



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pickleball players hold court at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center. This fast-growing sport is all the rage in Ocean Pines, far surpassing tennis, spec tennis and platform tennis. Pickleball players love the sport and the social aspects they find at the Racquet Center.

County asks for school budget info

Bertino wants transparency, Mitreic says 'not our job'

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) With another eight-figure difference between income and spending, the Worcester County Commissioners are scrutinizing next fiscal year's budget seemingly line by line.

Typically, that hasn't been the case for the Worcester County Public School system and the board of education who, mostly, are left to their own devices in determining what they need and how to spend it.



Chip Bertino

But this year, some commissioners say they need more transparency from the schools.

School Superintendent Lou Taylor and Chief Financial Officer Vince Tolbert presented the school system budget to the commissioners on Tuesday, asking for an increase of \$4.2 million over FY23, or about 4.1 percent more.

In a presentation, Tolbert said that the expected revenue for FY24 is around \$131 million, an increase of about 4.78 percent.

Aside from a few questions about particulars in the budget, most of the comments from the commissioners zeroed in on the overall transparency of the school system budget — or as some commissioners put it the lack thereof.

"This is the budget for all county departments that isn't the Board of Education, roughly \$110 million," Commissioner President Chip Bertino said as he piled three binders about a foot tall.

See BERTINO Page 2

Introductory class's end irks racquet sports fans

Advocates tell directors it helps increase interest and builds membership

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) The Racquet Club took over the public comments during the Saturday Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors meeting, with a standing-room-only crowd filling the Golf Club meeting room.

A large portion of the crowd was there for one thing: to let the board members know that they did not support the changes made at the racquet

club regarding free introductory lessons and court time.

Prior to the public comment segment of the board meeting, Director of Rec and Parks Debbie Donahue reported that the changes were made based on the growth of the racquet center.

"In the past, we had a 14-day trial free to non-members and free lessons," Donahue said.

"This year we are looking at no free court time and being able to charge for lessons, although there are two clinics that are offered in April and in May that are still free for new mem-

See RACQUET Page 5

Racquet sports manager named

(April 20, 2023) Tim Johnson has been named the new Racquet Sports manager for Ocean Pines, the Ocean Pines Association announced last Thursday.

A former member of several Ocean Pines racquet sports, Johnson also brings a wealth of professional experience to the position.

He most recently served as the tennis supervisor for the Town of Ocean City. Johnson is also a USPTA-certified Elite Tennis Professional, USPTA-certified

See OP Page 3



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Bertino asks for more info on school board budgeting

Continued from Page 1

He then held up and set down a single, thin binder — the education budget request.

“More clarity is what we’re looking for to help us,” Bertino said. “As we’ve talked about, Kirwan (Commission) and the blueprint are coming. We need to see (where we can be more efficient).”

“That is not the role of the county commissioners. It’s the board of education’s role. We’re asking for more help to better understand where the money is going. Mosquito control has a budget of \$78,000 and I think a case can be made that there’s a better look at control in that budget than in (that of) the board of education.

“The way information is presented — we’re asking that it’s presented differently. Today, we haven’t seen it. Can we, will we and when?”

Worcester County government, which does not get nearly as much state funding for its school system as other Eastern Shore districts, funds roughly three-fourths of WCPS’s budget. The investment can be even higher some years.

Taylor said the school system wants to be fully transparent and that nothing is hidden. He pointed out, however, that the board of education is different from any department in that it is an elected body.

“I answer to the board of education,” Taylor said. “That’s who signs, fires me, sends me home, whatever. I will work with them to ask where we want to go with this. My concern is what is their role?”

Bertino said that board members had told him privately that there was some reluctance to delve into further detail because they didn’t know what the commissioners would be looking for.

They didn’t know either, Bertino said, which is why they want to look and “better understand how \$104 million of taxpayer money is being used.”

“This is not our purview. I recognize that,” Bertino said. “But we need help. We are facing considerably more state mandates unrelated to the board of education (that affect) law enforcement and the state’s attorney’s office and other areas, and we are faced with challenges with the

(education) blueprint ... We don’t get as much funding (for education) as our neighbors. We’re spending even more than 82 percent when considering capital expenses. We only have so much money available.”

Taylor replied that he understands where Bertino is coming from and added that this is the budget that was presented to him. The commissioner’s concerns would be addressed at a board meeting later on Tuesday.

Bertino and Taylor both agreed that cooperation has been solid over the years, but this year the commissioners say they need help.

Taylor acknowledged that, but countered that it’s a two-way street,

“Now, I need your help,” he said. “I need your help when I have teachers looking at fund balances, how I can answer them when I say the commissioners don’t have any money?”

That answer will become clear as budget deliberations progress, Bertino replied.

Commissioner Eric Fiori said that historically standards have certainly been met, but this year they’re looking at increases “we have never seen” with materials, salaries and more.

“What’s so unprecedented about this year is the increases in (every facet of life),” he said.

Commissioner Joe Mitrecic, who was president of the board of commissioners for the last four budget negotiations, reminded his colleagues of how the last few years played out.

There was an \$11 million shortfall last year, he said. It was even higher the year before.

In fact, in FY22, Mitrecic pointed out, there were told they’d be “\$5 (million dollars) in the hole” but ended up with a \$12 million surplus.

“I’m not one of the people that want to scrutinize the board of education budget,” Mitrecic said. “They’re elected just like we are. They’re responsible for the school system in Worcester County. Not us. We’re just responsible for funding it.”

“We either choose to fund it at what they ask for, the state requires, or in between.”

If other commissioners want to see what’s inside the school budget, they can probably do so with a Freedom of

See MITRECIC Page 3

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PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

Tim Johnson was named the new Racquet Club manager for Ocean Pines. He most recently served as the tennis supervisor for the town of Ocean City. He will offer lessons for all racquet sports.

OP racquet sports manager wants to enhance operation

Continued from Page 1
Pickleball Professional, and a SPEC Tennis Ambassador.

Johnson has coached in the Mid-Atlantic area for more than 30 years and directed programs at the Aspen Hill Club, Saint Albans School, the International Tennis Club of Washington, and the Washington Area Tennis Patrons Foundation.

A former lawyer, he also served as a legislative counsel on Capitol Hill, and as an advocate for Native Hawaiian rights in federal legislation.

Johnson said he enjoys playing tennis with his three children and his wife, Helen.

“I am truly looking forward to working with all our Ocean Pines racquet sports groups to enhance our already successful operation,” Johnson said. “My goal is to ensure that our community is healthier, happier, and even more active!”

Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola said Johnson was hired after a process that was inclusive of many Racquet Sports groups.

“We took feedback from the Racquet Sports Committee and incorporated that into a job description and the eventual hire,” Viola said. “We believe we found the right person for the job, and that his combination of professional experience and experience as a member in Ocean Pines makes him uniquely qualified for this role.”

For more information on the Ocean Pines Racquet Center, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/racquet-sports.

Mitreic defends school budgeting

Continued from Page 2
Information Act request, Mitreic said.

“There was never a problem with transparency over the last nine budgets we’ve gone through,” Mitreic said. “(This is) wrong. It’s the wrong steps. If you want a different board of education to run this school system differently, get a different board. Vote in new people. Same thing with us. If you don’t like (how we do the school budget) then vote us out.”

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OP GM shares updates on recruitment, maintenance

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola provided a rapid-fire report on the association's successes over the past month, focusing on police, racquet center and maintenance at Saturday's board of directors meeting.

Viola said the police department has seen some successes, which uses a new process for police testing.

"We get the applications and we test them before they go to the academy. We have had success with this. We have three top candidates presented to Lt. Toppin and have been submitted for the July 5 academy. I am excited about this," Viola said.

"We also have a potential dispatcher, who could possibly go to the next academy."

"This is the best I have seen in the past five years. We are competitive in compensation and moving in the right direction," Viola said.

"The golf course is in the best shape it has been in the 15-18 years I have been here," said Viola.

"If I look at the past six months of golf: the Bob Beckelman era. Look at those numbers, compare them to the same time last year, revenue is up 15 percent. This is not our busy season. That is about \$45,000, the operating

profit line is up \$36,000.

"All the maintenance has been done, the place is packed," Viola said.

Viola announced the hiring of the new racquet center manager, Tim Johnson. Viola said the job description was developed with guidance from the racquet sports committee. He said Johnson is eager to give lessons and provide a wealth of professional experience to the position.

He noted that he received numerous questions on the salary for the position.

"We paid him what was in the budget, and he gets a percentage of his lessons," Viola said.

Viola also provided high level sketches of a proposed new racquet center design, with options for a one- and two-story building. The two-story building has a wrap-around deck because the input he received from the racquet sports advisory committee suggested a deck for watching matches.

He met with the racquet sports advisory committee over the past two years to understand their needs. The committee will be given these sketches and provide feedback.

"This is to be a working document. This is how we started with the golf club house," said Viola.

See GM Page 5



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Senior Executive Office Manager Linda Martin and General Manager John Viola field questions during the April OPA board meeting last Saturday.

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The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berlin, Maryland proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2023, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 4.4%, from \$515,257,481 to \$537,944,112.
2. If the Town of Berlin maintains the current tax rate of \$0.8150 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 4.4% resulting in \$184,897 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.7806, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The Town of Berlin is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The Town of Berlin proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.8150 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 4.4% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$184,897 in additional property tax revenues.

The proposed real property tax rate will be introduced at 7 pm on April 10th at Town of Berlin, Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD 21811.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7 pm on April 24th at Town of Berlin, Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, MD 21811.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 410-641-2770 for further information.

Racquet sports fans protest end of introductory classes

Continued from Page 1

bers or non-members to kind of learn the sports and decide whether they would like to purchase a membership," Donahue said.

"No other amenity really gives anything away for free," Donahue said.

But then Donahue went on to explain that the aquatics department allows people to drop in for a free one-time class to try it out and determine whether it is the right workout for them, so they can sign up for classes that are best suited to them.

"We encourage people to come in and be able to take one trial class. It's a \$7 value and let them assess whether that is the appropriate class. More often than not, it leads to a registration, and it leads to a long-term customer that is very satisfied with the aquatics department. We do not give free swim lessons," Kathleen Cook, the director of the aquatics department, said.

Bob Beckelman, the director of the Golf Club then explained that the putting greens are free at the Golf Club.

"The putting greens are not a revenue source. We don't charge anything to use the putting green. Some of the lady members got together and started a putting club," Beckelman said.

While free golf is not regularly offered, the club did offer a free day on Easter Sunday, attracting 65 people

to enjoy the course. The day included the use of the indoor simulator, pitching and putting contests and driving range tips.

Viola said he and the board had all received numerous emails on the changes at the racquet club and comments from numerous residents who supported free lessons and limited free court time to attract new members to the racquet club, especially to the lesser known sports.

Karen Caplan spoke on behalf of the platform tennis club.

"Members are no longer permitted to offer a no-cost introduction to platform tennis sports. Since 1998, our own member volunteers have worked in a goodwill partnership with the OPA. We provided the introductory instructions for potential members and the OPA allowed a no cost two-week trial period."

"We want to offer at least three free [platform tennis] intro lessons."

"Over the last two years, we have converted this no cost trial to 61 first time memberships at \$180. That is revenue generated for the OPA. Requiring a drop in fee to try our unfamiliar sports is going to hurt us," Caplan said.

Many others spoke out about how the free lessons and court time provided them the opportunity to try out a new sports and eventually lead to them to join as members. No further decision was made by the board.

GM reports on prep for season

Continued from Page 4

"We also took the same approach with the fire house. Hopefully, we will come next month with that. We have very detailed diagrams and drawings that we have been working with the fire department," Viola said.

"The diagrams will certainly save us money. We are using these diagrams as we sit down with contractors," he said.

In the category of maintenance, Viola said the work at the marina dock, including replacing the C-Dock and fuel lines are progressing and remain on schedule, weather permitting, for an opening prior to Memorial Day.

The Aquatics Swim and Racquet roof was replaced March 13. The budget for this project was \$28,300 and it came in at \$29,200.

Clean-up efforts at the various parks have occurred, including landscaping, trail maintenance, and power washing, court maintenance and repainting of the lounge and pro-shop at the racquet center. Mailboxes have been replaced or painted.

"We're committed to maintenance and have listened to requests from the board, our committees, and our homeowners," he said. "Public Works does an outstanding job and, with the help of our local contractors, everything on our list is getting done."





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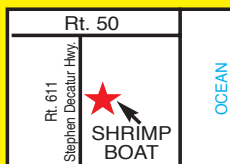
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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

It was standing room only at the Ocean Pines Association April Board Meeting last Saturday.

OPA board approves new law firm, other contracts

By Cindy Hoffman Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association is bringing its legal business back from the other side of the Chesapeake, as the board of directors on Saturday agreed to award the contract for legal services to Ocean City-based Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy & Almond.

The board had been working with Lerch, Early & Brewer of Bethesda

since 2016 after parting ways with another local firm.

In this instance, the board sent a request for proposals to five law firms, two of which, Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy & Almond and the current firm of Lerch, Early & Brewer, responded.

Director Colette Horn raised concerns about changing law firms after reviewing both proposals.

"The current counsel we have gives See LOCAL Page 7



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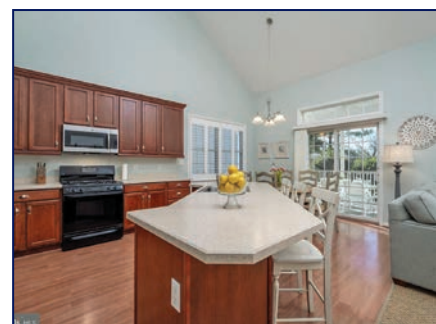


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Local law firm awarded contract

Continued from Page 6

us a team of HOA specialists whose practices are fully focused on HOA clients," she said. "Our current general counsel has years of experience with Ocean Pines Association and is well versed in its history of general legal issues, prior litigation, prior and current HR issues, collection issues and the evolution of our governing documents and practices," she said.

Horn also raised concerns about the possibility of conflicts of interest with the Ayers firm, which represents the Town of Ocean City and has represented board members in the past.

"I'm also concerned about potential conflicts on the issues in which their other local clients' interests, such as Ocean City, may conflict with ours.

"And I would like to hear, before we sign the contract, their plan on how they would handle such conflicts when and if they arise," Horn said.

Director Frank Daly said in cases of serious legal issues, the OPA alerts its insurance company, which, in turn recommends top litigators to handle the case. He asked for the contract offering be changed to recognize this.

Association President Doug Parks agreed with Daly, while Director Steve Jacobs, the only lawyer on the board, thought the two were both very high-quality firms.

Jacobs suggested that the two law firms come before the board in an open meeting to discuss what they are ready to do and answer questions from the board.

Parks advocated for a change in firms to provide an opportunity for a fresh approach to things.

"It is in no way a slap in the face to Lerch Early. That firm has done an outstanding job and we were very fortunate for the relationship of the past five years, but I think it is time to take a look at another fresh perspective and move forward with this," Parks said.

Jacobs moved to postpone the consideration of a new law firm until the board could meet with representatives of the Ayers firm. Jacob's motion failed, 4-2-1, with Parks, Monica

Rakowski, Rick Farr, and Stuart Lakernick opposed. Horn and Jacobs voted in favor and Daly abstained.

In the final motion to approve and award a contract for legal services to the Ocean City firm, the board voted 4-1-2. Parks, Rakowski, Farr and Lakernick voted in favor. Horn opposed. Jacobs and Daly abstained.

During the course of the discussion, Daly emphasized the need for the association to retain the services of a top litigator, mentioning Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy and Almand partner Bruce Bright on more than one occasion.

The directors are or should be familiar with Bright, who has won three cases against the board. The first was in 2020 when he represented former Director Slobodan Trendic, who sued after the board incorrectly rejected a petition calling for a referendum on spending.

The second was in 2022 when he represented current Director Rick Farr, whose candidacy and election was illegally disallowed by the board because of a property ownership dispute.

The third was his success on behalf of former Director Tom Janasek, who was banned from using the amenities for 90 days after an outburst at the Yacht Club.

In other contractual matters, the board approved \$20,550 for the irrigation system design for the Golf Club with Hydro Designs Inc.

The board also approved a single source contract not to exceed \$19,000 for mosquito control. The control efforts are done in conjunction with Worcester County and the state of Maryland.

The spraying occurs in June, July and August. Horn suggested increasing the number of times the community is sprayed as she has heard from many people that it is not enough to address the problem.

Doug Parks suggested the association approach the county about additional spraying but cautioned that this would probably cost more and would have to be addressed next year as it would impact the budget.

OPA finances still in black thanks to popular amenities

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) General Manager John Viola continues to provide a sunny outlook on the financial health of Ocean Pines.

"We are 11 months in. I think it is safe to say we will be at the \$1.1 million, plus or minus \$100,000, depending on the weather," Viola said.

While there were a lot of maintenance expenses that hit in March, Viola said we were pretty much flat for the month.

Net revenue was \$277,000 for March and expenses were \$1,129,000.

Viola cautioned that there will be more expenses coming.

In February, the numbers were fa-

vorable by \$1.1 million.

"Ninety percent is revenues over budget. We are growing everywhere. It's across the board. So, 90 percent is positive on the revenue side, and the expenses side is positive by about 10 percent," Viola said.

Monica Rakowski delivered the treasurer's report for March.

"As of March 31, 2023, the association had approximately \$14.4 million in cash. Cash increased about \$500,000 from the same time period last year.

"Cash decreased about \$1.4 million from February 2023. We have \$7.1 invested in CDARs and remaining \$7.3 million in insured cash sweep, money market and other operating accounts."

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State invests \$92 million in rural broadband across state

By Jack Chavez
 Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) More state funding is coming to Worcester County to expand access to broadband for rural residents.

On April 5, Gov. Wes Moore announced that the state is awarding about \$92 million to expand access to around 14,500 households and businesses across the state through the Connect Maryland initiative.

“Internet access is essential for Marylanders to have a pathway to receive critical information, be involved with their communities and participate in the local economy,” Moore said in a statement. “These awards help ensure that the infrastructure exists to make Maryland more equitable.”

About \$4.5 million of that money is going to Talkie Communications for 319 homes in Worcester County.

Andre DeMattia, who owns Talkie with his twin brother Andrew, said in an email that the funding comes as part of a three-year plan to complete areas that include Pocomoke City, Girdletree, Stockton, Newark, Bishopville, Whaleyville and parts of the Nassawango Hills area.

The total cost to provide internet

access to all unserved county residents is about \$70 million, he said.

DeMattia said Talkie has secured “over \$100 million” in grant funding to extend fiber optic internet to 15 Maryland counties and three in Delaware. The money consists of state, federal and county funds and is meant for areas where “wireless solutions are the only available option.”

“Our priority is to target these underserved regions first before overbuilding,” he said.

So far, about 52,000 rural homes in Maryland have been connected to broadband through state initiatives.

“Broadband is the utility that will determine economic outcomes in much the same way water and sewer systems have been for the past 150 years,” Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Secretary Jake Day said in a statement. “Full participation in the digital economy is essential for resolving inequities for countless Marylanders and the Office of Statewide Broadband is committed to closing the digital divide.”

Choptank Electric Cooperative also received funding from the grant for Worcester County, earning about \$2.3 million for 243 homes.

Stickers required now for yard debris collection in Pines

(April 20, 2023) Ocean Pines Public Works announced changes to its leaf collection program.

Starting on May 1, residents will need a sticker to display on their vehicle when dropping off leaves or other yard debris at the Public Works yard on 1 Firehouse Lane.

The stickers will be free for the first year (2023). To obtain a sticker, contact Public Works at 410-641-7425.

Residents with a sticker may use the Public Works yard to drop off yard debris May 1-27, Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The yard may also open on an as-needed basis, but residents must call Public Works prior to dropping off debris outside of normal operating hours.

Ocean Pines will continue to pick up bagged leaves in November and December, and Republic Services will continue their leaf collection program.

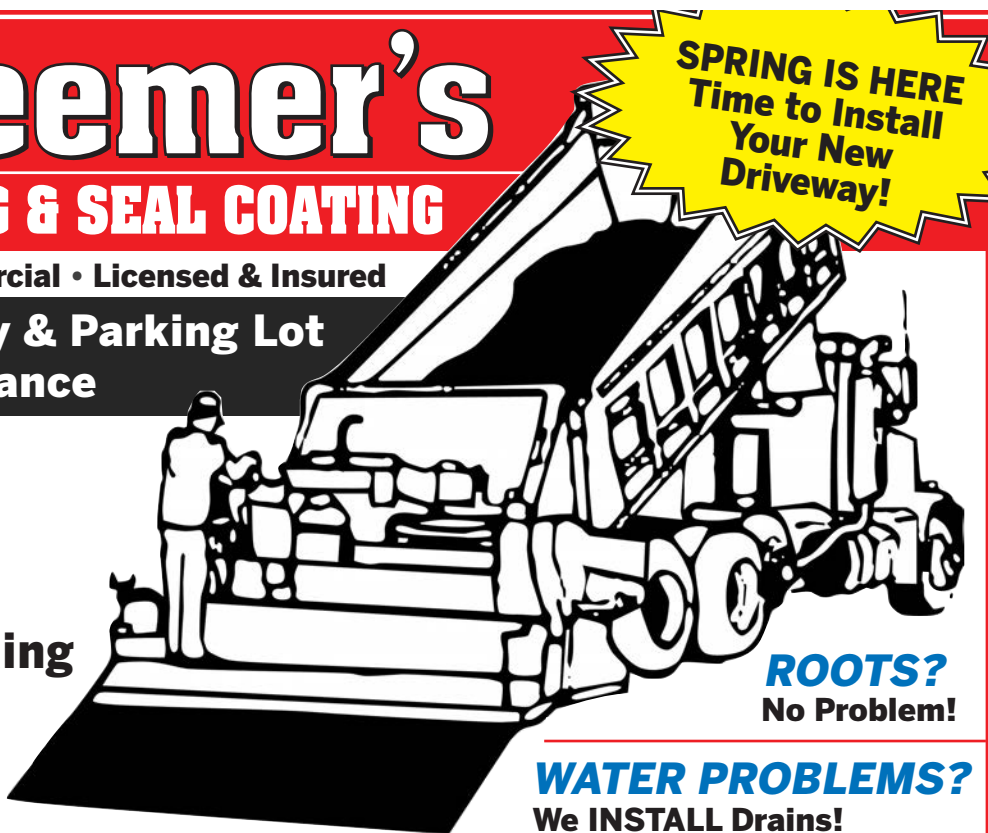
However, Public Works will no longer operate the vacuum truck and homeowners will be responsible for bagging leaves in drainage ditches on See CHANGES Page 9

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Few protesters, Matt Ortt Co. contract extended two years

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) Although a protest was announced by members of the "Do it for Gavin" Facebook group for the Saturday Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors meeting, just two women arrived to hold signs.

Their quiet protest was in response to the remarks from Board President Doug Parks last month regarding some of the more aggressive tactics that some members of the "Do it for Gavin" group had taken, including threats to vandalize the Veterans Memorial if the foundation held its fundraiser at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club. Board members and staff working at the Yacht Club also reported receiving threats.

"I want to let the Ocean Pines Association know that the majority, the 99.9 percent of us that are in the "Justice for Gavin" group are not bullies," Cineva Smith said.

Smith's boys were friends with Gavin.

Both Vanessa Alban and Smith said Saturday they don't want people to forget about Gavin.

The reported threats are related to OPA's association with the Matt Ortt Company, which handles food services at the association-owned Yacht Club, the Golf Club, and the Beach Club.

Ortt's former partner, Ralph DeAngelus, is suspected of some level of involvement in a hit-and-run crash that killed 14-year-old Gavin Knupp of Ocean Pines last July. No arrests have taken place and the investigation continues.

Ortt ended his partnership with

DeAngelus and has said that everyone who is suspected to have been involved in the accident has no ties to the Ortt Company.

As for the relationship between OPA and the Matt Ortt Company, General Manager John Viola reviewed the details of the original agreement executed on Aug. 14, 2019 as part of his General Manager's Report.

The contract was originally set up for three years with a fourth and fifth year added if year one and two combined operating profit targets were achieved.

In year one, FY 20-21, the original combined operating profit target of \$130,000. This was the year of COVID, so an extension was provided through an amendment executed on Aug. 24, 2021.

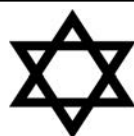
In year two, FY 21-22, the original combined operating profit target of \$175,000 was achieved.

In year three, FY 22-23 the combined operating target of \$190,000 is estimated to be achieved.

Based on the measurable results achieved per the contract and the contract amendment, the term of the contract has been extended to year four, FY 23-24 and year five, FY 24-25.



Cineva Smith, left, and Vanessa Alban silently protest outside of the April OPA board meeting last Saturday. They said they did not want people to forget about Gavin Knupp, a 14-year-old who was killed by a hit-and-run driver last year.
CINDY HOFFMAN/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



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Town of Berlin Public Notice



TOWN OF BERLIN, MARYLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE 2023-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BERLIN, MARYLAND, A MARYLAND MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, SETTING THE REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

The Ordinance will be introduced for a first reading on Monday, April 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM. The public hearing on the Ordinance will be held on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Both meetings will be held during Regular Meetings of the Mayor and Council Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, 2nd Floor, Berlin, MD 21811.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 410-641-2770 for further information.

OCD-4/6/2t

Changes to leaf collection prog.

Continued from Page 8
their properties.

Ocean Pines residents are asked to not drop off any yard debris at the Worcester County Recycling Center, which could result in fines or violations from the county.

The Worcester County Recycling Center accepts newspaper, mixed paper, magazines, glass, plastic, aluminum and bi-metal cans, cardboard, and textiles (clothing).

All other items are not allowed. The recycling station is not staffed, but does have security cameras. Violators may be ticketed.

For more information, contact Public Works at 410-641-7425.

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Spring and summer events announced in Ocean Pines

(April 20, 2023) With the release of the spring/summer activity guide, Ocean Pines has announced dates and times for several major upcoming events.

All events in Ocean Pines are open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

- The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department will host Family Fun Nights, Wednesdays from June 21 through Aug. 23 from 6-8 p.m. at the Yacht Club pool. The event will feature a live DJ, with family fun, games and prizes. Admission is \$3 for swim members, \$5 for residents, and \$7 for nonresidents. Only those swimming pay a fee.

- Free Concerts in the Park are scheduled every Thursday from June 22 through Aug. 24 from 7-9 p.m. in White Horse Park. Food is available for sale and BYOB is permitted.

- Bay Day, presented by Ocean Pines and the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, returns Sunday, May 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in White Horse Park. The event teaches local people how to “make a difference in your own backyard,” with free boat rides, hands-on activities, environmental exhibitors, and live animal demonstrations. Admission is free.

- Ocean Pines Bike Ride Day is Saturday, May 13 from 3-6 p.m. For more information, email Patti Stevens of the Worcester County Bike & Pedestrian Coalition at patti59.stevens@gmail.com, or Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue at ddonahue@oceanpines.org.

- Teach a Kid to Fish Day is Saturday, June 17 from 9-11 a.m. at the South Gate Pond near the Sports Core Pool. The event includes a drawing for a free rod and reel. For more information, call John McFalls at 610-505-1697.

- On July 4, the Recreation and Parks Department and OC Tri-Running will host the 11th Annual Freedom 5K starting at 8 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. Awards will be given for several age groups. Online preregistration is \$40.

- Later that day, the department will host the annual July 4th Celebration and Fireworks. Enjoy carnival games, music, food and more from 5-8:30 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park.

Admission is free and wristbands are \$15. Fireworks are scheduled to launch just after dark. Attendees may bring lawn chairs and blankets.

- The 27th Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest is set for Saturday, July 15 from 9-10:30 a.m. at the South Gate Pond near the Sports Core Pool. Trophies and prizes will be awarded for age groups of 4-7, 8-11 and 12-16. For more information, call John McFalls at 610-505-1697.

- For the second year, the Recreation and Parks Department will host the Back to School Bash, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. The event will include moon bounces, games, food, music and more. Staff and volunteers will collect donations of backpacks and other school supplies for Worcester County G.O.L.D. Admission is \$10 per person.

- Big Truck Day is scheduled Saturday, Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the field between the Sports Core Pool and Veterans Memorial Park. Children can interact with fire trucks, tow trucks, dump trucks, tractor trailers and more. Admission is free.

Visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/recreation-parks for more information on Recreation and Parks events.

The Pine’er Craft Club will present the 45th Annual Indoor/Outdoor Arts & Crafts Festival on Saturday, Aug. 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center and White Horse Park. Admission is free.

Visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-gift-shop for more information on Pine’er Craft Club events.

The Fall Indoor/Outdoor Flea Market is scheduled Saturday, Sept. 23 from 8 a.m. to noon in the Community Center Gym and White Horse Park. Vendor spaces are available. Call 410-641-7052 for more information.

The Ocean Pines Racquet Center will host a men’s and women’s doubles competition, the Doubles Challenge, on Saturday, Aug. 19. Entry is free for tennis members and \$15 for nonmembers.

The center will also host the USTA NTRP Singles Tournament on Sept.

See OP Page 11

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OP offers fishing, concerts, biking and other activities

Continued from Page 10
23-24. The entry fee is \$30 per player, and players must be USTA members.

Ocean Pines Pickleball will host several big events this year. That includes the 2023 Summer Classic on June 2-4. Email danoble54@gmail.com for more information.

The Ocean Pines Pickleball Club Championship is scheduled Aug. 26-27. Entry is limited to club members.

The Oktoberfest Pickleball Tournament returns Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Registration is \$40. To register, email danoble54@gmail.com or search "Tournaments" on app.pickleball.com.

The club will also host the annual Pink Ribbon Classic on Friday, Oct. 13, with proceeds benefiting the American Cancer Society. Entry is \$40 per player. Email rcoltferguson@gmail.com for more information.

For more information on Racquet

Sports events, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/racquet-sports.

The Ocean Pines Aquatics Department will host the annual Doggie Swim to benefit the Worcester County Humane Society on Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Mumford's Landing Pool. Times are 10-10:30 a.m. for dogs under 20 pounds, and 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for dogs of all sizes. The fee is \$8 per dog. Human companions are free. All dog handlers must be 18 or older.

The department will also offer life-guard certification classes April 21-23, with the fee waived for anyone hired as an Ocean Pines lifeguard. Call 410-641-5255 for more information.

For more information on Aquatics events, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/aquatics.

Former Stephen Decatur High School standout Matt Ruggiere will return to lead private and group instruction through the new Golf Academy at the Ocean Pines Golf Club. Visit www.ruggieregolf.com for more information and scheduling.

For more information on Golf events, visit www.oceanpinesgolf.org.

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market runs Saturdays in White Horse Park, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., through October. Winter hours start in November.

For more information, including a schedule of market events, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.

Live entertainment is scheduled to return to the Ocean Pines Yacht Club patio this May. For more information, visit www.opyachtclub.com.

To download the latest issue of the Ocean Pines Activity Guide, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/activity-guide.

Waterline flushing planned for area in April and May

(April 20, 2023) The Water and Wastewater Division of Public Works will begin its semi-annual program for flushing waterlines in Assateague Pointe, Edgewater Acres, Nantucket Point, Deer Point, Landings, Mystic Harbour, Newark, Ocean Reef and West Ocean City Service Areas between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The following proposed spring 2023 dates for the flushing of the waterlines are subject to change.

- April 24 thru May 5 - Assateague Pointe, Deer Point, Mystic Harbour, Ocean Reef, and West Ocean City
- May 9-10 - Newark
- May 11-12 - Edgewater Acres and Nantucket Pointe

Routine flushing of the water system helps to reduce the frequency of discolored water. Public Works crews open and close the hydrants, flushing out the built-up iron deposits.

Sometimes, this can lead to temporary increases in suspended iron, which should settle out within a few hours of the flushing.

Be aware that, even on dates the water lines in a section are not being flushed, it is still possible to experience discolored water.

If area residents notice that their water becomes cloudy during these times, allow the water to run for a few minutes until it becomes clear.

For more information, call the Water and Wastewater Division at 410-641-5251.

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Garden Club celebrates Arbor Day at Pintail

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) The Ocean Pines Garden Club celebrated Arbor Day last Thursday with a tree planting in Pintail Park to honor friends and relatives who passed away during the previous year.

The celebration included music by the Delmarva Chorus and bagpiper Mike Castoro. Family members who lost loved ones helped to plant the tree, a serviceberry.

Pintail Park is a special place for the Garden Club. Its member donated the gazebo there, and the club helps to manage the park. The club has planted 30 trees in Pintail Park.

The club has planted 32 trees in total, since 1991, with two trees planted in Bainbridge and Robin Hood Park, according to Ann Shockley, the co-president of the Garden Club.

Out of the 32 trees, 26 are still standing.

"If a tree is suffering or has died, Public Works will replace it for us. We purchase the original tree, and we help to maintain the trees. The only thing I can imagine is that way back when this did not happen," Shockley said.

The members of the Garden Club don't just love to garden, they love Ocean Pines too and have played a major role in how the community looks over the years.

The group of volunteers formed to help plant flowers, shrubs and trees around community signs, buildings, and parks, and in the median along Ocean Parkway.

Today, the club donates plants and materials and helps with beautification projects.

"This year, our gift is going to be to



donate money to do the plantings at the North Gate, and we're working with John Viola on that," Shockley said.

"We're going to help with plant materials, and we're actually going to go with Tony and the Public Works staff when they go to pick out the plants."

She said perennials and other plants grown by Garden Club members would be added to the North Gate plantings.

Gale Philippi, a garden club member, and publisher of their newsletter, emphasized that giving back and community service is a big part of what the club does.

"We love living here and we want our community to be beautiful," Philippi said. "Giving back just seems like a natural thing – especially for a garden club."

The club members will be designing floral arrangements to sell for Mother's Day at the Ocean Pines Farmers Market on May 13.

The club is always looking for new members.



(Above) The women of the Delmarva Chorus performed for the crowd during the Ocean Pines Garden Club's annual Arbor Day event. (Left) Co-President Patti Lookner speaks during the event at Pintail Park last Thursday.

PHOTOS COURTESY
OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

"We're a very welcoming group and we're very friendly. So, if you have any interest in gardening, come on over," Patti Lookner, co-president of the Garden Club said.

The Ocean Pines Garden Club meets on the second Thursday of each month. Guests and new members are

welcome. For more information, contact Shockley at 410-688-1975 or Lookner at 410-973-1243.

For more information or to join the Ocean Pines Garden Club, visit bit.ly/OceanPinesGardenClub or www.facebook.com/groups/oceanpin-edgardenclub.

OP Community Church creates hygiene kits

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(April 20, 2023) The United Women of Faith chapter at the United Methodist Community Church at Ocean Pines assembled hygiene kits this week to be distributed wherever there is need.

These kits include a hand towel and washcloth, soap, bandages, toothbrush, comb, and nail clippers, all placed in a plastic zip lock bag.

The items were all donated.

"Some donated items and others donated money. The extra money goes to the United Methodist Community on Relief to be distributed throughout the country and the world to areas of need," Linda Baker, the project coordinator, said.

"There are United Women of Faith chapters around the county and the world," Baker said.

"Our goal is to help to meet the spiritual and physical needs of women and children."



PHOTOS COURTESY ANDREW HARPER
(Left) Volunteers with the United Women of Faith put together hygiene kits that will be sent to people in emergency situations. (Above) Completed kits contain wash and face clothes, bandages, tooth brush and other essentials.

Snapshots



PHOTO COURTESY MARY BETH CAROZZA

CITATION

Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-District 38) presents William Kozma with a Governor's Citation in recognition of his demonstration of high integrity and ability on becoming an Eagle Scout. Kozma, a senior at Stephen Decatur High School, has also served in the General Assembly Page Program during the 2023 Legislative Session.

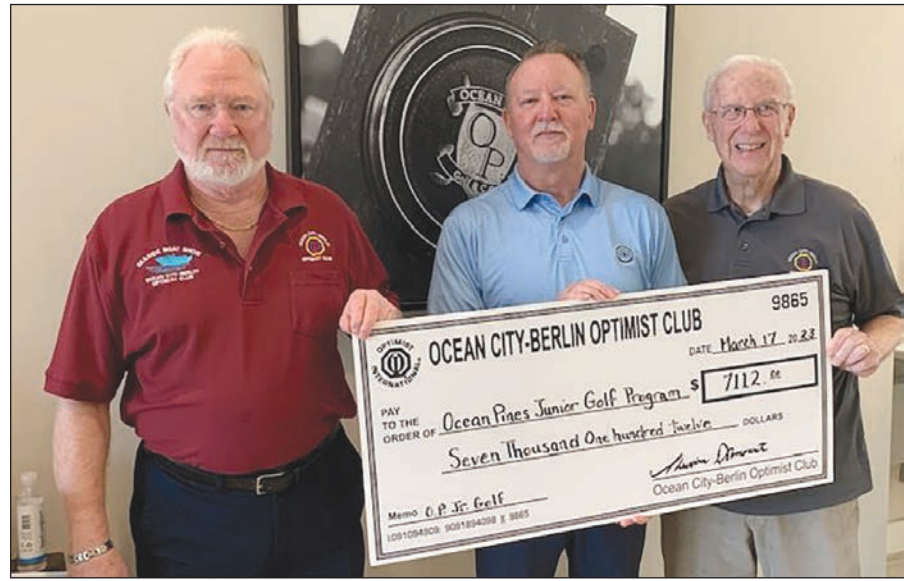


PHOTO COURTESY ROGER PACELLA

DONATION

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club recently donated \$7,112 to Ocean Pines Golf Club to support its youth golf initiatives. The money will be used to purchase 53 sets of golf clubs for children, offer a golf clinic for 20 children, and pay for five spots in the camp. Pictured, from left, are Optimist member Bill Thomson; Head Pro Bob Beckelman; and Optimist member Bill Hickey.

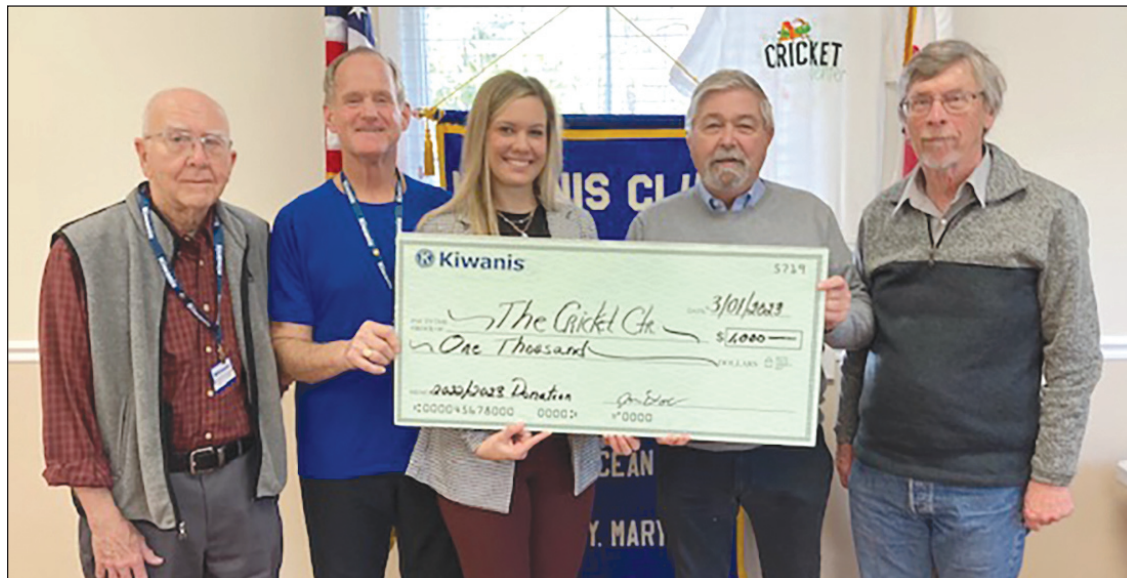


PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

GUEST SPEAKER

Lauren Cooper, executive director of The CRICKET Center, was the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City's guest speaker on March 1. She shared the CRICKET Center role in supporting children and their families that have been impacted by abuse. Kiwanis presented a \$1,000 check. Pictured, from left, are Kiwanians Jose Alvarez and Jim Ulman, Cooper, and Kiwanians John Hanberry and Geoffrey Goodson.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

NEW MEMBER

February was a notable month for the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines - Ocean City, because eight new members were inducted. Pictured is Geoffrey Goodson, right, inducted at the Feb. 22 meeting, with President and sponsor of new inductees, Bob Wolfing.



CELEBRATION AT WPS

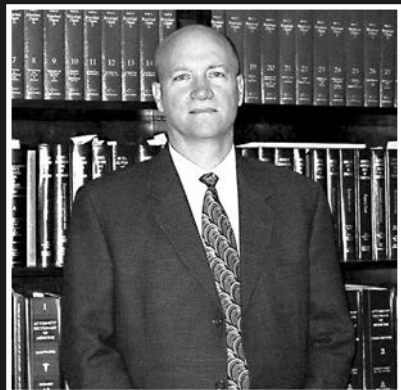
Worcester Preparatory School celebrated reaching its 100th day of school on Friday, March 3. Pre-K through Grade 5 students dressed as 100-year-olds, as well as participated in a variety of educational and philanthropic activities. (Far left) Pictured, from left, are third graders Jace Zervakos, Jack Fitzgerald Parks, Tobi Blaska, Peter Van Dalen and Carter Harrison. (Left) First graders Palmer Hammonds and Michael Hovhannisyian.

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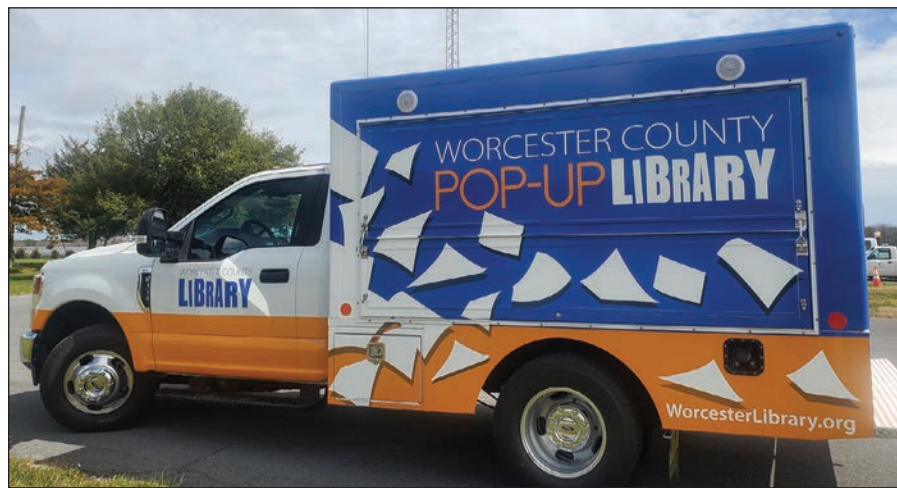
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The Worcester County Library will host a "Meet your Pop Up Library" event on Wednesday, April 26 at 2 p.m. at the Berlin Branch.

County library inviting public to 'meet' new pop up mobile

(April 20, 2023) The Worcester County Library will host a "Meet your Pop Up Library" event on Wednesday, April 26 at 2 p.m. at the Berlin Branch.

Light refreshments will be served, and attendees will have the chance to see the Library's new bookmobile up close.

The Library plans to take the bookmobile, which is being called a Pop Up Library, to special events and parades and is working on a regular

schedule that will include visits to child care centers, senior living facilities, and activity centers.

"The Pop Up Library allows us to take our services on the road, reaching communities that might not have the resources to make it to our physical library branches," said Library Director Jennifer Ranck.

The bookmobile will carry books and DVDs for all ages. It will have Wi-Fi capabilities, allowing people See WORCESTER Page 15

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY BREAKTHROUGH!

"My feet feel like they are on fire."

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

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

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

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

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

Frankie M. of Annapolis testified to this. "I remember my husband driving me to my consultation and I saw a woman running just outside our neighborhood. I was so envious - I just kept thinking, 'I would give anything just to walk again'. My primary care doctor told me my troubles with pain and balance were just symptoms of old age and gave me a prescription. I was so depressed." Fortunately, Frankie would eventually see Dr. Salmond on the news and how she offers a real solution at Coastal AIM. "I just knew I had to see her. She was my last hope."

"Almost all of our patients come to us with a story similar to Frankie's. They've been everywhere else. They've been told there's no hope," shares Liz, a Patient Care Technician at

Coastal AIM. "It just breaks my heart, but I know how much we can help people like Frankie, so I'm always so happy when they walk through our door."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



There is hope.

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

Anti-human trafficking conference, Saturday

Eastern Shore advocacy group holding info session at SonRise Church in Berlin

(April 20, 2023) Worcester County is not immune to the crime of human trafficking, and Atlantic General Hospital's faith-based partnership will explore the problem at a Lower Shore Anti-Human Trafficking Conference Saturday at SonRise Church in Berlin.

From 9 a.m. to noon, a team of experts from local community organizations will provide participants with a deeper understanding of human trafficking, including how it affects Worcester County, how to identify warning signs, how to report suspected trafficking and information on available resources, among other things.

Among the speakers will be Kelly Richardson, who chairs Harriett's House, an organization in Cambridge that helps free women trapped in these situations.

Richardson, a wife and mom of five, is a domestic violence survivor and a Marine veteran. She holds her degree in homeland security.

Richardson has been a board member with Harriett's House for the past three years. Her passion to combat human trafficking started about eight years ago at a Faith Filled Women's Conference in Salisbury.

After listening to a breakout session about human trafficking with the Samaritan Women, of Baltimore, she decided to take action for those that have no voice and are locked in a world of modern day slavery.

Since then, Richardson tries to take every opportunity to do local mission work throughout the Eastern Shore by educating and raising awareness. She strives to open the

eyes of those that are unaware that human trafficking is happening right here on the Eastern Shore.

Also on the agenda is Julie Crain, founder and executive director of Harriett's House, which also operates as a drop-in center for survivors of human trafficking, with plans to expand into residential housing in the future.

Crain began her work in human trafficking through traveling internationally, doing short-term mission work in after-care programs for women who had escaped sex trafficking.

Realizing the need for services in the United States compelled her to start Harriett's House with the goal of raising awareness and educating communities about human trafficking, providing outreach, drop-in centers and developing residential programming for women survivors of sex trafficking.

Worcester Library meet and greet

Continued from Page 14 nearby to connect their devices to a public network.

It will also be used to expand the Library's programming capabilities, by bringing programs to the bookmobile's stops.

The Worcester County Library acquired its first bookmobile in 1960 and provided mobile services until 1982. The new Pop Up Library is the Worcester County Library's first bookmobile in over 40 years.

The Worcester County Pop Up Library project was funded in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Maryland State Library Agency.

Scheduled to speak as well are Dr. Danielle Thomas: child sex trafficking regional navigator, Life Crisis Center and Mandi Mendoza, survivor leader, Delaware Anti-Trafficking Action Council.

This event is free of charge, with the sole purpose of educating and

raising awareness of human trafficking in this area. After all, an educated community is the first line of defense in keeping the Eastern Shore free of human trafficking.

Contact Thomas at dthomas@life-crisiscenter.org for more information and to register for the conference.

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Opinion

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

OPA directors make good legal decision

If you can't beat 'em, join 'em is what the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors seemed to say last Saturday when it chose local law firm Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy and Almand to be its new legal advisor.

The decision to switch from the Bethesda firm of Lerch, Early & Brewer, which the board went to in 2016, ended an across-the-bay experiment that appeared to be influenced by a touch of anti-local snobbery.

It wasn't said, but the implication was that top legal talent befitting a community of Ocean Pines' stature was more available elsewhere instead of down here in the provinces.

That, as the association members and officials quickly learned, did not work out, as the board was repeatedly thrashed in court by Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy & Almand partner Bruce Bright.

The most painful evisceration of the board's legal arguments, as most Ocean Pines residents know, occurred when a politically motivated board tried to block current Director Rick Farr's board candidacy in 2021 despite obvious evidence that it wasn't going to work.

One lesson to be learned from that and other similarly inspired political lawsuits that involved the board is that hiring from afar is no guarantee of superior results. Many's the time when legal counsel from elsewhere marched into court here figuring they could outsmart their counterparts and the local judiciary only to have their derrieres handed to them because they underestimated both.

As for the litigation needs of the OPA and its board, with the exception of the recent lawsuits between members and the board, the preponderance of association cases involve collections of past-due bills and such, suggesting that concerns about conflicts of interest simply aren't relevant.

Besides, when a local firm has repeatedly hammered you in court, the best legal strategy would be to have it argue for you rather than against you.

Even better, it might also advise you when some disputes have no business going to court in the first place.



© JIM ARCOO 2023 "BAYSIDE GAZETTE"

"Do you believe it! Ocean Pines put me on the "List of Shame". I thought this was a free country!"

Letters

Sports Complex not dead yet

Editor,

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The Mayor & City Council (M&CC) of Ocean City are hosting the Maryland Stadium Authority for a presentation of the Sports Complex Study.

The event will take place at the convention center on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 1 p.m.

As reported on the City Clerk's website, "The press and public are invited to attend but, please note, there will be no opportunity for public comment."

This is the ultimate insult.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be just under \$167 million.

According to the Town's Capital Improvement Plan, the M&CC are poised to spend just under \$40 million between FY24 and FY27, and yet the public cannot comment.

On top of it, the state of Maryland is being asked to fund over \$127 million of the cost; and we, Marylanders, cannot comment. Yes,

this is the ultimate insult.

The study is centered around acquisition of the land just west of Stephen Decatur High School.

The voters of Worcester County, in effect, rejected that location last November.

Since then, I have not heard that the Town of Berlin is clamoring to revisit that ill-conceived idea.

As in the 2017 County study by the same consultant, a sports complex is expected to operate at a deficit after a stabilized year of operation.

The earlier study for an outdoor facility suggested that it takes from three to five years to reach a stabilized year of operation.

Even then, they projected an operating loss of approximately 25 percent before taxes, debt service and depreciation.

What about the concern expressed by a number of tournament promoters and producers regarding the oversaturation of the Mid-Atlantic market?

These facilities are being built all over the region. There are at least four such facilities or expansions

being considered in Maryland alone.

There are many issues to be addressed and questions to be answered, and the public cannot comment. To the citizens of Ocean City, it is time to wake up before the M&CC spend us into financial oblivion.

Vincent dePaul Gisriel Jr.
Ocean City

Size really matters for small towns

Editor,
Citizens of Berlin,

Our Planning Commission is about to revisit the Comprehensive Plan for an update this year, and we are looking for public input. Berlin is under serious development pressure, mostly from outsiders who's only interest in Berlin is to monetize our small town way of life.

Berlin's current Comp Plan, along with the corresponding one of Worcester County, is for us to continue to sprawl outward to accommodate everyone and any business that wants to move here.

Continued on Page 17

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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The Bayside Gazette is published weekly by FLAG Publications, Inc.
11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842.
The Bayside Gazette is available by subscription at \$75/year or \$40/6 mos.
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Prescription Take Back Day planned for Sat.

Drop off at Maryland State Police barracks statewide during national campaign

(April 20, 2023) The Maryland State Police, in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), are asking residents to dispose of unneeded prescription medications during National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 22, at Maryland State Police barracks statewide.

According to Maryland Department of Health statistics, from January 2022 to January 2023, there were 2,154 opioid-related fatal overdoses recorded in the state and of those,

320 were prescription opioid-related fatalities. According to the DEA, the majority of teenagers abusing prescription medications are finding an unlimited supply in their family's medicine cabinet.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing prescription medications, while also educating the general public about the potential for misuse of medications.

Each Maryland State Police barrack will act as a collection station, giving residents an opportunity to dispose of all unneeded prescription medications.

At the last Prescription Drug Take

Back event in October 2022, the Maryland State Police collected more than 570 pounds of unneeded prescription medications.

This included more than 80 pounds from the Frederick barrack, 73 pounds from the College Park barrack, 49 pounds from the Rockville barrack, and 44 pounds from the Golden Ring barrack.

Since 2014, the Maryland State Police have successfully removed more than 26,000 pounds of unneeded prescription medications in an effort to prevent medication misuse and opioid addiction from ever starting.

As part of Maryland's combined and continued effort to reduce opioid misuse, Maryland State Police barracks, across the state, have become around-the-clock drop-off locations

for unneeded prescription medications.

All 23 Maryland State Police barracks are now equipped with secure drug collection boxes and are available around-the-clock for unneeded prescription medication drop-off.

The drop-off boxes remain confidential. No questions will be asked when deposits are made.

Residents can locate the closest Maryland State Police barrack by visiting: <https://bit.ly/3L27LDj>.

The Maryland State Police is a partner in the Opioid Operational Command Center, which facilitates collaboration between state and local public health, human services, education, and public safety entities to combat the Heroin and Opioid Crisis and its' deadly impact on Maryland communities.

Letters

Continued from Page 16

This is how the once small town of Salisbury started. New York City and all other cities started small yet came to be large by unchecked physical expansion.

For small towns to function as such, size really matters. The rule of thumb is one square mile, and we're just a bit over that already.

This size enables us to be less car-centric, to be able to walk/bike to most things we need, or easily visit friends and family.

This scale also provides the stage for the intimacy and social interaction we value in our daily lives and gives us a sense of place.

A functioning small town has its businesses and mixed uses concentrated at its core, with density reduced as it moves outward towards its boundary.

A small town's edges are well defined, for now ours is still mostly farms and forests.

To better understand our situation, and help us rewrite our Comp Plan, the Mayor and Council have hired a consultant.

We're very fortunate to have an extremely capable architect and town planner, Dhuru Thadani, close by and willing to assist. Based in DC and having a vacation home in OC, he's spent time here in our town over the decades watching what's been going

on.

Berlin is at a critical place in time. If we want to continue to be and function as a small town, we need to make some rather radical changes to our Comp Plan.

If the livability and the sense of place we know and love is important to us, we need to know that our present plan will put an end to that. We need to understand that the value of Berlin is in jeopardy.

Our town is a gem, who doesn't see that? Of the many small towns that dot the Delmarva Peninsula, we're one of the fortunate few.

We've got what everyone wants, but if we open the doors to accommodate everyone who wants in, we kill the goose that laid the golden egg.

We must protect the value of Berlin, both for those of us lucky enough to be born here, and for those who made the conscious decision to move here and invest our families and fortunes in this wonderful small town.

Please make the time to listen and participate in our future, come hear Mr. Thadani explain what we have and how to keep it, Thursday evening April 20 at 6 p.m. in the meeting room of our wonderful new library. Hope to see you there.

Ron Cascio
Berlin



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History of gambling in resort presented at society dinner

(April 20, 2023) The Worcester County Historical Society will hold its annual spring dinner meeting at the Pocomoke Community Center on Market Street, Friday, May 5.

Dinner guests will learn about gambling in Ocean City in the early to mid-20th century while enjoying a meal of chicken and dumplings with all the fixings prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Joe Moore, a practicing attorney in Ocean City, will give a presentation about the gambling in the resort, which went on until the early 1950's.

During his talk he will show pictures of the night clubs up and down the highway, (the Ricks Raft, The Sandbar, and the Brass Rail) the locations of some of the slot machines. The machines were also present at locations along the Boardwalk.

A source of his information for his talk will be newspaper reports about the gambling. Some of the reports concerned the raids by a very young

states attorney, William G. Kerbin Jr., who raided the locations in the late 1930's and early 1940's, along with his "flying squad."

He served in that position from 1938 to 1946.

In the very early days at the resort, before 1933, arrests were made not only for gambling but also for bootleg liquor.

One story in the Baltimore Sun discusses hauling bootleg from a Canadian ship to the shore.

Jack Sanford, who was elected state's attorney in 1950, shut down the gambling for good a short time later, in 1951.

Moore credits the Ocean City Life-Saving Museum for the pictures and Newt Weaver, president of the society, for much of the information from two articles he wrote for the former Coconut Times.

Having been a practicing attorney at the resort since 1969, Moore also

See FASHION Page 19

Women's Club Fashion Show features Chico's and lunch

(April 20, 2023) Reservations are being accepted for the Women's Club of Ocean Pines' Fashion Show and Luncheon, scheduled for Thursday, May 11 at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Fashions will be provided by Chico's.

For \$38, attendees have a choice of four entrees: (1) grilled chicken greek salad; (2) brisket french dip; (3) shrimp salad wrap; (4) chef's choice vegetarian.

Assorted dessert trays and non-alco-

holic beverages included.

For more information, contact Jan Chiampa, 508-446-6204 or 410-600-4236.

Reservations will be accepted no later than April 24. Make checks payable to WCOP.

Send reservations to Jan Chiampa, 6 Federal Hill, Ocean Pines, Maryland 21811.

This is a fundraiser for high school scholarships and community donations to be presented on June 1.



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April 20 - April 27



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Sunday, 11am-1pm	30 Sycamore St., Ocean View, DE	5BR/3.5BA	Residential	\$715,000	Bryan Baylis/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 9am-11am	144th St. Unit 202 Ocean Block	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$489,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 10am-Noon	144th St. Unit 202 Ocean Block	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$489,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11:30am-1:30pm	11604 Coastal Hwy. Unit 1506, Oceanside	2 BR/2BA	Condo	\$789,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 2:30pm-4:30pm	349 Walnut Drive, Berlin	4BR/3.5 BA	Residential	\$759,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 1pm-3pm	349 Walnut Drive, Berlin	4BR/3.5 BA	Residential	\$759,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 2 - 4 pm	9 N. Pintail Drive, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Residential	\$749,000	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday Noon - 2pm	12404 Kent Road, West OC	3BR/2BA	Residential	\$569,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty





The Worcester County Arts Council announces the winners of its juried art competition: "Artist's Choice." Pictured, from left, are competition judge Sandra Strachan Buchan, Ellie Scott, Jason Giusti, Jiyeong Yun, Kathryn Redden, David Shanks and Ryan Poe. SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Awards presented for Wor. County Arts Council's show

(April 20, 2023) The Worcester County Arts Council announces the winners of its juried art competition: "Artist's Choice."

Entries in this competition are featured in the exhibit at the Arts Council's Gallery and include 41 pieces of artwork submitted by 25 established and emerging artists with work in all media.

Ryan Poe won first place for his oil painting, "Cambridge Creek," David Shanks placed second for "Aniyah" pyrography, and Jiyeong Yun won third place for her mixed media, "Antifragile."

Honorable mention awards were presented to Jason Giusti, Kathryn Redden and Ellie Scott.

The winning artwork was selected by accomplished local artist, Sandra Strachan Buchanan.

Winners were honored at the opening reception held on April 14 at the Arts Council Gallery, at 6 Jefferson Street in downtown Berlin.

The exhibit will continue to be on display through April 30. The Gallery hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County arts agency, the Worcester County Arts Council is committed to fostering the excellence, diversity and vitality of arts, artists, and arts organizations and increasing access to the arts for all members of the community.

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

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COUPON GOOD FOR ONLY 1 PERSON. Coupons cannot be combined with other offers or specials.

Fashion show and lunch May 5

Continued from Page 18 served as state's attorney from 1978 to 1982.

Doors will open for the event at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 per person and can be purchased by sending a check to Judi Menavich, 9 Drawbridge Road, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

The deadline for reservations to the dinner, which is open to the public, is Friday, April 28.

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Cuisine

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In a panic, I realize that I have slept through my alarm.

I'm getting way too old to do this, a standard practice of many teenagers.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Yet, here I am, trying to brush my teeth, get dressed and write another installment in my little saga on earth.

I consider grabbing a bowl of cereal, and

then I realize that I have not had cereal in the house for a couple of years, so scratch that. That's out. Oatmeal?

I can't even tell you how old those oats are. I better shy away from those. And why haven't I thrown those away yet? Ah yes, another genetic trait from my late, great mother.

I remember the piles of expired groceries when we cleaned out her house, but that's a generational thing. I still have some of the spice jars from the '60s ... that she was still using up to 2014.

How about an omelet? No, I don't have time or motivation for that, but it takes me back to something I wrote about 16 years ago (how does that happen? Where does the time go?) and I chortle just a touch.

I reminisce the words of the great master, Chef Escoffier: "The theory of the preparation of an omelet," quipped Escoffier in his 1902 treatise *Le Guide Culinaire*, 'is both simple and at the same time very complicated, for the simple reason that people's tastes for this type of dish are very different.'

As for me, I have spent decades listening to laymen discuss the improbability that they themselves could properly cook an omelet, almost as though the fabled omelet were a rarely seen animal on the Serengeti; photographed by but a few, and elusive in nature to the common man.

At the end of the day, Escoffier basically summarizes, and I paraphrase, that an omelet can only be properly prepared in three ways; underdone, done or overdone. That still makes my laugh. Basically, he is saying to give the customer what they want, regardless of how you personally think it should be done.

But what am I rambling on about? I must leave in 30 minutes for work. Sigh, do any of you have these issues in the morning? In the old days, it was more getting the kids ready for school



that was the hinderance in us getting ready for work.

Now it's just me, and I'm stumbling over my own feet. And as I do so, the dog just stares at me blankly, wondering why I have not fed him and why I'm so stressed.

There are no more Legos to step on, or random skateboards in the kitchen to trip over, just trash from the dog who knows how to open the trash can for late night snacks. I usually put a pan on top of it, but I guess I forgot last night.

But I digress, back to the task at hand. Breakfast.

Whatever I cook, it has to be quick, easy and filling. Surprisingly I have always disdained a big breakfast, but as I get older, I am starting to enjoy and understand the importance of a good start.

Years ago, I had a trainer tell me a simple saying and I have no idea where it comes from, but it is not mine. Basically, the idea is to eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a pauper.

In doing so, you are setting your

aging body up to go into your fast (sleep) without an overfilled belly, allowing your body to assimilate all those glorious nutrients you have ingested throughout the day.

And in the morning, when you break the fast (how did I not know that this is where the term 'breakfast' comes from until I was about 40 years old), your body is ready to appreciate a good, full meal.

As I inch closer to being able to move into a retirement community, which I could in two and a half months, it is time to start taking my eating habits a bit more seriously and responsibly. Plus, I'm getting tired of cooking, so I'm going to keep it simple today.

I typically keep ground lamb in my freezer for random hankerings, and a buddy of mine gave me a bunch of venison recently so I have to make a choice between the two.

Either way, I am going to keep it simple. I know that I have time to make an omelet, but I'm on the run. I have a class to teach and animals to feed. Easy is the rule of the day.

Breakfast Like a King

serves 2

12 oz. Ground lamb or venison
1 avocado, halved
juice of 1 lime
fresh berries, as needed
2 whole eggs
Hot sauce of your choice, as needed

1. Cook the meat, adding seasoning to your liking. Personally, I started using Tajin when we were in Costa Rica the last time, and it has stayed in my cupboard ever since.

And now that they have a hot sauce (It's not very hot, honestly) it is as much a staple as Hank's has been over the years.

2. When the meat is cooked, place in your dishes, and then scramble the eggs and put on top of the meat. Top with berries and half an avocado on each plate, and squeeze the lime juice on the savory bits.

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

Calendar

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

Thurs., April 20

8TH ANNUAL TAKE PRIDE IN BERLIN WEEK

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center, 14 S. Main St., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Each day this week, one of the Town's local non-profits will have information about their organization and be given the opportunity to fundraise. iwells@berlinmd.gov, aearyl@berlinmd.gov, 410-629-1716

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. A free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. Apointments required: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

STORY TIME: 'ALL MY STRIPES'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. A story time to celebrate Autism Awareness Month. Stick around after for a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'DEAR ZOO'

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

CHESS CLUB

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

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

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

WHO'S WHO IN A HONEY BEE SOCIETY: COOPERATIVE ROLES IN A COLONY

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Join Crystal Lehman, local Master Beekeeper, and explore the various castes and roles of bees within the colony unit, and how they develop and work together. 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

MOBILE MENTOR

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

PEEP SLIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 3:30 p.m. Join the group as they make taste-safe slime using this popular spring snack. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ZUMBA

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

RIBBON CUTTING AT ROADIE JOE'S BERLIN

Roadie Joes Berlin, 525 S. Main St., Berlin. Event starts at 5:30 p.m., ribbon cutting at 5:45 p.m. Join the group for dinner and drink specials after the event. 443-944-9156, <https://roadiejoes.com>

BEACH SINGLES-55 PLUS

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

Fri., April 21

WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CARVING COMPETITION AND ART FESTIVAL

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Judging, silent auction, classes, seminars/demos, kids' activities & more. Admission cost is \$10 for multi-way pass, \$8 for students/seniors, free to children under 12. www.wardmuseum.org, 410-742-4988

8TH ANNUAL TAKE PRIDE IN BERLIN WEEK

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center, 14 S. Main St., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Each day this week, one of the Town's local non-profits will have information about their organization and be given the opportunity to fundraise. iwells@berlinmd.gov, aearyl@berlinmd.gov, 410-629-1716

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'RUN ROSE RUN' BY DOLLY PARTON AND JAMES PATTERSON

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

WSW PUTT THE NIGHT AWAY MINI GOLF FUNDRAISER

Old Pro Golf, 6801 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6-10 p.m. Tickets \$15. Entry for adults is \$15 and \$10 for children 12 years and younger, which includes unlimited mini golf, one slice of pizza and a bottle of water. Sign up at the event, call 410-548-7880 or WSW office.

Sat., April 22

WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CARVING COMPETITION AND ART FESTIVAL

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Judging, silent auction, classes, seminars/demos, kids' activities & more. Admission cost is \$10 for multi-way pass, \$8 for students/seniors, free to children under 12. www.wardmuseum.org, 410-742-4988

8TH ANNUAL TAKE PRIDE IN BERLIN WEEK & BERLIN CLEAN UP DAY

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center, 14 S. Main St., 8:30 a.m.-noon, For general park clean-up, sign up at any of Berlin's parks starting at 8:30 a.m. Hudson Branch sign-up is at Henry Park. Bring your own tools. iwells@berlinmd.gov, aearyl@berlinmd.gov, 410-629-1716

FISHING FLEA MARKET

Ocean Pines Southgate Pond Area, 11144 Cathell Road, 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Buy and sell fishing and boating items, 50/50 raffle and Chinese auction. Table rental space: \$10 and \$2 for table. Reserve a table: Jerry Leuters, 240-427-8929, dorado1045@yahoo.com.

LOWER SHORE ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONFERENCE

Sonrise Church, 10026 Main St., Berlin. 9 a.m.-noon. Get answers to human trafficking. Conversations/questions with experts. Additional information from the CRICKET Center, Zoe Ministries, The Worcester County Health Department & more!

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

PET ADOPTION EVENT

Tractor Supply Co., 1701 Market St., Pocomoke City, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Open to the public and friendly, leashed pets. In addition to dog and cat adoptions, there will be Pet Care 101 and Pet Treat Tasting. 410-957-3491

EARTH DAY PAINTED SHELLS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 11 a.m. Celebrate Earth Day by painting Assateague sea shells with local artist Evie Eggers. All materials provided. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Come celebrate Earth Day and help pick

up litter around the library. For all ages. Families are welcome. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DELMARVA CELIAC SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Fenwick Inn, 13801 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 1 p.m. Attending speakers of Tidal Health, Dr. Jerrold Canakis, MD PA Gastroenterologist and Dietitian Michael P. Kirtsos, RD, LDN Registered Dietitian. Door prizes. RSVP to 443-664-5979.

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

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

Sun., April 23

WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CARVING COMPETITION AND ART FESTIVAL

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Judging, silent auction, classes, seminars/demos, kids' activities & more. Admission cost is \$10 for multi-way pass, \$8 for students/seniors, free to children under 12. www.wardmuseum.org, 410-742-4988

15TH ANNUAL 'BEST BLOODY MARY ON THE SHORE'; CONTEST

Seacrets - Morley Hall, 117 49th St., Ocean City, 12-3 p.m. The \$20 entry fee, paid at the door, includes a judge's ballot and unlimited Bloody Mary tastings. Proceeds benefit the Ocean 98 "Cash for College" Fund. Must be 21 years and older. <http://OCEAN98.com>, 410-723-3683

2023 ANNUAL KENNEY - KING DINNER

Lighthouse Sound Restaurant, 12723 Saint Martins Neck Road, Bishopville, 5:30 p.m. Speaker will be The Honorable Brooke Lierman, Maryland's Comptroller and Chief Fiscal Officer. Reception at 5:30 p.m.; dinner, 6:15 p.m. Tickets cost \$100. 410-208-2969 or vick1947@aol.com

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., April 24

RESERVATIONS DEADLINE FOR WOMEN'S CLUB FASHION SHOW AND LUNCHEON

To be held May 11, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Ocean Pines Yacht Club, 1 Mumford Landing Road, Ocean Pines. Cost is \$38 and includes fashion show, a choice of four entrees, desserts and non-alco-

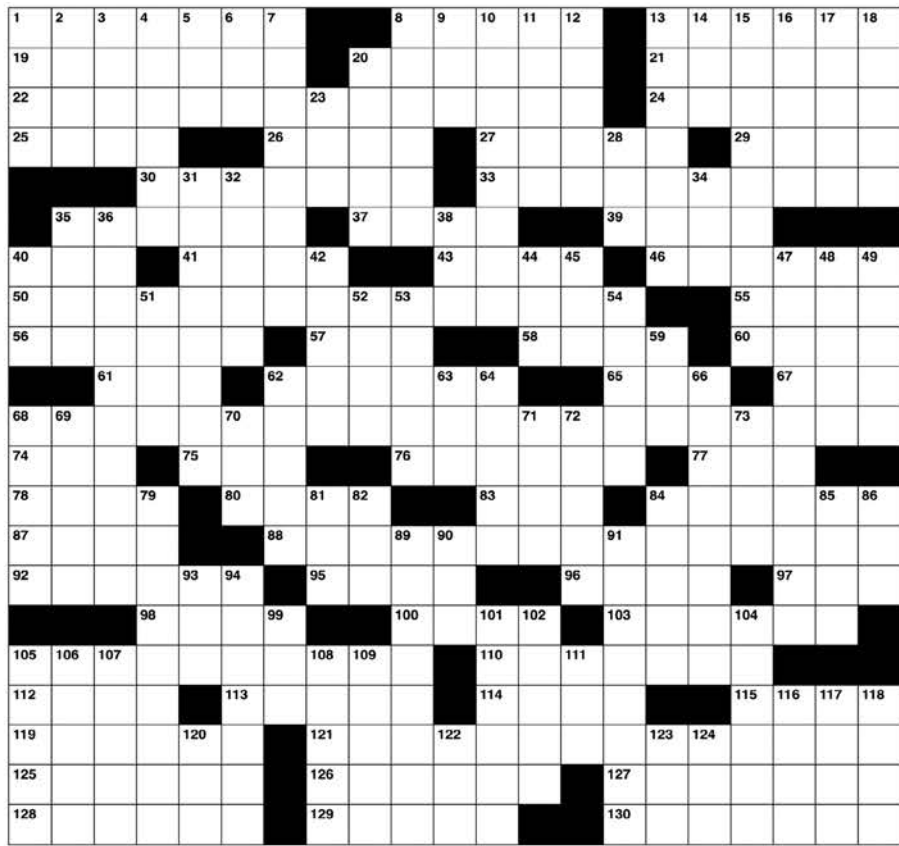
Continued on Page 23

Puzzles

IF THE CLUE FITS ...
BY JOHN EW BANK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

John Ewbank is a British science writer from Macclesfield, near Manchester. He regularly composes cryptic crosswords for The Times of London, but lately he has been trying American-style crosswords. This is his third for us. The theme is examples of anapodoton (an-uh-POH-duh-tahn), a rhetorical device you probably use yourself but never knew there was a name for. Well, now you'll know. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Precision woodworking tool
 - 8 When repeated, a 1999 No. 1 Santana hit
 - 13 Passionate
 - 19 Ingredient in a Caesar salad
 - 20 A tick or a tock
 - 21 Highly luminous galactic object
 - 22 "Let's stick with what we've got ..."
 - 24 Dissimilar to
 - 25 Trivia lover, maybe
 - 26 Blockhead
 - 27 SkyMiles offerer
 - 29 Pulitzer winner James
 - 30 Modern-dance pioneer Duncan
 - 33 "How clever we both are ..."
 - 35 Spice grinder
 - 37 Locale of Hephaestus' forge, in mythology
 - 39 Jessica of "The Illusionist"
 - 40 Writer/humorist Frazier
 - 41 "What a pity!"
 - 43 A butterfly flying into your home is a good one, some say
 - 46 They may be yawning
 - 50 "Look who it is ..."
 - 55 Ground grain
 - 56 Road hog?
- DOWN**
- 114 See 111-Down
 - 115 Where there's smoke
 - 119 Gather, as volunteers
 - 121 "Etc., etc." ... or a statement about answers to this puzzle's starred clues?
 - 125 Commonly contracted two-word phrase
 - 126 Why you might run out
 - 127 Makes gassy
 - 128 Get goose bumps, say
 - 129 "Ciao!"
 - 130 Popular papal name
- ACROSS**
- 57 Kind of cable, for short
 - 58 Twitter boss Musk
 - 60 Target of tetracycline
 - 61 "Little" car of song that's "really lookin' fine"
 - 62 Orion's belt points to it
 - 65 Groovy
 - 67 Chew out
 - 68 "Timid types shouldn't be here ..."
 - 74 Spot for a tat
 - 75 Male turkey
 - 76 Obsolescent circus workers
 - 77 Fate
 - 78 Carpenter's tool
 - 80 Goes up and down
 - 83 Honey
 - 84 Hardly tiptoes
 - 87 Classic Memphis-based record label
 - 88 "Looks can be deceiving ..."
 - 92 From A to Z, maybe
 - 95 Pants, slangily
 - 96 Except
 - 97 Palindromic prefix
 - 98 Director Kazan
 - 100 Something a beanie lacks
 - 103 Parody
 - 105 "Well, if the locals are doing it ..."
 - 110 Tammy who sang "Stand by Your Man"
 - 112 Occupied
 - 113 Greek word meaning "character"
- DOWN**
- 1 Nickname that drops -ces
 - 2 Very formal, or very informal, garment
 - 3 Royal title
 - 4 The time machine on "Doctor Who"
 - 5 "Toy Story" antagonist
 - 6 What makes creamer creamier?
 - 7 What Beethoven did in his 30s and 40s
 - 8 Use as a rendezvous point
 - 9 Essen exclamation
 - 10 What an "@" might signify
 - 11 Word with ear or peace
 - 12 Confuse
 - 13 Like swimming and surfing
 - 14 It's worth one point in cricket
- ACROSS**
- 15 With Desmond Tutu, co-author of the 2016 best seller "The Book of Joy"
 - 16 Complete, as a .pdf contract
 - 17 Au naturel
 - 18 Canopy makeup
 - 20 British draft horse
 - 23 English dos
 - 28 Four to five spaces, typically
 - 31 Police operation requiring patience
 - 32 Rose gold, e.g.
 - 34 "It's ... OK"
 - 35 Family member that's also a letter in the NATO alphabet
 - 36 One charged with climate policy
 - 38 Go-ahead
 - 40 Sorta
 - 42 Deck treatment
 - 44 "Who's That Girl?" rapper
 - 45 It's nothing
 - 47 Where a grilled cheese can be found at McDonald's
 - 48 Suffix for a fad
 - 49 Was out
 - 51 Choir voice
 - 52 Smart
 - 53 Have a life
 - 54 Sends high into the sky
 - 59 "I don't think so"
 - 62 Its largest islands are Savai'i and Upolu
 - 63 The Jazz, on scoreboards
 - 64 Carnival dance



- 66 Glamping option named for its shape
- 68 "No bid"
- 69 Gave, as nourishment
- 70 Male swan
- 71 Shipshape
- 72 Bottom of the barrel
- 73 Knee-slapper
- 79 Like many suitcase handles
- 81 Club relative
- 82 Canon offering, in brief
- 84 Spotted nocturnal mammal
- 85 Play thing?
- 86 Bit of redacted info, for short
- 89 Indubitably
- 90 "Ben-___"
- 91 A little light combat?
- 93 ___ Lilly & Co.
- 94 Breakfast nook
- 99 "Have you heard about batik? It's a dyeing ___" (groaner)
- 101 Childish plea
- 102 "Holy smokes!"
- 104 Do some maintenance on, as a PC's disk
- 105 Resource in the game Catan
- 106 French name that is an anagram of a German river
- 107 Pompeo of "Grey's Anatomy"
- 108 "Now I remember!"
- 109 Poet Marianne
- 111 With 114-Across, crystal collector, perhaps
- 116 Mother of Apollo and Artemis
- 117 Account holder, e.g.
- 118 Popular online marketplace
- 120 Day on Mars
- 122 Either of two lead characters in "Kiss Me, Kate"
- 123 Homophone of 90-Down
- 124 Poetic palindrome

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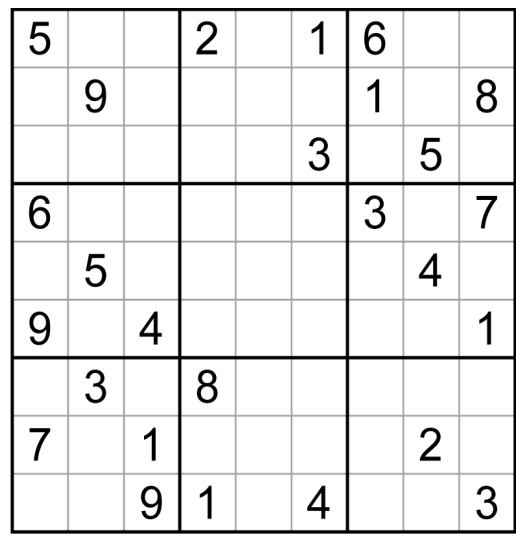
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su | do | ku
 © Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 94

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

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





SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

EXPERIMENTING

Worcester Preparatory School's pre-kindergarten class conducted the "Humpty Dumpty Egg Drop Challenge" and "Inertia Egg Drop Experiment" with eggs as the key ingredient, helping them to learn about the force behind gravity. (Above) Student Tuck Padgett and teacher Kim Zaccagnini watch as his homemade parachute prepares for landing.

Calendar

Continued from Page 21
 holic beverages. Jan Chiampa, 508-446-6204, 410-600-4236

STORY TIME 'INSECTS'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Come learn about insects as the group listens to fun stories, sing songs and play games. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

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

CROCHET BOOKMARKS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30-6:30 p.m. Create Bookworm Bookmarks. Yarn and needles will be supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own. 410-632-3495. www.worcesterlibrary.org

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

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

Tues., April 25

STORY TIME 'MISS SUSAN'S FAVORITES'

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

STORY TIME: BIRDS AND NESTS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and crafts about birds and climb in the giant nest the group will build. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

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

CALMING GLITTER JARS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 p.m. This DIY glittery paradise, a swirling vortex of calm, helps eliminate the stress of a long day. All supplies included. Limit 10. Registration required: 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org.

BEACH HEROES-OC

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

Tuesdays - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 7

p.m. www.jw.org

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

OC KNITTING CLUB

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

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

Wed., April 26

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR 35TH ANNUAL OC CHAMBER CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT

To be held May 3, 8 a.m. at Glen Riddle Golf Club/War Admiral Course, 11501 Maid at Arms Lane, Berlin. Cost is \$175 or \$700 per team and includes golf cart, premium player gift, breakfast, boxed lunch, awards dinner, team picture and goodie bag. Register: bit.ly/Chamber-Cup2023. 410-213-0144, Ext. 100

BIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

FIRST STATE DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 12 p.m. Any Marines and Navy Corpsman who have served in the Corps, living in

Worcester and Sussex counties, are welcome. 410-430-7181, websergeant@firststatemarines.org

SPRING IN FULL BLOOM FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON

Grand Hotel, 2100 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, 12 p.m. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Fashions by CraZy LadyZ Boutique, \$10 mystery gift cards, Chinese Auction and 50/50. Tickets cost \$40. Contact Kris, 443-614-8445 or Barbara, 507-332-2526.

'MEET YOUR POP UP LIBRARY' EVENT

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Featuring light refreshments and a chance to see the Library's new bookmobile up close.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5:30-7 p.m. The goal of the support group is to provide participants with hope for the future. Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

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

ONGOING EVENTS

PATRON PICKS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, April 24-29, all day. It's National Library Week, so come celebrate by sharing some of your favorite books and movies with everyone. For all ages. 410-208-4014

CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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



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

HELP WANTED

Now Hiring Seasonal Sales Positions

Full-time, part-time now through October. Competitive starting pay. Parking available. Apply in person: **SOMERSET JEWELERS** 412 South Atlantic Avenue, OCMD 410-289-7011

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED Dogtel in West Ocean City. Part time and weekends. Call Dan 410-984-5719.

Maintenance Person Flexible hours. Full time or part time. 3-4 days a week. Contact Jimmer Gardiner with **Harbour Island at 14th St. on the Bay** 240-298-0365

Classifieds 410-723-6397

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED Part-time. Local garden center. Need one person for **Plant Nursery Labor and Customer Service.** Wednesday-Saturday. Honest and reliable. Call **410-208-4475** between 10am-5pm please.

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

HELP WANTED

Thunderbird Beach Motel Now Hiring PM Maintenance Apply in person Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm. 32nd Street & Baltimore Ave., Thunderbird Beach Motel.

Now Hiring for **Seasonal Certified Pool Operator.** Apply within Comfort Suites, 12718 Ocean Gateway (Rte. 50), Ocean City, MD (WOC). 410-213-7171.

HELP WANTED

Year-Round Outboard Motor/Boat Mechanic needed for established Boat Yard in West Ocean City, Maryland. Call **Harbor Marine, 410-213-2296.**

COMMANDER HOTEL & SUITES
Front Office Manager \$50-55K/year Full Time with Benefits To apply: 410-289-6166, ask for Allyson

HELP WANTED

Cleaners - Vacation rentals needed for OC and the Pines. Experience preferred but not required. OC Purifiers. Call or text 443-397-1189 or email karen@ocpurifiers.com.

BOAT YARD HELP NEEDED Call Harbor Marine 410-213-2296



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.

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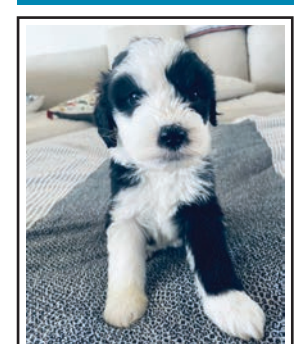
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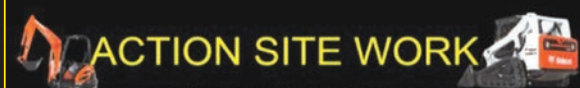
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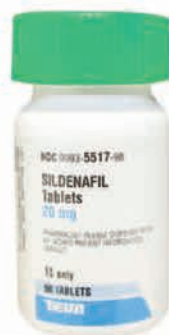
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