



HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Town budget still leaves workers short

Council concurs it needs to do better for employees

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The Town of Berlin presented its FY2024 budget proposal at the mayor and Town Council meeting on Monday, and the hour-long discussion revolved almost entirely around what it does for the town's employees.

Or as some councilmembers might say, what it doesn't do.

Finance Director Natalie Saleh kicked off the meeting by introducing the proposal and outlined the general fund balance of \$11.49 million.

Though the number will shrink because of unsuccessful applications for grants that had been figured in, capital projects in FY24 on Monday totaled about \$3.8 million.

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Board ends free play on Pines courts

Directors say give manager chance to assess situation

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors will stay with its decision to end the introductory free play time for paddle sports at the racquet center.

Advocates for free introductory lessons and court time for some paddle sports had dominated the public comment period of the April board meeting.

"Over the last two years, we have

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ALL THAT JAZZ

The Jazz, Blues, Wine and Brews festival in Berlin last Saturday hosted free live music performances on Main Street, which was closed from cars and lined with pop-up stands from local businesses. Pictured is the first group to perform, the Salisbury University Jazz Ensemble.

Police seek help with speeders

Traffic cameras effective, but residents still should report persistent problems

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) It may seem like a futile act after the fact, but the Berlin Police Department is still urging residents to call its non-emergency line when they see vehicles speeding through their community.

Mayor Zack Tyndall and Police Chief Arnold Downing led a brief discussion on Monday at the mayor and

council meeting concerning speeding, especially as it relates to areas speed cameras areas should focus on as the process progresses.

"We're talking about a lot of actual development for streets in residential areas," Downing said. "When we do detail on certain streets, we find out that 35 to 40 percent (of speeders) are the individuals who live on those streets."

Downing said in one instance where officers posted up on a "hot point" street, they observed two violators.

"We have to make sure that we're

using our manpower in the best way that we can," Downing said.

Downing was alluding to one of the benefits of speed cameras being that they help alleviate the workload for a small town's police force, whose officers may be better utilized elsewhere during their shift than sitting on speeding hot spots.

"We understand that during certain times, peak times, that means between 7:30 and 8:30 (in the morning) when everyone is going to the five schools in town, there is definitely a better need for enforcement,"

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Eastbound Disc Golf briefed the Berlin Planning Commission on its plans to make the course at Stephen Decatur Park permanent during its meeting last week. One of the improvements Eastbound will focus on will be signage. Currently, signs like this laminated paper with a QR code are the extent of what the park offers in that regard.

JACK CHAVEZ/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Eastbound to look into local funding for disc golf course

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The Berlin Parks Commission delved further into the town's plans with Eastbound Disc Golf to make the disc golf course at Stephen Decatur Park permanent during its meeting on May 2.

Eastbound representative Shawn Johnson attended the meeting to brief the commission on its plans for the well-received park addition.

"With Eastbound Disc Golf, our experience is (that courses are received positively)," Johnson said. "That's why we donate our time to try and push, get disc golf in front of people and get them used to the idea."

Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said it's been an "extremely popular amenity," joking that she's seeing people of all ages "fishing their disc out of the creek."

"A lot of people really enjoy it," Bohlen said. "I appreciate that more than anything else. The people are really using it. I'm glad that you're moving forward with making it look more permanent."

Public Works Director Jimmy Charles asked whether grant money could be available for the project,

which is relatively inexpensive at an estimated \$7,000.

Bohlen said that because of the timing for park grants, it's actually better if Eastbound itself when to local community foundations to inquire.

"There are grant programs that are available to you as an organization that are not available to the town," she reasoned.

Johnson said Eastbound would explore those avenues.

"It's not a huge lift, the amount of funding needed," Bohlen said. "So, I think it's doable."

The only critique she's heard, town administrative assistant Kate Daub said, was the lack of signage, but that will be addressed in course upgrades.

In other matters, the project to light up the basketball courts at Dr. William Henry Park is officially complete, per a report from the meeting.

"The control signs have been installed and are officially throughout the park," Daub said. "The lights (will be available from 5 (p.m.) to 11 p.m. They will shut off at 11 on the dot."

Daub added that court users could activate the lights before 11 but no matter when they're activated, they will shut off at that time.

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Worcester names Matt Laick new director of DRP

(May 11, 2023) The Worcester County Commissioners have promoted Matt Laick to deputy director within Development Review and Permitting.

Laick stepped into his new role on May 1.



Matt Laick

“Matt is a welcome addition to the leadership team,” DRP Director Jennifer Keener said in a news release. “He has an extensive background in project management, which will be an asset to Worcester

County, as we move forward with various projects, such as the comprehensive plan.”

Laick, who joined DRP as the geographic information systems analyst III in 2021, brings 23 years of management and local government experience to the position.

He previously served as the 911/GIS coordinator for the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security where he was responsible for coordinating GIS data across all the 911 centers in the state, as well as managing any special projects.

He also served as the director of the Mapping and Addressing Department for Sussex County where he was responsible for parcel mapping as well as a readdressing project for the entire county.

“It is an honor to serve as the deputy director of DRP,” Laick said in the release. “I look forward to working with all of the county departments, citizens, business owners and visitors.”

Laick received a bachelor of earth science degree, with a concentration in meteorology, from California University of Pennsylvania, and he earned a masters of applied geography degree, with a concentration in geographic information systems, from New Mexico State University. He also served with the Bureau of Land Management in Las Cruces, New Mexico, as a geographer working on land exchanges and range management. He received project management certification from the University of Delaware. Laick is also a certified GIS professional.

The DRP deputy director is responsible for assisting the director with all aspects of development, review, permitting and other functions, including staff supervision, and coordinating planning studies and documents.

Laick lives in Worcester County with his wife, Amanda, and two kids, Lily and Matthew.

When he is not working, Laick enjoys spending time in nature, kayaking, kite flying and exploring new adventures with the family.

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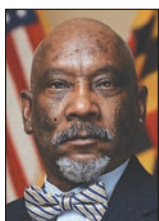
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Mayor, council aim to bring worker pay closer to median

Continued from Page 1

The electric fund was \$8.01 million with \$1.77 million in capital projects, the water fund \$2.53 million with \$1.38 million in capital projects, the sewer fund \$5.38 million with \$2.17 million in capital projects and stormwater \$1.27 million with \$975,000 in capital projects.



Dean Burrell

have done it again this year by considering the needs of our staff again last, last, last, last.”

“I don’t want to see us in this position again, where we’re considering the needs

of our staff last, because that’s not the way this thing needs to work. If we don’t have qualified folks (providing our services to residents) where would we be? I’m just let down that this year we can’t do more than this 35 percentile and the 2.25 (COLA adjustment). That’s all I gotta say.”

Councilmember Jack Orris asked if this meant that the town would try to meet the 50-percent benchmark with a 15-percent increase in FY2025, to which Tyndall said staff is eying a step-increase system, and HR Director Kelsey Jensen confirmed they’re forecasting hitting 50 percent over 10 years.

“We’re trying to figure out where the starting scale of that would be,” Tyndall said.

Orris said he wasn’t necessarily disagreeing.

“What I’m saying is, looking at next year, if we’re doing 35 percent, then the lowest (employees on that scale) in my head ... will automatically have that 15 (percent)?” he asked.

“It’s not that simplistic,” Tyndall replied.

Town administrator Mary Bohlen said there are other factors such as tenure and that the purpose of the step-and-grade system was to tier brand-new, entry-level employees lower than those who have been with the town for longer.

Councilmember Steve Green called the decision a “discouraging situation.”

“I feel we’re trying to fix something that is many years in the making,” Green said.

“We’re just in a pickle in that we’re trying to move. We have the numbers now. Thirty-five percent, when we started, was not what we imagined the outcome (would be). But every employee is impacted. Those who have been here 10 years or longer and who are adequately paid need to be shown the love.”

Another budget concern for the town was what Worcester County decides in its own budget deliberations regarding the town’s request for \$122,000 for a Flower Street roundabout, something that some councilmembers thought the might not go the town’s way.

“At the 11th hour it looks like we should prepare for the worst-case scenario (from the county),” Councilmember Shaneka Nichols said. “This is tough.”

But the numbers that dominated the discussion were the proposed salaries of 35 percent of market value and a 2.25 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

The market value of a salary represents what an employee should be paid, based on current market conditions. The value is a range of salaries, with 50 percent of market value being in the middle between the highest and lowest salaries reported for a particular position.

The figures at which the town arrived were based off a pay scale report conducted by Davidsonville-based PayPoint HR.

“Salaries have changed across all departments and funds,” Mayor Zack Tyndall said at the meeting. “This is using the (employee salary) draft report and a market rate of 25 percent of the market rate for all staff and positions, a 2.25-percent adjustment for COLA for all staff as well.”

Tyndall asked the council to provide the town’s human resources department with guidance for the final market rate, which ultimately came out to 35 percent with the intention to achieve 50 percent of the market rate in future fiscal years. That would place town employees squarely in the middle of the range of salaries.

Thirty-five percent, which would be on the low end of the range, is still insufficient for the mayor and council, but the consensus was that 50 percent is simply not feasible in FY24.

“In (all of the) years I’ve been on council, it’s been like throwing darts at the wall to determine how much to increase employee pay,” Councilmember Jay Knerr said. “This is the first time we’ve done a pay study like this and now have a solid path going forward grading employees where they need to be.”

“Thirty-five percent isn’t perfect this year, but it’s a start ... it’s where we need to be to start the process and slowly move it forward from year to year.”

Councilmember Dean Burrell, however, was not particularly moved by the 35-percent effort.

“Despite what Jay said earlier about this survey giving us a path forward, I can only sit here and say we have done it again,” Burrell said. “We



Natalie Saleh



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OP racquet center manager preaches benefits of tennis

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) "Tennis is easy." That's not just a slogan to Tim Johnson, the new OP Racquet Center director, who calls himself a low performance coach.

"If I can get 100 people picking up a racquet, that's how I measure success," Johnson said.

And that is his goal this May, which is National Tennis Month, promoted by the United States Tennis Association.

Johnson will be hosting a variety of events to get people on the courts.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. he will host "Tennis Is Easy!" – a free low-key introduction to the game.

On Saturday and Sunday at 9 a.m. he will host Tennis is Kid's Play! He believes tennis is a great sport for kids to learn agility, balance, and coordination. With equipment sized right for them, children can learn the fundamentals of tennis in a positive, social environment, he said. This is a free introduction to the game, for ages 5-12.

For those who have played tennis in the past, Johnson will conduct a free "Welcome Back to Tennis" pro-

gram on Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. for a review of the game, followed by a friendly game of doubles.

Johnson has a light-hearted, no pressure way of teaching tennis to all ages. He uses kick-balls to teach technique.

"If you were a recess rock star, I guarantee I will have you hitting a ball back and forth within the first 15 minutes."

He bypasses the whole instructional part. He uses the bouncy kick-balls to teach people form and learn how to chase the ball around the court.

"You don't need a whole lot of information to enjoy playing."

There are a number of different balls that are used in tennis. Initially, many instructors teach children with a larger softer ball that is easier to chase and hit. Once they are comfortable with that, they graduate to the traditional ball.

Johnson suggests that instead of graduating and sticking to the traditional fast tennis ball, playing is more like a bell curve. A player might go up to that ball, but as they age, they can go back down to the larger, slower ball, allowing them to continue to

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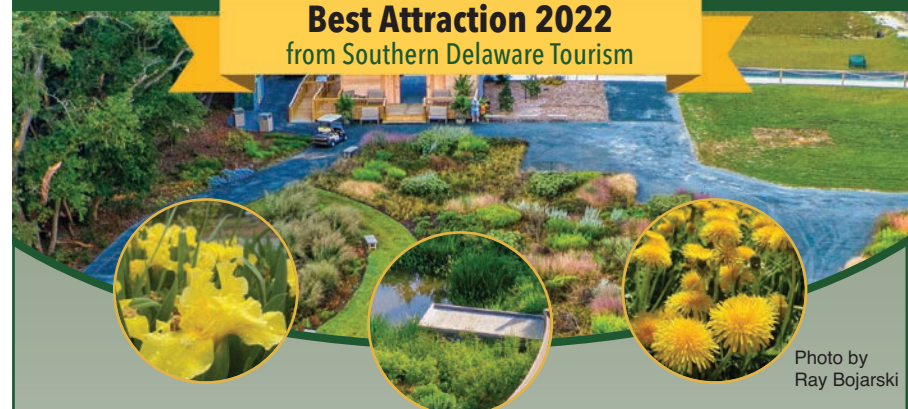


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Paddle sports fans lament board's decision

Continued from Page 1

converted this no cost trial to 61 first time memberships at \$180. That is revenue generated for the OPA," Karen Kaplan, president of the OP Platform Tennis and Spec Tennis Club said at the board meeting.

"Requiring a drop-in fee to try our unfamiliar sports is going to hurt us."

But Doug Parks, president of OPA, told the Recreation and Parks Committee members in a meeting on Monday that OPA data shows that platform tennis has 68 members and has only increased by four members in the past five years.

He told committee members that, after much discussion and review of the data, the board decided to go with the recommendation it received by General Manager John Viola to end the free introductory period for racket sports.

"We have to look at the cascade effect for other activities," Parks said.

He suggested that since the racket center has hired Tim Johnson as the new manager, people should give him time to assess the programs and make recommendations.

Kaplan believes Parks is comparing apples to oranges.

"We have over 100 people playing platform tennis with the combo members," she said.



PHOTO COURTESY KAREN KAPLAN

The members of the Platform Tennis Club enjoy spec, platform and timeless tennis. These sports are lesser known than pickleball and tennis so they have offered free court time to introduce people to the sports. The Ocean Pines Association board has decided to end the free court time.

Kaplan also said that they had recruited 31 new memberships in 2021 and 30 in 2022.

"He is also not counting the combo members that play our sports," she said.

"This is documented in the membership lists generated by adminis-

tration."

"I really wanted the blessing of the board and management because they offer the other amenities free trials," Kaplan said.

"There are nine classes you can take in aquatics."

She also noted that the pros are

giving tips to the ladies' putters club at the golf course.

"We want to be afforded the same benefits that other amenities are getting," she said. "I have complete faith in Tim Johnson and if, in the future, we need to revisit this, I will bring it back to the board."

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National Tennis month events

Continued from Page 6

play throughout their lifetime.

The Ocean Pines Tennis Club will also be celebrating National Tennis Month with a round robin and potluck on May 20 at 8:30 a.m.

"This is a time when we welcome new players, as well as when people get together at the start of the season," said Dale Ash, the president of the Ocean Pines Tennis Club.

The month will culminate in an open house on May 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We'll showcase all the sports activities available for your enjoyment at our facility," said Johnson.

"We will have fun activities for all levels, all players, all sports, including pickleball, tennis, platform tennis, and SPEC tennis.

"This is your chance to see what the pickleball craze is about, or to introduce your family to tennis, or learn the up-and-coming sport of Spec," Johnson said.

He also plans to have chair yoga and cooking demonstrations and he will fire up the grill.

He hopes the free clinics and open house will introduce more people to the racquet center and to the many racquet sports. Balls and equipment are available for use.

"Playing tennis can add nine years to your life over a sedentary lifestyle," Johnson said. "That's better than cycling, swimming, or jogging."

He believes the benefits of playing tennis are because it's an open sport that includes lateral movements, jumping back and reaching up.

He also plans to put together some programs in the near future for working people in the afternoons.

"After 4p.m. it's crickets around here."

"My motto is: get off the couch and join something, anything."

For more information, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/racquet-sports> OP Tennis Club or call the racquet center at 410-641-7228.

What is Spec Tennis?

Spec tennis is a new sport, invented in 2016. The rules are the same as for traditional tennis, but players use a circular paddle with holes and a low compression ball. The court is roughly one third the size of a tennis court. The smaller court and the lower-compression ball allows the fun of tennis, with less pace and less court to cover.

The sport is considered a bridge sport because it is an easy way to pick up tennis skills and get a feel for the game.

Tim Johnson is offering an introduction to Spec tennis free every Thursday in May from 2-3 p.m.

The Racquet Center is offering Spec Tennis lessons on a regular basis. For more information call 862-219-3352 or email oppaddle2020@gmail.com.



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Police seek help from residents

Continued from Page 1

Downing said. "But unfortunately, we can have 40 police officers and (still) not be able to handle that level of enforcement."

"One parent that's going from (Stephen Decatur) Middle School, to (Berlin Intermediate School) and then to Buckingham (Elementary School), you know, that's a swoop. And then everybody's rushing to Dunkin' Donuts."

Downing said originally it was thought the town would need to do requests for proposals for speed cameras but now the focus is on other contracts for sole providers of speed cameras.

"Our belief is that we can go ahead and make that call and bring forth a contract and start doing the study."

Education, engineering and enforcement, Downing added, are "the three E's" to consider.

Councilmember Dean Burrell brought up the traffic pattern at Stephen Decatur Middle School that now forces motorists to turn right out of the school, putting them on Flower Street.

It's a new pattern that Downing said is very difficult to enforce.

"Everybody's learned the pattern but again, you're going to have kids in high school ... who just come down because they didn't want to wait for the crossing guards and then would turn right where Ocean's East was and flip back around," Downing said. "If we enforce it one way, they're going to figure it out. No one's going to go all the way down Flower Street and turn around to go back to West Ocean City."

The point brought Councilmember Shaneka Nichols to the idea that residents should really report speeders.

"Talking to people (around town they've asked me about) speed bumps on the side roads," Nichols said. "(We can't do that) but however, start taking photos and making those calls."

"If you happen to see where those cars circulate, call those people's moms because that's what I did."

Downing added that police can better look for repeat offenders if they already have a vehicle description.

The number Downing provided was 410-621-1333.

Berlin business license fees set, future review intended

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) After much discussion at its previous meeting about totally making over the town's business license fee structure, the Berlin Mayor and Council arrived at the original recommendation at its meeting on Monday.

In a 4-to-1 vote with Councilmember Dean Burrell opposed, the council approved doubling the business license fee for all businesses in town to \$150.

Two weeks ago, the Mayor and Council discussed different scenarios in which the town might charge some businesses more depending on where they are located in town or based on a classification system.

Town Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells said she met with town administrator Mary Bohlen and Mayor Zack Tyn-dall after the meeting to discuss the matter and came to the conclusion that FY2024 is too soon to revamp the business license fee structure.

The new fiscal year starts on July 1.

"It was recommended to follow through the motion from the last meeting with the caveat that we will review and consider recommenda-

tions for further revisions to business licenses based on suggestions from the last meeting," Wells said.

"The motion reads as it did previously ... with the assumption of a new structure in place for FY25."

There was also talk about how the town could capitalize on out-of-town businesses that do business in town, such as landscaping companies and realtors, but Wells and Bohlen both reiterated there just isn't enough time to set something up for FY24.

"There are a lot of things to look at but we need to take the time to be able to look," Wells said.

Knerr pressed, asking that if a business has to come before the Planning Commission first anyway, why can't it be set up for FY24?

Finance Director Natalie Saleh responded that a business license, as defined in the town charter, is for a physical location attached to the town.

"(We'd have to) change the description," Saleh said. "If you're talking about the business to come and do business in town, and they don't have a location, they wouldn't fall under (the current description)."

Wells posed raised another possibility — creating a contract license.

See BERLIN Page 11



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Wooden Octopus gets design help

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) Two times the charm for Matthew Amey, owner of 8 Jefferson Street in Berlin, a house built in 1900 that he and his wife, Lisa Tossey, bought in 2015 for their home and workspace.

Amey has gone before the Berlin Historic District Commission twice to get approval for the front facade of the house. The commission sent him back to the drawing board last month, saying the building needs to be more cohesive and suggested getting a professional design.

That assistance came the next day in the form of architect/urbanist Dhiru Thadani, who happened to be at the meeting the night before.

"I think he felt sorry for me," Amey said.

"We discussed how the house presented to the street and how historically it would have been designed like a temple. It's a typical three-bay temple facade. Temples have three equal segments and normally the middle section is the entrance, but you can use any of the three chambers as the entrance."

The next day, Thadani provided a sketch of his suggestions to Amey.

That sketch was met with rave reviews by the members of the Historic Commission, who unanimously ap-



RENDERING COURTESY DHIRU THADANI

Matthew Amey and Lisa Tossey purchased the historic home at 8 Jefferson Street in 2015 for a home/gallery and shop to sell their art. Construction on the house has been ongoing since then. Dhiru Thadani, an architect and urbanist who consults with the town of Berlin, consulted with Amey and provided drawings for him to share with the Historic District Commission.

proved his proposal.

He has also received a facade grant from the town of Berlin that will reimburse him for 50 percent of his costs up to \$11,500, contingent on the successful completion of the facade redesign.

He has 12 months to finish the project but hopes to get it completed before then.

Amey has been doing most of the work himself, with help from his friend, "Jungle Jim" Coltellino, an

See VISION Page 11

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Vision coming to life for local gallery owners

Continued from Page 10
electrician.

Construction has been ongoing since he and his wife purchased the house nearly eight years ago.

"We have been living in it and doing construction the whole time," Amey said.

"We gutted the house, tore it down to the studs, and replaced the electric wiring."

Amey found out the house had structural issues that led to plumbing and water damage.

After three months of tearing everything out, we looked at all these cans of worms we found in these cans of worms," Amey said.

But they were committed to the money pit, so they kept going. They

replumbed the whole house, rebuilt the structure, opened up the ceiling, and rewired the house.

They opened their business, Wooden Octopus, an art gallery/shop in 2017. Amey, his wife and other family members are artists. The goal of the house is to have a home/work-space to live in and sell their art.

"We have a lot of friends overseas that live above where they work," Amey said.

He and his wife liked that idea. His wife stumbled across this house, and Amey said the price kept dropping. That might have been a sign.

"We did not expect to take on such an arduous task. But some mornings I wake up and I say, 'This is nice, I like what I have built here.'"

Now that the Historic Commission has signed off on his design, he expects to get the facade finished by the middle of the summer so they can reopen the physical gallery in the fall.

"Ultimately, we are trying to get the gallery back open because we like making work. Everything is made by someone in my family. We have a family of artists, and this is our outlet."

They closed the gallery during covid and have operated online since then at <https://woodenoctopus.com/>.

"Berlin is actually busier in the off-season, in the fall going into the holi-

days. Once we get the front porch done and accessible, we intend to open."

Amey sculpts, paints and makes jewelry. He plans to bring some ceramics into the gallery now that he has a pottery wheel and kiln on site. His wife is a photographer and digital media specialist.

Both Amey and Tossey grew up in Salisbury. They love that Berlin provides them with the opportunity to live their dream of living and working in one location.

"This is a nice little oasis," Amey said.

Berlin business fee set at \$150

Continued from Page 9

"(We wouldn't) have to change anything, just create a new fee schedule," she said. "The code wouldn't have to change. It would just be an additional amendment."

Councilmember Steve Green pointed out that, on the other side of these deals, it likely wouldn't be considered an unusual ask.

trader license fee? They really do expect it," Greens said. "It's a missed opportunity to help offset some (of the town's current) expenses. We should definitely do it. Whether or not it affects the budget (we'll see)."

Immediate revenue will be difficult to forecast right now, but Tyndall said the town should have a firmer idea of what it can expect a year from now.

"(Electricians will ask), what's the

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Playground report shows issues at Henry Park

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The Berlin Parks Commission is weighing its options on how to address issues and deficiencies at the town's playgrounds after receiving the annual playground equipment inspection report.

At its May 2 meeting, Public Works Director Jimmy Charles outlined the inspection, which was completed on April 20, and particularly highlighted Dr. William Henry Park, which racked up 32 issues.

"Missing paint, signage area distances between equipment, loose

screws, loose bolts underneath roofs, (that sort of thing)," Charles said. "Stuff that over the winter could have worked its way loose and we're going through now (to address those issues).

Town administrator Mary Bohlen pointed out that changing standards had a significant influence on the report.

"(These issues are) on a piece of the equipment (with standards) that were created by these different groups and they were perfectly fine but now the standards have changed. It is troubling that we have to go back and look at them," she said.

Charles stressed again that all-weather equipment is going to show signs of wear and tear, especially in the "salt air" that comes with being a coastal community.

"We're doing a lot of planning around town," he said. "Once we get there, we'll get back to addressing a lot of these issues and getting up to date.

Bohlen pointed out that even though the town takes playground safety seriously, it is a painstaking process to rectify issues.

"A lot of times it's just like the instructions on your shampoo bottle,"

she said. "Some person did something silly at one point so companies had to ... try to reduce their liability. Some of the issues like chipping paint on the very top of a unit that a child can't possibly climb to, but some way some child climbed to that height and got injured. So, they have to err on the side of caution, obviously. As do we. Sometimes it seems to defy common sense but you can almost guarantee that somebody somewhere got hurt in a similar manner. It's an abundance of caution."

Bohlen added that the commission will need to put together a budget to figure out how to address the report.


Some items, though, have been on the report for years and will likely continue to be, she said.

"For instance, the spacing issue — it's more of a notion to increase a safety zone from six to eight feet so it's not something where we can just (add mulch and call it a day). There's more underneath than just that."

Commission member said she's glad that the issues that need fixing are out in the open now.

"So many of these issues are dealing with chipping paint and rust," she said. "I'm glad that that's the most of it."

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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The annual Berlin playgrounds report highlighted issues that need to be addressed at the town's parks, including those at Stephen Decatur Park off Tripoli Street.

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Eight Berlin businesses received grant funding to assist in making improvements to their storefront exteriors, including Baked Dessert Café at 4 Bay Street. Owner Robin Tomaselli said that the money is going toward painting and power washing.

JACK CHAVEZ/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Berlin awards façade grant funding to eight businesses

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The Town of Berlin announced eight businesses that will receive helping paying for exterior improvements through its annual Commercial Façade Grants Program last week.

The grant program matches up to half of project funding, up to a maximum of \$12,000, with the money coming from the Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Legacy Grant.

The grant is available to downtown business property owners to improve the exterior appearance of their businesses and, in turn, the downtown district's vitality.

The town selected seven businesses from eight applications, including The Globe (\$2,700), Una Bella Salute (\$2,500), Baked Dessert Café (\$1,250), Wooden Octopus (\$11,500), The Street Kitchen (\$10,000), Brewery at Broad Street (\$10,000) and the Worcester County Arts Council (\$12,000).

"The Downtown Commercial Façade Grant Program is an essential tool in supporting the continued growth and development of our downtown district," Ivy Wells, direc-

tor of Economic and Community Development, said in a press release, "The awardees this year have proposed exciting projects that will enhance the appearance and attraction of our downtown, and we look forward to seeing their progress and results."

Well said that each project was reviewed and submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust and that funding was "fairly distributed" among the qualified recipients.

"I'm just excited," said Cassandra Brown, owner of Una Bella Salute at 6 Main Street.

Brown said that the grant money would be used for new outdoor signage.

"Our business is in desperate need of exterior painting," said Baked Dessert Cafe owner Robin Tomaselli.

"We're absolutely thrilled to get grant money to make improvements to the front of our building. It was in desperate need of being power washed and repainted."

With painters doing work on Monday when the store is typically closed, Tomaselli added that she hopes that Baked Dessert will have a brand-new paint finish within the next two weeks.

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John Latham campaigns for seat on Ocean Pines board

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The Ocean Pines Board of Directors election is beginning to take shape, although just two candidates are vying for one of three seats up for grabs this summer.

So far, John Latham, 59, and Elaine Brady are the only two candidates in the race to fill vacancies created by the departures of Directors Doug Parks and Collette Horn because of term limits, and Director Frank Daly, who is moving to Florida.



John Latham

Latham threw his hat into the ring last month, following Elaine Brady, who filed her candidacy a month earlier. The deadline to file for election is next Monday.

"I have been a homeowner in Ocean Pines since 2013," Latham said last week. "In 2021, my wife and I decided to make Ocean Pines our full-time residence, as we love everything about the community."

They previously resided in Pasadena, Maryland.

"I have been a volunteer for 20 plus

years and knew I wanted to continue my passion for service in my community. I am the current president of the Marina Village Condominium Association which allows me to utilize my business and leadership skills to help control costs for our owners and make sure we address the safety, aesthetics and value of our properties.

"I also serve on the OPA Marine Activities Advisory Committee and assisted in recommending the upgrades at the Mumford's boat ramp last year which resulted in much needed improvements to the ramp pier."

Latham said he planned to continue to seek solutions to provide ramp use for both residents and non-residents and to see that fee structures are effective.

Latham said if he is elected his focus would be on OP's finances to ensure the community has proper reserves to address road, drainage and other major projects.

As Latham sees it, it will be important to monitor the Route 90 bridge project and the Route 589 expansion to ensure the community has appropriate input.

He also prioritizes safety, fire and police protection.

See LATHAM Page 18

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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**(3) Onsite Online Only Auction: 7 June, 2023 @ 5 PM - On-Line Only Auction – Farm Equipment!** Personal Property located at: 25622 Rewastico Road, Hebron, MD 21830. Auction Held Online Only w/Bidding ending: Wed. June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Starting at 5 PM. John Deere 6400 Tractor, John Deere MX10 Rotary Cutter, Agco White MDI 6600 Planter, Grapple Bucket & more! **7 June, 2023 @ 6 PM - On-Line Only Auction – Seaford, DE!** Personal Property located at: 138 Hollyoak Drive, Seaford, DE 19973. Auction Held Online Only w/Bidding ending Wed. June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Starting at 6 PM! Antique and Modern Furniture, Jewelry, Collectables, Artwork, Tools & more! **SUMMER 2023 - On-Line Only Auction – Lewes, DE!** Personal Property located at a home in: Lewes, DE. Date to be listed soon! Glassware, China, Collectibles, Housewares & more!

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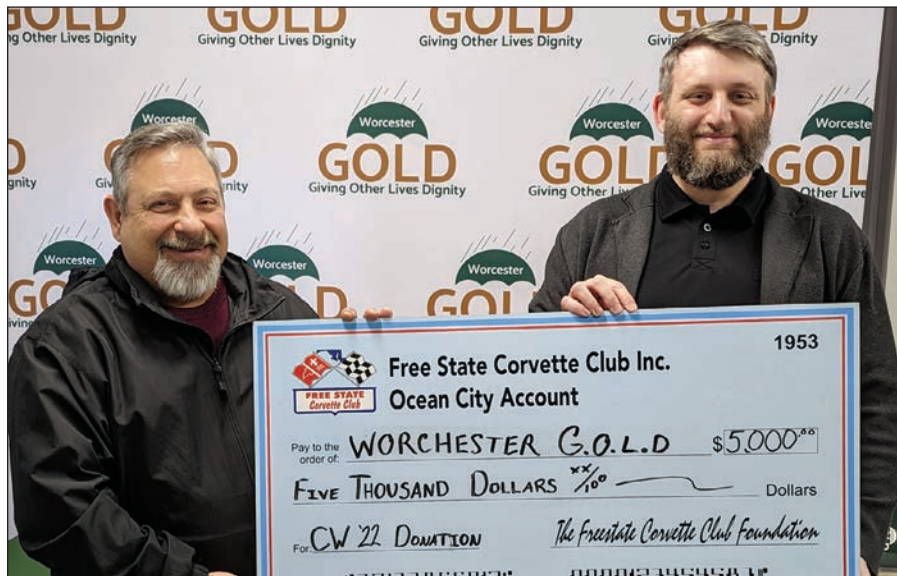
# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## CLEANING UP

Assateague Coastal Trust Community Engagement Coordinator Debbi Dean spearheaded a bayside trash cleanup on Assateague Island, Federal side, recently. Twenty-one participants from the Nature Explorers and 4-H homeschool group cleaned up 19 pounds of trash near the Assateague Outfitter's area.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## DONATION

For the past 35 years, the Free State Corvette Club has held one of the largest events on the East Coast, Corvette Weekend, in Ocean City. All proceeds are donated to charities selected by the club. Recently, Jerry Apicella from the Free State Corvette Club, left, presented Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity) Executive Director Nicholas Cranford with a donation.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## CONTEST WINNERS

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club held the finals of its oratorical contest on March 30 at Stephen Decatur Middle School. The winner was Jude Damouni, left, who was presented \$300. Avery Weber came in second and won \$200. Alexandro Pace finished in third and received \$150.



## HABITAT FAIR

Worcester Preparatory School's second grade students hosted a Habitat Fair on March 30, where attendees learned about the different places an animal makes a home, from the Rainforest to the Arctic and everything in between. (Far Left) Andrew and Karin Laroche, visit their son, Ian, to view his Arctic habitat model. (Middle) Adee Carmean was happy to have her parents, Hal and Mandi, at school to see her project. (Left) Auggie Hall, his dad, alumni Russell Hall '04 and mom, Michelle, check out his desert habitat.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## TOP GYMNAST

Twisters Level 10 gymnast Dylan Simons recently competed in the Junior Olympics Gymnastics regional event and qualified for nationals competition in May. Level 10 is the highest achievement in the USA Gymnastics Junior Olympics program. While there, the Worcester Preparatory School junior also received the Academic All-American award. Simons is pictured with his coach, Cameron Leonard.



PHOTO COURTESY ROGER PACELLA

## PROGRAM SUPPORT

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club recently donated \$1,500 to the Four Steps Therapeutic Riding Program. Pictured, from left, are Maribeth Kulynycz, Grayson Underwood, "Kitty," Sandy Winter, Maizy Underwood and "Diamond."



## NICE DAY FOR MUSIC

People crowd the streets to listen to the Nighthawks at Berlin's Jazz and Blues, Wine and Brews Festival last Saturday.

CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



## GARDEN BUILDING

Worcester Prep students, staff and volunteers braved wind and rain to build a new pollinator garden on April 1. Located by the school's existing raised flower beds, the pollinator garden will offer five 8x4 garden beds, with each class in the first through fifth grade designing a 4x4 section. The garden is designed to attract and support Monarch butterflies, but also many of the species on the Maryland critical watch list.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



# Micro-park gift to Berlin from local family

Evermoore Park, in heart of town, will provide special green space for all to enjoy

**By Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) Berlin is about to get a micro-park, thanks to Deborah and Michael Everett, the new owners of 1 Main Street.

The building was a bank in its former life, which began in 1889, but today it is the home to three women-owned businesses: Life's Simple Pleasures, Dolle's Candies and Dusty Lamb.

The facade on Main Street has a turret and historic trim work, but round the somewhat dangerous corner onto Bay Street, and there is an

See EVERETT Page 19



PHOTO COURTESY DEBORAH EVERETT

Michael Everett has built planter boxes to frame out the Evermoore Park, located behind his building on 1 Main Street. The park will be open for all to enjoy. Soon tables and chairs will be placed for people to sit and relax.



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## Latham's focus will be finance

Continued from Page 14

"If elected, my goal will be to help make our community even better. I will use my business background in leadership, communications, and financial acumen to help drive the decisions on important issues that are in the best interest of the Ocean Pines community."


Latham is a United States Marine Corps veteran and has a bachelor's degree and a master's in Business Management Studies from the University of Maryland, University College.

He currently works full time as the vice president of indirect and fleet GPO sales at Corcentric, LLC, a national procurement and financial automation consulting company.




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# Everett family committed to preserving historic building

Continued from Page 18  
 asphalt driveway and a drive-through window from its previous days as a bank.

That's about to change.

Deborah Everett is the granddaughter of Milford Twilley, a Salisbury developer who built many well-known condo complexes in Ocean City, including Ocean Colony and High Point.

Twilley created a family trust that Everett is using to purchase the building.

"When we saw the (for sale) sign go up, I knew who owned it. Michael and I thought it was the key building in Berlin."

The former owner was Michael Queen, who owned Rayne's Reef.

"We did not want someone from out of town to buy the building. Who knows what they would do to it. We wanted to keep the building the way it was for its historic relevance," Everett said.

"The only improvement we saw was to have a project to take away the focus of the drive through and turn it into a park," said Everett.

"The park will be for anyone in town to enjoy. We will be putting in concrete tables and benches for peo-

ple to have lunch or play a game of chess or checkers."

Michael Everett is building large planter boxes that will host banks of azaleas, Japanese boxwoods, nandina, vinca vines and annuals.

There will be a Japanese cherry tree planted to hide the telephone poll.

A large trellis with jasmine will hide the bank window.

The asphalt will remain, and Everett hopes to bring the community together to paint on the asphalt or provide sidewalk chalk so children can draw on it.

Patti Backer of Dusty Lamb will paint a large stand-alone mural of butterfly wings that will provide a background for photos.

Everett says there will be a designated entrance to the park to keep pedestrians safe.

The Everetts have chosen to name the space the Evermoore Park, to honor both of their families.

She plans to keep the building in the family for a long time. She and her husband have put it in a trust for their own grandchildren.

The Everetts expect the landscaping to be complete by the end of the month.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Johnny Malinowski, 15, a ninth grader at Stephen Decatur High School, planted a pollinator garden in White Horse Park in Ocean Pines as part of his Eagle Scout badge. Maryland Coastal Bays Program donated native plants for his project effort.

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# Opinion

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

## Fixing employees pay

All this talk about market value pay and percentages can be confusing to anyone trying to follow Berlin officials' discussion of how to fix the town's big payroll problem.

That problem, apparently, is that many town employees are being paid far less than their counterparts in similar areas, and that has led to difficulties in hiring and retaining the kinds of people town government needs.

The confusing aspect of this conversation is caused by the human resources nomenclature officials and staff use as they discuss how to react to the results of a compensation study.

The term "market value salaries," for instance, is an HR reference to how much a person would be paid, given market conditions. In plain English that means "the going rate."

More difficult to understand is what the mayor and council mean when they say they might have to settle for increasing employee pay to the 35 percent level of market value, instead of the 50 percent they prefer.

To be clear, this would not be a 35 percent pay increase. Look at it this way: the pay study found that the going rate for a Gadget Operator I is between \$35,000 a year and \$75,000, depending on the market. The dead center in that range, or median pay, is \$55,000 — 50 percent get more and 50 percent get less.

The mayor and council can't afford to bump up the Gadget Operator's pay to the median — or 50 percent — level, but feel they can raise it to where the town's Gadget Operator makes more than 35 percent of the other gadget operators in the total pay range of between \$35,000 to \$75,000. For Berlin's Gadget Operator, that would be \$49,000.

As the town's elected officials observed during this discussion, it's a shame that the employee pay situation has sunk to a point where it's too expensive to fix all at once.

But they have pledged to keep ratcheting up employees' pay until it reaches that median level sooner rather than later. That assurance has to mean something to workers who have been paid too little for too long, and they will get something in this budgetary go-round.

Regardless of how it's said — market value versus going rate — it's clear that the town has to pick up its employees after letting them down for so long.



## Discover Your Watershed this Saturday

(May 11, 2023) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program is hosting its second of a series of four Discover Your Watershed volunteer events from 9:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, May 13 at the at Ilia Fehrer Nature Preserve in Berlin.

Volunteers will be assisting in new trail demarcation, which will require lifting fallen branches and placing them along a pre-flagged trail.

There will also be some trail clearing. That will require walking across uneven ground and frequently lifting

more than 10 pounds.

All volunteers should wear close-toed shoes and appropriate outdoor clothing, long pants are recommended. Plan to bring a reusable water and bug spray. MCBP will provide a water jug for refilling water bottles, and morning coffee. Upon arrival, volunteers will be asked to sign a waiver.

There is no bathroom at this site — the MCBP office is close to the site and can be used in urgent situations.

On the morning of the event, meet at the Maryland Coastal Bays Program office

at 8219 Stephen Decatur Highway in Berlin.

At 9:30 a.m., the group will caravan/carpool to the restoration site - about a five-minute drive from the MCBP office. Anyone participating is asked to arrive at the MCBP office by 9:25 a.m.

Email MCBP Education Program Manager, Chandler Joiner, at [cjoiner@md-coastalbays.org](mailto:cjoiner@md-coastalbays.org) for more information.

Registration for this event can be found at [mdcoastalbays.org/event/discover-your-watershed-8/](http://mdcoastalbays.org/event/discover-your-watershed-8/).

**BAYSIDE GAZETTE**

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## OPA Jenkins Point public meeting set

(May 11, 2023) Ocean Pines Association and Maryland Coastal Bays Program will co-host a public meeting on the Jenkins Point Restoration Project at 6 p.m. Monday, May 15, in the clubhouse meeting room on 100 Clubhouse Drive.

Association President Doug Parks said the meeting would include an informational presentation from Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

"The Jenkins Point project

is designed to use natural and nature-based techniques to enhance community resilience to sea level rise, flooding and coastal storms, and to enhance wildlife habitat to the greatest extent possible to support coastal species," Parks said in a news release. "The meeting is intended to give residents an explanation of the various aspects of the project, including the design concept of the work, and an introduction to the project

team and contractors." To attend the meeting virtually, use the invite link: [teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_YTg3NDl1NzctNjliNiooMDJkLWEyNjAtNGVjZDU1MTYxZjUw%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbe60bd4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YTg3NDl1NzctNjliNiooMDJkLWEyNjAtNGVjZDU1MTYxZjUw%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbe60bd4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d).



# Budget hearing focuses on schools funds, public safety

By Jack Chavez  
Staff Writer

(May 11, 2023) The needs of the people and the local government that is charged with providing those needs change considerably over time, but over the years the wants of the people of Worcester County have stayed pretty consistent: Take care of our educators and first responders.

Twenty-one residents and officials from both government and local organizations spoke their minds at the annual public hearing for the Worcester County operational budget and proposed real property tax rate of \$0.845 per \$100 of assessment last Tuesday evening. The proposed rate is the same as last year's, but about 2.5 cents higher than the constant yield tax rate, the rate at which the county would generate the same revenue in FY24 as it will in FY23.

Before public comment, county officials broke down the costs and requests of county departments, outlining the \$11.6 million structural deficit the county faces in FY2024.

Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young outlined 10 "budget issues" that the county faces, which include funding the Blueprint for Maryland's Future education over-

haul, other education needs and requests, public safety, economic forecast and forecasting inflation.

The \$11.6-million difference between projected revenue and proposed spending shows how wide of a chasm has to be bridged if budget requests from county departments are to be met. The largest revenue generator by far is property tax, which the county expects to make up 68.9 percent of FY24 revenue. The next closest contributor is income taxes at 16.5 percent.

The vast majority of the public speakers on the evening of May 2 spoke on either the education budget or the public safety budget, which reflects the biggest slices of the overall FY24 budget request pie at 49 percent and 18.3 percent, respectively.

Public safety includes the Worcester County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Services, jail, the Fire Marshal's Office and fire and ambulance services.

Vice President of Lodge 50 of the Fraternal Order of Police Mike O'Leary, with his young daughter in tow, spoke about the difficulty lower shore law enforcement agencies face in recruiting and retaining officers.

See RESIDENTS Page 23



JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Nearly two dozen residents and county officials spoke during the public hearing last Tuesday night about the FY2024 operational budget, including Snow Hill Elementary School teacher Beth Shockley-Lynch. The county is working on an \$11.6-million deficit.

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"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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JACK CHAVEZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Bus contractor president Alan Hudson used some toy bus visuals to make his point about how important bus drivers are to the Worcester County Public School system during a hearing for the Worcester County operational budget last Tuesday.



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# Residents speak on school budget

# Group collecting items for summer camp scholarship

Continued from Page 21

Local agencies also rely heavily on personnel who retire to Worcester County after long careers elsewhere, but attrition could change minds, O’Leary said.

“Over the next few years, this job will be less attractive than it already is,” he said.

Scott Griffin, who was hired by the Sheriff’s Office after 32 years with the Baltimore County Police Department, said that he was “immediately impressed” by the integrity of the agency and its ability to serve Worcester County, but he highlighted the immense disparity in the two agencies’ dispatch time.

“While assisting in patrol in Worcester County, I quickly learned that when dispatched to a call, your backup can be 30 to 40 minutes away, sometimes more,” Griffin said, adding that in Baltimore County dispatch was typically two or three minutes away.

“In a violent domestic call or a routine traffic stop on Route 113 with a combative individual, 30 to 40 minutes is a lifetime.”

When it came time to speak about the education budget, a couple of speakers made their points with props.

“Here’s a school bus with two flat tires — it hit a nail in the road,” said Worcester County School Bus Contractors Association President Alan Hudson, as he laid out three small, toy school buses on the podium in front of him.

“Here’s a bus with the hood up. Lord knows what’s wrong with it ... In order to have a safe bus driver and bus for us to run, we need the county budget to be funded ... This (last) bus is ready to ride (safely) ... You can’t put a price on safety. We do our job every morning. As (county schools Superintendent) Lou Taylor said, we’re the first in the morning to see (students) and the last one in the evening to see them. We would like you to remember that and please, fund the county (school) budget.

Beth Shockley-Lynch, a teacher at Snow Hill Elementary School and the current president of the Worcester

County Teacher’s Association, took a page out of Bill Nye the Science Guy’s book and elected to make her point with a quick hands-on experiment.

Shockley-Lynch produced a nearly two-foot tube filled with two liquids — one clear, one yellow, resting atop each other — as she explained how every school’s team of volunteers examining their budgets requested that the county maintain a competitive salary to recruit, hire and maintain quality teachers.

The two liquids, she explained, represent two separate groups with their own ideas and agendas. Maybe they stay narrowly focused on their own needs and accomplish little.

“But if they can take tough issues and ... use all the elements of teamwork — communication, collaboration, mutual respect and trust — amazing things can happen,” Shockley-Lynch said as she dropped a handful of unknown substances into the tube, creating a frothy, green mixture.

“I look forward to working with you all to do the very best for our very best,” she said.

Several local officials and residents spoke about a recent discussion between the county and its board regarding the transparency of the education budget, which some people

view as unsatisfactory, especially at a time when the county is forced to be creative in how it saves money.

Though it remains unclear just what the county can do to compel such cooperation from the school system, there appears to be support for more transparency.

“I want to thank you for (requesting) transparency,” said resident Kate McCloskey. “(We must) get to those line items when you can discern between essential and nonessential. Right now, that’s difficult to do.”

After public comments were over, the only commissioner to speak was Caryn Abbott, who the week prior made her support for school budget transparency clear.

“It’s time to end the excuse (that) it’s never been done before or that it’s unprecedented when it should have been done all along,” Abbott said. “We owe it to all county taxpayers to be as transparent as possible and that includes all of us.”

Abbott also suggested that she might propose in the future a forensic audit to review the last five years of school budget numbers and “let the true transparency begin that we all desire.”

The commissioners will vote on the operational budget and FY24 property tax rate on June 6.

(May 11, 2023) Ocean Pines Get Involved and Worcester County GOLD are teaming up to help collect supplies for local at-risk children attending summer camps on scholarship.

Worcester County GOLD is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing emergency financial assistance and basic needs items for Worcester County residents living with low income.

This year, the nonprofit will supply scholarships for around 100 children to attend summer camps.

They are asking for donations of the following items: cinch bags or backpacks, beach towels, sunscreen, insect repellent, socks, sizes 1Y – 7Y and flip-flops or sandals, sizes 1Y – 7Y.

Items may be dropped off in a donation box in the Ocean Pines Administration Building lobby on 235 Ocean Parkway.

For more information on the donation drive, contact organizer Esther Diller at esmatt4@aol.com.

Summer camp scholarships are available to Worcester County residents living on a low income. For more information, email contact@worcestergold.org.

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## Our Calendar Pages

### In the OCToday and Bayside Gazette



# Cuisine

## Poached eggs served atop forbidden rice

What is it about eggs, lately?

I guess like anything else in my life, once I get my talons in something, I like to explore it to a modicum. The same holds true for guitar, piano, photography, writing et al.



By Paul Suplee,  
MBA, CEC, PC-3

I certainly am no master of any of this gobbledegook, but I do consider myself a jack of at least a few

trades, all with little to no compensatory benefits.

This is the life I have chosen, and so be it. I guess this is the result of driving my mother to insanity in my toddler years, relentlessly asking her "but, why?" I was always the "why" kid who couldn't take science or logic as an explanation.

Recently, my youngest daughter completed her undergraduate studies at Flagler College.

I was thrilled when she decided to finish out her education there, and it was two-fold.

First, I felt that Gabbie had found an institution that matched her demeanor, and one that would help her finish out her college career on solid footing.

Second, it meant frequent trips to St. Augustine for me and any kids who could accompany me. The destination was simply a perk, but it is one that is hard to ignore as that part of Florida is stunning.

One of our favorite restaurants is Sainte George in downtown St. Aug, and among the dishes was the Seared Tuna on Forbidden Rice.

If you have never had this grain (pictured here), suffice it to say that you need to buy some and add it to your pantry.

It is hands-down my favorite grain as it has a lovely bite and a savory, umami flavor profile.

Even simply cooking it with water, salt, pepper and garlic yields a shockingly delicious bed for many a meal.

Unfortunately, they took the tuna off the menu, the deciding factor for my daughter as to where the seven of us were going to eat one of our dinners.

So it goes in the business, and this was Gabbie's week, so she was given charge to choose our dining spots.

Ironically, not two hours before she called me to tell me that there was no need to eat at our usual spot due to



said tuna entrée crisis, I had completely-at-random purchased her an 11-pound bag of forbidden rice on Amazon, scheduled to be delivered the next day to her condo.

She asked what I was laughing at, and I told her nothing, and then a few minutes later told her to keep her eyes open for a package the following day.

She called me laughing, as she not only thought the story itself was funny, but she also thought an 11-pound bag of grains was equally humorous.

I assured her that once they start cooking with it, they'll thank me.

But I digress, as I started this whole mess off talking about eggs.

I went through a phase for a while where I could not eat them in any form, and for the last couple years, that has not been an issue.

However, they can get boring, so I try to mix it up. Here, I added some fried chili and garlic in oil, something you can now buy in our nation's largest box store.

Now I have to wonder how I'm cooking my eggs this morning. But, why?

### Poached Eggs on Forbidden Rice

serves 4

2 c. Forbidden rice

4 c. Chicken stock

Trimix\* as needed

8 ea. Fresh chicken or duck eggs (duck if you can find them)

White vinegar and salt, as needed

Pickled Jalapeno and onion, as needed (recipe follows)

Fried chili and garlic in oil, as needed

1. Put the rice, water and trimix in a pan large enough to hold it all with a lid (or a rice cooker if you have one).

2. Bring to a low boil, turn down to a simmer and cover, cooking for about 25 minutes. It is a hearty grain and may need more time so check it and play with it until it is done.

3. Meanwhile, bring the water, vinegar and salt to a rolling boil. An important note is to make sure that the water is at least 5 inches deep. This helps the eggs to form into that beautiful poached shape as they sink to the bottom.

4. Crack the eggs into a bowl, ensuring that the yolks do not break

5. Slowly pour the eggs into the water one-by-one so that they form into lovely balls.

6. cook until the proper doneness, meaning that the yolks are still nice and runny and the whites are firm. Another note is that you can do these ahead of time and chill them in ice water to stop the cooking process. Then, all you have to do is dunk them for a minute or two at go-time to heat through.

7. Drain on a kitchen towel or paper towel and keep warm until service

8. To plate up, simply place the forbidden rice on plates, garnish with the pickled chilies and onions, eggs and fried chili.

\*Trimix is my go-to seasoning blend. I picked it up at Johnson & Wales in the late '80s and it has stuck with me ever since. It is a simple combination of two parts coarse Kosher salt, one part coarse ground pepper and one part granulated garlic.

*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., May 11

### ESA 2023 NORTHEAST REGIONAL SURFING CHAMPIONSHIP

36th Street & Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City. Family-friendly event. All ages and genders will be competing to become the ESA Northeast Champion in their age divisions to qualify for the ESA's national event in September. <https://surfesa.org>.

### STORY TIME: WATER SAFETY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Join Miss Morgan for an exciting story time to celebrate Water Safety Month. Stick around after for a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PLAY TIME

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

### CHESS CLUB

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

### PLANTER DEMONSTRATION

Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek, 30220 Piney Neck Road, Dagsboro, 11:30 a.m.-12:03 p.m. Jan Poli demonstrates how to create a summer planter. Admission is free for members, \$15 for non-members and free to kids 16 years and younger. Cost for class is \$10. Tickets: [delawaregardens.org](http://delawaregardens.org).

### TRIVIA WITH THE LIBRARY

Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st St., 2 p.m. Join the Ocean City Library for Trivia. Test your knowledge and win prizes. 410-524-1818, [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)

### 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., May 12

### ESA 2023 NORTHEAST REGIONAL SURFING CHAMPIONSHIP

36th Street & Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City. Family-friendly event. All ages and genders will be competing to become the ESA Northeast Champion in their age divisions to qualify for the ESA's national event in September. <https://surfesa.org>

### BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes and finger plays. For children aged up to 2 years and their caregivers. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. A short structured activity and then socialize and play with other homeschool families. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### HOBBIES CLUB: CREATIVE COOKING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. The group will use various snacks and foods to create some incredible things. For ages 6 years and older. Registration required: 410-208-4014. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BOOK DISCUSSION: 'KUSAMA' BY ELISA MACELLARI

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the Ocean Pines Library front desk. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. One crab cake sandwich platter costs \$14; 2-sandwich-platter, \$24; and crab cake sandwich only, \$10. Platters include green beans, bake potato and Cole slaw. Bake sale table and carryout available.

### COOKS-N-BOOKS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 6-11:59 p.m., It's National Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Choose a book from the display and make a dish to share at the potluck celebration. Registration necessary: 410-957-0878.

## Sat., May 13

### ESA 2023 NORTHEAST REGIONAL SURFING CHAMPIONSHIP

36th Street & Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City. Family-friendly event. All ages and genders will be competing to become the

ESA Northeast Champion in their age divisions to qualify for the ESA's national event in September. <https://surfesa.org>

### TINKER TIME: SPRING FLOWERS

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

### DISCOVER YOUR WATERSHED VOLUNTEER EVENT

Maryland Coastal Bays Program, 8219 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 9:25-11:30 a.m. Volunteers will be assisting in new trail demarcation at the Ilia Fehrer Nature Preserve in Berlin. Driving over at 9:30 a.m. Registration: <https://md-coastalbays.org/event/discover-your-watershed-8/>.

### OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 a.m. Joe Jankowski, of "Protectors of the St. Martin River," will address the history of the group, what they're involved in and what progress they're making in growing oysters. All welcome. 410-641-7662

### POCOMOKE CITY'S BLUE & GOLD DAY & 5K

Pocomoke Middle School - Fields, 800 Eighth St., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Featuring a 5k walk/run, food vendors, Kona Ice, live performances and more. Wear blue and gold or Pocomoke attire. [downtown-pocomoke.com](http://downtown-pocomoke.com); Sarah Lacey, 410-957-1333, Ext. 111, [karah@pocomokemd.gov](mailto:karah@pocomokemd.gov)

### SECOND ANNUAL FURNACE FAIRIES AND GNOMES CELEBRATION

Furnace Town Historic Site (Nasawango Iron Furnace), 3816 Old Furnace Road, Snow Hill, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5-15 years and free to those 4 years and younger. Join in to frolic with fairies, garden with gnomes, ride a unicorn, trade with an ogre, say hi to giants, and make friends with a mermaid! Vendors, food, games, and entertainment galore! 410-632-2032

### SATURDAY MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Join in for a showing of this music-filled movie featuring hit songs from the popular 1970's group ABBA and starring Meryl Streep. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### DANCE ALLEY PRESENTS ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Two shows: noon and 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$15.

<https://ocmdperformingartscenter.com/upcoming-events/ALICE%20IN%20WONDERLAND>

### TRIMPER RIDE'S 'MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND'

Trimper Rides of Ocean City, 700 S. Atlantic Ave., 12-3 p.m. Mom can join in on giveaways, a portrait area and hair styling stations. Get hair tinsel, braids, updos, and face paint. <http://trimperrides.com/trimper-news/may-at-trimper-ride>, 410-289-8617

### MOMS, MUFFINS AND SCRAPBOOKS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 12 p.m. Celebrate Mother's Day. Enjoy a muffin while you craft. Bring your favorite photos. Basic craft materials provided, while supplies last. All ages welcome. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### LADIES HIGH TEA FUNDRAISER

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 1-3 p.m. Scones, sandwiches, desserts and a variety of teas. Silent auction for a child's quilt and other opportunities to win prizes. Donation is \$20. RSVP: 443-604-8068. Donations go to the church.

### 3RD ANNUAL COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE

Ocean Pines Golf Club - Parking Lot, 100 Clubhouse Drive, 3 p.m. For a map of the route: [www.strava.com/routes/3078724701677858202](http://www.strava.com/routes/3078724701677858202). Participants must be experienced riders ages 12 and older. Helmets required. Advance registration: 410-641-7052, [rec@oceanpines.org](mailto:rec@oceanpines.org).

### FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

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

## Sun., May 14

### MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 8 a.m.-noon. Scrambled eggs, home fries, sausage, bacon, scrapple, chipped beef, pancakes, danish and more. Bloody Marys/Mimosas cost \$5. Admission cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Open to the public.

### MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek, 30220 Piney Neck Road, Dagsboro, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free adult admission with a food donation for Food Bank of Delaware. For list of needed food items: <https://www.delawaregardens.org/new-events/2023/5/14/mothers-day>. Free



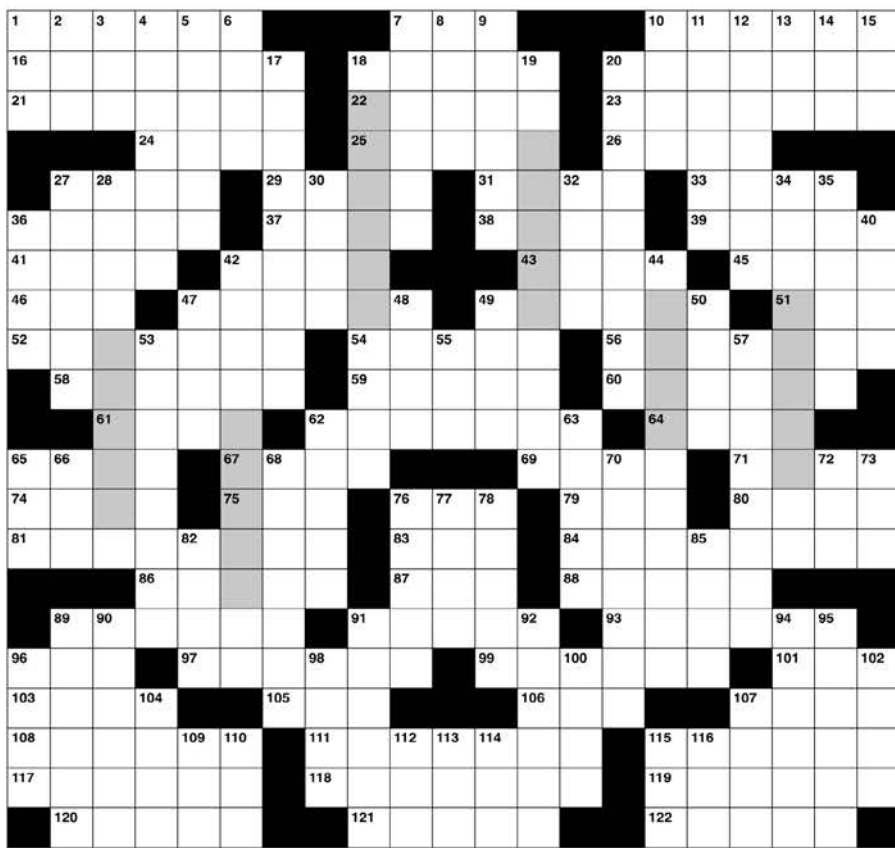
# Puzzles

## NAME DROPPING

BY LEWIS ROTHLEIN AND JEFF CHEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Lewis Rothlein is a yoga instructor and jazz-piano enthusiast in Asheville, N.C. Jeff Chen is a writer and professional crossword constructor in Seattle. This is their third collaboration for The Times. The theme idea was Lewis's. To find the best examples, Jeff wrote code and sifted the results from the database at XWordInfo.com, which has about 240,000 answer words from past Times crosswords. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cuts back
  - 7 ID that's never reused
  - 10 Colorful seafood
  - 16 Removals of impurities, informally
  - 18 2020 film starring a cartoon dog
  - 20 Put on a pedestal
  - 21 Tony-winning musical with puppets
  - 22 "Anybody home?!"
  - 23 Burst of sonic ecstasy
  - 24 Southern California sch.
  - 25 Bestow
  - 26 Old Testament prophet
  - 27 One of cinq in "Tartuffe"
  - 29 One of 100 in Pooh's woods
  - 31 H.S. safety org.
  - 33 Repeated musical phrase
  - 36 Eldest of a literary trio
  - 37 Pair of glasses?
  - 38 Little monster
  - 39 Barrier to entry
  - 41 Big fat mouth
  - 42 \_\_\_ blockers (heart rate meds)
  - 43 Can you dig it? Yes, you can!
  - 45 Angels can be found in it
  - 46 Long blade, of a sort
- DOWN**
- 47 Curved edges formed by intersecting vaults, in architecture
  - 49 Cutting part of The Onion?
  - 51 Before, in poetry
  - 52 5, 6 or 7, in golf
  - 54 Baseball slang for a home run
  - 56 Ones getting hit on at parties?
  - 58 "I'm dead serious"
  - 59 Cheering loudly
  - 60 Tool that evolved from the sickle
  - 61 Microwave
  - 62 Attaches with a click
  - 64 Hindu god of pleasure
  - 65 Does away with
  - 67 Climbing Kilimanjaro, e.g.
  - 69 Learned
  - 71 "Squawk Box" network
  - 74 "True \_\_\_"
  - 75 Mother \_\_\_
  - 76 Shipping option
  - 79 Word with rolling or bowling
  - 80 Related (to)
  - 81 Having a commanding lead
  - 83 Verbal equivalent of a thumbs-down
  - 84 Singer Marian, the first African American to perform at the Met
  - 86 Bathroom powders
  - 87 One whose boss laughs a lot
  - 88 Car driven by Thelma and Louise, familiarly
  - 89 Charged toward
  - 91 Lager-head?
  - 93 "Al-I-most done"
  - 96 Spanish title: Abbr.
  - 97 Grows
  - 99 Events of interest, with "on"
  - 101 Feeling down
  - 103 Bit of vocal fanfare
  - 105 Home project inits.
  - 106 Plays a Halloween prank on, in brief
  - 107 Actress Lillian with a 75-year film career
  - 108 Pain reliever with an oxymoronic name
  - 111 Synonym and rhyme of "erases"
  - 115 Insulating sleeve for a beverage
  - 117 Beezus's sister, in children's literature
  - 118 String-and-spool toy
  - 119 Refined
  - 120 Approve
  - 121 Dastardly expression
  - 122 Subject of many a political scandal
  - 10 Give a lecture, with "out"
  - 11 Concerns for coders and copy editors
  - 12 Has a "ruff" night?
  - 13 Org. in "Argo"
  - 14 Baking meas.
  - 15 "\_\_\_ Bones" (classic spiritual)
  - 17 The get-go
  - 18 Reeked
  - 19 Check out, as a book
  - 20 "Whoa!"-inducing experiences
  - 27 Subway line toward New York's Kennedy Airport
  - 28 Cautious (of)
  - 30 New York's \_\_\_ Field
  - 32 Two-thirds of 105-Across
  - 34 Informants, informally
  - 35 Botanists' specimens
  - 36 Very tiny bit
  - 40 Homophone of vowels not found in this answer
  - 42 Longtime anchor of "NBC Nightly News"
  - 44 Guarding, as a goal
  - 47 Understand, as coined in 1961's "Stranger in a Strange Land"
  - 48 Tegan and \_\_\_ (indie-pop duo)
  - 49 High \_\_\_
  - 50 Popular singer who has recorded in Elvish
  - 53 What "Nothing for me" might mean
  - 55 Upside?
  - 57 Plastic conveniences
  - 62 Calls (for)
  - 63 Playfully bite
  - 65 Texter's segue
  - 66 When you get it, you may say it
  - 68 Oohed and aahed, e.g.
  - 70 Penalty boxes, in hockey lingo
  - 72 Lead-in to tech
  - 73 Atlanta's \_\_\_ Center
  - 76 Gets a lift (but not a Lyft)
  - 77 Sport whose players wear boots
  - 78 The first letter in "gigantic," but not the third
  - 82 Partner of hems
  - 85 Prohibition and others
  - 89 Commotion
  - 90 Title woman who has children at her feet, in a 1968 hit
  - 91 Person dealing with casting and lines
  - 92 2004 Don Cheadle film set in Africa
  - 94 Like England in the late 16th century
  - 95 Trig function
  - 96 Commotion
  - 98 Came up with an invention?
  - 100 \_\_\_ facto
  - 102 Theme park cry
  - 104 Call overseas
  - 107 It means "waterless place" in Mongolian
  - 109 Musical artist who designed Reykjavik's Imagine Peace Tower
  - 110 Accept defeat, in modern slang
  - 112 Groupie
  - 113 Only prez to receive a patent
  - 114 Runner Sebastian with four Olympic medals
  - 115 Director of "The Shining" and "Dr. Strangelove"
  - 116 Hockey great Bobby



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## su | do | ku

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HARD - 91

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.

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

### Answers to last week's puzzles

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

|           |           |           |          |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| OFT       | SPAT      | BARON     | HABLA    |
| PLEA      | RAGU      | ALOHA     | APLUS    |
| AIRGUITAR | PLAYS     | SATRICK   |          |
| HRREP     | TINT      | ORA       | REINKS   |
| STANDS    | IN THEWAY | COLD      |          |
| TOO       | INST      | LENSCAP   |          |
| JERKS     | AROUND    | MID       | USE      |
| ABU       | KERR      | SCAM      | AORTA    |
| DOSED     | FALLS     | OUT       | OFFFAVOR |
| EYELEVEL  | AWARE     | LITER     |          |
| ACER      | LWORD     | LOEB      |          |
| CSPAN     | DAFOE     | GOPLACES  |          |
| BATS      | FIVE      | HUNDRED   | DRAWL    |
| FRES      | EARL      | NAES      | MAE      |
| FOR       | HEN       | BEARS     | INMIND   |
| SNIFTER   | GLAM      | ROE       |          |
| LOCS      | PLANT     | SEVIDENCE |          |
| SMIZES    | HOT       | SOME      | UTAHN    |
| PUZZLES   | OVER      | DARK      | HUMOR    |
| ONEIL     | STENO     | AIDA      | PESO     |
| TIDES     | NODTO     | SLIT      | DEN      |



# Calendar

Continued from Page 25  
for kids 16 years and younger.

## TRIMPER RIDE'S 'MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND'

Trimper Rides of Ocean City, 700 S. Atlantic Ave., 12-3 p.m. Mom can join in on giveaways, a portrait area and hair styling stations. Get hair tinsel, braids, updos, and face paint. <http://trimper-rides.com/trimper-news/may-at-trimper-ride>, 410-289-8617

## 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 15

### MEDICARE OPTIONS SEMINAR

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 9-10:30 a.m. Lynne McAllorum, an independent agent with expertise in Medicare products, will present a free seminar to discuss rules and what's available on the market. Reservations required: 410-641-7052.

### STORY TIME 'TRANSPORTATION'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and a craft about cars, planes, trucks and trains. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PAINTING WITH THREAD

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Embroidered art canvases are easy and fun to make, and will brighten up any room in your home. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Examine the opening chapter "The Body of the Condemned" from Michael Foucault's book "Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison." 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### SUPER POWERED STEM: CODING WITH OZOBOTS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4 p.m. Use coding techniques to help the Ozobot complete activities and challenges. For ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

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

### BASIC COMPUTER HELP

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 5:30 p.m. Learn

how to set up and use an e-mail account and how to do basic internet searches. Q&A session at the end. Registration required: 410-957-0878. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### JENKINS POINT RESTORATION PROJECT PUBLIC MEETING

Ocean Pines Golf Club - Clubhouse Meeting Room, 100 Clubhouse Drive, 6-8 p.m. Includes an informational presentation from Maryland Coastal Bays Program. To attend the meeting virtually, use the invite link: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_YTg3NDllNzct-NjliNiooMDJkLWeyNjAtNGVjZDU1MTYxZjUw%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbe60b-d4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YTg3NDllNzct-NjliNiooMDJkLWeyNjAtNGVjZDU1MTYxZjUw%40thread.v2/o?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22625a6322-2b2f-40fa-94f8-d7dd44d78153%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221bbe60b-d4e0-49eb-b4c6-d257cae7f063%22%7d).

### 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 16

### PARACHUTE PLAY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Get exercise while playing with a parachute. Games and music will add to the fun. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### OUTSIDE PLAY: BUBBLES

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. It's outside play time at the library. Dress to get dirty. For ages 2-5 years. If there is inclement weather, the library will have an inside play day. 410-957-0878. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### KOMBUCHA AND THE RAW FOOD MOVEMENT

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 p.m. Logan Willey, owner of Real Raw Organics, will talk about what kombucha and raw food are and the health benefits of both. Samples provided. Registration required: 410-524-1818.

### BEACH HEROES-OC

*Tuesdays* - Volunteer beach clean-up group meets from 9-10 a.m., year-round.

Trash bags, grippers and gloves provided. Check the Facebook page "Beach Heroes-OC" for weekly meeting locations. All are welcome.

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

*Tuesdays* - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 7 p.m. [www.jw.org](http://www.jw.org)

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

### OC KNITTING CLUB

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

### ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

## Wed., May 17

### RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF WORCESTER COUNTY GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Held May 25 at Worcester Technical High School, 6290 Worcester Highway, Newark. Doors open at 10:30 a.m., meeting begins at 11 a.m. The guest speaker will be Nicole Bennett. Cost for luncheon is \$23.50. Reservations: [gop-womenofworcester.org](http://gop-womenofworcester.org) by May 17.

### BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

### EASTERN SHORE SEWISTS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Promoting the needle arts through sewing education, activities and textile crafts. For artisans of all skill levels. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BACKGAMMON CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Drop in for a game of strategy, whether you're an expert or want to refresh your skills. Beginners welcome. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

John H. "Jack" Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center, 9707 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 1-2 p.m. For survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880

### MONTHLY MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines

Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Missed it in theaters? Catch a recent movie you might have intended to see. Free. Check for movie details at [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org) or 410-208-4014.

### DIY DIFFUSER BRACELETS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. These handmade bracelets are infused with essential oils of your choice. All supplies included, limit 16. Registration required: 410-641-0650. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Suite 104, Berlin, 3-4 p.m. For stroke survivors, family and friends. 410-641-4765, [blgime@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:blgime@atlanticgeneral.org)

### SHARPIE TIE-DYE TEES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Create a custom tie-dye shirt with permanent markers and rubbing alcohol. Bring your own white T-shirt. For ages 8 years and older. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### DIABETES EDUCATION

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4-6 p.m. Discussions and education on the topic of diabetes, focusing on long-term complications, prevention, screening and foot/wound care. Alyce Morzola, [amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org)

### KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

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

## ONGOING EVENTS

### TINY ART COMPETITION (WEAVING EDUCATION)

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](http://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](mailto:jak@macinc.org).



# CLASSIFIED Marketplace

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

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

**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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[berlinpizza@hotmail.com](mailto:berlinpizza@hotmail.com)

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**Hiring Cooks, Audio/Video Techs, Maintenance Staff, Painters, Carpenter, Plumber, Housekeeper, Boat Mates**  
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**Office Clerical Position Full Time** Small local established company seeking motivated person to assist our growing office. Salary with benefits. General office skills required. **Call 410-641-4411.**

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

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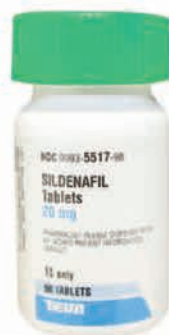
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