



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines maintains just under 98,000 linear feet of bulkhead. Some residents could have to move docks, lifts and landscaping to make way for the new, wider vinyl bulkheads.

## Residents make room for new vinyl bulkhead

Some homeowners will face expenses to remove docks, lifts, landscaping

By Cindy Hoffman  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) Anyone who drives past Pintail Park has seen the extensive bulkhead replacement work being done in Ocean Pines, as old wooden bulkheads are being replaced with vinyl.

“With switching from wood to vinyl bulkheading over the last several years, the life expectancy of bulkheads has increased from 30 to 50 years,” General Manager John Viola said.

In total, Ocean Pines maintains just under 98,000 linear feet of bulkheads. It replaces 2,000 linear feet each year, with work scheduled to begin on or about Sept. 1 and be completed around May 1 each year.

See RESIDENTS Page 4



Because vinyl bulkheads are corrugated, they will stick out further toward the water than the flat-surface wooden bulkheads they are replacing.

## Council going with slight tax increase

Rate would be 1.25 cents higher than last year, but lower than first proposal

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) The Berlin mayor and Town Council agreed on a tax rate of 82.75 cents per \$100 of assessed property value following a public hearing Monday night, so will this be the tax rate for FY2024?

Maybe. Probably.

In a 4-to-1 vote with Councilmember Jack Orris opposed, the council approved an ordinance that is poised to raise the annual property tax on a home assessed at \$300,000 by \$37.50.

Originally, the ordinance presented to the mayor and council was for a rate of 83.5 cents, but despite assurance from Mayor Zack Tyndall

and town staff that there was nothing “frivolous” in the budget, it was a hard sell for some of the councilmembers.

“I feel like we don’t quite have all the information we need to successfully balance this budget,” Councilmember Jay Knerr said. “I think we need complete ... the pay study, (determine) increases in fees to propose, things of that nature. It’s just difficult to say let’s go with (83.5 cents) and say let it be.”

However, Planning Director Dave Engelhart said they could “amend any ordinance you pass,” but stressed that the budget is unique.

Finance Director Natalie Saleh clarified that the tax rate needs to be set before the budget is approved. Essentially, it should be confirmed by the first week of June so she has enough time to send it to the state be-

See COUNCIL Page 2



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Dhiru Thadani explains New Urbanism development.

## Architect gives Berlin plenty to think about

Promotes vision of going back to early development

By Cindy Hoffman  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) More than 80 people turned out at the Berlin Library last Wednesday night for a “guided conversation” on the present and future growth of Berlin.

“This is part of a multistage process geared toward a community-wide discussion on growth,” Mayor Zack Tyndall told the audience.

“We want it to be community-focused and look at how we can protect the integrity of this town.”

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# Council boosts property tax rate by 1.25 cents, for now

Continued from Page 1  
 fore its June 10 deadline to have the budget on its own tax rolls.

The body cited multiple reasons to either not pass the ordinance as originally written — or at least hold off a bit longer — because of insufficient data, needing public comment and, as in Orris’s case, simply not wanting to bill residents even more.

“Every time this comes around ... the phrase used (is) ‘It’s only X amount a year or month.’ I really strongly feel this ... this may be a relatively small (increase) but it has to come from somewhere else, in someone’s household budget,” Orris said. “Food, medication, things like that — that’s what I think about when I look at budgets, not only what’s good for the town but good for residents.”

Multiple times, the wage compensation survey and classification study, which the town commissioned for \$32,500 last year, came up in discussion, especially concerning the fact that it’s not yet complete.

The concern generally was that the town should know exactly what will be needed financially by the town to make its employees whole before deciding on a tax rate, but Saleh pointed out that, regardless of the final figure, the town knows what’s coming eventually.

“(The) study as how I see it, even if we push the tax rate option another week or two, you have an idea of what needs to be done with wage study,” Saleh said.

Tyndall said the study is not “in its final draft” and that the town likely won’t be ready to implement its conclusions until closer to the start of FY24 if not a month or two after that.

“That needs to be a public discussion, concerning this wage study,” Councilmember Dean Burrell said. “I believe that wholeheartedly. It is not a secret and it needs to be shared.”

“I do realize ... that we’re not trying to keep it a secret but at the same time it needs to be shared and folks need to know publicly what we’re looking at and the direction we’re try-

ing to grow.”

Later, Saleh stressed again, there is no point in delaying wage increases when the town knows it’ll need to happen eventually.

“I hear the wage study a lot,” she said. “Even if we removed it and there was no increase, it would come and we would have to adjust the budget. Where’s the good in this? We’re back to square A.”

She and Tyndall both made the same point for using any kind of contingency money for yearly expenses.

And Tyndall shared that he’s heard from multiple department heads that they sometimes go home at night wondering how they’re going to keep their department running with current funding levels.

Councilmember Steve Green twice moved to adopt an 83-cent tax rate, with both motions failing. At that rate, he said the increase on a \$400,000 property would be roughly \$5 per month or \$60 per year.

He also pointed out that a 1.5-cent increase pales in comparison to what the town did in 2019 when it raised the tax rate to 80 cents from a 68-cent levy.

“I don’t want to be back in (that) position (down the road),” Green said.

Councilmember Shaneka Nichols, who supported a failed motion by Orris to preserve the current 81.5-cent rate, said that she doesn’t want the situation to get to that point, either, but he’s talking from a frame of reference that is simply a non-starter for some Berlin residents.

“In District 3, \$400,000 is laughable for most of, the majority of, the residents in my district,” she said. “I don’t say 81.5 (cents) to go against the grain ... My biggest fear has always been to be in that spot where the prior council found themselves a few years back.

“But there are people who can’t afford to pay for their flipping (basic expenses), let alone an increase of

See BERLIN Page 6

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# New Urbanism development approach aired at meeting

Continued from Page 1

The funds used to stage the program came from American Rescue Plan Act money still in the town's budget.

Tyndall said public opinion would help guide the town as it prepares to update its comprehensive plan, a state-required compendium of planning and growth objectives that towns and counties use to guide the zoning process.

Giving residents something to think about last Wednesday was Dhiru Thadani, an architect and urbanist who has been in practice since 1978, and who was hired by the town to walk the audience through the "guided conversation."

As a disciple of what is known as New Urbanism, Thadani advocates a return to the once-traditional form of American development — walkable communities, mixed-use downtowns and denser housing development.

He is currently researching and documenting more than 100 American towns, including Berlin, across the country.

His research looks at historical growth, street patterns, topography, density, transportation networks, accessibility, and economic drivers.

Thadani took the audience through the history of expanding suburban development and how that sprawl is not in keeping with the needs of residents today.

"Sixty percent of Americans today live in a one-to-two-person household," Thadani said.

That, he continued, makes larger homes in suburbia pretty obsolete, as "the demand today is for smaller units."

Live-work units (properties that combine residential and non-residential uses in either commercial or residentially zoned areas) were the way America was built, he told the crowd, but that approach ended as communities separated these uses into different zoning districts and

community growth spread outward.

The result, he said, is houses that are too big and expensive for most people.

He went on to advise the audience that denser housing could be provided without changing the character of a small town.

One example of this, he said, is "cottage courts" that consist of a group of small detached structures arranged around a shared court visible from the street.

Another would be a multi-unit building designed to reflect the architecture of older homes in the community.

Thadani also provided examples of towns that have turned vacant lots into parks or other community-enhancing places.

He is a proponent of reducing vehicular traffic to allow for more pedestrians.

Thadani also advised residents and town officials, "Parallel parking makes streets and pedestrians safer, because people have to drive slower."

Instead of merge lanes, he continued, creating short right turns also makes drivers stop and turn more slowly, keeping pedestrians safer. And, pedestrian overpasses or road underpasses also keep everyone safer.

He also recommended changing impervious parking lots and pads to pervious materials to address flooding and to help clean the water before it hits the sewer system, and suggested installing solar panels on vacant lots at the edge of town to provide clean energy.

His vision for small communities involves a return to mixed-use development that allows residents to get everything they need within walking distance.

He opined that if residents are not reliant on a car to get to work, shop, play and live, they will save on transportation costs and be able to pay a little more to live in a city or town.

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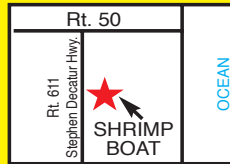
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## Residents advised to prepare clear path for new bulkheads

Continued from Page 1

"This schedule is subject to change depending on weather conditions, the availability of materials, if the contractor is pulled for an emergency, or if Ocean Pines needs the contractor for another project," Viola said.

"The cost to replace a bulkhead has increased drastically over the last few years, from \$365 per linear feet in 2021 to \$425 per linear feet on the contract approved by the OPA board in December 2022."

Bulkhead replacement is completed in three-year increments, which includes time needed to obtain permits required by the state, the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers, and the county before work can begin.

Ocean Pines evaluates all the bulkheads with the engineering firm, Vista. The association just completed a three-year plan. The overall plan is part of the DMA reserve study and also part of Ocean Pines Strategic Plan.

The vinyl bulkheads take up more room than the current wood bulkheads, as they are corrugated, leading to an increase in yard size and a loss of canal space.

Because bulkhead replacement is necessary to maintaining both the property and the waterways, property

owners on the water will have to address certain issues to accommodate the job's engineering needs. Every property has different issues and the contractor will work with each property owner.

"In certain circumstances, boat lifts do need to be pulled out and are the responsibility of the homeowner to remove," Viola said.

In addition to the removal of the docks and lift, landscaping walkways, trees, or any other objects that are in the 15-foot easement area may need to be removed.

Although bulkhead replacement is usually done from a barge in the water, in some situations work needs to be done in the easement area.

"The contractor will attempt to work around trees whenever possible," Viola said.

The homeowner can hire a contractor of their choice to remove these items prior to bulkhead replacement or can work with the Ocean Pines contractor doing the bulkhead replacement.

Each property is different, so homeowners should contact Public Works to find out what needs and does not need to be removed.

See BULKHEADS Page 5

## PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY BREAKTHROUGH!

"My feet feel like they are on fire."

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

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

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

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

Dr. Cynthia Salmond of Coastal Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine in Berlin shares this belief.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

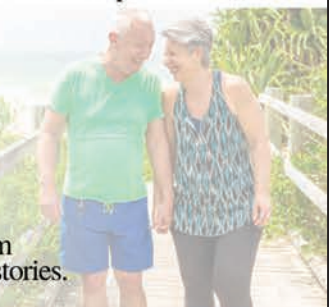
By seamlessly blending the ancient science of acupuncture with modern medical solutions, Dr. Salmond has achieved a 90% success rate in reversing the effects of neuropathy. She starts each patient with an initial consultation where a sensory exam is performed. This not only aids in making a proper diagnosis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

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

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

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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Disc golf will become a permanent fixture at Stephen Decatur Park after the minimalist course at the park performed well in the two years since it was built. Making the course permanent will include several enhancements including a kiosk.

# Berlin approves permanent disc golf for Decatur Park

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) The Berlin disc golf experiment is officially a success.

The Berlin Mayor and Town Council on Monday voted unanimously to approve making the disc golf course at Stephen Decatur Park permanent with several enhancements.

At the start of a presentation from Eastbound Disc Golf's Shawn Johnson, he mentioned that before the meeting he was perusing a popular disc golf app that features a ratings database. He said that, at that time, the Decatur Park course held a 3.7 rating out of 5 from 174 "unique ratings."

"In my experience for every person that takes the time to do that there are probably 20 or 30 more who just breeze through," Johnson said.

The proposed disc golf course would feature nine baskets and a permanent kiosk. Also included are 1-foot-by-1-foot pavers, Sakrete concrete to hold the pavers in place, lumber and tee signs, which Johnson envisioned being about two feet off the ground.

Project estimates come to between \$5,674 to \$6,474.

"(The baskets) would be owned by the (town)," Johnson said. "The pavers would just be replacing the current ones ... Our intent was to just put a set of two pavers to mark each tee pad ... The Sakrete below that would ... hold them in place."

Johnson said that the kiosk project could be assumed by the town if it wishes, but regardless of who puts it in he thinks it would be very helpful

See DISC Page 6

# Bulkheads will need clear path

Continued from Page 4

Public Works mails out letters yearly to those that will be affected by the bulkhead replacement. Property owners receive the letter six months out from the time work is to begin.

Property owners should contact Public Works to confirm any questions that they have regarding the bulkhead replacement.

"The contractor takes approximately two weeks per lot. This is over

a period of time – not two weeks straight work, as the installation of bulkhead is in stages," Viola said.

"Once the new bulkhead is installed, Ocean Pines will have a contractor stabilize the area and lay sod. If homeowners had stone prior to the bulkhead replacement, they can request Ocean Pines not to lay the sod, but the homeowner is responsible for putting the stone back in."

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## Berlin goes with small tax hike

Continued from Page 2

\$60 per year. That takes us back to where we are where people who have been here their entire lives can't afford to stay."

Even with the increase, Berlin's tax is still at least a couple of cents below the tax rates for other municipalities in the region. Crisfield, Fruitland, Pocomoke City, Princess Anne, Salisbury and Snow Hill were all at least 86 cents. Pocomoke's tax rate was 94 cents last fiscal year.

The town found itself in the unenviable position of dealing with a considerable gap between revenues and expenses this spring while looking to address multiple high-priority — and expensive — projects that have long plagued residents and town employ-

ees.

There are considerable stormwater drainage issues that the town is finally addressing. Earlier this year the town entered into the state's Law Enforcement Officer Pension System (LEOPS) to make the town competitive in the region and stop the hemorrhaging of experienced officers and recruits alike to greener pastures. The town is now looking to do the same thing for the rest of its employees.

All the while, Berlin is mulling how to grow its business district.

Looking toward the future, essentially, an 81.5-cent property tax became wishful thinking in the face of ambition.

The next step for the town will be confirming the budget.

## Disc golf course to stay in park

Continued from Page 5

for first-time players.

"That's the challenge is directing people around the course without having things that are too much in the way to visibly drawing attention," Johnson said, adding that not knowing where to go is a frequent critique.

Councilmember Jack Orris asked Johnson if Eastbound Disc Golf has ever enlisted the help of local Boy

Scouts for these projects.

Previously, yes, Johnson said. But not here.

"That is definitely an avenue I've seen great success from, typically from building larger things than you guys are willing to cater, though," he said.

Councilmember Jay Knerr voiced his approval of the project.

"(Everyone) seems to be enjoying it," he said. "It's a welcome addition."

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Photo by Ray Bojanski

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# Berlin delays decision on how to raise business license fees

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) Businesses in downtown Berlin could pay a little more for their business licenses than a business on Flower Street. Or, perhaps, a Main Street small florist won't pay as much as their restaurant neighbor.

The Berlin mayor and Town Council agreed to table a motion during their Monday meeting that would double the business license fee to \$150 for all businesses after some councilmembers questioned whether it was fair for all businesses to pay the same amount.

"During the FY budget work session, it was recommended that we adjust our business license fees since it hadn't been adjusted since it was established in May 2009," Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells said at the meeting.

The fee, Mayor Zack Tyndall added, was designed to cover the town's costs associated with issuing business licenses, which include the staff needed to process licenses.

Business licenses are handled by the Finance, Economic and Community Development and Planning departments.

The process starts with the Finance Department, Finance Director Natalie Saleh said, then it moves to Planning Director Dave Engelhart's department to ensure that the building is up to code and regulations are in place. Finally, a new business will work with the Economic and Community Development Department to iron out the final details and receive its license.

Councilmember Dean Burrell asked if it would be appropriate to have "special fee areas" within the town, essentially tiering licenses based on location.

"I think that a business on Flower Street, a business on Branch Street, does not receive the same level of services as one downtown," Burrell said.

Wells pointed out that some of the businesses in the town's Arts and Entertainment district and along Main Street pay for extra sponsorship.

For instance, the annual "Ice Ice Berlin" in the winter is paid "95 percent" by businesses.

"I understand that but my reference is (to) the equitable delivery of town services as it relates to businesses throughout the town, and I'm under the impression that Main Street ... they receive greater service," Burrell responded.

"Let's not make this something that is unreasonable ... I'm saying that in my opinion, the fees should be different for a business in that Main Street corridor as it relates to a business over on Branch Street or Old Ocean City Boulevard.

Councilmember Jay Knerr floated the possibility of structuring the rate on other criteria, such as the size of a restaurant determining the fee, but Wells threw cold water on the idea.

"Last year, Natalie and I discussed that exact process," Wells said. "It ended up with it takes more staff time to try and figure out how a certain business fits into a certain column instead of a (set rate)."

Wells pointed out that the town does get extra funding for having an Arts and Entertainment district.

"There are benefits of being designated Main Street," she said. "(Those businesses) can apply for certain designated grant funding, which helps offset costs of like benches, trash cans. (That stuff) is paid for by grants. Artists have the benefit of not paying income tax on the art they sell."

Town administrator Mary Bohlen asked the mayor and council to give staff time to explore the ideas proposed and determine if a more detailed fee schedule is feasible.

After clarification from Tyndall, they determined that the criteria should be either a geographic fee, a classification fee or a flat fee for every business.



JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Mayor and Town Council tabled a motion to raise the business license fee to \$150 from \$75. The fee, which has been in place since 2009, will be looked at further to see if it is feasible to make it more expensive or cheaper depending on a business's location and/or category.

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## Berlin Briefs

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) The Berlin Mayor and Town Council discussed the following during their Monday meeting:

### Fire/EMS quarterly

The Berlin Fire Company gave its quarterly statistics review to the mayor and council. There were 90 fire and rescue calls — 40 in-town and 50 out-of-town — from Jan. 1 to March 31. The same period featured 514 EMS calls — 306 in-town and 218 out-of-town). Tuesdays were the busiest days for both.

There were 12 instances in which firefighters were engaged in a service call when another came in. EMS experienced 95 of these instances. The average response time for Fire was 3.58 minutes and 1.10 minutes for EMS.

### LEOPS

The mayor and council approved a resolution that officially authorized the transfer of its law enforcement officers from the Employees' Pension System (EPS) to the Law Enforcement Officers'

Pension System, a move that is expected to have a major impact on the town's police department status among law enforcement officers in the region.

### Healthcare renewal

The mayor and council approved a motion for the recommended healthcare renewal and remain with Careerist at a 5.08 percent increase for FY2024.

### Nicmar

The mayor and council approved a one-day permit for the Nicmar Youth Connection Grounds Fundraiser cook-out at 104 Schoolfield Street. Nicmar Youth Connection is a nonprofit dedicated to connecting youth to positive environments and meeting their needs in cognitive strategy and community initiatives.

### American Legion

The mayor and council approved a Sunday permit for the Boggs Disharoon American Legion Post 123 at 10111 Old Ocean City Boulevard for the celebration of life for a post member.

# Commissioners invite public to hearing on property tax

(April 27, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners this week declared that the public is invited to attend a hearing on next fiscal year's operating budget and the proposed real property tax rate of \$0.845 per \$100 of assessment.

The hearing will take place at the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 7 p.m. The meeting will also be streamed live at <https://worcester-countymd.swagit.com/live>.

Public testimony, either in-person the night of the hearing or written in advance, is permitted. Those who plan to speak in-person during the hearing are encouraged to pre-register by calling County Administration at 410-

632-1194. Speakers may address the commissioners for up to three minutes.

Written comments may be sent by email to [wchearing@co.worcester.md.us](mailto:wchearing@co.worcester.md.us) or by mail to the County Commissioners' Office at Room 1103 Government Center, One West Market Street, Snow Hill, Maryland 21863. Written comments must be received on or before 4 p.m. on Monday, May 1. Commenters must include their full names and addresses to be included in the public record.

Written comments received by the deadline will be read into the record by Worcester County staff during the public comment portion of the meeting.

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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Medical cannabis dispensaries like Positive Energy on Route 50 will be able to sell recreational cannabis on July 1. The Worcester County Commissioners are currently debating how close cannabis facilities should be allowed to schools.

# County monitoring cannabis laws and zoning standards

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) With recreational cannabis use coming to Maryland on July 1, Worcester County needs to decide where dispensaries can set up shop and whether patrons can use cannabis at their sites.

“Under the (new) law, it would appear that new adult-use cannabis would have additional distance restrictions if you would so choose,” said Jennifer Keener, director of Development, Review and Permitting, during the County Commissioners meeting on April 18.

“You do have the ability to ... reduce them. In addition, there are different types of licenses that this law allows, such as micro licenses and on-site consumption establishments, which would allow eating and vaping but not smoking.”

She added that the law indicates to her department that the county will likely be limited in “what we can do with dispensaries,” and that it’s mostly just zoning decisions.

“But it does allow us to restrict or outright prohibit the outright consumption establishments. That’s something that we want you to think about,” Keener said.

Commissioner President Chip Bertino asked if the county needs to move before the state, but Keener said that she thinks they have a little time on their side.

The first round of licenses will be distributed on or before July 1 with the second round on Jan. 1. There will be no on-site consumption licenses dispensed in the first round.

“I feel like we have a little bit of time to absorb the bill and feel out what we want to do locally. Then we can adopt emergency legislation through a public hearing process.

Commissioner Joe Mitrecic said he’d like to see dispensaries at a minimum of a half-mile from schools and playgrounds.

“I certainly think we need to have DRP look at it moving forward so we can, in fact, keep these kinds of establishments at a safe distance from our school zones and playgrounds. I think we need to continue moving forward with that,” he said. “We need to be on top of this and I think looking at the maps, we need to be at least a half-mile.”

It was unclear at the meeting just how restrictive the county could be in limiting the distance to school zones

See CANNABIS Page 10



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# County's portable ice rink headed to online auction

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) Worcester County's beleaguered portable ice rink is headed to auction following a close vote on April 18.

Instead of being sold or reallocated within the county, it will appear on Liquidity Service's online marketplace GovDeals.com.

The Worcester County Commissioners have been debating the fate of the ice rink since January when they voted 4-to-3 to instruct Recreation and Parks staff to determine how the county could either donate or sell the ice rink. Commissioners Joe Mitrecic, Diana Purnell and Ted Elder voted in opposition.

Since then, the department has produced a list of possible buyers around the Eastern Shore, but as of the April 18 meeting, no person or entity had stepped forward willing to buy it.

"We put out a bid for the ice rink requesting proposals" Chief Administration Officer Weston Young reported. "Bid opening was March 28. There were no bids from anyone interested."

The county advertised the ice rink through its website, newspaper ads and email.

"I think the taxpayers should recoup some funding for the cost of the ice rink," Commissioner President Chip Bertino said. "If we have to put it out on GovDeals we should do it."

Abbott agreed, saying the taxpayers should recoup as much of the \$64,000 spent on the ice rink as possible.

But, Elder pointed out, the money had already been spent. Besides, Recreation and Parks didn't get a fair shot at making the ice rink work considering the obstacles that the pan-

demically presented.

"(The ice rink) was popular here in Snow Hill the very few times we attempted to use it," Elder said. "The money is already spent ... Giving it away is just looking backward. I think you have the money already invested. I think what you can do is let Recreation and Parks (work a little longer with it). They did just get started on it with covid-19 and all. Finding out what works and doesn't work. Everything was just getting started and now we're going to throw away money and that's what I think it is. Throwing away money that's already been spent and I think it's wrong."

Purnell said it's the third time they've tried to ditch the rink, so they should just let the county keep it so children could enjoy it.

And if it stays in Worcester County, then the taxpayers will still "reap the benefits" of it, Mitrecic added.

"I understand Elder's point," Mitrecic said. "The motion has been made to get rid of it so I think the best use is to give it to someone in the county so county residents can continue to get use for it."

The ice rink was purchased back in 2019 — just months before covid shutdowns began. To purchase it, the Worcester County Commissioners agreed to allow the Recreation and Parks Department to reallocate funds from special event savings.

The purchase cost was \$69,000, but with donations, the amount was brought down to \$49,000, then Recreation and Parks Director Tom Perlozzo told the commissioners at the time (he is now Ocean City's director of marketing and business development). With advertisements and sponsors, that cost could be even lower, he said before the purchase.

The lack of advertisements and sponsors, however, is why four commissioners are willing to dash to the ice rink altogether.

# Cannabis reform county concern

Continued from Page 9 and playgrounds, but the consensus among Mitrecic, Keener and Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young was that while a mile might open the county to litigation, a half-mile could be safe.

In a memo to the commissioners, Keener recommended that a new subsection be added to the Public Health Article if they decide to restrict distances.

Currently, one grow operation, one processing operation and two dispensaries are located in Worcester County.

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# Fire/EMS allocations tabled due to difference in opinion

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) It's back to the drawing table for Worcester County Fire and EMS.

On April 18, the Worcester County Commissioners voted 6 to 1, with Joe Mitrecic in opposition, to table discussions about how the county will allocate \$1.5 million in ARPA funding to its fire and EMS services.

The issue was up for approval or denial, but some of the commissioners felt that too many of the requests did not meet the criteria of needs that will "fix a fragile system," as Commissioner President Chip Bertino put it.

For the last couple of years, Worcester County's Fire and EMS leadership has met with county officials and politicians regularly to assess the current and future needs of an emergency system that has been forced to make more with less for years.

The Commissioners voted in July of last year to allocate the money to fire and EMS services.

Looking over the list of requests from the county's eight Fire and EMS companies — when Ocean Pines and Ocean City EMS services are considered separate from fire — Bertino felt that only Ocean City EMS, Ocean

Pines EMS and Girdletree Fire were making conforming requests.

Among the pricier requests were \$150,000 apiece from the Stockton and Showell fire companies one new pumper engine apiece to replace aging engines, \$150,000 from Girdletree for self-contained breathing apparatus and \$150,000 from Bishopville for a new engine/brush unit to replace a 37-year-old engine.

"The vote by the fire chiefs was to split the money equally 10 ways," Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young, said. "The intention of the money was to provide one-time funding to fix the fragile system."

Young handled much of the discussion on behalf of fire and EMS services in lieu of Ocean City Fire Chief Richie Bowers, who had to leave the meeting early.

He added that the intention of the commissioners last year was to allow the fire chiefs of the county to decide how the money was allocated.

"I don't see how this fits the criteria of fixing a fragile system," Bertino said.

After a motion to pass the requests failed 3 to 4 with Commissioners Jim Bunting, Caryn Abbott, Eric Fiori and Bertino in opposition, the motion was made to table the discussions for now.

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# Pickleball craze takes off in Ocean Pines and beyond

**By Cindy Hoffman**  
 Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) Pickleball is all the rage in Ocean Pines. With 399 members, it far surpasses tennis, spec, platform, and timeless tennis.

Today, the Sports and Fitness Industry Association named pickleball the fastest-growing sport in America for the third year in a row.

Pickleball is a sport that's fairly easy for anyone to pick up.

"If we see someone who is new and learning the game we try to set them up with someone we know who they would have fun with. As experienced players, we can also play and make it enjoyable for new players," John Hult said, a pickleball, spec and platform tennis player.

"Don't ever feel intimidated. A lot of it is playing with the right people," Hult said.

"Socialization is number one in any of these sports. It's fun to play the game, but you will find that at any given time there might be a bunch of people playing and another 15-20 people sitting around socializing," Hult said.

Friendships blossom at the pickleball courts.

"We play trivia together, we play golf together, it just grows. We have a pickleball outing tonight. Then I see people at the Yacht Club," Nick Misleby, a pickleball player, said. "It's a great thing. I just moved here last year, and I feel like I am part of the group."

On June 2-4, the Ocean Pines Pickleball Club will be hosting its 2023 Summer Classic Pickleball Tournament.

"We already have 140 people signed up; some are coming from other states. We are shooting for 200 players," Mike Mullen said, who is

the director-at-large for the Pickleball Committee and the event organizer.

Ocean Pines is a good place for a tournament.

"We have more courts than other places. It's a pickleball mecca here. We take it for granted. A lot of other places, you don't see dedicated pickleball courts," Hult said.

Ocean Pines has 12 dedicated pickleball courts and four additional courts available.

The Racquet Club will now have a full time Racquet Sports manager with the addition of Tim Johnson.

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 Pickleball Professional, and a SPEC Tennis Ambassador.

"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!"

Pickleball may be an easy sport to learn but it comes with its share of injuries as well.

Mullen has a knee injury he attributes to too much pickleball play.

"These things happen when you play a lot," Mullen said.

Hult has had a knee replacement.

"I give myself a good stretch before I go out there," Hult said.

Hult is a physical therapist by training.

"It's about staying as healthy as

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pickleball players in Ocean Pines are part of a nation-wide craze leading the game to become the fastest growing sport in America for the third year in a row.

# Pickleball community welcomes all

you can. You have to carve out a part of your day and find something to get some type of cardio. And it's also important to find some light weights and keep that part of your body toned too.

"Doctors love pickleball. It's grown their practice quite a bit, between hips and knees and rotator cuffs, but any of that can happen when you are active," said Hulit.

Dr. Sandra Kappes of Back in Action Physical Therapy advises clients and players to stretch before and after pickleball and to exercise regularly, engaging in other activities in addition to pickleball.

She also encourages proper hydration, before and after the game.

"You have to be in shape to get in shape. Otherwise, you set yourself up for injuries. Pain is a stop sign,"

Kappes said.

"I told my wife, when it gets to the point where I can't play golf, or pickleball or spec, or the things I really enjoy, you can just dig a hole and put me in it. That is the passion of my life now," Hulit said.

For more information on the Summer Classic Pickleball Tournament, contact Mullen at mp-mullen249@gmail.com.

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# Go native, help local birds, bees, butterflies

By **Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) It's that time of year when people are out working in the yard and garden shops are stocking up on plants for the season.

As residents make their choices, it's important for them to consider not just beauty, but the impact a plant might have on the local wildlife and the environment, according to two local conservation groups, Assateague Coastal Trust (ACT) and the Lower Shore Land Trust.

Together, they are encouraging residents to go native in their landscaping endeavors.

"For us, this is more than a plant sale. We utilize it as a tool to educate the community. This year we want to emphasize the crucial role oak trees have as hosts for many pollinating insects and in turn providing food for a list of threatened songbirds," Kate Patton, the executive director of the Lower Shore Land Trust, said.

The land trust has named its 16th annual Native Plant Sale, "Year of the Oak."

"We've added over 15 varieties of native shrubs and trees as a tool to reduce habitat loss along forest edges and encourage landscaped neighborhoods to re-introduce native shrubs back into the design. Two of my favorites are the persimmon tree and Burr oak," Patton said.

This year, Assateague Coastal Trust's 24th native plant sale zeroed in on the specific conditions in Ocean Pines to point gardeners there to the best plants.

"We looked for plants that are suitable for Ocean Pines conditions — plants that can handle shade, more acidic conditions, and a little salt. We have two kinds of ferns, dwarf iris, and false Solomon's seal. And we have four different kinds of phlox," said Verena Chase, who directs the trust's Coastal Kids program.

ACT is also guiding gardeners to deer-resistant plants, butterfly attractors, and providing other tips.

"When folks come to the plant sale, we'll have nice informative signs for each plant," Debbie Dean, community engagement coordinator for ACT, said.

Planting native is not only good for the environment and local wildlife, it makes it easier on the gardener, the organizations agree.

"Native plants are adapted to this area ... the mild winters and hot summers. They don't need a whole lot of care," Chase said.

The plants you choose have an impact on the local wildlife.

"There is a lot of plant/animal dependency. For instance, monarch butterflies eat milkweed, and cannot survive on any other plant," Chase said.

The monarch butterfly is considered endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature because of habitat destruction and climate change.

ACT and the land trust are selling local varieties of milkweed so gardeners can help monarchs fuel up for their 3,000-mile annual migration to Mexico.

"A lot of our plants have a double duty of feeding pollinators first, and then the seeds are feeding the birds. Joe Pye weed is a beautiful plant, great for pollinators, and great for birds such as American goldfinches, Carolina wrens and tufted titmice. They all love the seeds," Chase said.

"Coneflowers and asters are one of the last plants with flowers and they are super important for the pollinators as the last food before they overwinter, and they make seeds that all these birds like," she said.

Also good for birds are winterberry and red chokeberry, which is multi-stemmed has early white flowers attractive to bees and big berries for



Verena Chase holds signs she created for the Assateague Coastal Trust Native Plant sale. Each sign features a picture of the mature plant and information on growing conditions, deer deterrent, pollinator friendly and whether it is suitable for growing in Ocean Pines.

CINDY HOFFMAN/  
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

winter color.

Both organizations encourage gardeners to remove invasive plants such as wisteria vines and English ivy.

"Both of these were introduced, and they overwhelm our naturalized areas," Beth Sheppard, agricultural outreach specialist for the land trust, said.

"If people want to plant a vine," Chase added, "try the Carolina Jessamine vine instead."

Gardeners have many ways to provide good habitat for birds and pollinators such as including a range of seasonal food sources, early blooming plants, summer powerhouses such as goldenrod and late winter seeds found in grasses such as little blue stem and echinacea coneflower and liatris not being cut back until the following spring," Sheppard said.

Providing a source of water such as a clean birdbath, and some sort of shelter are also important as are limiting lawns, reducing pesticide use, and preserving trees, she said.

ACT has a variety of native plants as well as heirloom tomatoes and peppers and herbs for sale. It will also

have garden baskets, succulents in planters, and mushroom logs from Goat Plum Tree. Go Green OC Compost will be available for a donation.

Attendees will have the opportunity to make bee houses out of two invasive species: bamboo and phragmites. Pre-orders are encouraged.

To order from ACT, visit <https://www.actforbays.org/shop>

The organization will have its plant pick up on May 6, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Patrons who cannot pick up their plants on May 6, can work with ACT on a different pick-up date.

The land trust's plant sale has perennials, ferns, grasses, shrubs and trees available. The organization is offering a number of packages of plants focused on pollinators, salt-tolerant, shade and wet feet. The trust's plant sale pickup is May 5 and 6.

This is a pre-order sale only and closes this weekend. Alternate arrangements can be made if pick-up on these dates is not possible.

To order from the land trust, visit <https://www.lowershorelandtrust.org>



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## VISITS FARM

Members of the Worcester County Garden Club recently visited Cross Farms in Showell to learn about growing plants hydroponically. Owner Carol Cross described the benefits of hydroponics and demonstrated the ebb and flow system in use at the farm.

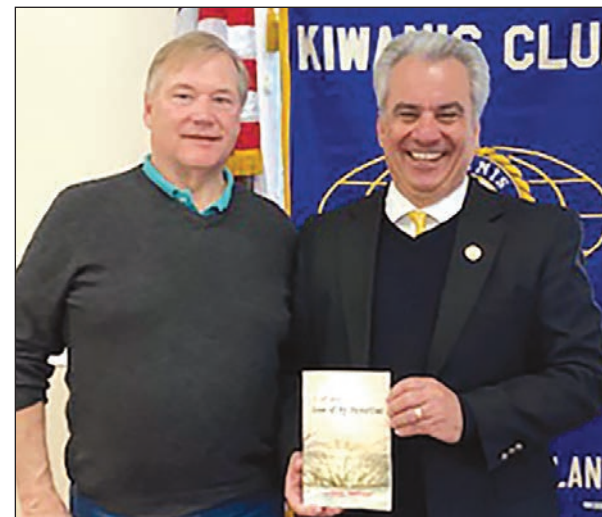


PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS, SR.

## GUEST SPEAKER

Worcester County Commissioner and Ocean Pines resident Chip Bertino was the guest speaker at the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City meeting on March 8. The book, "It's All About - Some of My Favorites," is a collection of some of his weekly columns published during the last 22 years.



# Enjoy waterways safely with these three apps

By **Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) Many people who move to the Eastern Shore do so to be close to the water. The region provides plenty of opportunities and places to enjoy the water, through boating, swimming, fishing and dining at one of the many waterfront restaurants.

But for people to enjoy all of these opportunities, the water needs to be clean and safe. There are three apps that provide information on water quality and safety and help members of the community become citizen scientists by easily recording and sharing data on water and pollution events.

The apps are Swim Guide, Water Reporter and MyCoastMaryland. Each of the apps can be easily downloaded to a mobile phone. The apps provide information on water conditions in the area and the opportunity to provide data and observations.

"We want people to get familiar with these apps. They are easy to use tools that aid in scientific research and enforcement," Gabby Ross, a coastkeeper for Assateague Coastal Trust (ACT) said.

"By using these apps, we can protect our coastal way of life," Ross said.

ACT submits data on enterococcus bacteria levels weekly to the Swim Guide App from 11 sites along Isle of Wight Bay, Assawoman Bay, St. Martin River, Shingle Landing Prong, Herring Creek and Turville Creek.

New data from the region is available every Friday.

"Enterococcus bacteria comes from many sources, but is typically associated with fecal matter. Failing septic tanks, failing wastewater treatment plants and geese and other waterfowl feces.

"We have mostly brackish water here, which is where enterococcus thrives," Ross said.

By using Swim Guide, water sport enthusiasts can know the quality of water before they jump in.

"Swim Guide makes it really easy, you have green, yellow and red, same thing as a stoplight. Green means you are good to go. Yellow means be cautious, especially with the weather, and red is obviously, it failed for the week, use extreme caution," Ross said.

"Generally speaking, with enterococcus bacteria, you never want to be swimming with open cuts or wounds. It could get into the bloodstream and cause an infection."

"Always monitor the weather, you never want to swim in an area that could be yellow or red, especially after a heavy rainfall," Ross said, explaining that the enterococcus bacteria is usually higher after a rainfall. She suggests waiting 48 hours after a major rain event to get in the water.

Swim Guide is not just for experts. People can become citizen scientists



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**Herring Creek is one of many local waterways being monitored by Assateague Coastal Trust. The group encourages people to use three apps, Swim Guide, Water Reporter and MyCoastMaryland, that provide information on water quality and safety and help members of the community become citizen scientists.**

by downloading the app and reporting pollution events they see while they are out on the water.

Ross encourages the reporting of fish or aquatic life high mortality events, sewage overflows, foul-smelling water, algae blooms or weird colored foam, oil spills or other contaminants that create a sheen in the water, large amounts of sediment, or strange colored water.

"If you are not sure, document it anyway. It's better to document and let someone know about it. The further you let it go, the worse it could get," Ross said.

The app is easy to use, just download it onto your phone and when you see an event, report it. The app accepts date, time, weather, the exact location, photos, and detailed comments.

Ross had her own experience driving through Ocean City once. She saw some kind of solvent being released into the waterways at the Ocean City convention center. It turned out to be a floor cleaner that one of the workers dumped. She was able to report the spill to Ocean City Public Works and the liquid was cleaned up immediately and the workers were educated on the need to properly dispose of these chemicals.

"If you see something, say something," Ross said.

All events in the area go directly to Ross, so she can investigate the pollution event and notify appropriate authorities.

"We are the ears, eyes and nose for the waterways," Ross said.

"We want people to be communicating about these types of events because the more people know about it, the more awareness builds and the better off we all are on the coastal bays watershed." Ross said.

A second app, Water Reporter, is

more of a social network to support watershed initiatives. This app is used for stream restoration and for those who are involved in the waterways or want to connect to people who are working on these issues.

People can follow other people and groups. Ross encourages people to follow here at Gabby Ross and Assateague Coastal Trust.

For Water Reporter, ACT submits everything they see, including bacteria, dissolved oxygen, water temperature, pH levels, and pollution events.

"A lot of waterkeepers are using this," Ross said.

"Government agencies are using these apps to collect information and they are also using it for legislation, grants or funding opportunities for different waterways.

"It can also help you find waterways that you might not have explored yet."

The Water Reporter app helps organizations monitor areas they cannot get to by accessing information from citizen scientists.

"We can turn these reports into action," Ross said.

A third app, MyCoastMaryland is used to document flooding statewide. Residents are familiar with the regular flooding in the low lying areas of downtown Ocean City. Many Ocean Pines residents experience regular flooding during heavy rains along canals and some of the lower lying areas in the community.

"Through MyCoast, we can help you tell your story," said Kate Vogel, a coastal resilience planner for Maryland DNR.

On average, high tide flooding days are expected to increase.

"The knowledge we are gaining from communities helps with resilience planning," Vogel said.

"The app can help property own-

ers, business managers, local government and decision makers determine where flooding is happening," Vogel said.

The app is used to track high tide flooding, storm reporting, coastal storm damage and restoration efforts.

This knowledge we are gaining from communities, we can incorporate into our planning for the future," Vogel said

By tracking the flooding data, DNR can identify areas that need grant money for projects such as green infrastructure.

"We can't get the necessary dollars if we don't have this data collected. We all have a common goal, to prevent the eastern shore from being left behind.

"All of these apps are going to make a better Maryland," Ross said.

## Community Briefs

### OP Boat Club changes

The 30-year-old Ocean Pines Boat Club has finally decided to make its moniker fit its membership, becoming the Saltwater Social Club.

For several years the Boat Club's members without boats have significantly exceeded its boat-owning membership with attendance at its social events far surpassing that at its boating ones.

The new/old club will maintain traditional favorite events such as its picnic luau, crab feast and dinner-dances while adding potlucks, Caribbean cruises, card parties, sports' outings and more.

Membership is now open to all area residents, not just Ocean Pines. For further information, contact President Pat Marchesiello at pbmarch@live.com or 410-208-6933.



# Opinion

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

## New Urbanism really just old-fashioned way

New Urbanism, as explained by architect Dhuru Thadani last Wednesday in Berlin, is just a new name for the old way this country's cities and towns were developed in the pre-suburban sprawl era.

Towns and big city neighborhoods back then seemed to have one of everything within walking distance for most people, as population centers reflected the interdependence between businesses and residents.

But then, post-World War II prosperity led to four things that changed all that: the rise of car travel, the proliferation of chain stores with good prices, the increasing desire of residents for bigger yards and quieter neighborhoods and the imposition of new zoning laws written to protect the chosen lifestyles of the rapidly emerging middle class.

Berlin suffered through that change and is one of the few even now that has managed to recover much of its in-town commerce glory days. But now, as officials look to the future, the question is where does it go and grow from here?

Enter the pitch for New Urbanism, which differs little from the Smart Growth philosophy introduced by Gov. Parris Glendening after his reelection in 1998.

These development strategies encourage moving inward toward town centers with a mix of commercial uses and housing at all levels of affordability.

It's a great concept — government benefits from the reduced cost of delivering services, green space is preserved, environmental protections are enhanced and town centers thrive with their built-in neighborhood clientele.

But could it be done? That's a different matter altogether, as it would depend on keeping housing affordable, whether people of vastly different income levels and circumstances will happily co-exist on the same street, and whether owners of prime property on the edge of town will howl if their land is written out of the development mix.

Thadani put the question to Berlin Wednesday, but the reality is town officials and residents will have to answer many questions before anything happens ... if it ever does.



## Letters

### Ensuring shore voices are heard in capitol

Editor:

As a Maryland State Senator representing Worcester, Wicomico, and Somerset counties and with the end of the 2023 legislative session, I wanted to share my general approach to public service and the facts of how I advocate for our shore priorities with a new governor and administration, new statewide officeholders, and new Maryland General Assembly.

I represent the very best of Maryland in District 38 with such a strong cross-section of constituencies including tourism/hospitality; farming/poultry; fishing; forestry; major health care providers; public and private K-12 schools and three institutions of higher education; retirees; veterans; and among the most creative small business operators and job creators in the country.

To be effective in representing all my constituents, I must know and understand my district, and work with community partners, the private sector, and elected officials on both sides of the aisle to ad-

vance shared Shore priorities of the 11 municipalities and three counties in District 38.

For the past eight years, I worked with Gov. Hogan and his administration, and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to increase public safety, expand workforce opportunities for our youth, support economic development, including Broadband expansion, and small business, ensure resources for our Maryland coastal bays, fight the opioid crisis, push for retiree and other tax relief to stay competitive in Maryland, and assist constituents and businesses through the pandemic.

With the election of a new governor and new Maryland General Assembly including my own reelection to the State Senate, I have been making the extra effort to ensure that the voices and priorities of the shore are heard in Annapolis. This includes coordination of priorities here at home, building new relationships, and renewing others with the governor, Lt. governor, and his team.

I have done this in both formal and informal ways including accepting an invitation to a faith-based event in Prince Georges County with the gover-

nor and Lt. governor prior to the governor's inauguration; meeting with the governor's cabinet secretary nominees and taking the opportunity to share shore priorities with them; and even joining Gov. Wes Moore and Lt. Go. Aruna Miller for the Special Olympics' Polar Plunge in the chilly Chesapeake Bay waters in January.

Looking back at the 2023 legislative session, I am encouraged by many of the accomplishments impacting my three counties but also acknowledge that some initiatives will take more than one session to complete.

Perhaps, the most important achievement this session affecting the entire Lower Shore and statewide is the Eastern Shore Delegation's team effort to secure critical funding and legislation to support TidalHealth's trauma center, the Eastern Shore's only trauma program which serves patients from every Maryland jurisdiction.

Back in the fall, months before the start of the January session, TidalHealth's leadership informed the delegation that the trauma center was in jeopardy and needed funding

Continued on Page 17

## BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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# Drought leads Worcester to issue outdoor burning ban

(April 27, 2023) as of Monday, all outdoor burning has been banned for an indefinite period in Worcester County, Worcester County Fire Marshal Matthew Owens announced.

“Due to the county’s current dry conditions, the burn ban is effective starting April 24,” Owens said. “This ban should reduce the number of out-of-control, outside fires, which cause safety concerns for area residents, visitors, and especially responding fire personnel.”

The ban applies to all outdoor ignition sources, with the following exceptions:

- Proper use of gas and charcoal grills
- Campfires at the county’s commercial properties
- State and federal campgrounds

- Permitted Ocean City bonfires
- Private property recreational campfires, which are limited to a fire area of two feet, with a height of three feet
- Public fireworks displays
- Volunteer fire company training exercises

The ban will remain in effect until the dry conditions dissipate.

In addition, all existing outdoor burn permits have been rescinded.

“Our water tables are extremely low, and this is confirmed by county and USGS monitoring well networks,” Environmental Programs Director Bob Mitchell said. “We have extremely low precipitation totals, and the U.S. Drought Monitor has the county under a moderate drought category.”

For further information, contact Fire Marshal Owens at 410-632-5666.

# Hurley memorial scholarship

(April 27, 2023) The George & Suzanne Hurley Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 is awarded to a graduating senior of Stephen Decatur High School, Worcester Preparatory School, Pocomoke High School and Snow Hill High School who plans to further his/her education in the fall at a four-year accredited college or university in the state of Maryland.

This scholarship was established in memory of two people who were the heart and soul of the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum from its beginning.

Their dedication to documenting the history of Ocean City and preserving the 1891 U.S. Life-Saving Station that houses the museum spanned almost 40 years.

Applicants can choose from three essay topics. Each topic spotlights historical places, events and people of Worcester County and honors two of the founders of the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum.

The deadline is May 1. To learn more about the scholarship, visit [www.ocmuseum.org/support-us/scholarship](http://www.ocmuseum.org/support-us/scholarship).

# Letters

Continued from Page 16  
to continue operations after being denied their repeated requests for appropriate funding from the Health Services Cost Review Commission.

Working together, we were able to secure an additional \$9.5 million to assist Maryland trauma centers experiencing financial challenges, including TidalHealth which has been woefully underfunded by the state. In addition, I sponsored with Delegate Tom Hutchinson of Cambridge, and the Maryland General Assembly unanimously ap-

proved, Senate Bill 493 to study the adequacy of trauma funding across Maryland which is the long-term solution for ensuring fair funding for TidalHealth’s trauma center in the future.

Serving my constituents and advocating for our shared shore priorities remains my top priority. I encourage my constituents to contact me directly at [marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us](mailto:marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us) as the best ideas always come from the front lines. Looking forward to hearing from you.

*Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-38)*

## Delaware Botanic Gardens

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Photo by Ray Bojarski

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<b>Aquatic Bugs &amp; Beer</b>	Thursday, May 18th • 3-5 Hands on presentation by Environmental Scientist, Jackelyn Toggart from Envirotech at the Dogfish Learning Garden. Explore the constructed wetland with other guests. Enjoy Dogfish Head Beer & Pretzels. Tickets \$25

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# OC Power Squadron offers free boat safety inspections

By **Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(April 27, 2023) It's about that time to get the boat in the water and the Ocean City Power Squadron wants to make sure all boaters take to the waters safely by being in compliance with federal and state laws, and particularly regarding the requirements for onboard safety equipment.

That's why the organization provides a free vessel safety examination for anyone who wants it.

All of the examiners are certified and will perform a free safety check. There is no penalty should the vessel fail the exam. Instructions are given to the boat owner on how to correct any deficiencies for re-exam.

"Most of us have clientele from previous years, but we also respond to new requests from individuals for vessel safety examinations whenever possible," Bela Gulyas, the newly appointed chair of vessel safety examination of the Ocean City Power Squadron.

"If we receive a request from, let us say, 10 to 12 individuals in a close-knit community, we would make all effort to go out and do vessel examinations at a designated time that is agreeable for all parties involved," Gulyas said.

Gulyas welcomes boaters to contact him at [bgulyas80@gmail.com](mailto:bgulyas80@gmail.com).

Vessel Safety Check Includes:

1. Display of registration numbers.
2. Valid state registration.
3. Personal Flotation Devices (PFD), Coast Guard approved.
4. Visual Distress Signals (Flares) with proper dates.
5. Fire Extinguisher, preferably mounted.
6. Safe Fuel System (Includes proper ventilation of the fuel tank, I/O & Inboard Engines).

7. Backfire Flame Control for all I/O or Inboard Engines.

8. Sound Producing Device (Horn/Bell).

9. Navigation Lights (Anchor and Running Lights).

10. Pollution Placard (Vessels 26 feet and longer).

11. MARPOL Trash Placard (Vessels 26 feet and longer).

12. Marine Sanitation MSD's (Vessels w/installed heads).

13. Navigation Rules (All Vessels 39.4 feet or longer).

14. State and/or Local Requirements.

15. Overall Vessel Condition.

16. Safe Electrical System (included batter, box and TML caps).

## OP Players look for volunteers to help backstage

(April 27, 2023) Many theater-lovers think they don't have anything to offer a theater group and that is a huge misconception, according to the Ocean Pines Players which has volunteer opportunities in all departments.

These would include accounting, recruitment, membership, fund-raising, set construction, marketing, printing, and hospitality.

Volunteer jobs can range from gofers to ambassadors-at-large to committee chairs.

As Players President Frank Pasqualino has said, "It's like the cross-section of an iceberg. What we see on-stage is one-tenth of the effort. The other nine-tenths are be-

See ANYONE Page 19

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# Sharon Cooper chosen as Pine'eer's crafter for April

(April 27, 2023) The Pine'eer Craft Club has chosen Maryland native and Ocean Pines resident, Sharon Cooper, as the April Crafter of the Month.

She began making jewelry as a member of the Ocean City Marlin Club years ago.

Since then, she was able to take lessons, while spending a couple of months in Florida, learning how to make different hand-beaded bracelets and necklaces.

Cooper also enjoys making earrings, mostly with beach themes. A friend, who is a Pine'eer Craft Klub member, convinced her to join the club several years ago, and she has never looked back.

"My goal has always been to make fun and most important, affordable jewelry for individuals to purchase for themselves or others," Cooper said.

Most of her pieces cost \$15 or less, including some for only \$6.

"The only exception to that would be some of my more detailed hand-beaded necklaces with over 1,000 beads," she said.

"That's something we gladly hear often from our shoppers," Barbara Herzog said. "They are pleased with the variety of handmade gifts available in the shop, but surprised the prices can be so reasonable for hand-

made creations."

In addition to the Pine'eer Craft Club, Cooper serves as vice president of the Arcadia Questers, an international organization, that promotes the study and education of antiques.

"Our local group makes an annual donation for the restoration and preservation of historical artifacts," Cooper said. "In the past, we have donated to the Taylor House museum."

Ocean Pines and the surrounding area has much to offer residents, and there is a club or cause for every interest.

To see Cooper's jewelry, stop by the Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop, open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., except holidays.

The club is always seeking new crafters and its meetings are open to the public. Artisan who would like to sell their creations at the shop, should contact Debbie Jiwa or Herzog, shop managers, at [opcraftclub@aol.com](mailto:opcraftclub@aol.com) for more information.

All new crafters must go through the juried process, and when items sell profits return to the community. Since its inception 49 years ago, the craft club has donated nearly \$179,000 back to Ocean Pines.



The Pine'eer Craft Club has chosen Maryland native and Ocean Pines resident, Sharon Cooper, as the April Crafter of the Month.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/  
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**Phillip's Crab House 1956-2022**  
 Limited Edition 11" x 14" Giclee Print from an ink and watercolor by Delmarva artist Jim Adcock. \$45 unmatted. Signed and numbered by the artist. Available at The Framing Corner, British Rose and on [Etsy.com/shop/AdcockArtStudio](https://www.etsy.com/shop/AdcockArtStudio)

**JIM ADCOCK ART STUDIO**

## Anyone can be part of group

Continued from Page 18  
hind the scenes."

That nine-tenths are the greatest need right now.

The Players offer a multitude of activities that allow volunteers to shine. From audition assistant to backstage crew during rehearsals to the welcoming face on show night.

In its upcoming production, "Love Letters" by A.R. Gurney (May 18, 19, 20, 21), positions are still open for front of house, ushers and concession sales.

When you're sitting in the audience, at least a dozen people helped you get there.

"It takes a team to cover all the details that go into a first-rate production," Pasqualino said.

You don't have to be "an actor" to contribute, Pasqualino added.

"You just have to want the show to succeed and offer your distinct skills to the organization," he said.

For more information, email [info@oceanpinesplayers.org](mailto:info@oceanpinesplayers.org) Subject line: I Want To Help. Ocean Pines Players improves with each new member.

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# Cuisine

## Seared pork over greens with fried egg

What can't you top with a good, fresh, local fried egg?

There is egg custard ice cream, so I sit here with my A.D.D.-addled brain wondering how well a fried egg, sans salt and pepper, would fare on such a sweet offering.

Perhaps I won't try that one for a while,

but I will still talk about eggs today.

We are living in a golden era of cottage farming with a plethora of small, family-owned farms and producers giving us cheese, eggs, beef, pork, vegetables & fruit and so much more.

It is exciting to go to a good farmers market and shop for dinner. And for me to say that, means a lot. As the saying goes, the cobbler's children have no shoes.

I have rarely been known to work away for hours in my home kitchen as a chef. As the summer approaches, however, that will change somewhat, as I do enjoy a good steak outside, or the aforementioned fresh veggies.

But you did not come here to hear about my cooking woes, inconsistencies and impracticalities. No, you came here to be entertained. I am not "The Spaniard," though, that colossal gladiator in the eponymous film.

No, I am but a lowly cook of sorts, just trying to make his way through the last portion of his career, but I will do my best.

There are a number of fresh egg farmers popping up in the area, and this thrills me to no end.

I like eggs, but I never truly loved them until I was gifted a basket of fresh, dirty chicken and ducks eggs by now-friends of mine Dana and David after a catering I did for them.

It was not until last year that I had the pleasure of having to scrub the filth off of fresh eggs, that protective layer that can keep them safe and fresh on the counter for weeks.

After tasting fresh, organic eggs for the first time, I knew that I was in love.

Ever since, I stopped mocking people who keep chickens in their backyard, and instead have even considered in fever dreams building a coop for myself. I doubt that will ever happen, but never name the well from which you will never drink.



By Paul Suplee,  
MBA, CEC, PC-3



Duck eggs are on a whole new level than chicken eggs, and they are my hands-down favorite.

I truly hate to disparage the ubiquitous chicken, but there is simply something so moving about duck eggs, and they bake incredibly well.

Used in crepe batter, you will rarely have a better breakfast (or dinner if you're treating yourself or your family to breakfast for dinner, one of our all-time favorites).

Whether it be a duck or chicken egg, or even a quail egg (delightful on just about any salad), for me the most important thing is to keep the yolk runny.

I've been told recently that fresh eggs are typically free range and not as susceptible to the various pathogens as mass-produced eggs. I will not say that this is true or false, and how you eat your eggs is entirely up to you.

For me, the point of the egg on top of this and other dishes is to use the yolk as a component of the dish, as a sauce of sorts.

Watching that oozy egg yolk drizzle down the side of anything will bring joy to the soul of any good cook.

That is why eggs are so good and

now so popular on burgers. Coupled with bacon, a natural accompaniment in the breakfast realm, things get even better.

I just found someone who has quail eggs, and they will be added to my weekly routine once the semester is over and I can make all these trips to the various farms. It's just one more reason to love where we live.

### Seared Pork on Greens, Fried Egg

serves 4

- 4 ea. 6-ounce pork chops
- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 Tbsp. Whole butter
- 8 c. Spring mix
- 1 c. Pickled red onions (recipe follows)
- 1 watermelon or normal radish, thinly sliced
- 1 c. Vinaigrette of your choice
- 4 ea. Farm-fresh eggs
- Seasoning, to taste

Pat the pork chops dry, and then heat a frypan to a high heat, just below smoking.

Add the oil and butter and cook until the water has cooked out of that glorious water-in-fat emulsion that

we chefs know and love as beurre. You will know this is done when the foaming has subsided, but be careful that it does not burn.

Season the pork chops and add to the hot pan and sear for three minutes per side.

Remove the pan from the heat and allow the steaks to rest in the pan. They will cook through right where they are.

In a non-stick pan, cook the eggs sunnyside up (as in the picture), over easy or however you like them.

Bear in mind that if you cook the yolk through, it defeats the purpose of putting a fried egg on food, in my humble opinion, as the yolk becomes the sauce in any given situation, even on a burger.

Top the greens in the vinaigrette, plate up with the radish and onions, and top with sliced pork.

Split those glorious drippings over your salad (never let them go to waste) and then top each salad with an egg.

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



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., April 27

### STORY TIME 'COW LOVES COOKIES'

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

### INTERACTIVE PUPPET SHOW: CHOOSE OUR ADVENTURE!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. National Tell A Story Day. Come join our interactive puppet show and help the characters choose their own adventure. Stick around after for a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014

### RWWC WELCOME HOME REPUBLICAN STATE LEGISLATORS

Harrison's Harbor Watch, 806 S. Atlantic Ave. at the Inlet, Ocean City. 10:30 a.m. Tickets \$31.50. The RWWC will 'Welcome Home!' our Republican State Legislators at the April 27th Meeting and Luncheon. Reservations: <https://www.cognitofirms.com/RWWC1/April272023GeneralMeetingLuncheon> by April 19.

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

### FIRESIDE CHAT

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

### ROMANCE BOOK CLUB: 'SOMETHING FABULOUS' BY ALEXIS HALL

The Buzzed Word, 11805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6 p.m. An afternoon of Queer Romance and wine. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BEACH SINGLES-55 PLUS

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

## Fri., April 28

### RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SPRING DINNER MEETING

To be held May 5, 6 p.m. at Pocomoke Community Center, 1410 Market St., Pocomoke City. Learn about gambling in OC. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased by sending a check to Judi Menavich, 9 Drawbridge Road, Berlin, MD 21811 by April 28. 610-324-7635

### ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Ocean City Elementary School, 12828 Center Drive, 9:30 a.m. Celebration begins with Color Guard flags, then students present skits, poems, songs and help the Mayor and City Council plant a tree. Demonstrations by mounted police and K-9s. [www.oceancitymd.gov](http://www.oceancitymd.gov), 410-289-7060

### OUR 1960S MUSIC!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Grow up in Baltimore or OC in the '60s? Mark Millikin, author of "The Joy and Heartache of Our 1960s Music," talks about radio stations, DJs and music of the era. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### GRAND OPENING

RE/MAX ONE, 12911 Ocean Gateway, Unit 104, Ocean City. 4-6 p.m., To Register: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=6n4htedab&oeidk=a07ejqr4mrjd977d4e9>.

### 4TH FRIDAY STREET FESTIVALS

Market Street & Front Street, Pocomoke City, 5-8 p.m. Vendors, children's activities, beer/wine and music. This month's theme is "Disney Dreams" to celebrate Disney's Aladdin Jr. at the MAR-VA Theater. Interact with characters. [www.downtownpocomoke.com](http://www.downtownpocomoke.com), 410-957-1333 Ext. 111

### PUTTIN FOR A CAUSE MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENT

Old Pro Golf, 13603 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30 p.m. Registration at 5:30 p.m. Lite fare, contest, awards, raffles and giveaways, activities and more. Cost is \$25 or \$100 for foursome. Sign up: Wayne Littleton, 443-978-0680, [littletonwayne@yahoo.com](mailto:littletonwayne@yahoo.com).

## Sat., April 29

### TRAIN & TOY SHOW

Roxana Volunteer Fire Company, 35943 Zion Church Road, Frankford, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Hosted by the Delaware Seaside Railroad Club. Admission cost is \$6. [www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com](http://www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com), 302-448-5654

### TINKER TIME: BLACKOUT POETRY

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

### ANNUAL SPRING COMMUNITY EXPO

Ocean Pines White Horse Park, 235 Ocean Parkway, 9 a.m.-noon. Takes place alongside the Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market. Meet local small businesses and community resources. New this year, J3 Mobile Shredding will be onsite to shred documents for free.

### ARTIST'S TALK 'UNTOLD STORIES: CHRONICLING OUR DELMARVA HISTORY'

Germantown School Community Heritage Center, 10223 Trappe Road, Berlin, 10 a.m.-noon. Patrick Henry will discuss what inspired his curated collection of historical photographs from the last 19th into mid 20th century. Reservations: [germantownschool@gmail.com](mailto:germantownschool@gmail.com), 443-235-9803, 410-641-0638.

### CRAFTY SATURDAY: CONSTRUCTION CRAFTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Come and make some fun crafts perfect for every little construction worker during National Work Zone Week. For ages 4 years and older. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### ANIME OCEAN CITY

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Special guests, Artist Alley, vendors, panels, cosplay contest and more. \$50 for VIP, \$30 for weekend, \$20 for Saturday, \$15 for Sunday, free for kids 10 years and under. [www.animeoceancity.com](http://www.animeoceancity.com), 757-578-5177

### OPENING 'MEET AND GREET' ARTIST RECEPTION

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 12:30-2:30 p.m. Showcasing a photography display by Mourad Shelby and Jeanne Woodward. Exhibit on display from April 5 to July 4. The artwork is available for purchase.

### REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS 'CHARACTER MATTERS'

Ocean City Golf Club, 11401 Country Club Drive, Berlin, 3-6 p.m. Speaker is former USMC Lt. Col. Stuart Sheller. Tickets cost \$50 and includes Happy Hour buffet/cash bar. Tickets: [WorCoRcc@gmail.com](mailto:WorCoRcc@gmail.com), 443-668-8864, WCRCC, P.O. Box 1432, Berlin, MD 21811.

### 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 30

### ANIME OCEAN CITY

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Special guests, Artist Alley, vendors, panels, cosplay contest and more. \$50 for VIP, \$30 for weekend, \$20 for Saturday, \$15 for Sunday, free for kids 10 years and under. [www.animeoceancity.com](http://www.animeoceancity.com), 757-578-5177

### SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC SERVICE

Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church, 103 W. Market St., Snow Hill, 11 a.m. Featuring Snow Hill's own Kirk Carmean's southern gospel music and an Italian lunch served afterwards. All are welcome. [www.makemiechurch.com](http://www.makemiechurch.com)

### OCEAN CITY BRIDAL SHOW

Seacrets, 117 49th St., Ocean City, 1-3 p.m. Wedding vendors, cocktails, fashion show and raffles. Admission: \$12.95. Tickets: <https://roxbeachweddings.com/ocean-city-bridal-show/>. 410-289-7699

### MID-ATLANTIC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

OC Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 3 p.m. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. Overture No. 1, Cello Concerto No. 1 and Symphony No. 9 "From the New World." General admission: \$55. Tickets: <https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events/mso-apr>. 410-289-2800

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

## Mon., May 1

### STORY TIME 'JUNGLE JAMBOREE'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Have fun learning about different jungle animals through books, songs and dancing. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. The group will explicate selected poems by contemporary Polish poet Wislawa Szymborska. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

Continued on Page 23

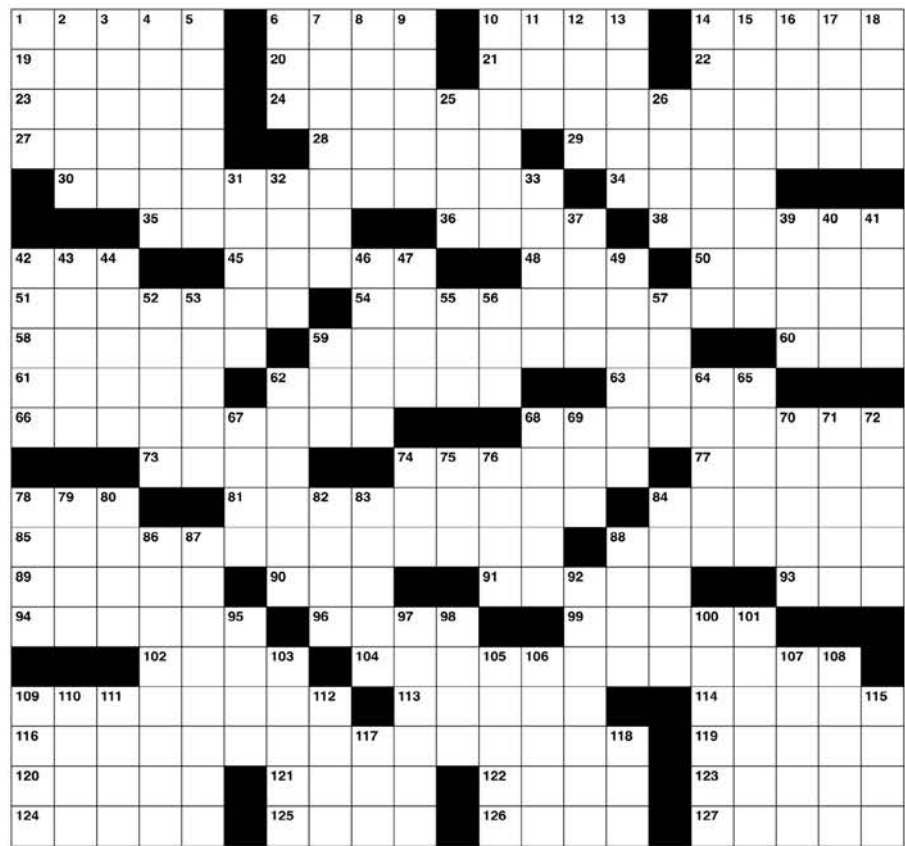


# Puzzles

## BRING YOUR 'A' GAME BY MIKE HOBIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Mike Hobin is a real estate agent and property developer in Chicago. While at home during the pandemic, he watched the 2006 documentary about crosswords, "Wordplay," and was inspired to try constructing one himself. Two years and two dozen submissions later, he's making his debut. The seed of this puzzle was 116-Across. Then he thought of 24-Across... "and it really felt like I was on to something." — W. S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Inundates with messages
  - 6 Starting from
  - 10 Farm male
  - 14 Slip
  - 19 Word spelled starting with an alif in Arabic
  - 20 Style of Chicago's NBC Tower, informally
  - 21 Traditional wisdom
  - 22 Fine woodworking detail
  - 23 Blender button
  - 24 Lottery prize?
  - 27 Deception, metaphorically
  - 28 Cambridgeshire's historic \_\_\_ Hall
  - 29 They were once advertised with the slogan "Polly wants a cracker?"
  - 30 Painted 25 percent of the house?
  - 34 "Eww, yuck!"
  - 35 It's a snap
  - 36 768 parts of a gal.
  - 38 Lacking in vitality
  - 42 Heavy cookware item
  - 45 Dancer's boss
  - 48 Cruet contents
  - 50 Hogwash
  - 51 Obama's first chief of staff
  - 54 Make one's long story overly short?
- DOWN**
- 1 Drains
  - 2 Vertically level
  - 3 "It's \_\_\_ nothing"
  - 4 Protect oneself against Covid, say
  - 5 Expression of exasperation
  - 6 \_\_\_ Limón, first Latina poet laureate of the U.S.
  - 7 Like clothing patches
  - 8 City west of Daytona Beach
  - 9 Kids' creations from sofa cushions
  - 10 Lightheaded sorts?
  - 11 [Man, that hurts!]
  - 12 Creative writing and industrial design, for two
- ACROSS**
- 58 Canner's purchase
  - 59 Dog owner's hope ... or a cat owner's pipe dream?
  - 60 Regulator of e-cigarettes, for short
  - 61 Butter maker
  - 62 Trees whose wood is used for model airplanes
  - 63 One of Randall's daughters on "This Is Us"
  - 66 Just the refreshments, not the viewing?
  - 68 Ode to reparation for sin?
  - 73 Hunt out
  - 74 Really into
  - 77 Tick-tack-toe sides
  - 78 Went unused
  - 81 Make easier to tear, in a way
  - 84 One of 25 in this clue
  - 85 One darling percussion instrument?
  - 88 Sage
  - 89 Work with a pick and an ax?
  - 90 Apt name for a worrywart
  - 91 Off-white shade
  - 93 "Gangnam Style" rapper
  - 94 Track star?
  - 96 Giant things in the 1954 sci-fi film "Them!"
  - 99 Taunts
  - 102 Kind of exam
- DOWN**
- 104 Where stealth is found in the dictionary?
  - 109 Looking blue
  - 113 Shoelace tip
  - 114 Goes to town on
  - 116 Successfully used Rogaine?
  - 119 Legendary figures
  - 120 2020 movie lead-in to "land"
  - 121 The "a" of a.m.
  - 122 The "E" of HOMES
  - 123 Drum also known as a tumbadora
  - 124 Lawsuit filers
  - 125 Get into a computer's memory
  - 126 "\_\_\_ Blue"
  - 127 Word with word or jar
- ACROSS**
- 13 Restorative process
  - 14 Hear
  - 15 Flawed but relatable protagonist
  - 16 "\_\_\_ ahead" (redundant advice)
  - 17 Fill
  - 18 Most spiders have eight of them
  - 25 Egging-on phrase
  - 26 "First Lady of Song," familiarly
  - 31 Pulls a fast one on
  - 32 And others: Abbr.
  - 33 Classical form of poetry
  - 37 Symptom
  - 39 Tee off
  - 40 Product used with a stylus
  - 41 Actor Michael
  - 42 Raquel of "Fantastic Voyage"
  - 43 Hold 'em variation
  - 44 World capital located more than a mile above sea level
  - 46 Reserve for later ... or something to reserve
  - 47 Fivers
  - 49 Class speaker
  - 52 Weakens, in video-game lingo
  - 53 Arm bones
  - 55 Nutrition fig.
  - 56 "\_\_\_ for Innocent" (Sue Grafton novel)
  - 57 Many an Olympic gold medalist in gymnastics
  - 59 Sturdy flooring material



- 62 The Keebler elves, e.g.
- 64 Makes more attractive, with "up"
- 65 Flood
- 67 Shed some tears
- 68 Fairy-tale ending?
- 69 Hoof, in part
- 70 Ranked No. 1
- 71 Utopias
- 72 Amsterdam of "The Dick Van Dyke Show"
- 74 Affectionate sobriquet
- 75 Many a URL ending
- 76 Common deodorant ingredient
- 78 Freshness
- 79 When the curtains open
- 80 Time to go
- 82 The Beatles' "Lovely \_\_\_"
- 83 Animal life
- 84 An arm and a leg
- 86 Back-and-forth struggle
- 87 Rare finds in Minecraft
- 88 Ragamuffin
- 92 Narcissist's indulgence
- 95 Salacious
- 97 Unfrozen
- 98 Genesis creator
- 100 Branch of philosophy
- 101 Manatee
- 103 Rightful
- 105 Muesli brand
- 106 Affectionate sobriquet
- 107 In sync
- 108 Japanese graphic-novel style
- 109 Nine-digit IDs
- 110 M.L.B. family name
- 111 Cupola relative
- 112 Early Bond villain
- 115 Old imperial title
- 117 Itinerary initials
- 118 Excellent adventurer of film

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## su | do | ku

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HARD - 93

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.

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

### Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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



# Calendar

Continued from Page 21

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

**CALMING GLITTER JARS**

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. This DIY glittery paradise, a swirling vortex of calm, helps eliminate the stress of a long day. All supplies included. Registration required: 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.

**OVEREASTER'S ANONYMOUS**

*Mondays* - Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 7-8 p.m. No dues or fees. 410-459-9100

## Tues., May 2

**COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR**

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. Free health screenings and discussions about robotic surgery (9 a.m.), identity theft (10 a.m.) and antibiotics (11 a.m.). 410-641-9268, amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org

**STORY TIME AT THE CORNER SANCTUARY: SEEDS**

Pocomoke Community Garden, 327 Clarke Ave., Pocomoke City, 10:30 a.m. Plant seeds in some of the garden's raised beds and take some seeds home. For ages 2-5 years. Dress to get dirty. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

**STORY TIME 'FAMILIES'**

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

**OC KNITTING GROUP**

Worcester County Library - Ocean City

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

**MASTER GARDENER PLANT CLINIC**

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 11 a.m. Join in as Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz talks about all things plants. Bring any question you have and feel free to show your plants as well. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

**ANIME & MANGA CLUB**

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3 p.m. Introducing a new anime and manga club. Monthly themes will include trivia games, Japanese snacks and art exploration. For ages 13-16 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

**PRAYER WALK AND VIGIL FOR OUR SCHOOLS**

Stephen Decatur Park, Tripoli Street, Berlin, 5-7:30 p.m. Congregations will meet at local schools' flagpoles at 5 p.m. Then walk around the school grounds praying. The groups then meet at Stephen Decatur Park from 6-7:30 p.m. for refreshments and music. 410-726-1795

**SONGWRITERS WORKSHOP**

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6 p.m. Bring a song you are working on to the open collaborative. All genres welcome. Present works in progress or talk through composition issues with other songwriters. 410-641-0650

**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., May 3

**BIARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP**

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

**BABY TIME**

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

**DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP**

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30-2:30 p.m. The group provides discussion, education and a speaker on the topic of diabetes. Darlene Jameson, 410-208-9761, djameson@atlanticgeneral.org

**WATERCOLOR BASICS**

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Jan Coulbourne demonstrates the use of value, mediums and brushstrokes to assist in creating a beautiful artwork. Supplies included. Registration required; 410-641-0650. www.worcesterlibrary.org

**HOMEMADE SPA PRODUCTS**

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Make self-care products including shower scrubs, shaving cream and scented sprays using essential oils. For ages 10 years and older. Registration required: 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.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 up-

dated monthly on the website and Facebook. Guests are welcome. www.kiwanisofopoc.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

**TINY ART COMPETITION (WEAVING EDICAITON)**

All Worcester County Library branches are participating. Pick up a Take & Make Kit from May 1-13. Kits contain everything you need. Submit your creation by May 15 for judging. The first place winner from each branch will win an art kit. For ages 6-10 years and 11-15 years. www.worcesterlibrary.org

**FREE WELLNESS WORKSHOPS**

Free workshops dealing with hypertension, chronic pain self-management, chronic disease self-management, diabetes, fall prevention and a free 6-week workshop titled, "Building Better Caregivers." If you would like to register for one of these workshops or you would like more information about bringing any of the workshops to your business or group, contact Jill at MAC, 410-742-0505, Ext. 159 or jak@macinc.org.

**'SAVE OUR STORIES'**

The Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum is asking community members to send in their accounts as to how COVID-19 has impacted them. The submissions can be a specific experience, direct answers to the prompt questions, or a combination. No story is too long or too short. To submit, visit www.ocmuseum.org. Info: Christine@ocmuseum.org.

**LIBRARY TO GO & PRINTING TO GO**

Safe contactless pick-up of library materials at all Worcester County branches. Call to schedule a pick-up time. Mobile printing services also available at all Worcester County branches. (Only black and white copies are available.) https://worcesterlibrary.org/article/printing-go




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# 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](http://oceancitytoday.com) & [baysideoc.com](http://baysideoc.com)

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Up to \$20/hr.  
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Painters, Carpenter,  
Plumber, Housekeeper,  
Boat Mates  
Apply in person or online at  
[seacrets.com](http://seacrets.com)

**HELP WANTED**

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

**HELP WANTED**

**Assateague Pointe Gate**  
**Attendant** Route 611. Tues.,  
Wed. &/or Thurs., 1am-9am;  
Saturday, 5pm-1am. Contact  
**410-641-1674.**

**HELP WANTED**

**Barn 34**  
**Hiring Kitchen Help,**  
**Hostess & Food Runner**  
**positions.**  
Apply in person  
Thurs. & Fri. between  
9am - 12pm  
**3400 Coastal Hwy.**

**HELP WANTED**

**Office Assistant** for local  
CPA Firm. Full time tax  
season/part time non tax  
season. **Send resume to**  
[jennifer@jenniferlyncpca.com](mailto:jennifer@jenniferlyncpca.com).

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Experience Preferred  
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Email Resume:

[molarbiz@yahoo.com](mailto:molarbiz@yahoo.com)

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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**

**HR Spec Wanted** at Island  
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oversee hired empl; mng  
maintain empl records; mng  
empl relations; make firing  
recs; off-board fired empl.  
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related deg + 2 yrs business,  
HR, or related exp.  
**Send resume to**  
[islandwearoc@gmail.com](mailto:islandwearoc@gmail.com)

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

## NOW HIRING IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Chocolatier            | Office Administrator |
| Taffy Machine Operator | Merchandiser         |
| Delivery Driver        | E-Commerce/Packaging |
| Delivery Assistant     | Retail Team Member   |



**Can't make it  
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APPLY ONLINE TODAY!**



### JOB FAIR

**Fri. April 28**  
**Sat. April 29**  
**53rd St. Complex**  
**12 pm to 4 pm**

UNIVERSITY OF  
**MARYLAND**  
EXTENSION



Agent Associate  
(Position 122201)

University of Maryland Extension College of Agriculture  
and Natural Resources seeks

**SNAP-Ed Project Leader and Nutrition  
Educator - Wicomico County**

Position Summary/Purpose of Position:

This position is a 12-month, term appointment. The full-time position is part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - Education (SNAP-Ed) conducted by the University of Maryland Extension. The educator will deliver nutrition education programs to low-income residents in Wicomico County with emphasis on reaching food supplement (stamp) recipients.

The position will be housed in the Wicomico County Extension office in Salisbury, MD. Bachelor's Degree in nutrition, health education, or a related field preferred.

Salary will be commensurate with experience with a base salary of \$58,226. The University of Maryland offers an extensive benefits package, which can be found by visiting: <https://uhr.umd.edu/benefits>.

**All candidates must apply online at:**  
<https://ejobs.umd.edu/postings/105906>

When applying, please submit application letter, resume, copy of transcripts and names/contact information of 3 professional references.

Employment is contingent upon successful completion and clearance of a Criminal History Record Check. EEO/AA

Closing Date: Until filled



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213 Atlantic Ave ~ 606 S. Atlantic Ave

**On the Highway**

4103 Coastal Hwy ~ 6909 Coastal Hwy

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duties at a Berlin, MD estate five days  
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or email: [tgreaver@bscamerica.com](mailto:tgreaver@bscamerica.com).

Cleaning services need not apply.

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**HELP WANTED**

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

**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.**

**Pool - General Maintenance** Outdoor work, lifting heavy objects. Mechanical, basic pool pump & motors, CPO a plus/not required. Able to pass CPO test. Summer. Includes weekends & long hours; working alone or with others. **410-289-4902 ask for Suzanne**

**Cooks and Cleaning Help Wanted**

Flexible schedule, clean kitchen, new equipment. Weekly paychecks. Friendly work environment. If interested apply in person. Open daily, 12:00 p.m.

**American Legion Post #166**  
2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD

**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**

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

Ocean City Florist **Now Hiring PT Floral Designer.** 2-3 days a week. Some Saturdays will be required. Experience necessary. **Call 410-250-1636 or apply within.**

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

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

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

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**Summer Bayside Condo near Jolly Roger.** 2BR, 2BA W/D & AC. Cable, Wi-Fi, fully furnished. Sleeps 4-6. 2 units available May-Sept. **Call Mike at 410-603-6120. www.mbjcproperties.com.**

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**Classified Deadline is Monday @ 5pm**

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**Nurse Available for Home Care**  
30 plus years experience  
Reasonable rates.  
**856-528-6254**

**YARD SALE**

**Oyster Harbor Community Wide Yard Sale**  
Whisper Trace Drive  
**May 6, 2023, 8am-1pm**  
Rain date May 13, 2023

**YARD SALE**

**Huge Multi-Family Community Yard Sale.** Fox Chapel, Queens Circle & Kings Court. West OC. Multiple items including clothes, household items, antique clocks & much more. **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!**  
**Saturday, April 29th, 7am-11am**

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE** - Berlin, Decatur Farm, off Route 113 across from Stephen Decatur Park - **Saturday, May 6th, 8am to noon.**

**WHALEYVILLE, April 28, 8-4, 12402 Blueberry Rd.** Power saws, small power tools, hand tools, workbench, electric power washer.

**DONATIONS**

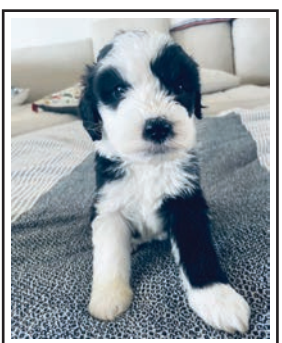
**Do you have an old bicycle not being used?** It could mean a world of difference to a hard-working international student. We are looking to get as many bikes as possible. Your donation will be tax-deductible. **Contact Gary at 443-975-3065.**

**Classifieds ~ 410-723-6397**

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Saturday 9am-11am	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
Sunday 10am-Noon	349 Walnut Drive, Berlin	4BR/3.5 BA	Residential	\$759,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty

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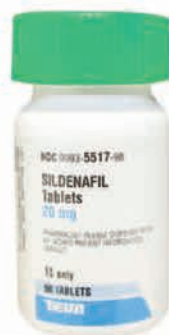
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