. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME 'ELEPHANTS'

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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### OC KNITTING GROUP

Worcester County Library - Ocean City



## DONATION

Randy's Crew recently presented a check to Buckingham Elementary School for \$1,250 to help provide all children ice cream after lunch. When the organization found out that youth on the Free Lunch Program are not eligible for ice cream, it wanted to help. Pictured, from left, are Principal Dr. Chris Welch, Randy's Crew founder Wayne Littleton and board member Maria McEvoy, and Cafeteria Manager Michelle O'Ferrall.

PHOTO COURTESY WAYNE LITTLETON

Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Bring whatever project you happen to be working on. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## MASTER GARDENER PLANT CLINIC

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Join Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz as she talks about all things plants. Bring questions and feel free to show your plants as well. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Songs, rhymes and stories. Stay after to socialize with other families. For ages 2 years and younger. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## POLLINATORS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. The Lower Shore Land Trust will talk to the group about the benefits of creating gardens that attract pollinators. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## ANIME & MANGA CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3 p.m. Monthly themes include trivia games, Japanese snacks and art exploration. For ages 13-16 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## SONGWRITERS WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6 p.m. Open collaborative led by Mikel Campbell. All genres welcome. Present works in progress or talk through composition issues with other songwriters. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## MEMORIAL OF JESUS' DEATH

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 W. St., Berlin. 7:15-8:15 p.m. A solemn commemoration of Jesus' death. There will be singing, prayer and a talk

about the importance of Jesus' death and how we can benefit from what God and Christ have done for us. [jw.org](http://jw.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](http://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](http://TangobytheBeach.com).

## Wed., April 5

### BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

Held via Zoom the first Wednesday of each month. For non-surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatrics Center, 410-641-9568

### SUPER POWERED STEM LAB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Come join the group for some fun, hands-on STEM experiments. For ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014,

[www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## HOMEGROWN: TOMATOES, PEPPERS, STRAWBERRIES

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Learn about growing tomato, pepper and strawberry crops with Master Gardener Trevor Pusey. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## GROW IT, EAT IT!

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz will talk about gardening basics as people are preparing for the growing season. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 5-6 p.m. Providing discussion, education and a speaker on the topic of diabetes. Darlene Jameson, 410-208-9761, [djameson@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:djameson@atlanticgeneral.org)

## SERVICE LEARNING INFO NIGHT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. High school students attend this session to learn about volunteer opportunities at the library. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

## SING-ALONG WITH SHIRLEY

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Community Center - MacMullin Hall, 10959 Worcester Highway, Berlin, 6-9 p.m. Sing along with Shirley Toms Hailey. Known for her piano playing at the Dunes Manor. Song books and light refreshments will be available. Open to the public. A free will offering will be collected.

## 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](http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org)



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Classifieds appear in **Ocean City Today & Bayside Gazette** each week and online at [oceancitytoday.com](http://oceancitytoday.com) & [baysideoc.com](http://baysideoc.com)

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**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](mailto:lwatson@worcesterprep.org)

**Pest Control Technician**

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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](mailto:lwatson@worcesterprep.org).

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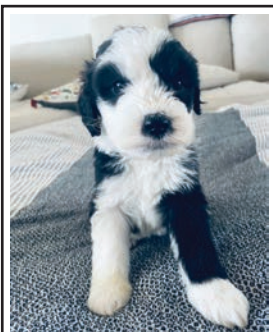
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Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

**Cocktails for CONSTRUCTION**

Thursday, March 30  
 4-6 pm  
 at BLU

2305 Philadelphia Ave  
 Ocean City, MD

Free Appetizers  
 Happy Hour Drink Prices  
 Donations Accepted  
 Basket Raffle

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\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only. 2The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercier Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# 0366920922 CSLB# 1035795 Registration# HIC.0649995 License# CBC056678 License# RCE-51604 Registration# C127230 License# 559544 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2102212986 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 2106212946 License# MHIC111225 Registration# 176447 License# 423330 Registration# IR731804 License# 50145 License# 408693 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# H-19114 License# 218294 Registration# PA069383 License# 41354 License# 7656 DOP# 10783658-5501 License# 423330 License# 2705169445 License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV056912

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- 📍 11005 Manklin Meadows #1 Ocean Pines
- ☎ 410.629.0089
- 🕒 M-F: 9am-6pm  
Sat: 10am-2pm  
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In front of Headlines Salon

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