



HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Charges dismissed, state files for appeal

Judge says district court, not circuit, has jurisdiction in Mailloux hit-and-run case

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) Dorchester County Circuit Judge Brett W. Wilson granted a motion to dismiss all charges filed against Tyler Mailloux, 23, of Berlin, who was charged as the driver in a hit-and-run that killed 14-year-old Ocean Pines resident Gavin Knupp last summer.

The judgement came during a hearing at Worcester County Circuit Court in Snow Hill Friday morning on numerous motions filed by the prosecution and defense in the Mailloux case in which the defendant faced 17 charges in connection to leaving the scene of the incident.

The accident took place on Grays Corner Road around 10:30 p.m. on July 11, 2022, when Knupp was crossing the road and was struck by a vehicle. He was pronounced dead that night at Atlantic General Hospital.

The judge agreed with Mailloux's attorney, George Psoras Jr., of Rice Murtha & Psoras LLC, in Lutherville, that Worcester County District Court had "exclusive original jurisdiction" over the first eight counts because they were traffic related, meaning prosecutors should have filed the charges in district court first instead of going to circuit court.

State's Attorney Kristin Heiser said in a text after the ruling that the prosecution is disputing the decision in the Appellate Court of Maryland.

"We have already filed an appeal
See STATE Page 3

FIRE SCARE

A two-alarm fire at the Exxon station on Grays Corner Road left an estimated \$350,000 in damages on Tuesday. Over 50 firefighters from Berlin Volunteer Fire Company and 13 other fire stations worked for nearly four hours to extinguish the flames. The cause is still under investigation.

New suitor for Heron Park?

Another development plan for parcel expected to be offered at end of month

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) Berlin Councilmember Jay Knerr reported Monday night after the mayor and council meeting that another developer wants to present the town with a mixed used plan and price for the Heron Park properties.

During a discussion about the location of a skatepark on Parcel 410 at Heron Park, Knerr observed that another person might be coming in with a proposal and suggested keeping the location of the skatepark "more generic" so changes a second pro-

posal might want to incorporate could be accommodated.

"He currently has an architect working on the project which he hopes to present to the mayor and council by the end of the month," Knerr said.

"His plan would incorporate a skatepark. At this time, no details have been shared with the mayor and council regarding this plan."

If it comes about, this proposal would compete with one offered by Palmer Gillis of Coastal Ventures Properties.

His plan, Gillis has said, visualizes "a vibrant and lively multi-use commercial building(s) providing a home for a plethora of businesses, events, and community to exist here. Our goal is to create a stronger public use

by providing a new roadway from Old Ocean City Boulevard directly to the entrance of Heron Park. Not only do we want the community to continue the use of the park and lagoons, we want to help foster this use and provide greater amenities for the public."

It goes on to identify some of the potential uses for the land, including a public amphitheater, restaurants and eateries, garden center, multi-use fields, bike racks and offices.

The timeline for a decision on the future of Heron Park is limited because of the need to use a \$500,000 grant provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help cover the demolition of the old poultry plant buildings still on the property.

See DEMOLITION Page 4

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State: Mailloux prosecution on pause while on appeal

Continued from Page 1

so the case is basically paused until we get a decision from the appellate court," she said.

"How the case proceeds after the decision is handed down all depends on the decision of the appellate court and their legal reasoning," she added on Monday.

Pamela Correa, assistant state's attorney who represented the state at the motion hearing, filed an appeal at 12:25 p.m. on Friday, less than an hour after Judge Wilson issued his decision.

Michael Farlow, also an assistant state's attorney, stood and asked the judge if circuit court has the authority to send the charges back to district court, to which Wilson answered that it does not.

"It is our understanding that the case was dismissed on procedural grounds and that decision is being appealed," Knupp family attorney Neil Dubovsky said Monday.

Psoras said in court that since the charges have concurrent jurisdiction in both courts, Mailloux would have had the right to ask to move from district court to circuit court for a judge or jury trial. But, the charges would have had to be filed in district court first.

On Tuesday, the court filed Wilson's order to dismiss the charges.

Four of the 17 charges were felonies, and two carried a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison. All the charges were related to Mailloux's alleged failure to stop at the scene or report it later.

Mailloux's family members sat in the front-right seats of the courtroom. Mailloux entered and sat with them while waiting for the hearing to begin. Mailloux moved to sit beside Psoras at a table shared with the assistant state's attorneys once the hearing started.

Psoras only made it through two of the 12 motions defense had filed over the last few months before the judge dismissed the charges and ended the

hearing. Those two motions involved requests for dismissal of charges and a change of venue.

After the motions were heard, Wilson held a brief recess. When the hearing reconvened, the judge said that it had come to his attention that someone in the courtroom was live-streaming the proceedings, though he didn't know who. The courtroom has a strict phones-off policy.

The judge ordered whoever was responsible for the streaming to stop, and said that if he discovered the person's identity a contempt of court charge would follow.

At that point, Wilson granted the defense's motion to dismiss charges and released Mailloux from pre-trial orders.

"We are thankful the court applied the law that led to the favorable outcome for our client Tyler Mailloux," said Randolph Rice, managing partner of Rice Murtha & Psoras LLC.

"We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Gavin Knupp following the tragic loss of their beloved son. We understand that this is an incredibly challenging time for the Knupp family, and our thoughts and condolences are with them as they navigate through this period of grief," Rice added.

Just after 1 p.m. on Friday, Mailloux filed a petition for expungement of records on the basis that the charges were dismissed. Through the document, Mailloux asks to remove "all police and court records pertaining to" the charges.

Social media backlash on the Do It For Gavin - Justice for Gavin Facebook group ranged from harsh accusations of corruption and condemnation of the State's Attorney's Office for the perceived procedural mistake, to legal theories that the prosecutors were prepared for this outcome.

One Aug. 19 post from the Facebook group states, "Money talks
See CHARGES Page 4

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Charges dismissed during motions hearing last Friday

Continued from Page 3
criminals walk. Disgusting and heart-breaking.”

Some questioned how the state’s attorney could file charges in the wrong court after close to a year of preparation. Another poster responded, speculating that the move was part of a legal strategy.

Ray Knupp, Gavin’s father, posted on Facebook on Aug. 18, saying that the ruling doesn’t mean the case is over. There is a chance to bring the case to district court or to return to circuit court, pending the appeal, he wrote.

“The judge miss read (sic) the law and no one can understand why he made that ruling. We have already appealed it and will know in the next few weeks,” Knupp said in the post.

Knupp said that it could be in the Knupp family’s favor to have the case in district court, since prosecutors would only have to convince a judge instead of a jury.

“The downside is if he gets convicted he can appeal it to the Circuit Court and we have to suffer through the trial again and take another chance that it could get overturned,” Knupp said.

During Psoras’s argument for a change of venue (moving the trial to another jurisdiction), he argued that prejudice against Mailloux was so extreme across Worcester County that it wouldn’t be possible to hold a fair and impartial trial for him there.

“It’s already been decided, your honor, that my client has done this,” Psoras said.

Psoras cited the comments from the Facebook page Do it For Gavin - Justice for Gavin. The defense pointed out that Ray Knupp had at one point changed his Facebook profile picture to an image of Mailloux, with text pasted over it that read “F— you Tyler.”

The same phrase has been spray

painted on the asphalt in front of the memorial for Gavin Knupp on Grays Corner Road, where the hit-and-run occurred, Psoras said.

In several instances, Psoras grabbed Mailloux by the shoulder and leaned down toward him as the attorney enunciated the phrase “F— you Tyler.”

Ralph DeAngelus, local businessman and boyfriend to Mailloux’s mother, Kearston Frey, lost businesses because of what Psoras described as a “mob” that has rallied against Mailloux and everyone connected to him.

There have been physical threats directed at Mailloux, his family and even his legal counsel, Psoras said.

In her rebuttal, Correa said that not all of the attention given to the case online or in print can be attributed solely to Worcester County residents. Correa also argued that county residents farther south, like in Pocomoke, would have had less exposure to the case, and that the process of jury selection could solve any problems with bias.

Regardless, the dismissal of charges rendered moot the change of venue motion and the others.

Demolition clock keeps on ticking

Continued from Page 1

Mayor Zack Tyndall believes a decision on the property needs to be made by the end of this month to get the ball rolling on demolition before the June 2024 deadline for spending the grant.

The Heron Park property is home to the former Tyson’s poultry processing plant on Old Ocean City Blvd. It was purchased by the town of Berlin in 20016 for \$2.5 million.

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Cassandra Vanhooser, Nick Hargrove, Roxanne Wolf and Rich Loeffler testify before senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen during a hearing focused on small business in Berlin.

Md. senators come to Berlin for small business hearing

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Town of Berlin is home to 5,000 residents and 250 businesses. So, it's no wonder that Maryland Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen chose it as the site to host a field hearing for the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship at the council chambers on Thursday.

The focus of the hearing was "Small Business Resiliency: Learning to succeed in America's dynamic economy." The hearing was chaired by Senator Ben Cardin.

Mayor Zack Tyndall welcomed the senators and Congressman Andy Harris to town. Prior to the hearing, they took a stroll through Berlin to meet with several small business owners.

Tyndall said Berlin may be thriving today as a great place to work and live, but that was not always the case.

Cardin noted that rural areas have faced significant challenges over the past few years, including covid19, natural disasters, internet connectivity, access to a trained workforce and lack of capital.

"We are here to help," he said.

The senators and Harris heard testimony from business owners and economic development professionals from the Eastern Shore during the hearing, including Roxanne Wolf, the program director of Shore Gourmet, Nick Hargrove of Wittman Wharf Seafood, Cassandra Vanhooser, the director of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for Talbot County and Rick Loeffler, a business consultant for Maryland Small Business Development Center Network.

During her testimony, Vanhooser highlighted the development of the Eastern Shore Economic Resiliency Toolkit, which was drafted during the pandemic, but was created to address any economic upheaval. The toolkit provides data exploration tools to

help the region recover from economic shock and build additional resiliency against future disruptions.

Ideas and case studies were shared by Wolf for turning vacant poultry houses into profitable micro farms for specialty herbs and nutraceuticals, products derived from food sources that provide both nutrition and medicinal benefits.

Her company has developed a bacterial abatement protocol with the University of Delaware and VerLina in Ridgely, Maryland to safely convert poultry houses into growing environments.

"Farmers need help in changing their business model to diversify and bring innovation and technology into their farms," Wolf said.

Hargrove shared his experience turning an oyster house into a USDA certified blue catfish processing facility to harvest this invasive fish that is harming the local blue crab population and thus the fishing industry.

Today, he processes 15,000 lbs. of fish a day.

While that is a lot of fish, Hargrove said he needs equipment that can ramp up production so he can meet the demands of his customers and

See FOCUS Page 6



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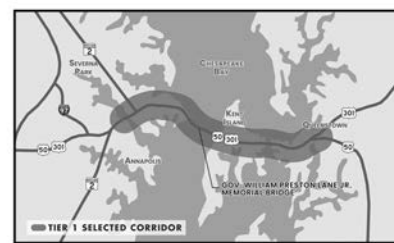
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On September 7, 12, and 14, 2023, the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) will host Open Houses for the Chesapeake Bay Crossing Study: Tier 2 NEPA (Tier 2 Study). The Tier 2 Study considers measures to provide congestion relief and improve travel reliability, mobility, and safety across the Chesapeake Bay. The Tier 2 Study is focusing on the two-mile wide Selected Corridor Alternative (Corridor 7), which extends from the Severn River Bridge to the US 50/US 301 split and was approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in the Record of Decision from the Tier 1 Study.



The MDTA is committed to providing opportunities for inclusive and transparent stakeholder engagement to support an equitable transportation study and outcome. The MDTA invites all interested parties to join us, either virtually or in-person, at an upcoming Tier 2 Study Open House.

Open House attendees will be able to:

- learn about the Tier 2 Study including the proposed Purpose and Need and alternatives development process,
- discuss the Tier 2 Study with MDTA's team and ask questions, and
- provide comments (the comment period will end at midnight on October 16, 2023).

There will be no formal presentation; however, the study team will be available to answer questions during both the in-person and virtual Open Houses.

The same information will be provided at each of the Open Houses. Open House materials are available to review on the Study website at baycrossingstudy.com.



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Kent Island American Legion Post 278
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Virtual Open House
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baycrossingstudy.com

Individuals who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the MDTA at 410-537-1000 (711 for MD Relay) no later than 10 business days before the Open House they would like to attend.



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Senators Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin and Congressman Andy Harris listen to Eastern Shore business owners and economic development professionals testify during a field hearing in Berlin.

Focus on small business needs

Continued from Page 5

allow him to hire more employees as well as help save the bay ecosystem and crab population.

“We have been able to keep the price of the fish high and stable, ensuring that the fishermen get fair prices for their catch and compensated for their hard work,” Hargrove said.

Each speaker provided recommendations for ways Congress could help rural businesses survive and thrive.

Loeffler suggested developing a rural loan product that is based on the covid-era Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, to support greater resilience for businesses that need to develop a pivot strategy, especially for smaller businesses.

Hargrove gave recommendations that would assist the crab and fishing

industries in Maryland.

He called for a tax or tariff on foreign crab meat with the proceeds going back to rebuild aquatic habitat and help combat the predation caused by invasive species including blue catfish, cownose rays and snakeheads.

He also suggested putting blue catfish into its own category, since now they are in the same regulatory category as farm-raised fish.

Wild blue catfish do not have salmonella like farm raised fish do, and therefore do not need more vigorous regulations to ensure a safe product goes to market.

“If we don’t, we are going to be known as the Chesapeake Bay, home of the blue catfish, not Chesapeake Bay, home of the blue crab.”

Wolf pitched the idea of branding Maryland products, similar to Wisconsin Cheese and Maine blueberries that consumers look to purchase.

Many of these products, such as nutraceutical herbs, mushrooms and algae are coming from overseas with questionable growing practices, Wolf said.

“Consumers prefer domestic and local,” Wolf said.

“We need programs that allow businesses to grow and prosper, even during times of uncertainty, and your commitment through funding that provides the resources and the flexibility for local jurisdictions to implement programs that help small businesses thrive,” Vanhooser said.

In closing Cardin recognized the need to pass laws to update the nation’s visa program to address the need for seasonal workers on the Eastern Shore as well as to recruit a more permanent workforce.

“We need to target better to help rural Americans,” Cardin said.



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OP residents elect three new board members on Thursday

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) Residents of Ocean Pines can watch Election Trust count the ballots for the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors elections at 5 p.m. Thursday.

The count will be broadcast via zoom at us02web.zoom.us/j/84672869696?pwd=bDdlZHVNdDRwQW5oMGhPR1VoQzB2Zz09&from=addon

Tom Piatti, the chair of the Election Committee collected 58 ballots from the drop box on Tuesday evening for overnight delivery to Election Trust.

The company reported receiving 2909 ballots as of Tuesday.

“We have already exceeded last year’s voter participation,” Piatti said.

Ocean Pines will release the results of the elections after the count.

The new board will be seated after the annual meeting, when they will elect officers.

The annual meeting will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Club House Meeting Room.

All residents will need a valid photo ID to get into the meeting. Either a driver’s license or membership i.d. with photo are acceptable.

Ocean Pines residents must cut grass around hydrants

(Aug. 24, 2023) Ocean Pines homeowners are responsible for cutting grass around fire hydrant on their properties, according to Ocean Pines Declarations of Restrictions and Worcester County Code.

Worcester County officials ask that all residents clear a 5-foot area around water meters, fire hydrants, sewage holding tanks, and other facilities that may be on homeowners’ properties, to help provide the most effective and efficient service to customers.

Worcester County is responsible for the installation, maintenance, and operation of all public water and sewer facilities in the Ocean Pines service

area. The facilities are within easements that are reserved exclusively for such utilities.

If for any reason Worcester County Public Works staff need to access facilities within easement areas, bushes, plants or any other landscaping, materials will be removed and not replaced. Crews will place topsoil and plant grass seed in the areas disturbed by maintenance and repair activities.

For questions, call Worcester County Public Works at 410-641-5251 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. If necessary, staff may be willing to meet and discuss specific concerns.

OP Children’s Theater try-outs

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Ocean Pines Children’s Theater will be casting next month the January production of Broadway musical, “Mean Girls Jr.”

According to a news release, auditions for the musical are scheduled from 5-6:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 8, at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Due to the mature theme of the play, auditions for young people, male and female, will be limited to ages 12 and older.

For singing roles, auditioners will need to select and perform at least 16 measures of a song from a Broadway musical, with or without musical accompaniment. Those preparing to audition for an acting role, will need to visit facebook.com/opchildrenstheater to access, memorize and practice vocal delivery of a select monologue.

Those participating must be prepared to show proof of full covid vaccination.

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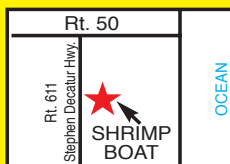
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This scannable QR will allow Ocean Pines residents to give feedback about racquet sports facilities, programs and services.

OPA releases 2023 Racquet Sports survey for residents

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association has released a customer satisfaction survey about the racquet sports amenity.

The survey should take about 4 minutes to complete.

This is the latest of several surveys

planned for Ocean Pines amenities, to help gather input on the development of the next fiscal-year budget. Individual responses will be kept confidential and anonymous.

To take the survey, visit surveymonkey.com/r/OPAracquetsurvey2023.

OP Police receive grants for staffing, public engagement

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Ocean Pines Police Department recently received two grants to help with staffing and community engagement.

The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention recently issued \$20,000 to the department for police retention, and \$2,750 for community engagement programs.

Chief Tim Robinson said in a news release that the \$20,000 grant will be used for providing both retention incentives for current officers and recruitment incentives for new hires.

The \$2,750 grant will cover overtime pay for officers to work events such as the National Night Out cele-

bration and July 4 fireworks.

Both grants were secured by grant specialist Valerie Mann, with help from Ocean Pines Police Lt. Shakhan Toppin.

Robinson said Ocean Pines Police will continue to seek and use grants for these purposes.

"We are grateful to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and prevention for awarding these two grants to Ocean Pines," he said in the release. "With this help we will be able to help maintain our current staff of officers while attracting new ones with one of the grants, and it will make it easier to provide police assistance with major events in our community."



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"I have been a resident of Gull Creek for almost 6 years and art has always been an important part of my life. I drew during live performances of theatre, dance, and music in Baltimore and taught drawing lessons at a local high school for over 40 years. It was fascinating to watch the Gull Creek Garden come to life as I was able to have a particular point of view from my apartment. With using the garden as inspiration, I have begun to draw a bit more frequently. It felt GREAT to draw again because it felt freeing. I didn't have a goal of what to draw, I just saw something that caught my attention, and it made me want to draw. Drawing what you see can be thrilling; every plant, individual and object can be the subject for making art in that moment in time."

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Skatepark supporters in Berlin join council members on the dais after a vote to build a skatepark at Heron Park, the former site of a Tyson Poultry Plant on Old Ocean City Blvd.

Heron Park future site of Berlin skatepark

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) Cheers erupted from the crowd as the Berlin Town Council voted Monday to designate Heron Park’s parcel 410 as the future location of the Berlin Skatepark.

The unanimous vote reflected the opinion of the skatepark workgroup that met on July 31 to discuss the pros and cons of various proposed locations for the skatepark, including Henry Park, Stephen Decatur Park, Heron Park and the Worcester

County Northern Athletic Complex.

The consensus was that Heron Park was the ideal location, the Parks Commission agreed and recommended it to the mayor and council.

“This is one giant step forward,” Mayor Zack Tyndall said of the decision.

Town Administrator Mary Bohlen clarified that this decision is a commitment to put the skatepark at Heron Park, with a consensus it be built on parcel 410.

“What is solid is it will be in Heron

Park,” Tyndall said.

Added Tony Weeg of We Heart Berlin, “We see this as a phased project that fits in a bigger design of amenities at Heron Park for the residents of the Town of Berlin.”

Weeg said this location is enticing for many reasons, but a few are cost-saving.

“This ground is already compacted, and the area handles water on its own. The single most enticing part of this location choice is that we are specifically targeting an area that is

already impervious, so we would not be adding any sort of net increase of impervious ground cover that would hinder stormwater handling,” he said.

“We look forward to the next steps and those would be actually designing the park pieces, and which pieces get built in which phases. The organization has partnered with Spohn Ranch to design and deliver construction documents.

Now that the council has made this decision, We Heart Berlin will start fundraising. The estimated cost for this project is just short of \$1 million, according to Weeg.

“With this resolution/motion we can begin to approach foundations and other private donation sources to partner with us to help make this dream come true,” he said.

We Heart Berlin plans to raise as much of that as it can with strategic partners. Weeg encourages people to support the skatepark with a tax deductible donation at <https://weheartberlin.org/pages/our-work>

The Town of Berlin will also seek grant funds through the Community Parks and Playgrounds Program in the 2024 funding round.

Mold and water damage addressed in Berlin Town Hall

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Berlin Town Hall Chambers have fully restored, with no evidence of the damage caused by mold and water damage that was discovered just days before the chamber was to host a hearing on Aug. 17 with Senators Ben Cardin and Chris VanHollen.

The cost of remediation and repairs for the water and mold damage for the chambers came to \$36,000.

See WORK Page 11

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Berlin Town Council approves three infrastructure projects

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) During a shortened meeting of the Berlin mayor and Town Council on Monday night, the council unanimously approved the following motions:

Motion 2023-25 authorizes a request for proposals for the demolition of the aging Powellton Avenue Well building and its infrastructure. The proposal includes constructing a new well building that includes a bathroom, chemical storage, and other infrastructure. The existing water supply well will stay operational during construction, as it is a critical component in the town's water supply system.

According to a memo written by Jamey Latchum, the water resources director, the new well-house building is budgeted at \$385,000. It would be paid for with \$285,000 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and \$100,000 from capital reserves.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
The Berlin town council voted to replace the playground equipment at Dr. William Henry Park on Flower Street.

Motion 2023-26 grants approval of a bid for stormwater management upgrades on Pine Street, Franklin Avenue and Nelson Street to David A Bramble Inc. The cost of the contract is \$1.3 million. Bramble has handled similar utility projects in the Town of Berlin, according to David Kolar, the See PLAYGROUND Page 12

Work finished to prevent damage

Continued from Page 10

"The mold and water damage was found when a decal on the wall was being removed," Kelsey Jensen, director of Human Resources for the Town of Berlin, said.

Because of the time-sensitivity for the repair work needed, a poll vote of the council was conducted Aug. 8, which resulted in a unanimous decision.

"The building is in bad shape, with the bricks on the north side (behind the dais). We must repair the bricks ASAP or any issues may continue," wrote Kelsey Jensen, the Human Resources director for the Town of Berlin in an email to council members.

The north wall needed work to prevent structural damage and future water damage. Sections of the brick needed to be cut out and replaced, according to East Coast Masonry, the vendor hired to do the work. Mortar and cosmetic work were also needed on the other sides of the building.

During the Monday night mayor and council meeting, Mayor Zack Tyndall reported that everything had been remediated and that the contractors checked below the council chambers and on the side and found no further damage.

"We are hopeful that insurance will end up covering these costs, but I'm not sure if they will be quick enough with their decision and they said to do whatever we have to do and they will reimburse us if they find it to be a covered claim," wrote Jensen.

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Playground equipment is getting old and rusted at Henry Park in Berlin. The town council voted this week to replace it.

Playground needs new equipment

Continued from Page 11 project manager.

Maryland Coastal Bays Program has entered into an MOU with the town to provide \$400,000 in funding for this project.

Motion 2023-27 allows for an application to the Community Parks and Playgrounds Program for fiscal year 2025 to replace the playground equipment at Dr. William Henry Park.

The town has received a proposal from GameTime/Cunningham Recreation to replace the playground equipment for \$236,000. The company provided a \$51K discount for the town.

Mayor Zach Tyndall noted rust on some of the equipment when he toured the playground during National Night out on Aug. 1.

Motion 2023-29 was passed, four to one, with Councilman Jack Orris objecting, to hiring a building and groundskeeper. Currently, the town has a contractor that cleans the Town Hall restrooms and kitchens, planning restrooms and the public restrooms on William Street and at Henry Park.

The company has notified the town it will no longer be able to clean the Henry Park restrooms.

All other areas are currently cleaned by administration, finance and planning personnel. Public

works, electric and water resources personnel perform maintenance, light construction and repairs.

The position will be funded for Fiscal Year 2024. This would be a full-time position with benefits. The cost would be covered by the cost savings from the termination of the current cleaning contract and funding from the currently budgeted but unfilled special projects administrator position, according to Town Administrator Mary Bohlen.

Prior to the meeting, the Town of Berlin Council members voted unanimously to buy a 2023 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Truck from IG Burton for \$44,178 for the electric utility department.

The initial budget was for \$40,000. The council took a poll vote on Aug. 9 to approve the transfer of \$4,178 from Capital Outlay Funds to cover the balance of the purchase of the truck.



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Photo by Anne Mosher

Improvements at OP parking lot

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Ocean Pines Racquet Center parking lot was set to reopen Friday after scheduled improvements this week.

According to a news release, the lot was slated to be closed both Wednesday and Thursday for the work.

Public Works Director Eddie Wells

said in the release that a contractor was supposed to seal and coat the lot Wednesday and repaint the lines Thursday. Crews roped off the area Tuesday evening.

Visitors to the racquet center were asked to make alternate arrangements for parking until the reopening of the lot Friday.



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Producers Growth Program mentors small businesses

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Aug. 24, 2023) Jeffrey Smith, of Iron Skillet Coffee in Berlin met Emiliano Espinosa, Chesapeake Agriculture Innovation Center's (CAIC) program director at a farmer's market in Ocean City, where he was selling his coffee.

Espinosa told Smith about a new program he was running at CAIC, which helps entrepreneurs build up their businesses. It seemed too good to be true, but it wasn't.

The program caters to value added producers, described as farmers who grow their own produce or aquaculture product, and consumer packaged goods companies, which make food products.

Smith signed up for their start-up program, and last year, was one of eight small businesses that participated in their first Producers Growth Program.

Meghan and Brett Hines of Buzz Meadery, a Berlin company that makes and sells mead using local ingredients, also participated in the CAIC program. Both companies launched in 2020.

CAIC has opened enrollment for their next round of the Producers

Growth Program. Applications will be accepted until the end of September.

"The program was hugely beneficial to helping us plan our growing business. It gave us specific metrics and ideas that we could implement to scale strategically while balancing the business financially and practically," said Meghan Hines.

Smith said he was able to see his company through the program in a way he had never envisioned seeing it.

"I saw how it could become more than me."

Before he participated in the CAIC program, he assumed he would be selling his coffee in a coffee shop. That is not part of his vision now.

Smith is focusing on selling his coffee wholesale to local restaurants in town. It is already offered at Blacksmith, June and Juice, Forgotten 50 Distilling, 5 Tides in Assateague State Park, and Two Scoops in Salisbury.

The cost of the program to "value added producers" is \$2,000, with much of the expense for farmers paid for by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. "Consumer packaged goods companies," like Iron Skillet Coffee and Buzz Meadery pay \$5,000. This See BERLIN Page 14

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

(Above) Jeff Smith makes his specialty coffee in an iron skillet. He credits CAIC's Producers Growth Program with guiding him in the development of his business Iron Skillet Coffee. (Left) Meghan and Brett Hines with their daughter Kenna. The couple sold their newest flavor of mead, Honey Lit, at the Berlin Farmers Market on Sunday. The CAIC Producers Grown Program helped them scale their business strategically.

Berlin businesses benefit from CAIC program

Continued from Page 13
can be paid in installments.

The six-month-long program teaches participants about scaling, risk assessment and management, supply chain and logistics, and how to develop a growth plan. Participants tour sites, including a regional food accelerator (an organization that helps new food businesses reach their potential more quickly), a co-packing facility and a leading grocer's warehouse to meet with owners and connect with fellow producers.

"One of the most beneficial parts of the experience was visiting multiple businesses on field trips, where we could see real life applications of what we had learned. It helped us network with industry professionals and those relationships have helped us still today," Hines said.

Smith said he got so much more out of the program through the various experts that were available to him.

"We met directly 1:1 with multiple mentors throughout the program, which helped me apply what we had learned more effectively," Hines said.

The program also offers legal consulting, graphic design services, bookkeeping, accounting and marketing consulting.

At the end of the program, participants showcase their products and share their growth plans with potential buyers and service providers.

"We introduce them to people who might be able to make connections for them or purchase their product," said Espinosa.

To register for the program, candidates must be working full time in

their businesses and be generating a minimum of \$40,000 in annual revenue.

Candidates are interviewed by advisors to make sure they are the right fit for the program. Only eight people are accepted for each class, so they can receive one-on-one coaching.

"Getting clear on their vision and an actionable way to get there is the main value of this program," Espinosa said.

"It's a program where they do a lot of reflection and strategic thinking about their business. By the end of the program, they know where they are headed and how to get there."

Smith said because of the program, he is looking to build and patent a machine to roast coffee the way he does, in an iron skillet. This is a traditional process he learned

when he visited Ethiopia.

He plans to automate the process and commercialize it on a larger scale so others can do what he is doing.

A direct outcome of the program for Buzz Meadery is its newest mead, the Honey Lit, which the Hines released on Sunday at the Berlin Farmers Market.

Honey Lit is their first product to be sold in cans.

"For us, with our unique challenges, moving into the distribution space with cans was the best move we could make. This program helped us plan strategically how to scale," Hines said.

For those who are in the start-up phase of their business, CAIC has programs available catering to their needs too.

For more information on their programs, visit caic.org

Paint Worcester County deadline set Aug. 31

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Worcester County Arts Council is accepting artists' registration applications for the September Paint Worcester County plein air event until Aug. 31.

The event, set Sept. 17 – 23, is a partnership between the arts council and Worcester County Library Foundation.

Through the annual competition, local and regional artists will paint outdoors at their leisure at any chosen location in Worcester County and compete for cash prizes.

Registration is open to experienced and novice painters, 18 years or older.

Registration, event schedule, and artists' guidelines are available on the arts council's website at worcester-countyartscouncil.org. Deadline to

register is Aug. 31.

Ann Coates, a local art supporter and the owner of the Bishop's Stock Fine Art, Craft & Wine Gallery in Snow Hill, will judge the entries.

Visitors can watch the artists as they set up their easels around Worcester County and paint picturesque scenes. Visitors are also invited to attend a free, public sale and exhibit, featuring work created during the event, from 5-7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 22; and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 23; at the Berlin public library located at 13 Harrison Ave. All artwork will be available for sale.

The selection of artwork will be on display at the Berlin Library Gallery until Oct. 30.

For more information, contact the arts council at 410-641-0809.



Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall, pictured with artist, Judith Showell Loeber, accepts the Berlin Mayor Award during the 2022 Paint Worcester County Plein Air event.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Salisbury University, the Art League of Ocean City, and Worcester Goes Purple representatives pose for a photo with a section of the exhibit, "Stigma Highlighted: Portraits of Recovery," at the university commons dining hall. The exhibit, which features portraits of people in recovery from Worcester, Wicomico, Somerset and Talbot counties, will be on display through the fall semester.

'Portraits of Recovery' set for display at SU

(Aug. 24, 2023) "Stigma Highlighted: Portraits of Recovery," an exhibit displaying portraits of 12 area residents in recovery from substance abuse, will be on display during the fall semester in the Salisbury University Commons dining hall.

The project is an initiative of the opiate addiction recovery awareness and support organization Worcester Goes Purple, under the direction of president Debbie Smullen, and the Art League of Ocean City.

Artists were paired with people in recovery who live and work in Worcester, Wicomico, Somerset and Talbot counties and created portraits. As part of the exhibit, the pieces contain QR codes linked to videos of the subjects telling their stories of addiction and recovery.

The exhibit will be set up in Sep-

tember for National Recovery Month, and remain on display for the semester.

"The powerful collaboration allowed the artists to highlight the bravery and resilience of the addiction survivors for the community to see," Katrin Huber, Art League of Ocean City education director, said in a news release.

The ultimate goal of the exhibit was to challenge misconceptions and negativity toward individuals battling addiction.

Exhibit artists found their subjects to be not only engaging but, in most cases, people they may have interacted with in their own communities and daily lives.

"Speaking with Brandon, it very quickly became clear to me that he was one of the most down-to-earth and humble people I had ever met,"

artist Izzy Huber of her subject, Brandon O'Brien of Berlin, in the release. "His story inspired me in many ways."

Many participants said that along with changing perceptions, they hoped their stories also helped serve as an inspiration for others struggling with similar issues.

"I don't worry about the things I used to back then," Worcester County Health Department Peer Recovery Specialist James Lavrich said in the release.

Lavich's addiction issues began when he was 12 and continued into his adult life.

"Everything back then was worrying about where you were going to get your next drug or your next high from," he said. "Today, I get high on the sunset. I get high from waking up early and taking a walk with my dog."

Exhibiting artists are Megan Burak, Reeves Dark, Teri Edgeworth, Jill Glassman, Joanne Guilfoil, Izzy Huber, Katrin Huber, Jim Rehak, Maggii Sarfaty, Jessica Schlegel, Misha Shipman and Jacki Yamin.

University officials selected the commons as the location for the exhibit because it is a high-traffic area providing access for both students and campus visitors.

Spectators who plan to park on campus must register in advance for a free parking pass at webapps.salisbury.edu/parking/visitor.

Artwork and videos from the exhibit also are available online at stigmahighlighted.com/portraits-of-recovery.

For more information about the Art League of Ocean City, visit artleague-foceancity.org.

Local foundation grants \$273.8K

Thirty-three area nonprofits received funding for work

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore has issued \$273,825 to 33 area nonprofits, several of which are based in Worcester County.

According to a news release, the total is the largest amount of money issued through the grant program to date.

The foundation's community needs grants are available to nonprofits serving Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset counties. The chosen nonprofits received a mix of operational support and funding for programs spanning youth, homelessness and housing, hunger, historic preservation, the arts, animal welfare, and more.

All applicants are required to be 501c3 nonprofit certified, faith-based, provide non-sectarian programs, or eligible programs within government agencies serving Lower Eastern Shore residents.

The next community needs cycle will open Jan. 1, with a grant maximum of \$10,000.

The following Worcester County-based and servicing nonprofits received funding for programs and operations:

- The Art League of Ocean City will replace aging equipment to create the best possible experience for patrons.

- The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation will buy essential equipment for the foundation's Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner program.

- The Beach to Bay Heritage Area will implement plans to strengthen

heritage tourism and infrastructure on the Lower Shore.

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore will implement the Big Start program to help children through the challenges of starting new phases in life.

- The Boys & Girls Club will provide an after-school and summer camp in Pocomoke to promote academic success, good character and healthy lifestyles.

- The Costen House will make critical repairs to the historic Costen House Museum in Pocomoke City.

- Special Olympics Maryland Lower Shore will buy equipment, uniforms and facility space for sports programs for children with disabilities.

- Town Cats Inc. will construct a large indoor/outdoor shelter and sanctuary for homeless cats.

Final chance to donate sneakers for Grace Center

(Aug. 24, 2023) The new or used athletic shoe fundraiser drive to support programs offered at the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin will draw to a close at the end of August.

Any gently worn, used, or new sneakers donated by the end of the month will be turned in to become material for road construction while the Grace Center will receive money to support programs.

Sneaker donations may be dropped off at the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health at 10226 Old Ocean City Blvd., Unit 2, Berlin, MD 21811 - across from Atlantic General Hospital.

For more info, call 443-513-4124.

Opinion

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

Speculating on law pointless exercise

Second-guessing a court decision is easy to do, as is speculating on the legal strategy that led to that decision.

But despite the ease with which these things can be done, it remains that lay people expounding on the law is no different than looking at the face of a broken clock and being able to tell what's wrong with its internal mechanisms.

Like a clock, the law's many components must mesh to work as intended, making it nearly impossible for the average person to understand precisely why some cases transpire the way they do.

That seems to be the situation following the motions hearing in circuit court last week on the charges faced by Tyler Mailloux, who stood accused of leaving the scene of the accident that claimed the life of 14-year-old Gavin Knupp on Grays Corner Road last July.

The court's acceptance of the defense motion to dismiss the charges because they should have been filed in district court instead has been followed by plenty of theories on how that could have happened and what it means.

Among these is the wildly absurd notion that the fix was in. That sort of thing just doesn't happen here. Another theory making the rounds is that State's Attorney Kristin Heiser made a huge mistake by going to circuit court instead of district court, which, according to the judge, has jurisdiction.

The clear answer to that, however, is maybe and maybe not. That all depends on how the Appellate Court of Maryland rules on the appeal her office filed immediately after last week's motions hearing.

Then, too, the public should consider what would have been said had Heiser gone first to district court where lighter penalties could be imposed. That she was pursuing a lesser degree of justice or was going too easy on the defendant for reasons unknown?

Speculation, as satisfying as it may be personally, serves no purpose. What remains to be done now is wait to see how the appeals court rules, and what happens after that. Assuming any other posture will have no bearing on whether and how this clock keeps on ticking.

OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION REPORT

Annual meeting, Saturday at 9 a.m.

Homeowners asked to arrive 30 minutes early if attending in person; online participants must register between 8-8:45 a.m.

The Ocean Pines Association Annual Meeting is scheduled for this Saturday, Aug. 26, in the Clubhouse Meeting Room on 100 Clubhouse Drive.

Included on the agenda this year is the validation of the 2023 OPA Board of Directors election, the presentation of the Sam Wilkinson Award for volunteering, and reports from the Association president, general manager, finance team, and others.

The meeting will start at 9 a.m., but homeowners are asked to arrive at least 30 minutes early to check in and verify their eligibility to vote. Homeowners will be asked to show a valid photo ID, with a photo and name.

For those who can't make it in person, homeowners can also attend virtually. Visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/election-2023 for the Microsoft Teams link to do so.

Just like those attending in person, those tuning in online will be asked to show a valid photo ID during the check-in process. Online check-in will start at 8 a.m.

and users will need a working webcam. No one will be admitted online after 8:45 a.m.

For those who cannot attend in person or virtually, the meeting will be recorded and posted to the Association website (www.oceanpines.org) and YouTube page.

During the meeting, homeowners may participate and/or vote as needed, and votes will be tracked by members of the Ocean Pines Elections Committee

All property owners of the Ocean Pines Association are urged to attend the annual meeting. However, only one owner of any numbered residential lot, condominium unit, or single-family attached dwelling, who is eligible, may cast a vote.

Homeowners desiring to present any items of business requiring member action are reminded to use the "Unfinished" or "New Business" segments of the agenda.

If a homeowner wishes to place an item on the agenda under New Business, they may do so ahead of time by emailing directors@oceanpines.org.

Carozza named Legislative All-Star

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Maryland Retailers Association has recognized Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-38) as a 2023 Legislative All-Star for her support of the retail business community.

"We have some of the most creative retail operators right here on the Shore who offer quality products to local residents and visitors alike," Carozza, who represents businesses in Worcester, Wicomico, and Somerset counties, said in a news release. "I will continue to support policies that give these operators the flexibility they need to be job creators and to be successful with their businesses."

Carozza worked with retailers association on legislation assigned to the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, on which she serves. Her efforts helped ensure that the concerns of Maryland retailers were considered on several pieces of legislation, most of which were opposed by the retailers association, including:

SB 250 – Environment – Climate Crisis Plan – Requirement

The bill would have required climate crisis plans at the county level, creating a patchwork of policies with a variety of standards and compliance deadlines that would have further encumbered the daily operations of retailers.

The Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee did not advance the bill.

SB 260 – Maryland Paint Stewardship bill

The bill would have set a dangerous precedent by awarding state taxing authority to a private entity without addressing organizational issues and costs.

The bill passed the full Senate by a 35-12 vote but was not passed by the House of Delegates before the end of the 2023 legislative session. Carozza voted against the bill.

SB 916 – Environment – Ethylene Oxide – Prohibition

The bill would have prohibited the use of a chemical com-

pound used in a wide variety of manufacturing production and industries, including the production of textiles, personal products like shampoo and laundry detergent, and automotive products like antifreeze and brake fluid, as well as in the sterilization of spices and medical equipment.

The bill was not advanced by the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

SB 222 – Environment – Statewide Recycling Needs Assessment and Producer Responsibility for Packaging Materials

The bill intends to have packaging producers take more responsibility for the life cycle of products, but penalizes packaging producers and increases the cost of products.

The bill passed the General Assembly and was signed into law by Gov. Wes Moore (D) on May 8. Carozza supported amendments to the bill designed to reduce the burden on retailers and voted against final passage of it.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842
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The Bayside Gazette is published weekly by FLAG Publications, Inc.
11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842.
The Bayside Gazette is available by subscription at \$75/year or \$40/6 mos.
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One taken to hospital after chemical spill at yacht club

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Ocean Pines Yacht Club was evacuated and one person was taken to the hospital for evaluation Tuesday afternoon after emergency personnel and a hazmat team responded to a chemical spill.

According to a news release from the Worcester County Fire Marshall's Office, an employee at the club accidentally mixed two chemicals in the kitchen, creating a hazardous, atmospheric condition in the building.

Members of the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department were called to the building on Mumfords Landing Road in Ocean Pines just after 3 p.m. and verified that all occupants had left. They restricted entry until members of the Worcester County Special Hazards Response Team could arrive and evaluate further.

The release said hazmat officials worked with firefighters to identify the products involved and developed a plan for mitigation. After determining what the employees had done, the chemical solution was isolated to a small area of the kitchen and neutralized. Once the building was ventilated, it was determined safe to reopen to the public.

No one was seriously injured in the incident, but the release said one employee was taken from the scene to an area hospital for further evaluation.

Fire Marshal Matthew Owens reminded members of the public in the release to thoroughly read labels on cleaning products and refrain from mixing them unless explicitly permitted.

Worcester County man dies in Saturday trailer explosion

(Aug. 24, 2023) An 80-year-old Worcester County man died Saturday morning from injuries sustained in a trailer explosion.

According to a news release, members of the Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office are investigating what they determined to be a gas explosion that occurred just before 9 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 19, at a camper trailer in the 400 block of Silva Road in Stockton.

The release said firefighters and paramedic arrived on scene and found an 80-year-old man with burn injuries on over 90 percent of his body at the trailer, which reportedly "had experienced an over pressurization."

Paramedics requested assistance from Maryland State Police Aviation Command - Trooper 4 stationed at the Salisbury Regional Airport to fly the man, whose name was not released, to the state's only adult trauma burn center at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. The release said the man later succumbed to the injuries.

Deputies from the Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office responded to the scene and conducted a fire scene examination. Through the course of the investigation, they determined the victim was attempting to use the stove inside the trailer at the time of the explosion. The release said evidence from the scene was consistent with a propane gas style explosion.

The cause of the incident was determined to be accidental.

Fire Marshal Matthew Owens reminded residents in the release to not only have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in their homes, but

recreational vehicles and campers as well. Those who cannot afford smoke alarms, are asked to contact the local fire department.



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Recipients of a combined \$65,000 in 2023 Community Foundation Women's Fund grants pose together for a photo. The local and regional nonprofit groups received money to support the needs of women and girls in Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties.

Delaware Botanic Gardens

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Photo by Ray Bojarski

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Local, regional nonprofits awarded grants for women

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore's Women's Fund recently awarded \$65,000 to nonprofits in Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties for support of programs that address the unmet needs of women and girls.

The Women's Fund is a giving circle at the community foundation which allows members to have a team approach to philanthropy and charitable networking.

A total of 16 local and regional organizations received funding, five of which help residents of Worcester County.

For example, the Art League of Ocean City received a grant that will support three artists in residence who will complete work for a show coinciding with Women's History Month in 2024.

The Unstoppable Joy Co., which supports local cancer fighters by providing them with resources to rejuvenate their mind, body, and spirit during their treatment, received funds to help provide healing bags, self-care and zen-time services.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the

Eastern Shore, which creates and supports one-to-one mentoring relationships between local volunteer "Bigs" and local youth "Littles," received a grant to launch the SHero campaign to inspire women to be strong female mentors and create a strong future for girls.

Worcester County GOLD, which stands for Giving Other Lives Dignity, provides emergency financial assistance and basic needs items for low-income Worcester County residents. The nonprofit received a grant that will be used to create "Dignity Boxes" of comfort, hygiene, and household products for women and girls.

Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin also received a grant, which will be used to support the group's women's resource center that offers parenting classes, education, support groups and other complementary services to help pregnant and parenting mothers in the community.

Other organizations based in Somerset and Wicomico counties will use funds to support similar missions.

OPEN HOUSES August 24 - August 31

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Saturday 2-5pm	511 Robin Drive Unit 301, Ocean City	2BR/1BA	Condominium	\$295,000	Sandra Dougan/BHHS/PenFedRealty
Saturday 4-6pm	2801 Robin Drive Unit J02, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condominium	\$334,900	Bob Heim/ERA Martin Associates
Sunday 12-2pm	11602 S. Hills Dr., Berlin	5BR/4.5BA	Residential	\$1,699,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Members of the Ocean Pines Garden Club pose with a \$1,000 check that they recently donated to the Ocean Pines Association.

Pines Garden Club donates to Association

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Ocean Pines Garden Club recently presented a \$1,000 donation to the Ocean Pines Association as part of the club's annual giving efforts.

Since forming in 1976, the Garden Club has helped maintain Ocean Pines parks, decorate the community at Christmas and, in the past, tend to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial grounds.

Gifts and donations from the club have included the Civil War era anchor at the Yacht Club in 1995, the gazebo at Pintail Park in 1998, the two stone benches at the community center in 2009, and two plaques for the Gold Star Program of the Veterans Memorial Foundation in 2014.

Over the last year, the club has collaborated with Ocean Pines Public Works on plantings at the North Gate

entranceway that have included perennials, a Christmas display for the holidays, and palm trees for the summertime. Tony Howard led that effort for Ocean Pines.

"We are so happy to contribute to the beauty of Ocean Pines and hope that our efforts add to the enjoyment of all Ocean Pines residents and visitors," Garden Club Co-President Ann Shockley said in a news release.

General Manager John Viola said

in the release that the Garden Club donation would be used for future beautification initiatives.

"We are grateful to the Ocean Pines Garden Club for their dedication and efforts in enhancing the beauty of our community's North Gate entrance," he said. "Their commitment to creating a welcoming environment has helped to transform this space into a picturesque gateway for all to enjoy."

Realtors association seeks golf tournament sponsors

(Aug. 24, 2023) The Coastal Association of Realtors is seeking sponsors for the organization's fifth annual Golf Tournament, set Thursday, Oct. 12, at the Ocean City Golf Club Seaside Course.

The tournament benefits the Coastal Realtors Foundation.

Registration opens at noon and the shotgun start is at 1 p.m. The tournament is a four-person scramble with all levels of players welcome.

The cost to participate is \$500 per team. Players without a team are wel-

come to register for \$125 and will be assigned one. Teams who wish to sponsor a tee sign will receive a discount.

Prizes will be awarded for best and worst scores. Green fees, golf cart rental, a swag bag, drink tickets, snacks, and a full after-golf meal are included in the cost of registration.

The Coastal Realtors Foundation is a charitable fund held by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. The fund provides grants to

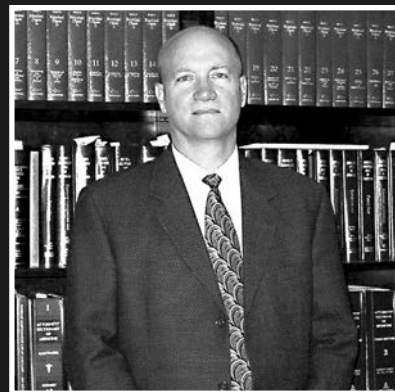
See VARIOUS Page 21

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Cuisine

Simple creamy shrimp and lobster risotto

Have you ever tried to write an article on an Apple product after being a Windows guy your whole life? This

is pure hell, but desperate times call for desperate measures. This little abacus-resembling device may as well be a stone tablet.

Dramatic much, Old Man Paul? Perhaps on occasion, but whose fault is it

that I forgot to bring my tablet with me? That blame rests solely on me. I am man enough to admit that. And let's face it, as we get older, and I am old enough to live in a retirement community now, we tend to shun technology that is unbeknownst to us. All of a sudden, I feel like Clint Eastwood in that movie where he's the surly old bastard yelling at kids on his front yard. How do you even spell "curmudgeon?"

As I sit here packing up one closed restaurant, packing up the house that we've lived in for seven years and otherwise redefining life as we know it, I, of course have to work in between the many adventures. I cut back on catering last year, but this summer I have had a handful of incredibly fun and amusing events. My last one was at the famed Gillis' Island, and if you have been there, you know how absolutely wonderful it is to even be there, let alone be able to show off your limited talents and skills.

I made a bold decision and served rice on subsequent courses with the risotto you see here, and then a delectable chicken dish served on forbidden rice with a shaved fennel and English cucumber salad. It was divine.

I did this because it is not unusual to have someone who is gluten-free and while I know two rice dishes back-to-back is not ideal, I also understand how starkly different risotto can be from the so much adored (to me) black or forbidden rice. And, it worked. They loved it.

To get back to the risotto you see here in the photo and recipe, this has so many things going on that you have to make this a time or two to figure out how you would like to make it. My goal was not to make a seafood risotto, but rather a risotto that was absolutely stunning and then add some seafood to it. There is just something about a risotto made from



a homemade, rich chicken stock that is unparalleled. Then, adding the leeks just magnifies the flavors and is a proper addition to the dish.

As for the shrimp, when you make this dish, or honestly most dishes with shrimp with the exception of shrimp cocktail, do me, you and your guests one favor: please remove the tails and butterfly them.

The former is to avoid the discomfort of having to fuss with tail removal in the middle of a good meal, and the latter is because they simply cook better. They show better, and they don't end up as rubbery as they can if you simply keep them whole. Trust me, just a couple dishes cooked this way, and you will understand what I'm saying. It is simply a better finished dish.

So, as I sit here finishing my evening's worth of my life's work, I am pleased that I get to write about risotto. I don't do it nearly enough. It is a delightful dish that is truthfully simple to make. It just might take you a time or two to work out the kinks.

The great thing is that you can cook it to al dente, spread it out on a

pan and chill it. Then, just heat with some water, cream and butter and you are good as gold. It's a great little industry trick.

So, go make some risotto, play with new technology and for goodness sake, stop being so dramatic.

Shrimp & Lobster Risotto

serves 4

2 Tbsp. canola oil
2 c. Arborio rice
2 Tbsp. Finely minced shallots
2 Tbsp. finely sliced leeks
1 c. Finely chopped mushroom blend, or at least baby bellas
1 Tbsp. Smashed garlic
splash Dry Sherry
1 c. Dry white wine
Chicken or seafood stock, as needed
salt & pepper, to taste
8 ea. Jumbo shrimp, peeled, deveined and tails removed
8 oz. Lobster meat
cream and butter, as needed

1. Heat the oil in a sauce pan large enough to hold everything.

2. Add the rice and toast; you want to be able to smell a little bit of the toast, but you don't want it to burn.

3. Add the shallots, leeks and mushrooms and cook for a few minutes.

4. Add the garlic and cook for two minutes.

5. Add the sherry and the wine and cook down, stirring well.

6. Add the chicken stock, a little at a time and as it is absorbed, add a little more.

7. Once the risotto is tender, season and add the shrimp and lobster and cook until that has cooked through.

8. Add cream and butter slowly to make sure that it absorbs. You want it creamy, but you don't want it soupy.

9. When it is all done, set aside until service time and make a lovely basil oil. I've written about that enough, but basically just put some red wine vinegar, champagne vinegar, fresh basil, garlic, salt and pepper and blend to a puree. This makes a lovely garnish that has the most beautiful punch to it.

Paul Suplee is the owner of Boxcar40 in Pittsville and senior lecturer of culinary arts at UMES.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Pre-K class added at Wor-Wic thanks to Blueprint grant

(Aug. 24, 2023) Thanks to a grant made possible by the Blueprint for Maryland's Future plan, Wor-Wic Community College is offering two prekindergarten classes for qualifying Wicomico County 3- and 4-year-old students this fall.

The \$520,000 grant from the Maryland State Department of Education will fund pre-K courses at Wor-Wic's child development center for up to 40 students who meet income guidelines in Wicomico County, speak a language other than English at home, or have an individualized educational plan or individualized family service plan.

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future, which is made up of initiatives to help improve education across the state, aims to broaden prekindergarten for all of Maryland's 3- and 4-year-old children.

The prekindergarten program provides students with a full school day of instruction, along with breakfast and an afternoon snack. Transportation is not provided.

The Wor-Wic child development center is accredited by the department of education and holds a level-five quality rating, the highest possible, from Maryland EXCELS, the state's rating system for licensed child care and early education.

For information about the prekindergarten program, call 410-334-2962. To apply, visit the Wicomico County Schools website, at wcboe.org and click on "Enrollment and Registration."

Various funding levels available

Continued from Page 19 local nonprofit organizations that are supported by members of the Coastal Association of Realtors.

The foundation has supported organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, The Cricket Center, Crisfield Smith Island Cultural Alliance, and Salisbury Neighborhood Housing Services.

There are various levels of sponsorship available, ranging in price from \$125 to \$3,000. Last year's event hosted 96 players and raised more than \$18,000.

For sponsorship and registration information, visit coastalrealtors.org or contact Mila Duarte at mila@coastalrealtors.org or 410-641-4409.

Obituary

EILEEN EDNA CONSTANTINE
Berlin

Eileen Edna Constantine, 90, of Berlin, Maryland, passed away on Aug. 17, 2023, at Genesis Rehabilitation Center in Salisbury.



E. Constantine

Eileen was born April 17, 1933, to Minnie Shorty Hughes and Stanton Daggett Hughes Sr. in Canton, Maryland.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her siblings, Della, Helen, Arnold, James, Hilda, John, Stanton Jr. and Kenneth. She was also predeceased by her husbands, Joseph Kutchka Sr., Charles Schattner and John Constantine Sr. Children that predeceased Eileen are Ronald Kutchka, David Kutchka, Joseph Kutchka Jr., Norman Kutchka, Rosalie Zielinski and Elaine Holroyd, and stepson William Constantine.

Eileen is survived by daughters Debra Stasi (Anthony) of Baltimore, Kathleen Murray (Stuart) of Parsonsborg, and Patricia Schattner of Lau-

rel, Delaware. Surviving stepchildren are John Constantine Jr., Stephen Constantine, Cheryl Leatham, and Deborah O'Neil. She is also survived by several grandchildren and several great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Eileen resided in the Baltimore area until 1977 at which time she made her home in Ocean City. In 2007 she moved to Berlin.

During her lifetime she held many positions in the customer service profession. While living in Ocean City, she was employed by the Sheraton

Hotel, Roses Department Store and Old Pro Golf. Eileen was also a volunteer with the Make-A-Wish Foundation for many years.

A visitation for family and friends will be held from 1-2 p.m., Monday, Aug. 28, at Eastern Shore Creations and Funeral Services at 504 Franklin Ave. in Berlin. Eileen will be transported and laid to rest at Oaklawn Cemetery in Baltimore at noon on Aug. 29, where a service for family will take place. Arrangements are in the care of Eastern Shore Creations and Funeral Services.



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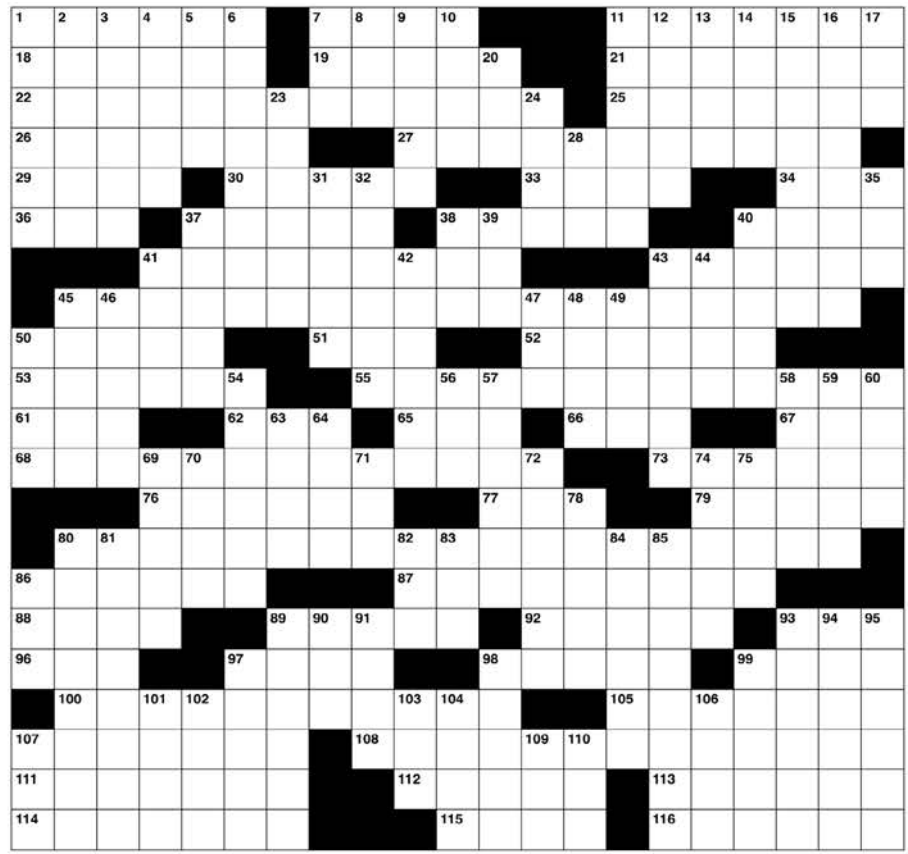
Puzzles

USE YOUR NOODLE

BY MANAAL MOHAMMED / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Manaal Mohammed is a junior at M.I.T. studying computer science. This is her first crossword for The Times. It started when she saw the phrase [27-Across] and thought that was an apt way to describe mac 'n' cheese. The grid is full of references with personal significance. Manaal is from the 7-Down area. Her mother uses 14-Down to make rotis. Her older sister used to be obsessed with 23-Downs. And her dad keeps a 41-Across interview stuck on the family refrigerator. — W.S.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| ACROSS | 51 Down | 100 With 108-Across, | 15 Takes care of |
| 1 Drinks named after a city in Yemen | 52 Competition for boxers | aftermath of a farfalle dinner? | something |
| 7 Remove, as a cap | 53 Martin Scorsese and Spike Lee, for 67-Across | 105 Canvas carry-on | 16 Things that snake oil salesmen sell |
| 11 Bloody Mary ingredient | 55 Running fettuccine dough through the pasta machine? | 107 Asanas in a sauna, say | 17 Surgery spots, for short |
| 18 Deluge | 61 Concealed field, for short | 108 See 100-Across | 20 Cardinals' org. |
| 19 Collection of threads, of a sort | 62 Cacao bit | 111 Question from a poker dealer | 23 Early 2000s virtual animal companion |
| 21 Person pursuing passion, not pay | 65 Pigeon's sound | 112 Horror or humor | 24 Lushes |
| 22 Cookbook for rotelle lovers? | 66 Rubber-stamps | 113 Like O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi" | 28 "All Quiet on the Western Front" setting, for short |
| 25 Play lists? | 67 Where Ross taught paleontology on "Friends," for short | 114 Signifies | 31 Tom callin'? |
| 26 Creature thought to inspire mermaid legends | 68 Self-serve spots at pasta bars? | 115 Jungian topic | 32 Unpaid debt |
| 27 Olive oil for a macaroni salad? | 73 Star clusters? | 116 Some party lines | 35 Cardinals' org. |
| 29 Chills | 76 Butch Cassidy, famously | DOWN | 37 Ham-and-cheese sandwich |
| 30 Lose it | 77 Astronaut Jemison | 1 "___ Dearest" (1981 film) | 38 Washed out, maybe |
| 33 Clothing style with retro and preppy influences | 79 Baked, so to speak | 2 Like the musical "Come From Away" or "Six" | 39 Word with fire or red |
| 34 Camel relative | 80 Kitchen disaster with rotini? | 3 Stretched out to see | 40 Forcibly pull |
| 36 Gate listing, for short | 86 Hits on the head, informally | 4 Hip things to do in Hawaii? | 41 Education acronym |
| 37 Bit of high jinks | 87 Topic of a traveler's inquiry | 5 Part of T.A.: Abbr. | 42 Dynasty name in Italian history |
| 38 "You think?" | 88 Keepsakes for some of the world's greatest dads? | 6 Style of alternative rock with psychedelic influences | 43 Song words after "God Bless" or "Party in" |
| 40 Fairy-tale antagonist | 89 Appropriate rhyme for "stash" | 7 Texas metroplex, to locals | 44 Bulk |
| 41 Best-selling personal finance guru | 92 Hummus brand | 8 Expression of amazement | 45 Narrow ravine |
| 43 Electrify | 93 "Ugh!" | 9 Let go | 46 Bring out |
| 45 Advice for saucing a lasagna? | 96 Big news for a co. | 10 Truck stop purchase | 47 "Barry" ailer |
| 50 Region of ancient Palestine | 97 Singer Bareilles | 11 ___ audience | 48 Rubik who created the Rubik's Cube |
| Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). | 98 Storage story | 12 "La Bohème" subject | 49 Ill |
| | 99 Sets of mathematical points | 13 The "x" in x2 | 50 Pokes |
| | | 14 Roti flour | 54 Photo-sharing social media accounts, for short |
| | | | 56 "That su-u-u-cks!" |
| | | | 57 Snappy quip |



- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 58 Motivational content, in modern slang | 74 "Whole ___ Red" (2020 chart-topping album for Playboi Carti) | 86 Weight-to-height meas. | 98 Together |
| 59 Bedtime brand | 75 Legal memo header | 89 Pearl units | 99 Shade of yellow |
| 60 Blast of wind | 78 Flair | 90 One form of bark | 101 Beginner |
| 63 "___ do" | 80 Stock option? | 91 Third-largest city of Colombia | 102 Horn sound |
| 64 Meadow sounds | 81 Stuff oneself with | 93 Japanese board game also called Five in a row | 103 Gerund end |
| 69 Some large cuts | 82 [I'm thinking ...] | 94 Tree that yields gum arabic | 104 Distinctive features of a chameleon |
| 70 Browse social media without commenting or posting | 83 Low digit | 95 Soprano's feats | 106 Fatty tuna, on a sushi menu |
| 71 Low digit | 84 Global revolutions? | 97 Transition | 107 Stashed |
| 72 Like AAA, among all bond ratings | 85 Like some sedatives | | 109 Link letters |
| | | | 110 One making calls, informally |

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HARD - 76

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

Calendar

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

Thurs., Aug. 24

OC JEEP WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:45 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Featuring a Beach Crawl, Sand Course, Vendor Village, Show and Shine and Deck Party at Hilton Garden Inn from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Show your event badge for a 10 percent discount. www.oceancityjeepweek.com

STORY TIME: PIP THE BEACH CAT

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. It's National Maryland Week. Come and celebrate with a great story and a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, 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

CHESS CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Come to the library and bring your boards. All are welcome. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

HEROES UNITE!

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Stop the villainous Kraig. Use your art and writing skills to create a hero to help save the world. For ages 6 years and older. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ZUMBA

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

ROMANCE BOOK CLUB: 'A LOT LIKE ADIÓS'

The Buzzed Word, 11805 Coastal Highway, Unit C, Ocean City, 6 p.m. Join the Ocean City library with The Buzzed Word for an evening of Queer Romance and wine. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BEACH SINGLE 55 PLUS MEET AND GREET

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

SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHTS

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Free concert featuring The Dunehounds (jam band). Bever-

ages, including beer, are available for purchase. Bring your own seating. <https://ocdc.org>, 410-289-7739

Fri., Aug. 25

OC JEEP WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:45 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Featuring a Beach Crawl, Sand Course, Vendor Village, Show and Shine, dinner at Pier 23 Restaurant (5:30-8:30 p.m.) and LED Light Show at The Greene Turtle (10-11:30 p.m.) www.oceancityjeepweek.com

4TH FRIDAY STREET FESTIVAL

Downtown Pocomoke, 5-8 p.m. Vendors, food, cash bar, kids activities, live music by Halfway to Heaven. This month's theme is "A Night at the Museums." Downtown Pocomoke museums will offer free admission. www.downtown-pocomoke.com, 410-957-1333, Ext. 111

KANGAROOS AND COMEDY

Barn Hill Preserve of Delaware, 34215 Peppers Corner Road, Frankford, 6-8 p.m. Enjoy local kangaroos and local comedy out in the evening air. Attendees are welcome to bring food and drinks. For ages 18 years and older. Cost is \$25. <https://www.barnhillpreserve.com/services-9>

Sat., Aug. 26

OC JEEP WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:45 a.m.-11 p.m. Featuring a Beach Crawl, Sand Course, Vendor Village, Show and Shine, The Great Jeep Gathering (6-7:30 p.m.) and Saturday Night Special Party (8:30-11 p.m.). www.oceancityjeepweek.com

13TH ANNUAL IRON FURNACE FIFTY BIKE RIDE

Furnace Town Historic Site (Nassawango Iron Furnace), 3816 Old Furnace Road, Snow Hill, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. 50K, 50mi, 100K: All routes are flat, fast and fun. You'll be riding through the Great Pocomoke Forest and surrounding countryside on lightly traveled rural roads. All routes begin and end at Furnace Town. www.ironfurnacefifty.org, 410-632-2032

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.

ASSATEAGUE ADVENTURES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. A

ranger-led adventure featuring crafts, puppets, stories and cool props. All children and their families are invited. A different adventure each week. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TINKER TIME: NATURE JOURNALS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Drop in anytime. Assemble your own nature journal. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STEM SATURDAYS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Join in any time during the day to use your creativity and build using one of the STEM building kits. For all ages. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CHILDREN'S CRAFTS IN THE COURTYARD

Art League of Ocean City - Courtyard, 502 94th St., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Engage in hands-on activities from painting to paper crafts and beyond. In case of inclement weather, classes will be held inside. Held every Saturday until Labor Day. artleagueofoceancity.org

'AN EVENING OF JAZZ AND BLUES' WITH EVERETT SPELLS

Germantown School Community Heritage Center, 10223 Trappe Road, Berlin, 6-9 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Bring your own chair and cooler. Meals will also be available for \$10 each. Rain date is Sept. 9. 410-641-0638

Sun., Aug. 27

OC JEEP WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Featuring a Beach Crawl, Sand Course and Vendor and Sponsors Photo Shoot (noon to 1 p.m.). www.oceancityjeepweek.com

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 10 a.m. Celebrate and prepare for the upcoming academic year. Students bring your backpacks. All are welcome. Refreshments follow the service. 410-641-2186

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

SUNDAES IN THE PARK & FIREWORKS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Music by Kittyback "Classic & Country Rock" activities for children and fireworks. Ice cream and beverages for sale. Free event. Bring your picnic basket and beach chairs.

Mon., Aug. 28

STORY TIME: ONCE UPON A TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and crafts all about fairy tales. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

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

SUPER POWERED STEM: CATAPULT CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4 p.m. Use the materials provided to build a working mini catapult and put it to the test. For ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, 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

OC BEACH DANCE PARTY

Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Free event held every Monday from July 10-Aug. 28. Grab your beach chair or blanket for an evening of interactive entertainment hosted by local DJs. For all ages. www.ococean.com, 410-250-0125

FIREWORKS ALONG THE BOARDWALK

2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 9:30 p.m. Dazzling spectacle of fireworks scheduled every Monday night from July 10-Aug. 28. www.ococean.com

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.

OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

Tues., Aug. 29

CRAFTS AND OUTDOOR GAMES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Join in for crafts and test your skill in the

Continued on Page 24

Calendar

Continued from Page 23
carnival games. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

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

ZUMBA

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Join Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required: 410-524-1818. www.worcesterlibrary.org

BEACH HEROES-OC

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Tuesdays - Worcester County Health

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

OC KNITTING CLUB

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

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

Wed., Aug. 30

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room, 239 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

ONGOING EVENTS

142ND MARYLAND STATE FAIR

Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Lutherville-Timonium, three

weekends (Aug. 24-27, Aug. 31-Sept. 4 and Sept. 7-10). Buildings are open on Thursdays from 5-8 p.m. and the Carnival Midway is open from 5 p.m. to close. Buildings are open on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day Monday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the Carnival Midway from 10 a.m. to close. Gates open early at 9 a.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day Monday. Admission cost is \$12 for adults ages 12-61 years, \$10 for seniors ages 62 years and older, \$7 for children ages 6-11 years and free for children 5 years and younger. For advance discount ticket sales and event details, visit www.marylandstatefair.com.

TURTLES HIDING ON THE BOARDWALK!

Find all of their hiding places and win your own stuffed turtle, Aug. 18-Sept. 1. Pick up your game card from any participating business or from the Boardwalk Information Booth, between N. Division and Caroline streets. Take your finished game card to the Information Booth to claim your prize. For kids 12 years and younger. events@ocdc.org or 703-731-6515.

COMMUNITY BOOK SWAP

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., during the month of August. Bring a gently read book to share and take another. 410-957-0878

CREATIVE KIDS CORNER

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, all day, every day in August. Come grab an art kit to create at the library or take it with you. Most supplies included. For all ages. 410-524-1818

FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS

OC Life-Saving Station Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, July 3-Aug. 25. Held Monday through Saturday, 10-10:30 a.m. Mondays feature History of Our Surfmens; Tuesdays, Beach Safety; Wednesdays, Knot Tying; Thursdays, All About Sharks; Fridays, Land, Sky, & Sea; Saturdays, Aquarium Feeding. www.ocmuseum.org

KIWANIS 2024 "LOTTERY RAFFLE" TICKETS ON SALE

Every Saturday at the Ocean Pines Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$20. A tickets is good for all 365 days of 2024 drawings of the Maryland evening "Pick 3" drawing. There are 17 Special Dates that pay up to \$250. See www.kiwanisofopoc.org.

BOOKOPOLY

Held all summer, all day at every Worcester County library branch. Let the game choose your next read. Play a round or a few to try a different genre than you normally read. Book selections for adults and teens. www.worcesterlibrary.org

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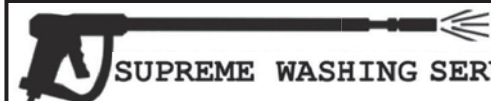
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