



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

EDU flip-flop ends Gillis' park project

Knerr said to agree on deal but then moved to scuttle it

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) There was a glimmer of hope that the Heron Park development proposal by Palmer Gillis of Coastal Ventures Properties (CVP) might still be possible, but that hope died Monday night when Councilman Jay Knerr demanded Gillis keep only five EDUs and give the remaining 31 EDUs that came with parcel 57 to the town.

EDUs (equivalent dwelling units) are used for water/wastewater flow capacity planning. One EDU is equivalent to 183 gallons per day of water and 253 gallons per day of sanitary sewer. Properties are sold with EDUs and parcel 57 at Heron Park has 36 EDUs. A typical home has one EDU.

Gillis, who has been spent nearly two years negotiating with the town, said Knerr's demand was unreasonable and unacceptable.

According to a letter sent to council...
See KNERR Page 8

COUNTRY TIME

Crowds filled Main Street for Berlin's Small Town Throw Down last Saturday. The Crystal Sands Band and Red Dirt Revolution performed country music favorites and originals live on the Main Street stage.

Farr elected OPA president, board sets meeting dates

(Sept. 14, 2023) Rick Farr will take over as Ocean Pines Association President after a unanimous vote during an organization meeting on Saturday at the golf clubhouse.

Also during the meeting, board members named Stuart Lakernick as association vice president, John Latham as secretary, and Monica Rankowski as treasurer. All were selected unanimously.

Other board appointments included Linda Martin as assistant secretary, Steve Phillips as assistant treasurer, UHY as the auditing firm, Bruce Bright (Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy

& Almand) as legal counsel, and Doug Parks as parliamentarian.

Directors also set the regular board meeting schedule for the year.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sept. 30; Saturday, Oct. 28;
Saturday, Nov. 18; Saturday, Dec. 16;
Saturday, Jan. 20; Sunday, Feb. 4;
Saturday, Feb. 17; Saturday, March 23;
Saturday, April 20; Saturday, May 18;
Saturday, June 15; Saturday, July 20;
Saturday, Aug. 10 (annual meeting)



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines Association officers elected for the coming year are, from left, Treasurer Monica Rankowski, President Rick Farr, Secretary John Latham, and Vice President Stewart Lakernick.



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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The town of Berlin is applying for funding to replace the playground equipment at Henry Park. The town has received a bid from GameTime for new ADA compliant equipment.

Parks Commission prioritizes recreational needs in Berlin

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) The Berlin Parks Commission reviewed its Open Space project priority list for next year on Tuesday and discussed the playgrounds at Dr. William Henry and Stephen Decatur parks.

Kate Daub, the administrative assistant for the town of Berlin, told the commission that the purchase of defibrillators for the parks were not eligible for playground funding because they do not have the required 20-year lifespan. She said money to pay for the units could come from other sources.

She also reported that funding for life saving devices by the ponds and other water features in Decatur and Heron parks needs to be incorporated into a larger project such as the observation platform over the lagoons at Heron Park.

The final item on the commission's priority list was the conversion of tennis courts to pickleball courts at Stephen Decatur Park. With the increasing popularity of pickleball, the commission is considering pursuing grants to pay for the conversion of two tennis courts into six pickleball

courts. The commission, however, will conduct a community survey before deciding whether to proceed with the change.

Daub said changes will be made to the priority list during the January meeting.

She said she hopes to revisit the list and present it to the mayor and council for approval to ensure that the town meets the state Program Open Space grant application deadline in March.

In August, Town Administrator Mary Bohlen submitted a proposal to the Department of Natural Resources for funding new playground equipment at Henry Park to replace its current structures.

The project is expected to cost \$240,000, of which the town will commit to \$24,000 in matching funds. The town is seeking \$216,000 from the state's Community Parks and Playgrounds Program.

Berlin has received a bid from Gametime for \$236,000 for new ADA compliant equipment. Daub said she expects to be able to award the con-

See NEW Page 4

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New swings for Decatur Park

Continued from Page 3

tract after the first of the year and Gametime estimates that the equipment will be in place within 12 months of the award date.

Not all the equipment will be replaced. The purple/green play unit for ages two to five at the front of the playground, closest to Flower Street, as well as the blue two-bay swing, will remain. The plan is to replace all other remaining equipment, according to Public Works Superintendent Cody Chesser.

The "tot" swing at Henry Park will be removed and the blue two-bay swing will be extended to include two new tot swings. There will only be one swing frame with three bays and the same number of swings that are currently in place.

He said that in the meantime, his team is concentrating on keeping the

playground safe.

"A lot of the safety issues have been addressed," he said.

Chesser also reported that new swings and chains are coming in for Stephen Decatur Park.

"The existing swings are at the end of their life cycle and are beginning to show signs of wear. This is typically when they are replaced. The swing frames themselves will stay and be repainted," Chesser said.

He said two yellow spinners have recently been taken out of service and will be replaced as well.

"The quotes received for the Stephen Decatur Park restrooms far exceeded what had been budgeted. At this time, the town currently has a grant application pending and the hope is to secure the necessary funding to move forward with this project," Daub said.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Claire Miller received approval from the Historic Commission to place signage outside of her new coffee shop, Second Wave Coffee, at 19 William St. in Berlin.

Signs, murals and restaurant expansion approved in Berlin

By **Cindy Hoffman**
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) The Historic District Commission met on Wednesday and unanimously approved three applications.

The first was a request from prop-

erty owner William Esham to restore a mural on the side of the building at 11 Pitts Street.

Ivy Wells, the town director of economic development, said the town obtained funding from the Maryland

See BERLIN Page 5

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Historic Commission gave approval to restore a "ghost" mural on 11 Pitts St. during a meeting Wednesday.

Berlin to restore 'ghost' mural

Continued from Page 4

State Arts Council to restore what is called a 'ghost' mural on the side of the building.

She said attempts to determine what the mural looked like produced no results, and is hoping she still might hear from anyone who might have pictures or knowledge of the mural.

"I am thrilled we will be able to do this," commission member Mary Moore said.

Wells told the commission that the company, Brushcan Custom Murals specializes in restoring murals and did work in Snow Hill.

The second application was from the owners of Blackstone Restaurant at 104 Pitts Street. Rich Hertzog of Delmarva Veterans Builders presented the plans for the restaurant.

The plan is to provide more cooking space in the building, add a bathroom and deck with a pergola and remove the fence. The addition will require the downing of one large tree

near the building.

The commission approved the request with the stipulation that the ice machine that currently sits outside the restaurant be removed or placed out of sight.

The third application came from Claire Miller, who is opening the Second Wave Coffee and Social shop at 19 William Street. She received approval to hang a wooden sign outside the shop, as well as a flag and sandwich board.

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Ocean Pines ballot count video online

(Sept. 14, 2023) Video for 2023 Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors election ballot count is now available online.

The video features members of the Ocean Pines Elections Committee and contractor Elections Trust reviewing ballots for the election and announcing the vote totals.

To view the video, visit youtu.be/cMWgxotGjNw.

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OP gets clean audit, introduces new law firm

Lawyers at Ayres Jenkins Gordy & Almand taking over legal duties for town

(Sept. 14, 2023) The Ocean Pines Association Annual Meeting reports distributed on Aug. 26 included an overview of legal services by local law firm Ayres Jenkins Gordy & Almand, and a yearly audit report from UHY LLP.

Attorney Bruce Bright of Ayres Jenkins Gordy & Almand spoke on the firm's history and current duties with Ocean Pines, while auditor Chris Hall summarized the annual audit process on behalf of UHY.

Bright said his firm had been retained in May, so there's "not a lot of activity to report" just yet.

He said the firm was established 50 years ago, in 1973, in Ocean City. The firm has represented the Town of Ocean City for the last four decades, represented the Worcester County School Board for many years, and currently represents the Town of Snow Hill.

"We are happily accustomed to representing important institutions in this local area," Bright said in a news release

He said the firm also has experience serving HOAs and condo-

minium associations, both locally and as far away as Easton. He said Ayres Jenkins Gordy & Almand is presently comprised of 11 attorneys, including eight partners and three associates.

"We will take a team approach toward fulfilling the legal needs of Ocean Pines," Bright said.

He added that he will serve as the principal attorney, with firm partner Maureen Howarth serving as co-counsel. Howarth previously served as the Worcester County attorney and has ample experience representing community associations.

As general counsel to Ocean Pines, Bright said his firm will cover "the full array of legal services," including representing the community in any litigation, and providing legal support and advice to the general manager, various departments, and board of directors.

They will also assist with contracts and represent Ocean Pines in assessment collections.

"We do that kind of [collections] work for dozens of condominium associations and HOAs, so we're well prepared," he said.

Bright added his firm will supply all those services "at two-thirds the hourly rate of our predecessor."

"We're hopeful to be a lot more

cost-effective in delivering these services to Ocean Pines and its members, and we're really looking forward to a productive relationship between one of the oldest law firms on the Eastern Shore and the largest community association on the Eastern shore," he said. "We're very proud to serve in this capacity."

Later in the meeting, Hall supplied the annual auditor's report. He previously served Ocean Pines with the TGM Group.

"We merged our firm a few years ago ... [and] are now part of a larger firm," Hall said in the release. "We're the 28th largest firm in the country, so we have a lot of resources and expertise behind us."

Hall added the UHY offices remain locally based, with "the same partners [and] the same staff."

As the auditor, Hall said UHY audits and renders an opinion on the association's financial statements each year.

He said the process starts each April with internal control documentation and risk assessments, and continues through the spring and early summer with inventory counts, balance sheet and income statement testing of accounts and transactions, and other fieldwork.

The process generally wraps up in



SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Attorney Bruce Bright of Ayres Jenkins Gordy & Almand spoke on the local law firm's history and current duties with Ocean Pines during the organization's Aug. 26 meeting.

July with a review of the final fiscal-year financial statements.

Once again, Hall said Ocean Pines earned a "clean" and unmodified opinion.

"That's the highest level of assurance that any independent financial firm can give," he said.

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
 Palmer and Sandy Gillis met with the Berlin Council and Mayor Zack Tyndall Monday night and asked them to reconsider their proposal for the development of parcel 57, where the old Tyson's Poultry Plant is located. But once again, opinions changed, and no deal could be made.

Knerr believes Gillis should pay more for EDUs he needs

Continued from Page 1

cil members Dean Burrell, Jay Knerr and Shaneka Nichols on Sept. 6 from Mayor Zack Tyndall and councilmembers Steve Green and Jack Orris, "Following the meeting, at least one of you reached out to the mayor's office to express the items you would like to see in a future contract and stated that you would be interested in re-exploring the potential sale of Parcel 57 to CVP."

That council member was identified Monday night as Jay Knerr. A new round of negotiations ensued

last week and a new contract was drafted with agreed-upon parameters. That included a sale price of \$1.2 million, the amount the recent appraisal estimated, based on the property being already cleared and rezoned for B2 business development. It also included a rear setback to protect the feeling of the walking path around the lagoons, a small residential component and 34 sewer EDUs that will be conveyed with the sale. Two sewer EDUs would be transferred to parcel 410 and 191.

But Knerr changed his mind again sometime between last week and Monday night and demanded that Gillis keep only five EDUs with the property.

"The offer does not meet the needs we have for the property," Gillis said. Gillis said that EDUs are part of the value of the property and were included with the property when it was sold by Tyson's to the Town of Berlin. Orris also said that was reflected in the deed he had in his hands that night.

Knerr disagreed and demanded that Gillis pay the town more money for the EDUs.

Knerr said this was affirmed in the appraisal when the EDU value was not considered when formulating the parcels' worth.

"The option that I saw moving forward since no contract had been signed was to ask Palmer to purchase the EDU's that have a substantial value," Knerr said.

"EDUs do not provide additional value to the property. The EDUs are



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Gillis says he's 'sick and tired' of park deal changing

in the deed for the property," Gillis said.

Gillis said that by continuing to restrict the number of uses on the parcel, the town is reducing the value of the property.

Gillis reminded Knerr that the deal he is offering will slash the town's \$2.3 million debt on the property in half with just the sale of parcel 57 which is 9.35 acres. The town will currently keep parcels 410, 191 and 52, the green space that makes up Heron Park, which totals about 29 acres.

But that was not good enough for Knerr.

"After carefully weighing all of the pros and cons of selling versus not selling, I came to the conclusion that parcel 57 is worth more than the \$1.2 million that was offered," Knerr said.

"I thought we had an agreement last week. I am sick and tired of this deal being changed," Gillis said.

Tyndall noted that every time the town moved the needle, Palmer conceded. But the demands by Knerr were too much for even Gillis and he walked away.

"We came here in good faith. I don't misrepresent my word. I live by the spirit of the law," Gillis said.

He said he was still willing to advise the town on the demolition of the property's structures, stating that he knew the building better than anyone since he was involved in the construction of it.

With the Gillis deal dead again, the town still has to deal with the demolition of the building.

In their letter, Tyndall, Green and Orris asked Knerr, along with council member Nichols and Burrell to re-evaluate the risk that the town is taking by moving forward with demolition without a partner.

According to the Sept. 6 letter, DBF (the firm hired to develop the RFP) believes that it is "unlikely" that the town will be able to demolish the entire building.

"DBF also believes that the Town 'will have to spend money to secure and stabilize' the remaining portion of the building if the entire demolition cannot be accomplished with the available funding."

"Additionally, it is difficult to pinpoint precisely where the demolition will end if the cost to demo exceeds the available grant funding. DBF will work with the awarded demolition contractor to try and maintain the 'more robust buildings' so 'collateral damage is minimized,' however, there could be an additional cost to the Town if something does not go as planned."

The letter continued, "We believe that the Town of Berlin is not in a financial position to take on these potential additional costs and caution the Council that there may be un-

known issues that arise during the demolition that the Town would have to resolve immediately, potentially further eroding our available reserve funds."

"All this speculation that the town will have to spend hundreds of dollars more in demolition costs is nonsense. That building has substantial intrinsic value," Knerr said.

"We do not have to demo that entire building and going forward it can easily be rehabbed into any number of uses. So, clearing up the outer areas and gutting the interior will not exceed the 500K demo grant. What it will do is allow us to remarket the property at a higher value after we determine exactly what is the best use for that parcel."

Once the RFP for the demolition goes out, the experts will assess the cost and challenges of demolition. Then the market will determine what parcel 57 is actually worth.

Town of Berlin Public Notice



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP # 2023-09
Broad Street Pump Station Replacement

Due Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023
Time: 3:00 PM EST

The Town of Berlin is seeking Proposals for the demolition and abandonment of the existing pump station and building(including asbestos shingles), the removal and disposal of 2 existing sewer manholes, the installation of a packaged pumpstation and station piping, 105 LF of gravity sewer main, 95 LF of sewer force main, 2 sewer manholes, 25 LF of water main, 2" site water service with yard hydrant, a fire hydrant assembly, generator, electrical service, pump station controls, site lighting, and 85 SY of paved driveway. Some work is adjacent to a MD-SHA maintained road and any disturbance to their road will need to be restored per their requirements and standards. Qualified contractors are encouraged to visit the Town of Berlin website at berlinmd.gov/government/request-for-proposals/ or contact Director of Water Resources Jamey Latchum at 410-641-3845/jlatchum@berlinmd.gov for the official RFP. EEO.

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Berlin council considers four motions at Monday meeting

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) The Berlin Council agreed to enact a policy for naming and renaming public facilities such as structures, parks and recreational facilities Monday night.

The motion to establish the policy, one of four to come before the council, called for gathering ideas and encouraging community participation in the process. For new facilities, the town administrator will solicit ideas from the public. One public meeting will be required on all naming and renaming requests.

The policy also suggests other ways to recognize and commemorate community members and historical figures and events, including interpretive plaques, sidewalk bricks and benches.

In other business, the council passed a motion to spend \$11,125 on the Decatur Farm sewage pump repair. Shafer, Troxell and Howe Inc will do the work. The council also agreed to \$120,000 from the Williams Street Lead Lines and Valves Replacement Project to relocate the water main under 115 Broad Street.

The water main is approximately 88 years old and is reaching the end of its useful life, according to Jamey Latchum, the water resources director.

This would create adequate funding to make necessary upgrades to the water main from underneath the Berlin Beer Company's new brewery, which feeds water service to Harrison Avenue and the 115 Broad Street location.

Also getting approval was a motion to allow the sale or disposal of various pieces of water department equipment, including a Chevy Colorado, two Ford F-150s, and yard equipment.

The council members also discussed the need to provide some sort of support for the elderly and others who may not have the capability to maintain their stormwater ditches.

Councilman Dean Burrell expressed serious concern about one member of the community who is in his 90s.

"We cannot be dependent on senior citizens with limited resources to maintain ditches. This can be a concern all over town," Burrell said.

Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said that if the town took on the responsibility of clearing private ditches, it would require more equipment and personnel.

Mayor Zach Tyndall suggested that there might be a grant program that could be helpful for individual cases.

The council agreed that more research was needed to address the problem. A map of the ditches was provided to the council and the mayor suggested the town make the map live online so it could be updated and monitored.

"What affects one area will probably affect another," Councilmember Jack Orris said.

Scooter crash on Rt. 50 claims life of 20-year-old

(Sept. 14, 2023) Maryland State Police are investigating a fatal crash on Monday morning that took the life of a 20-year-old man who was riding an electric scooter on Route 50 in Worcester County.

According to a news release from the Maryland State Police, Muhammed Ekinici, who is from the country of Turkey, was driving a Razor electric scooter around 6 a.m., Monday, Sept. 11, west on Route 50 in the area of Route 589 when he was reportedly struck by a 2011 Ford Fusion.

The driver of the vehicle, Katie Tucker, 45, of Berlin refused medical treatment at the scene. Roads were closed for about three hours.

The release said anyone with information on the crash is asked to call the Berlin Barrack at 410-641-3101.

Charges are pending the outcome of the investigation and the cause of the crash is under investigation.



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Rows of vegetables sit on a table at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market. The market is transitioning to fall offerings and hours in the coming weeks.

Pumpkins and gourds reflect change of season at market

(Sept. 14, 2023) Hints of the changing season are already peaking in at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market, and with the transition the selections will gradually shift too.

Market Manager David Bean said in a news release that the last of the locally grown tomatoes and sweet corn will linger well into autumn, as sweet potatoes start to arrive, along with more varieties of apples than one can name.

“There’s nothing better than fresh-pressed local apple cider and the first sight of pumpkins,” Bean said. “Alongside those will be fall flowers, and greenery for the porch and garden. Mums, asters and pansies of every color will brighten the autumn marketplace, ready for shoppers to take home.”

Shoppers should also be on the lookout for decorative gourds and miniature pumpkins at the market.

“They’ll look terrific on your dining table or fireplace mantel,” Bean said. “They keep for months, so you can decorate now and keep them out through Thanksgiving. You can even hollow out mini pumpkins and gourds

to make fun, seasonal candle holders. When you’re done with using them for décor, put them outside for the wild critters to enjoy the seeds and pulp!”

David Joseph of D.J. David Greengrocer said in the release that his market display will soon be piled high with autumnal produce.

“This fall we’re selling broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, pumpkins and winter squashes of all sorts, along with leeks, greens, lettuces, beets, carrots, radishes and parsnips, all directly from our local growers gardens and farm fields,” Joseph said.

Brandon Brady of Stag Run Farm said the market has just as many locally grown treasures in the fall and winter as it does during spring and summer.

“We always have to fight the expectation of customers that we will not have local produce after a frost has hit – that’s a false assumption that requires continual shopper education,” Brady said. “There will be plenty to offer after Jack Frost has visited our family farm.”

Along with fresh produce, Bean See FARMERS Page 13



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Shoaling, environment and navigation focus of study

By Remy Andersen
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) A study of the Ocean City inlet that was conducted 25 years ago was given a long overdue update with a letter sent recently to the US Army Corp of Engineers in Baltimore.

The 1998 Ocean City, Maryland Water Resources Study, Feasibility Report and Integrated Environmental Impact Statement was approved to be updated by the Worcester County Commissioners last week.

Bob Mitchell, the director of Environmental Programs, said that the intent for this updated study is to bring to light the continued shoaling issues present as well as other navigational and physical environmental changes

made to the inlet area since the last study was conducted.

“Shoaling has gotten exponentially worse in the coastal bays since Hurricane Sandy hit in 2013,” Mitchell said. “It’s just gotten to a point where aggressive action is needed.”

The corps had notified the county’s Department of Environmental Programs back in March that it was not going to fund the inlet jetty improvement project. Mitchell said this study would serve as a more long-term solution moving forward.

“The currents are starting to shave off the northwestern part of the island, as well as sand being deposited in the inlet area,” said Mitchell, highlighting the effects of shoaling being brought to the area.

“Only one ship at a time can pass through Sunset Harbor and the West Ocean City commercial harbor, which isn’t good for navigation or traffic. So the canyon between the 11 and 12 buoys marking off the entrance to Sunset Harbor needs to be widened for safety and navigational purposes.”

These issues pose a problem to commercial fisherman, as bumping the boat on the bottom in any way could cause damage and ultimately put the See LONG Page 14

Farmers Market geared up for fall

Continued from Page 12

said the selection at the market’s bakeries will also start to reflect the season’s change, with warming spices and autumn orchard fruit flavors in abundance.

Apple dumplings are a favorite of the customers at Pies Etcetera. Owner Belinda White has family roots in Pennsylvania Dutch Country, where she learned to perfect her family’s recipe. She suggests pre-ordering, as the dumplings always sell out fast.

Bean said shoppers can also find jams and jellies for their morning toast, eggs for fall baking, and a roast for Sunday dinner.

What’s more, Dize Seafood will have the last of the Maryland hard-shell crab harvest, and freshly harvested Chesapeake oysters will return just in time for the upcoming holidays.

According to the Maryland Farmers Market Association, the state boasts more than a dozen farmers markets that are open for business during the colder months, with the Ocean Pines market being one of the few open year-round on the Eastern shore.

“There are also not as many folks from out of town who are buying during the fall season, so it is a great time for the market businesses to reconnect with their local shoppers after a very busy summer,” Bean said.

Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays in White Horse Park, next to the Ocean Pines Administration Building and Police Department.

The market returns to off-season hours of 9 a.m. to noon, starting Saturday, Oct 7.

For more information, visit ocean-pines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.

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Stephen Decatur High School's Seahawk Field at Louis H. Taylor Stadium.

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Friday night ribbon cutting for new SDHS video board

(Sept. 14, 2023) Friday Night Lights will get a little more exciting Friday at Stephen Decatur High School.

During halftime of the football game against Bennett High at the Louis H. Taylor Stadium, a ribbon cutting is set to commence for the stadium's new video board. The game is set to begin at 6 p.m. at 9913 Seahawk Road in Berlin.

According to a news release, the following anchor sponsors played a sig-

nificant part in making the project possible: Atlantic General Hospital, Park Place Jewelers, Preston Ford Automotive Group, Bank of Ocean City, Taylor Bank, Town of Ocean City, T.E.A.M. Productions, Bradley Atlantic Insurance.

Anyone who is unable to attend the ribbon cutting in person can livestream it at: youtube.com/live/bO2wQ-OfmY?si=BdzLj1ENWKAmpo_9.

Long-term solutions sought

Continued from Page 13

fishermen out of commission, as they undertook expensive boat repairs.

Short-term solutions that the department considered included more aggressive dredging, removing material from the shoals near the western inlet navigational buoys, direct sand placement on the northern part of Assateague Island, and occasionally relocating buoys so optimum navigation can be achieved.

The study itself aims to develop water resource projects for the coastal bays, and to lessen the adverse impact caused by past corps projects.

"A lot of it is trying to restore the

sediment transportation system," Mitchell said.

In approaching the study, Mitchell and the department intend to view the issues being brought to the inlet area holistically.

"There's a lot of new information and a lot of new movement with the sediment transport that needs to be looked at," Mitchell said.

The commissioners recommended that the department partner with the Department of Natural Resources, the Town of Ocean City, and the Federal Park Service, indicating that the Army Corps letter should be sent to every department.

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PHOTO COURTESY JAN ROONEY

Late last month, esteemed racehorse Studio City competed in his final race at Ocean Downs, placing on the field. The stallion has raced in 311 races over an illustrious career.

Stallion Studio City runs final race

By Remy Andersen
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) It's the end of an era for a well-seasoned standardbred trotter.

Studio City finished up his final race at Ocean Downs Casino in Ocean Pines late last month, his position known in racing terms as "up the field." Although not winning, it was a glorious, celebrated occasion by

everyone having close ties to the veteran racehorse.

The chestnut brown trotter is owned by Lisa Dennison and Greg Dypsky. Studio City comes from a third-generation racing family, being bred and raised at Winbak Farm in Chesapeake City, Maryland. He was born to mare Yagot Prestige and was sired by Conway Hall.

Studio City has raced in 311 races

over the course of his campaign, travelling all over the country in doing so, and earning a lifetime total of \$386,040 in prize money.

Now 14 years old, Studio City is still kicking away, with no signs of slowing down.

Each year, only a few racing horses reach the age of 14 and are still healthy and able to compete. It is per-

See CAREER Page 16

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Director of Horticulture, Stephen Pryce Lea will share his top tips on assembling the perfect outdoor Fall container, selecting compost, and suitable hardy Fall plants. Learn how to care for your planted arrangement to ensure it lasts well into the winter season.
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County urges regular care of septic systems

(Sept. 14, 2023) SepticSmart Week is coming up on Sept. 18-22, and Worcester County Environmental Programs staff are urging residents stay informed and vigilant about maintaining their private septic systems.

The information can be found online at epa.gov/septic/septicSMART-week.

Worcester County Environmental Programs uses the Environmental Protection Agency's SepticSmart program to educate homeowners about the need for proper septic system use and routine maintenance.

Though 88 percent of county households use public sewer, there are also roughly 7,200 septic systems in Worcester County that treat wastewater from homes and businesses.

"Residents and our environment benefit from properly designed, installed, operated, and maintained septic systems, and in order to maximize these benefits, it takes teamwork between septic system owners, septic professionals, and local regulators," Environmental Programs Director Robert Mitchell said in a news release. "Proper septic system use

and care are vital to protecting public health, preserving our groundwater, wetlands, and waterways, and avoiding costly repairs that can result from neglect."

Staff members recommend the following do's and don'ts to be a responsible and successful septic system owner:

- Have your septic system inspected and pumped every three years by a Maryland licensed onsite professional.
- Contact a Maryland-licensed onsite professional if you have a problem with your disposal system or suspect it may be failing.
- Repair leaks and use water-efficient fixtures to avoid overloading your septic system.

• Discard non-biodegradable products, such as dental floss, disposable wipes and cat litter, in the trash instead of flushing them.

• Avoid pouring harsh products, such as oils, grease, chemicals, paint and medications, down the drain.

• Maintain plants and vegetation near your septic system to ensure roots do not block drains.

• Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the septic tank and drain field to avoid damaging or crushing its components.

• It is recommended that home buyers have a septic system inspection done by a Maryland-licensed onsite professional in accordance with Maryland Department of the Environment regulations.

MCBP offer free boat cruise for National Estuaries Week

(Sept. 14, 2023) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program staff are hosting a free boat cruise of the bays, from 4-6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 18, to kick off the weeklong celebration of National Estuaries Week.

The week is dedicated to hailing all the benefits an estuary provides.

The boat tour will take place on the Assateague Adventure and will be on a first come, first serve registration. There is seating and a bathroom on the boat.

The boat is docked at the Talbott Street Marina, located at 311 Talbott Street and the bay. Parking will be free for those who take the tour.

The goal of National Estuaries Week

is to show members of Congress, federal agencies and state and local governments the importance of America's estuaries, and to remind communities of the significance of protecting and restoring the watershed.

"The definition of an estuary is where rivers meet the sea, but there's a lot more going on that just the river meeting up with the sea," Maryland Coastal Bays Director Kevin Smith said in a news release. "It's where salt water and fresh water mingle and mix. It's where nutrients are trapped and processed. It is where suspended sediments drop and deposit. In the spring, it's where glass

See GET Page 17

Career winnings over \$300K

Continued from Page 15
happens even more rare for a 14-year-old to win at an age where retirement would seem to be the best option.

Even so, Jan Rooney, owner of Paws and Claws in West Ocean City

and friend of Dennison and Dyspy, said Studio City did what seldom occurs in the horse racing industry, a term known as "retiring sound," especially after a racing career that has spanned the last 14 years.

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REMY ANDERSEN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Cannabis dispensaries, such as the Hi Tide Dispensary off of Stephen Decatur Highway in West Ocean City, were the subject of discussion regarding provisions to dispensary zoning, new dispensary distancing, and on-site consumption of cannabis at the Worcester County Commissioners meeting last week.

Cannabis zoning, distancing, consumption regs advance

By Remy Andersen
Staff Writer

(Sept. 14, 2023) Multiple provisions related to cannabis consumption can advance, following three separate unanimous votes from the Worcester County Commissioners last week.

The votes included one for zoning, one for distancing, and one for on-site consumption.

Jennifer Keener, the county's director of Developmental Review and Permitting, presented the proposed cannabis regulations to the commissioners, as the county prepares for the arrival of more cannabis license holders.

The state currently implements conversion licenses for existing medical cannabis license holders and are also accepting new applications this fall.

Keener first recommended that the same zoning approach that was put in place in 2017 be applied to medical cannabis establishments. The agricultural usage of growing the cannabis plant is permitted by right, as well as the industrial usage of the plant's processing and the retail usage of the sale of the product at dispensaries. These establishments

would undergo the same review process as similar non-cannabis facilities.

In regards to on-site cannabis consumption, the commissioners voted to prohibit the operation of on-site consumption establishments.

Keener stated in a memo that the law currently requires new dispensaries to be distanced 500 feet from a pre-existing primary or secondary school, a licensed childcare center or registered family childcare home, a playground, recreation center, library or public park. The law also stated that new dispensaries be distanced 1,000 feet from another licensed dispensary. These would also not be applied to existing dispensaries.

The 500-foot distance was questioned by commissioners Joe Mitrecic and Madison Bunting, who proposed that this distance be changed to 1,000 feet.

Mitrecic had also inquired about the distance between Hi Tide Dispensary and Ocean City Elementary School. Keener estimated that it was about half a mile.

The commissioners ultimately agreed to increase the distance stated in the law from 500 feet to 2,000 feet.



PHOTO COURTESY ALCYIA SKARZINSKI

Pictured is Assawoman Bay. Maryland Coastal Bays Program staff are offering a free boat cruise of the bays from 4-6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 18, to kick off the weeklong celebration of National Estuaries Week.

Get out and visit local estuaries

Continued from Page 16

eels struggle to get upstream. It's where some of our most diverse and unique plants and fish grow. Simply put, estuaries are one of the most dynamic, interesting and important places on this planet."

Currently, 28 estuaries along the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts and Puerto Rico are designated as "estuaries of national significance."

The Maryland Coastal Bays is one of the important estuaries and the organization is a local National Estuary Program dedicated to protecting and restoring the water quality and ecological integrity of the watershed. The National Estuary Program is an Environmental Protection Agency place-based program.

Though the coastal bays are sometimes referred to as "the forgotten bays" due to the size of Maryland's Chesapeake Bay watershed, the tiny bays are some of the most ecologically diverse regions in the state.

The bays support numerous rare and threatened plant and animal species, forests and wetlands vital to migratory songbirds and waterfowl, as well as numerous important commercial and recreational fin and shellfish species.

For more information, or to register for the boat cruise and MCBP, visit mdcoastalbays.org or email mcbp@mdcoastalbays.org. For more information on National Estuaries Week, visit estuaries.org/get-involved/national-estuaries-week/

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Snapshots



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DOGGIE SWIM

Dogs enjoyed playing fetch in the cool waters during the annual Doggie Swim at Mumford's Landing Pool in Ocean Pines on Saturday.



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Lifeguard Eva Mills and her dog Cooper patrolled the pool during the annual Doggie Swim at Mumford's Landing Pool in Ocean Pines on Saturday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW PARENT COFFEE

On Sept. 7, Worcester Preparatory School Parent Association hosted a New Parent Coffee event to welcome families who are new to the school. Faculty and staff introduced themselves to new parents, while they also got to know each other over coffee and breakfast. Pictured, new WPS parents and Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall and his wife, Chelsea, pose with Ashley Ball Crist and Parent Association member Sara Gorfinkel.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Head of Upper School Carol Evans poses with Kara and James Armstrong, whose child joined Worcester Prep as a freshman this year.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Robert, center, and Nicole Durrell pose with Head of School John McDonald.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

President Kim Fernley and member Mireille Jaoude smile for a photo with new parents Christy Dill and Krystle Givens-Greyevy.

Snapshots



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

KAYAK LAUNCH

A long-awaited new kayak launch was delivered to Ocean Pines Pintail Park on Wednesday. The pieces were trucked here from Florida. Once it is installed, it will provide a second place for kayakers to easily launch and store their boats in Ocean Pines. Installation is expected to be complete by the end of the month.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BACK TO SCHOOL

Last week, Worcester Preparatory School had a staggered start for each division, welcoming Upper School (9-12) students on Aug. 29, Middle School students (6-8) on Aug. 30, and Lower School (PK-5) on Aug. 31. (Left) A first-day tradition at WPS, the seniors line up to welcome underclassmen to school. Pictured is freshman Reed Corron giving a high-five to seniors on the way to first period. (Right) First grade teacher Cheryl Marshall takes a snapshot of her student Callie McCabe on the first day of Lower School.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

(Left) Juniors Briar Parsons, Nathan Montague, Danielle Carr and Emma Zajdel are excited to see Upper School science teacher Dr. Katie Moreland on the first day of school. (Right) Sixth graders, from left, Haley Hanna, Aylin Kucuk and Alessia Ziman are eager to start their first year of middle school.

Opinion

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

Park lot's value shifts with council opinions

Whatever is going on with the Berlin Town Council's decision-making progress vis-à-vis Heron Park and the council's possible desire to do something with the property, Palmer and Sandy Gillis aren't happy with it.

Nor should they be after Monday evening's debacle when the deal they believed was hammered out a week earlier on parcel 57 turned out to be no deal at all.

The collapse came about when Councilman Jay Knerr stipulated that the 30-plus units of water/wastewater capacity the Gillises understood were part of the total purchase should be reduced to just five, thus obligating them to buy those additional EDUs back from the town.

There would be no point, after all, in acquiring a parcel that didn't come with enough water/wastewater capacity (EDUs or equivalent dwelling units) to handle the number of users needed to make the venture profitable.

But now that this deal has gone south, the public can only speculate about what the council's next step might be, beyond demolishing some of the poultry plant building and continuing to make payments on the \$2.3 million the town owes on the \$3 million it borrowed in 2016 to buy the 68-acre tract.

It's difficult to imagine what sort of backup plan might exist since the value of the property can't be established until the council locks in how many EDUs go with it.

Even then, a property's appraised value doesn't mean anything if no one is willing to pay that much for it. That begs the question: will anyone else be willing to buy the land when its development potential is limited by virtue of this EDU restriction?

Further, given the council's fickle nature on what it wants to see developed, any potential buyer would hesitate to go all in on any package with parameters that could change on a whim.

OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION REPORT

A message from the OP Marina

Boat owners should always be prepared for severe weather

(Sept. 14, 2023) Here's what the Ocean Pines Marina suggests vessel owners do in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane, or any severe weather with winds greater than 50 mph:

- Precautionary measures should be initiated at the beginning of each hurricane season and on an ongoing basis.

- Have your vessel hurricane plan established. Know in advance where you are going to go, what you are going to do, and when you are going to do it. If you require a marina to haul your boat, don't wait, they may be too busy to help you.

- Involve a friend or family member(s) in your vessel hurricane plan, so they may assist you if you are out of town or unable to get to your vessel in the event of an approaching storm.

Contact numbers for the owner and alternates as well as email addresses must be kept current and provided to the dock master.

- Make sure that your vessel's operating systems are in good working order. Replace

fuel filters, inspect batteries/charging system, and keep fuel tanks topped off. Inspect all bilge pumps and through-hull connections.

- Inspect all working and spare dock lines and ensure that all extra lines are in good condition and in an accessible location. Have sufficient chafing gear for all working lines (Neoprene hose works well).

- Devote some time to practice tying your vessel as you would for a hurricane or severe storm. Make sure that your extra line is of sufficient quantity and strength.

Vessel owners should monitor the OPA website (oceanpines.org) and emails on a regular basis for updates and any potential marina evacuation notices.

The Ocean Pines Association is not responsible for any damage to any vessel not removed under these circumstances. Any vessel owner who does not remove their vessel assumes all responsibility for damage to their vessel as well as any damage to any other vessel or to any Ocean Pines property.

Letters

Palmer and Sandy Gillis speak out on Heron Park deal

(The following was sent to the mayor and Town Council of Berlin).

Dear Mayor and Council members,

Monday's Town Council meeting resulted in yet another failed agreement after at least a couple previous failures. As everyone already knows we have been negotiating on the purchase of lots 57, 191 and 410 for over a year.

This resulted in reducing the sale to include only lot 57, where the abandoned poultry processing plant stands.

As we understand, after the meeting of Aug. 28, when the council abruptly terminated our exclusive negotiation period, with no notice, in our absence, a Town Council member began an outreach to Mayor Zack [Tyndall] to revive our negotiations. This resulted in the draft

contract of sale that was presented Monday, Sept. 11. This was under the pretense that the majority of the Town Council found the terms agreeable. This understanding, again as we understand it, was from Sept. 1 thru Sept. 11. only to have the deciding vote renege on their representation of agreeable terms.

Sandy and I arrived at the town meeting Monday night, lured if you will, again, in good faith, with the understanding that an agreement had been reached. As the intended purchaser, we had agreed to the terms of the proposed contract and agreed to relinquish EDUs to cover lots 410 and 191, the lots that the town would retain ownership of and that Council member Jay Knerr requested.

Late in the day on the 11th we began to hear rumblings that the councilmember that reinvigorated the contract had changed their mind yet again. Obviously, we were surprised but at-

tended the meeting anyway so that we could hear firsthand what the disposition of the agreement was and the council members' vote. It never reached a vote.

During the discussions of the draft contract, Councilperson Knerr began a public shake down negotiation with us to enhance his political position. It is understood that he will be running for mayor in the upcoming elections, and it is our feeling that we were used to show his alleged tough position and savvy negotiating skills.

Additionally, it appears that Councilperson Knerr had reached out to, as he stated, several "developers," who in his words stated that lot 57 would be worth more with some or more of the demolition competed. He would not, however, disclose who those expert developers were.

Experience was vetted out thru the RFP [request for proposals] process. Where Continued on Page 21

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Letters

Continued from Page 20
 were those "expert developers" during this RFP process? We, as professional developers, and builders do not conduct ourselves in the manner in which council member Knerr did after having made a representation in a negotiation. Our word is our bond.

To abruptly change positions in the wee hours of a negotiation, after the representations were made in the affirmative, is just not something that we would do, at least not without reaching out to the other party prior to the public event.

I personally made two failed attempts to discuss and review with Jay on the day of the meeting about what we were hearing on the street as another change of position. Not only were we surprised, but his fellow council members and the mayor were equally surprised. It seems as if Councilmember Knerr must earn back the fellow council members' trust.

Councilperson Knerr states that he did not know of the EDUs that convey with the property. Shame on Councilmember Knerr. This has been a known fact at least since 2010 when Tyson first put the property on the market.

EDUs transfer with the property. You do not buy a home and then must pay for an EDU. You do not buy a commercial piece of property and then must buy the EDUs. Lot 57 is a COMMERCIAL PIECE OF PROPERTY. Councilmember [Jack] Orris even held up the deed that indicated that the EDUs were noted in the property deed. The EDUs' have been brought up in previous council meetings.

Giving Councilperson Knerr the benefit of the doubt that he was not aware of what he was selling of taxpayer's property, he certainly knew about the presence of the EDUs when he reached out to the mayor to reinvigorate our negotiations. He certainly knew about them when I met with him on site on Sept. 1.

He certainly knew about them when he gave his consent for the updated draft contract. Why did he consent to the draft contract only to change his mind at the last minute

and as a surprise act at a council meeting?

This gets worse and this is very shameful. The council has now instructed the town staff and a hired professional engineer to embark on developing plans and specifications for the demolition OR partial demolition of the structures on lot 57, taxpayers' property.

It has become aware to me that some, perhaps even all the council members have even not been in the building OR surveyed the grounds. Some have indicated that they have "recently been in the building." I sincerely doubt that.

The council members have now put the staff and the retained engineers in an impossible position of trying to read the council members minds to develop these demolition documents. Without having firsthand knowledge of the condition of the building and grounds, how are proper documents going to be developed that are reflective of the council's demolition goals without their input from touring the building and grounds or in the very least having knowledge of the building, especially the insides, and grounds?

Is this good stewardship of the taxpayer's money? Is this good leadership to the Town's staff and engineers? To just delegate and direct the town manager and the economic director to instruct the paid professional engineer without the council members' input and direction is just irresponsible on the Council's part and will lead to them pointing the finger at someone else to blame when something goes wrong.

Council members, stand up and be accountable for your actions. This is too large of a taxpayer asset to do anything less.

If the Town's leadership is to implement the very best plan for the benefit of the taxpayers, at a very minimum, they should tour the building with the staff and engineer to express their views on the demolition scope. As a Berlin taxpayer, we must insist on this very minimal effort of a town-owned asset.

The job requirement of Town lead-

ership is to be responsible for income and expenses of the Town. In my opinion, having NOT reviewed the building and grounds with the staff and engineer is just irresponsible. Not becoming knowledgeable of the Town-owned asset and embarking on this journey is just not doing their due diligence. It is not responsible leadership.

Council member Knerr has had well over a year to understand what he is putting out to the public RFP and then deep into negotiations with ourselves as the preferred developer. Where has he been?

Our very long negotiation, for

nearly two years with the Town, has been frustrating in the very least. We believed that we had accord with the Town at least 3 times only to have them abruptly change their minds. Going forward, if the Town determines that it will consider selling the property, our only advice is "buyer beware".

In the interests of the Town and with in-depth knowledge of the structures and grounds at Heron Park, we have reached out to the Town to offer our assistance if desired.

*Palmer and Sandy Gillis
 Coastal Ventures Properties
 Continued on Page 22*



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Letters

Continued from Page 21

Donate to Relay for Life to help eradicate cancer

Editor,

The Relay for Life is a slogan but most important it is an event sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

This event is held yearly and gathers people from all walks of life, such as cancer survivors, caregivers, young, elderly, White, Black and every other race. Cancer does not discriminate.

This event occurs every year where people gather to celebrate the survival of cancer patients, the thanking of the caregivers for their work with cancer patients and their families, as well as the gratitude of the people for encouragement to donate to ACS.

In my years of involvement with ACS, I have 19 years as a cancer survivor. Unfortunately, cancer is common in my family, where I have lost a brother, aunts and uncles. This does not stop me.

I have seen on TV, ads from another organization showing children suffering from this dreaded disease. To see these children being treated and finding out some survive it and

some do not, encourages me to fight harder so these children and others can have a happy life.

To be at this event, I feel so satisfied to see how people are getting together to donate money to kill this disease and the friendliness of everyone working together.

I am not a medical person, just a member on the Original Greene Turtle team trying to raise money so that this disease can be cured. At this point I have raised \$2,700 with a goal of \$3,000. My hope and wishes are to continue to raise funds, no matter what amount. We need the entire community to help.

I love quotes and this is one by Helen Keller, "I am only one, still I am one, I cannot do everything, still I can do something, I will not refuse to do what I can."

All contributions should be made out to the American Cancer Society.

This year's Relay for Life is set from 4-10 p.m., Sept. 23, at Windmill Creek Winery, 11206 Worcester Hwy. in Berlin..

To my friends and loved ones, who have suffered from this disease, may God bless you.

Thank you in advance.

Nick Bartolomeo



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A dancer strikes a pose on a beach.

Ballet on the Beach Sept. 23 at Assateague Island

(Sept. 14, 2023) Members of the public are invited to attend a free, outdoor professional dance performance later this month at Assateague Island.

According to a news release, the Ballet on the Beach festival is a conduit to connect the community, environment, and performing arts. Cosponsored by Assateague State Park, the event is set from 5-6:30 p.m., with pre-performance activities at 4 p.m., on Saturday, Sept. 23.

The outdoor performance is free

and open to the public and parking is \$5 per vehicle. Attendees are encouraged to bring beach chairs or towels to watch "professional dance artists performing in a natural shoreline setting," according to the release.

Other activities include environmental talks, a community dance class, art activities for children, and a post-performance Q&A.

For more information, visit balletonthebeach.org, or find Ballet on the Beach on Facebook or Instagram.

Letters are subject to verification, so please include your name and phone number. Email letters to editor@baysidegazette.com.

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Worcester County Library hosting community read

(Sept. 14, 2023) The Worcester County Library is hosting the One Maryland One Book community read, a program of Maryland Humanities.

This year's selection is Tommy Orange's "There There," a novel about modern day Native Americans in urban settings.

The book explores 12 different characters across native communities as they gather for the Big Oakland Powwow. The novel addresses themes of sobriety, mental health and ideas of cultural preservation.

"This is a great opportunity for a community read, join us for book dis-

cussions and other programs that relate to the book, including documentaries, TED Talks, and more," Adult Services Coordinator Elena Coelho said in a news release. "We are hosting a panel discussion with the Pocomoke Indian Nation to learn about their experiences on the Eastern Shore and how their lives are similar to and diverge from the book."

For more information about One Maryland One Book programs, contact Elena Coelho at 443-783-6164 or ecoelho@worcesterlibrary.org.

Facebook: Worcester County Maryland Library

Instagram: [worcesterlibrarymd](https://www.instagram.com/worcesterlibrarymd)



The cover of Tommy Orange's "There There," a novel about modern day Native Americans in urban settings is shown. The book is the selection for this year's One Maryland One Book community read at the Worcester County Library.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ACT's Coast Kids campers learn about local habitat

(Sept. 14, 2023) This June and July, Assateague Coastal Trust's Coast Kids program ran four weeks of nature summer camp for kids 6 to 12 years old.

During the first two weeks, according to a new release, participating campers explored eight different locations across the region. They learned about plankton and the bay's food web, fish, amphibians, reptiles, owls, forest habitat, edible wild plants, and macro invertebrates in creeks, all while crabbing, paddle boarding, hiking and horseback riding.

Coast Kids added two weeks of Wild Scientists camp, which were held at the trust's office. The campers studied backyard life, including insects, soil organisms and birds to create a beautiful pollinator garden.

They were empowered to make a difference by taking steps to make the world a more environmentally friendly place.

Countless hands-on science experiments taught them about plastic and the alternatives, renewable energy, carbon footprint and climate change.

The release said Coast Kids Camp has been a successful camp for years.

Thanks to monetary support, 25 percent of the spaces were reserved for scholarship recipients.

Organizations including the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, Maryland Coastal Bays Pro-

gram, and Carol and Ray Armstrong donated funds to help support the program, and an array of people helped make it happen.

For more information about Coast Kids events, visit ActForBays.org or email Coast Kids Director, Verena Chase, at coastkids@actforbays.org.



Attendees of the Assateague Coastal Trust's Kids Coast Camp complete a project during the program, held this year in June and July..

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Cuisine

Delicious Eastern Shore fried chicken

I love a good steak, but let's be honest for a second.

If you know anything about me, you are aware that if I were stuck on a tropical island and only had one protein to eat for the rest of my life, I will hope that said island bore a resemblance to Hawaii with her toppled chicken coops and wild poultry running afoul. Or is it a-fowl? My apologies. It may be too early for that.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

I do love chicken in all its glory, from their eggs (humane) to the less humane usage of their tenders, breaded breasts and succulent, grilled thighs. And does anything beat a fresh roasted chicken stock simmering away on the stovetop?

There is just something about this incredibly versatile protein that I can't get away from. Chicken Pho is always a classic, as is the ever ubiquitous, although if I had to guess not traditional in the least, Lemon Chicken. That was probably my favorite as a child when we would eat at Szechuan Gourmet in Cape St. Clair.

The owner always knew what I wanted, and why wouldn't it be the perfect pairing with its lemony, sweet sauce on fried chicken bits? It was literally fried chicken and lemonade, just about anyone's favorite summer snack.

Today was day one in our food production class at UMES, and we broke down chickens. This teaches students the value of knife skills, as knives cut meat, and we are all made out of... well... meat. So cautiousness is needed and taught throughout the program. Chicken is a good place to start and teaches our young wards the value of patience and caution.

Usually, I have the students fry, grill and roast the chicken, but we had a technical glitch, so we were able to get away with just the fried and baked. We will grill some next week for good measure.

But for now, we will stick with fried chicken, a favorite in our area, presumably due to the presence of poultry giants in our midst. Chicken is everywhere down here.

And who doesn't love it cold the next day at a picnic or on a boat when fishing? For those of us who love to spend countless hours offshore, we all know the value of that bag of fried chicken from our local spot that (we believe) will bring us good fortune.

There are a couple of secrets when it comes to good fried chicken.

First, it is incredibly simple, and most people overthink it. Second, it is all in the seasoning and breader mix. Adding some cornstarch helps to give you a crispy finish, a necessity in a proper product. Beyond that, the seasonings are what you make of them.

In the recipe, I wrote seasonings of your choice, as some people prefer to lean toward traditional (garlic, onion, paprika, salt and pepper) and others prefer to use seafood seasoning. Personally, I like to mix it up a little bit. I will start with all the above and maybe add some blackening spice, always a fa-



vorite. It truly is up to you.

The important thing is to take a small piece of chicken, bread it and then fry it to taste the seasoning, adjusting as necessary. Using this tester is key in ensuring that you don't cook an entire batch of earth-shatteringly bland and mundane chicken. Always try your breading until you have the flavor and crunch that you want, and then write it down and set it in stone.

So a toast, to never being stranded on a desert island, but if it happens, may wild chickens be always at my side.

Eastern Shore Fried Chicken

makes 8-10 pieces

1 ea. Roaster chicken, broken down into 8 or 10 pieces

2 c. Buttermilk

2 Tbsp. Seafood Seasoning

3 c. AP Flour

1/2 c. Cornstarch

5 Tbsp. Seasonings of your choice (see body of article)

oil for frying, and we all know which one is the best

When I write about 8- or 10-way chicken, it merely means how far I'm going in breaking the bird down. For 8-way, the spine is removed and

each half is cut into breast, wing, thigh and drumstick. To make it 10-way, simply cut the breast in half, allowing each piece to cook in a much closer timeframe. It is completely personal preference

- Put the chicken, buttermilk and seasoning in a container large enough to hold it all
- Toss until evenly coated and press down
- Place in the icebox for at least an hour and preferably two to three
- When ready to fry, start heating your oil
- Put flour, cornstarch and your chosen seasonings in a large bowl and drain the chicken
- Toss in the flour mixture and allow to sit for at least ten minutes, tossing regularly. The longer you let it sit, the crispier it will be. Make sure that the chicken is not sticking together
- When the oil has reached 350F, start frying your chicken until it reaches an internal temperature of 165 Fahrenheit
- If you have a small fryer, which most people do in their homes, simply fry each batch until golden brown and crispy and place on a baking pan
- Bake at 400F until cooked throughout. Remember, we do not want medium rare chicken, so use thermometer if needed
- Drain and serve

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

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., Sept. 14

OC BIKEFEST & DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Events also held at the OC Inlet Parking Lot, Shorebirds Stadium and Rommel Harley-Davidson. Custom bike builders, concerts, stunt shows, vendors and more. Schedule and tickets: <https://ocbikefest.com>.

DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Perdue Stadium, 6400 Hobbs Road, Salisbury, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Motorcycle demos, Indian demos/sales, thrill shows, live music, vendors, food and drinks and more. Admission and park are free at the Shorebirds Stadium. Schedule: <https://delmarvabikeweek.com>.

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR THE WICOMICO RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION FALL LUNHCEON

To be held on Sept. 26 at the Salisbury Moose Lodge beginning at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$15. There will be a collection for school supplies. Reservations: Cheryl Kennedy, 410-883-2292 by Sept. 14.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE 2023 ROBERT E. WARFIELD MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

To be held Sept. 21, rain or shine at the Ocean City Golf Club. Benefiting Atlantic General Hospital. Team reservations online at www.agh.care/golf and must be received by Sept. 14.

STORY TIME 'WHERE IS THE GREEN SHEEP?'

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

PUPPET STORY TIME!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Fun, interactive story time by a super special friend of the library. Stick around after for a fun craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, 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

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

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.

Fri., Sept. 15

OC BIKEFEST & DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Events also held at the OC Inlet Parking Lot, Shorebirds Stadium and Rommel Harley-Davidson. Custom bike builders, concerts, stunt shows, vendors and more. Schedule and tickets: <https://ocbikefest.com>.

DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Perdue Stadium, 6400 Hobbs Road, Salisbury, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Motorcycle demos, Indian demos/sales, thrill shows, live music, vendors, food and drinks and more. Admission and park are free at the Shorebirds Stadium. Schedule: <https://delmarvabikeweek.com>.

MAHJONG CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join in for a fun morning of playing tile Mahjong. Feel free to bring your own tile set. All are welcome. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SURVIVAL SPANISH: THE BASICS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Learn about the Spanish vocabulary for basic greetings and conversations. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'THE DISAPPEARING SPOON' BY SAM KEAN

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

2023 WORCESTER COUNTY FAIR

Byrd Park, 400 Dighton Ave., Snow Hill, 2-7 p.m. Live entertainment, kid activities and crafts, bingo games, 4-H indoor exhibits and food. Admission is free. www.worcestercountyfair.com

Sat., Sept. 16

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City. 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

2023 WORCESTER COUNTY FAIR

Byrd Park, 400 Dighton Ave., Snow Hill, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Live entertainment, kid activities and crafts, bingo games, 4-H indoor exhibits, food and Classic Car &

Truck Show (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.). Admission is free. www.worcestercountyfair.com

OC BIKEFEST & DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Events also held at the OC Inlet Parking Lot, Shorebirds Stadium and Rommel Harley-Davidson. Custom bike builders, concerts, stunt shows, vendors and more. Schedule and tickets: <https://ocbikefest.com>.

DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Perdue Stadium, 6400 Hobbs Road, Salisbury, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Motorcycle demos, Indian demos/sales, thrill shows, live music, vendors, food and drinks and more. Admission and park are free at the Shorebirds Stadium. Schedule: <https://delmarvabikeweek.com>.

WALK WITH A DOC

South Gate Pond, Ocean Pines, 9 a.m. This month's speaker is Dr. Kieran Py of Atlantic General Primary Care, who will discuss healthy aging. Alyce Marzola, amarzola@atlanticgeneral.org

TINKER TIME: STEM KITS

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 explore STEM concepts with the self-guided kits. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DRIVE THRU LUNCH

Powellville Volunteer Fire Co, 5085 Powellville Road, Pittsville, 10 a.m. Oyster fritter, \$12; chicken salad sandwich, \$5; pint of chicken salad, \$8; pint of peas & dumplings, \$6; pint of vegetable beef soup, \$6.

DRESS MINISTRY FUNDRAISER

Byrd Park, 400 Dighton Ave., Snow Hill, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The Dress Ministry table will be located next to the Welcome booth at the Worcester County Fair. For a \$3 donation, a jump rope kit will be given as a thank you gift. Barbara Entwistle, 443-669-3781

2ND ANNUAL BREWS & ROOS

Barn Hill Preserve of Delaware, 34215 Peppers Corner Road, Frankford, 12-5 p.m. Featuring local breweries w/samples, live music, a food truck, kangaroos, and the wildlife park. Proceeds go towards Kids Saving the Rainforest. Must be at least 21 years old. Cost is \$25, \$60 or \$90.

T(W)EEN TRIVIA CHALLENGE!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Join in for a teens and tweens trivia challenge. What will the winning team go home with? For ages 11 years and older.

410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

EN GARDE!

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Dave Nemazie, international fencing competitor and coach at the Salisbury Fencing Club, will teach this class. The class will focus on Epée. Get a taste of the Olympic Sport of Fencing. 410-641-0650

15TH ANNUAL JESSE'S PADDLE

Pocomoke River Canoe Company, 2 River St., Snow Hill, 4 p.m. A minimum \$35 donation is requested for the Jesse's Poker Paddle (5 p.m.). To reserve a boat: 410-632-3971. Enjoy music, free hot dogs, chips and beverages and a silent auction. www.jessespaddle.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., Sept. 17

2023 WORCESTER COUNTY FAIR

Byrd Park, 400 Dighton Ave., Snow Hill, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Live entertainment, kid activities and crafts, bingo games, 4-H indoor exhibits and food. Admission is free. www.worcestercountyfair.com

OC BIKEFEST & DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Events also held at the Shorebirds Stadium and Rommel Harley-Davidson. Custom bike builders, concerts, stunt shows, vendors and more. Schedule and tickets: <https://ocbikefest.com>.

DELMARVA BIKE WEEK

Perdue Stadium, 6400 Hobbs Road, Salisbury, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Motorcycle demos, Indian demos/sales, thrill shows, live music, vendors, food and drinks and more. Admission and park are free at the Shorebirds Stadium. Schedule: <https://delmarvabikeweek.com>.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

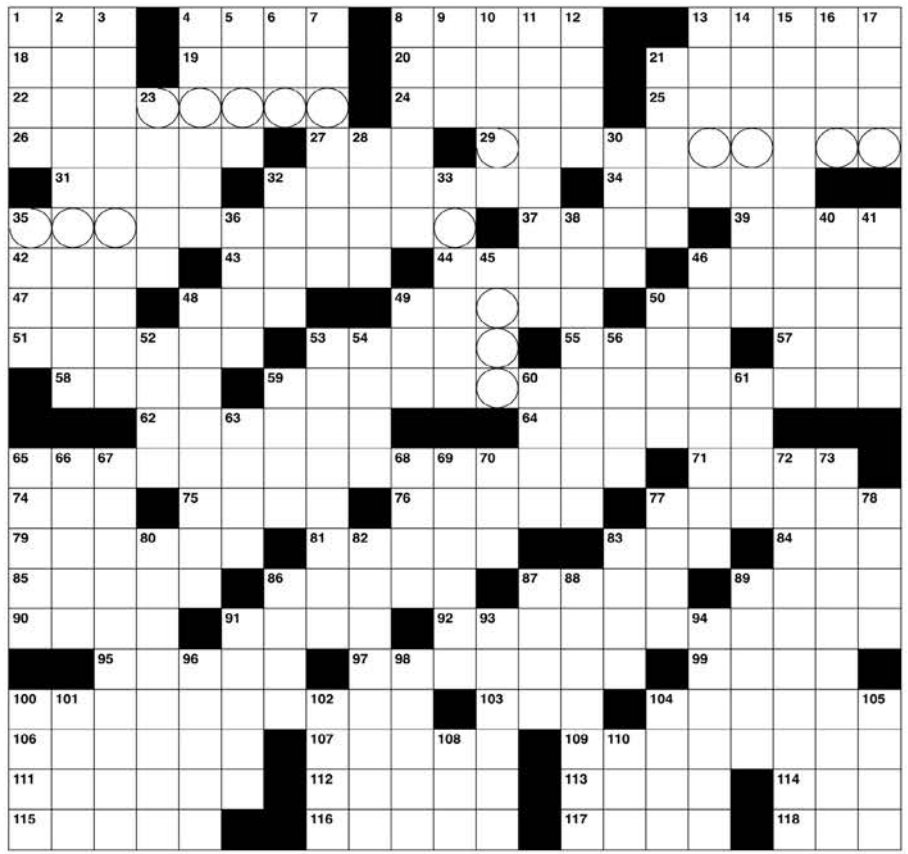
Sundays through Sept. 24 - Commerce, Pitts and Main streets, Berlin, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. More than 35 farmers, food cultivators, bakers, distillers, seafood, meat, eggs and more. TheBerlinFarmersMarket.com

Puzzles

COMPUTER GAMES BY DYLAN SCHIFF / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Dylan Schiff is a middle-school science teacher in Delaware whose extracurricular activities include cooking, bowling, watching game shows and editing Sporcle quizzes. This is his third crossword for The Times (and first Sunday). Dylan writes, "My students and fellow faculty members still can't get over the fact that real-life people — let alone someone they know — design crosswords!" — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 C.E.O.'s deg.
 - 4 Perch for a mountain goat
 - 8 Airplane seating area
 - 13 45s and LPs
 - 18 Middle-earth creature
 - 19 First class
 - 20 Singer whose second album, in 2011, topped the Billboard chart for a record 24 weeks
 - 21 Hindu scripture on meditation
 - 22 Derby, for one
 - 24 Writer Zora ____ Hurston
 - 25 Biblical name that means "one who struggles with God"
 - 26 Last-minute bidder on eBay
 - 27 Fish-and-chips fish
 - 29 Wander around online
 - 31 "Quit stalling!"
 - 32 Clumsy sorts
 - 34 Paris is found in it
 - 35 Chicago neighborhood with a namesake zoo
 - 37 It's a lot, for some
 - 39 Wild guess
 - 42 Org. with a Click-N-Ship option
 - 43 "Gently, now"
 - 44 "____ for Tinhorns" ("Guys and Dolls" number)
 - 46 Trattoria dessert
- DOWN**
- 47 Comedian Margaret
 - 48 A.A.A. service
 - 49 What you get as you grow older, it's said
 - 50 It ain't just a river in Egypt!
 - 51 Impatient agreement
 - 53 Fork over
 - 55 Membership category
 - 57 Cask contents
 - 58 Pip or pit
 - 59 Ancient manuscripts discovered in the Qumran Caves
 - 62 Give up, in wrestling
 - 64 Like medium vis-à-vis well done, say
 - 65 What a paper clip may indicate online ... as represented in 22-Across
 - 71 Jonathan Van ____ of "Queer Eye"
 - 74 Ways of doing things, in brief
 - 75 Tilt
 - 76 ____ of the world
 - 77 Drink whose name derives from its country of origin
 - 79 Medical attendants at boxing matches
 - 81 Roger who wrote "Life Itself: A Memoir"
 - 83 Darling
 - 84 Hopper car contents
 - 85 Subject of the 2003 book "Power Failure"
 - 86 Italian fashion house
 - 87 "____ the Roof" (1962 hit for the Drifters)
 - 89 Staff symbol
 - 90 Henry VI founded it in 1440
 - 91 "Achoo!" inducer
 - 92 Excel offering ... as represented in 29-Across
 - 95 Entree often served with onions
 - 97 Pitches in
 - 99 Big name in magic
 - 100 It may lead to a 404 error page ... as represented in 35-Across
 - 103 Class speakers, for short
 - 104 World's largest peninsula
 - 106 Ginger of old Hollywood
 - 107 Relative of cream
 - 109 Browser annoyances ... as represented in 59-Across
 - 111 Not inclined
 - 112 Shiny balloon material
 - 113 Tours with?
 - 114 Broadway actress Phillipa
 - 115 Like one-word commands
- DOWN**
- 1 Eponymous mineralogist Friedrich
 - 2 Waves aggressively
 - 3 Martial artist's stance
 - 4 Snapped out of it
 - 5 Sound heard at the start of every MGM movie
 - 6 Grammy winner DiFranco
 - 7 Alternatives to tablets
 - 8 Honesty
 - 9 Beverage suffix
 - 10 Antichrist figure, in Revelation
 - 11 Bad treatment
 - 12 When Romeo says he "saw true beauty" before seeing Juliet
 - 13 Soup stock in Japanese cuisine
 - 14 With good sense
 - 15 Have one's day in court
 - 16 First Nations people
 - 17 Preserve, in a way
 - 21 Line on a spine
 - 23 Hesiod's "Theogony" and "Works and Days"
 - 28 Neutrogena competitor
 - 30 Match making?
 - 32 Bother, with "at"
 - 33 "All right, you win"
 - 35 Titular love object on old TV
 - 36 Czech composer Janáček
 - 38 Game over, so to speak
 - 40 Even a little
 - 41 Bucolic bundles
 - 45 Food-safety agcy.
 - 46 Tony-nominated actor Mann
 - 48 Longtime host of Food Network's "Chopped"



- 49 Unionized?
- 50 Something that's hand-cut?
- 52 Object of a dubious sighting
- 53 Closes
- 54 Org. opposed to fur farming
- 56 "Winning ____ everything"
- 59 Preschoolers
- 60 Fencing option
- 61 Frozen-yogurt mix-in
- 63 French bread
- 65 Run the show
- 66 Organize, as a campaign
- 67 Ptolemy was one, famously
- 68 Listed below a recipient, maybe
- 69 Torment
- 70 TV personality often referring to himself in the third person
- 72 Diamond theft
- 73 Film megastar
- 77 Word with dollar or bank
- 78 Weight
- 80 Handles
- 82 React, but just barely
- 83 Amazon wrappers?
- 86 Basic knitting stitch
- 87 Major in astronomy?
- 88 Establishments for shampooing pooches
- 89 Like a low blow
- 91 Slow to catch on
- 93 Group on "the 11th day of Christmas"
- 94 Zhuzh (up)
- 96 Writer's block?
- 98 Developed ability
- 100 Oktoberfest order, casually
- 101 Wander about
- 102 "Big Blue" machines
- 104 ____ predator
- 105 Since
- 108 "Wonder Woman" star Gadot
- 110 Fraternal twins come from different ones

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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 73

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

Calendar

Continued from Page 25

Mon., Sept. 18

STORY TIME: 'ALPHABET'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Read stories, sing songs and play games while learning about the alphabet. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Using fun games and activities, the group will research, explore and learn all about the wonders of nature. Recommended for ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. The group will focus on "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance" by Robert Pirig. Reading from Book 5 of the Great Conversations Anthology. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FREE BOAT CRUISE OF THE BAYS

Talbot St. Watersports, 311 Talbot St., Ocean City, 4-6 p.m. Celebrate National Estuaries Week with a tour aboard the Assateague Adventure. Register: mdcoastalbays.org, mcbp@mdcoastalbays.org.

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

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 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

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., Sept. 19

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Join in for silly songs with rhythmic instruments. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

PARACHUTE PLAY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Get your exercise and play with the library's parachute. Games and music will add to the fun. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FURRY FRIENDS

Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club President Gina Shaffer and Past President Margaret Mudron pose with residents of the Berlin Nursing Home with new stuffed animals that were handed out on a recent visit. The club meets the first and third Wednesday of the month at Don's Seafood in Ocean Pines.

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

BLOCK PARTY

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Babies, toddlers and preschoolers, join in for a block party. Play with blocks and other toys while socializing with other families. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

LIFE-SIZED SUNFLOWER CRAFT

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. Most sunflowers grow to be about 6 feet tall (with some even reaching 20 feet tall). Join the group as they craft life-sized sunflowers. For ages 6-10 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DOCUMENTARY: 'RUMBLE: THE INDIANS WHO ROCKED THE WORLD'

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5:30 p.m. Learn about the Native Americans who contributed to rock music. This is part of the community read series. 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.

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

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., Sept. 20

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

Takes place via Zoom on the third and fourth Wednesday of each month. For surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatric Center, 410-641-9568

BACKGAMMON CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Drop in for a game of strategy that dates back 5,000 years to Mesopotamia and Persia. Beginners welcome. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CHAMBER 101 LUNCH

Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce, 11047 Racetrack Road, Berlin, 12-1 p.m. Learn how to use the chamber's website, advertising and networking opportunities, affinity programs, and more. Lunch is provided. RSVP: kerrie@ocean-pineschamber.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

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Unit 104, Berlin, 3-4 p.m. For

stroke survivors, family and friends. 410-641-4765, bglime@atlanticgeneral.org

LIGHTED MUMMY LANTERNS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Use mason jars, gauze and tea lights to make decorative mummies for inside or outside your home. For ages 6 years and older. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

2023 PLEIN AIR EVENT

Taking place throughout Worcester County from Sept. 17-23. Thirty-six artists will paint outdoors at their leisure and chosen location and compete for cash prizes. Public exhibit and sale held on Sept. 22 from 5-7 p.m. and Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Worcester County Art Council's Berlin Library Gallery. The exhibit will be on display until Oct. 31. curator@worcestercountyartscouncil.org

'CHRONICLING OUR DELMARVA HISTORY: THE PHILLIPS CANNING FACTORY

Local artist Patrick Henry presents photographs, artifacts and memories from the local Phillips Canning Factory. On display at the Germantown School Community Heritage Center on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Sept 30. Also available by appointment. germantownschool@gmail.com, 443-235-9803, 410-641-0638

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



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Apply: Qualified candidates are encouraged to submit a confidential Town of Berlin application for employment, a resume, and three professional references to the Town's Human Resources Director at kjensen@berlinmd.gov. Applications can be found under our employment section at www.berlinmd.gov or can be picked up at 10 William Street Berlin, MD 21811 or by calling 410-641-2770. EOE/M/F/V/D.

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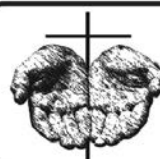
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