



HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Skate park site OK'd but rest unsettled

Exact nature of Heron Park has yet to be determined

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Berlin mayor and Town Council continued to mull Heron Park's fate at their Monday meeting, although they did agree to designate it as the site of a new municipal skate park.

While discussing an already-passed motion that designates part of Heron Park as the future location of a Berlin skatepark, council members again pondered plans for the park as a whole.

After the discussion, council members gave the nonprofit organization We Heart Berlin confirmation to begin fundraising for the skatepark so it can pay for planning and surveying.

The town will provide the organization a letter of support for the fundraising, according to the motion approving the skatepark's location, which council agreed to on Aug. 21.

The town also plans to apply for grants during the 2024 funding round of the Community Parks and Playgrounds Program, according to the motion.

At a July 31 skatepark work group, Mayor Zack Tyndall and Councilman Steve Green met with parks commissioners, town administrators, members of We Heart Berlin to decide on a location for the proposed skatepark.

There, members decided that Heron Park was an ideal location for the skatepark as opposed to other options such as Henry Park, Stephen Decatur Park and the Worcester County Northern Athletic Complex.

At the Monday meeting, Tyndall said that the town might want to put a public works facility on the same plat as the skatepark.

Green said that the council hopes to keep plans fluid but also wants to position We Heart Berlin to move for-

"I think that a nailed-down solid skatepark should come at the heels of a grand plan..."

Jeff Smith,
executive director of We Heart Berlin

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WELL, WELL

On Monday, Berlin officials joined engineers, staff from the state comptroller's office and personnel from the Maryland Department of the Environment to unveil a new Municipal Water Supply Well for the town at 112 Branch Street. The occasion was marked with a ribbon cutting and refreshments.

Coastal bays water quality up

Sea grasses still suffering, oxygen levels increase as pollutants decline slightly

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Oct. 26, 2023) The health of the coastal bays has improved slightly, based on a 2022 report card the Maryland Coastal Bays Program released this week.

Members of the organization gave the coastal bays a B-, up from a C+ the year before.

Improved total phosphorus scores, which can limit plant growth if not abundant enough, contributed to the slightly higher overall health of the bays, according to the report.

The coastal bays encompass Isle of Wight Bay, Assawoman Bay, Newport Bay, Sinepuxent Bay and Chincoteague Bay.

A variety of shoreline restoration, stormwater improvement, and wet-

land restoration projects have been installed to improve habitat as well as keep sediments and nutrients from washing into the bays, said Roman Jesien, the science coordinator for Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

The program determines the health of the coastal bays annually by measuring the progress of four water quality indicators: nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll a and dissolved oxygen, as well as two biotic indicators: seagrass and hard clams.

The coastal bays nitrogen score, a factor in plant growth, improved or stayed the same in all regions except the St. Martin River, which had a slight decline.

The dissolved oxygen score, vital for the survival of animal species, such as crabs, fish and mollusks, also increased, with improvements in Chincoteague Bay and Sinepuxent Bay, outweighing modest declines in several other regions.

No region scored above a poor

condition for sea grasses, an indicator of water quality, with large declines occurring in Chincoteague Bay and Sinepuxent Bay.

The overall scores for phosphorus, chlorophyll, a measurement of the amount of algae in the water, and hard clams were similar to last year.

"Water quality has been, and will continue to be a huge issue for the coastal bays," Kevin Smith, the executive director of Maryland Coastal Bays Program said. "MCBP has worked with Worcester County, the Town of Berlin and Ocean Pines to help address stormwater issues in our bays. Over time, these projects will help improve the quality of waters in the bays."

Each bay gets its own grade, which are as follows:

Assawoman Bay received a C+, a strong improvement from the past year, when it was given a C. All indicator scores improved from last year

See BAYS Page 4

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HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Fire Company gave their quarterly review at the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday. Pictured is the Berlin Fire Company on North Main Street.

Berlin Fire and EMS deliver quarterly report to council

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Berlin Fire Company responded to 30 in-town fire and rescue calls from July 1 to Sept. 30, consisting of about 28 percent of their total calls for that period.

There were nine fewer calls in town this year compared to the same quarter last year, according to the Berlin Fire Company's quarterly update presented at the mayor and City Council meeting Monday.

Out-of-town calls made up just over 72 percent of the company's total calls this quarter.

On 18 occasions, the company received two or more fire or rescue calls at the same time. Overlapping calls happened 15 times during the same quarter last year.

The busiest times for fire and rescue calls were Sunday and Friday.

The company's average response time increased by 34 seconds com-

pared to the same quarter last year, bringing it to four minutes and 16 seconds.

From July 1 to Sept. 30, volunteers put in about 1,188 hours for emergency calls and about 495 hours for training, meetings and other non-emergency work.

The company has logged a total of about 4,484 hours for the year in emergency calls and provided approximately 7,683 total volunteer hours for the year.

The company received \$7,000 from its annual mail donation drive and \$275 in memorial donations for the quarter. Fire response invoices generated \$1,850, event parking generated \$317 and conference center rentals brought in \$935 for the company.

The company had no unexpected expenses this quarter, according to the presentation.

See EMS Page 6



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Bays report card shows slight improvement

Continued from Page 1
except for dissolved oxygen and seagrass.

St. Martin River received a C, the same as the year before. Nitrogen and phosphorus had the lowest scores of any region. Despite this, St. Martin had a very good hard clams score. Hard clams are a good indicator species because they are filter feeders. Clam health reflects the health of the entire ecosystem.

Isle of Wight Bay received a B-, an improvement from a C+, due to strong improvements in nitrogen, phosphorus and Chlorophyll a.

Newport Bay received a C-, the lowest score, which is an increase from a D+ the year before, due to improvements in scores for Chlorophyll a, nitrogen and phosphorus.

The Town of Berlin sits on the

headwaters of Newport Bay and considerable efforts have been expended to improve conditions, Jesien said.

“A number of years ago the effluent from the sewage treatment plant was diverted from Newport Bay to the larger Pocomoke River drainage,” he said. “A stormwater utility was established to fund improved stormwater conveyances and minimize nuisance flooding.”

More projects are in the works for stormwater improvements and stream restoration in the Hudson Branch and Bottle Branch.

“As we see so often, water degradation comes quickly, but improvement takes a lot longer,” Jesien said. We feel we are making the right improvements in the watershed but it will take time to see the fruits of those improvements.”

Sinepuxent Bay received a score of B, similar to the past year and the highest score in any region. The only decline was in seagrass.

Chincoteague Bay received a score of B-, the same as the past year. It saw improvements in the dissolved oxygen score but a decline in the seagrass score.

No region scored above a poor condition for seagrasses and large declines occurred in Chincoteague Bay and Sinepuxent Bay. The overall scores for phosphorus, Chlorophyll a, and hard clams were similar to last year.

Smith said the Maryland Coastal Bays Program will focus on best management practices on agricultural lands, more stormwater improvements in urban landscapes and improve the management of residential properties by reducing fertilizers and

installing native plants.

He said that program will continue addressing water quality issues, from nutrient enrichment to stormwater. The group will also work to increase property owner participation in wetlands restoration – particularly headwater streams – planting riparian forest and other measures to keep sediment and nutrients from entering the waterways.

“We’ll need to keep our foot to the pedal on these issues if we want to continue to improve the health of the bays,” Smith said.

He remains hopeful about the future of the coastal bays.

“We are seeing certain improvements from the work the county has done to improve septic and wastewater treatment outflows,” Smith said.

See OYSTER Page 5

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Overall Coastal Bays health is slightly better

Coastal Bays health is defined as the progress of **four water quality indicators** (nitrogen, phosphorus, chlorophyll a, dissolved oxygen) and **two biotic indicators** (seagrass, hard clams) toward scientifically derived ecological thresholds or goals. The Coastal Bays had an overall score of **B-** for 2022, an incremental improvement over last year.

Dissolved oxygen (DO) is vital for the survival of animal species such as crabs, fishes, and molluscs.

Nitrogen is often a limiting factor in plant growth, but excess nitrogen can cause algal blooms.

Phosphorus can limit plant growth if it is not abundant enough, or it can cause algal blooms when in excess.

Seagrass growth is another indicator of water quality. Seagrasses are sensitive to changes in water quality.

Because they are filter feeders, **hard clams** are a good indicator species whose health reflects the health of the ecosystem.

Chlorophyll a is a measure of the amount of algae in the water. High chlorophyll indicates poor water quality (seagrass shading and possible dead zones).

What do the scores mean?

very poor 0-20%	poor 21-40%	moderate 41-60%	good 61-80%	very good 81-100%
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PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND COASTAL BAYS PROGRAM
The pictured graphic shows the ways in which the Coastal Bays' health improved in 2022, according to the annual state of the bays report card the Maryland Coastal Bays Program released Oct. 24.

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Council wants overall park plan

Continued from Page 1

ward with the funding process.

"I think that a nailed-down solid skatepark should come at the heels of a grand plan, and whether that plan is done on a piece of paper or 85 pages of paper, or over a month or over six months, we should have some sort of a light plan for what would be around it," said Jeff Smith, executive director of We Heart Berlin.

President and CEO of We Heart Berlin, Tony Weeg, said he hopes that the skate park would serve as an impetus for the planning of the rest of Heron Park. That way designers could build the skate park knowing what would surround it, Weeg said.

Green said that Weeg's point served as a good segue into the question of "what are we going to do?" with the park.

Councilman Jack Orris said the council should show resolve for its decision to put the skate park on the plat, but ac-

knowledged that town officials have decide whether to keep part or all of the park or sell part or all of it.

"We need to decide where we're going," Orris said.

Orris suggested the planning commission set up a subcommittee to decide how to use the front of the park along Old Ocean City Boulevard and allow the park commission to decide what to do with the ponds and area surrounding them.

Smith said that We Heart Berlin members would like to be part of any committees formed to decide on plans for the park.

Tyndall said the town has to find out the status of a submitted application for a grant to help defray the cost of demolishing the park's existing buildings property before moving forward with committees.

"Can we say, 'thank you' to We Heart Berlin and 'go fundraise?'" Tyndall said.

Conservation legacy award nomination cutoff Oct. 27

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Lower Shore Land Trust is seeking nominations for the 2023 Stephen N. Parker Conservation Legacy Award, which will be presented on Nov. 11 at the organization's Flannel Formal event.

According to a news release, the Parker Award is an opportunity to recognize an individual and/or organization that has displayed an enduring and distinct dedication to conserving the vital lands of the Lower Eastern Shore.

The award is given in honor of renowned conservationist, Steve Parker, to recognize a landowner or conservation practitioner for their contributions to private land conservation on the Lower Eastern

Shore.

Parker is remembered for his work as director of the Virginia Coast Reserve with The Nature Conservancy and as a long-time board member of the Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore. Parker's background in business and nonprofit served to bring together economic development and conservation, preserving the health and productivity of large ecosystems and the needs of human communities, the release said.

Past recipients of the award are Charles "Buddy" Jenkins, Larry Leese and John B. Long.

Nomination submissions can be made to info@lowershorelandtrust.org and must be submitted by Oct. 27.

Oyster gardening successful

Continued from Page 4

Jesien added that "hope is tempered with the realization that we live in a changing world and that new challenges will pop up in places that we never expected."

"For example, emerging contaminants such as microplastics and the forever chemicals called PFAS, may be cause for concern in the near future," he said. "Certainly our changing climate will present challenges. But, again, working together, we feel confident that we will be able to meet those new challenges."

Other nonprofit organizations and local residents are also working to address water quality.

Residents in the St. Martin watershed have been raising oysters with the help of the Protectors of the St. Martin.

"The oyster gardening program is very successful in promoting shoreline property owners to grow and learn about oysters," Jesien said.

The oysters have been released on a reef at the mouth of the St. Martin River.

"We know that having a healthy oyster population in the bays would be a benefit for water quality," he continued. "Oyster growers in the St. Martin have told us that they see a noticeable improvement in water quality where they are raising the oysters. That is certainly believable since we know about the filtering capabilities of the oysters and other filter feeders. But we don't have definitive measurements to confirm this."

Aquaculture operations are also happening in Chincoteague Bay.

Jesien said there are a variety of things everyone can do to address the health of the coastal bays.

"We all need to work together to raise the grade," he said. "Simple things that homeowners can do include to make sure that pet waste is picked up, minimize lawn fertilizer, and use native plants. Agencies can be vigilant for illegal practices along shorelines and forests. Voters should demand that agencies get adequate funding to ensure continued monitoring of resources and for compliance."



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Ocean Pines Police receives grants for vests, operations

(Oct. 26, 2023) Members of the Ocean Pines Association announced in August that the police department had received two state grants for retention and community engagement programs.

To add to that, Police Chief Tim Robinson recently announced the department's receipt of two more similar grants.

According to a news release, a more than \$2,480 grant is coming from the federal Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership through the U.S. Department of Justice to defray the cost of bulletproof vests. The other award is a state Police Accountability, Community and Transparency Grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Preven-

tion for \$22,600.

Police Chief Tim Robinson said in the release that new bulletproof vests are always a "crucial need" for the department, and that the state funding will allow officers "to commit to transparency in a manner expected in 2023."

The other grant will help defray costs for mandated psychological testing for new hires and mandated mental health screenings for existing officers. The money will also help implement new computer software that will assist with the internal management of the police department and help with the development of a new website.

The funds will assist the department with maintaining compliance with requirements under the Police Accountability Act of 2021, Robinson said in the release.

The grants awarded previously came from the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. One was for \$20,000 for police retention and the other was for \$2,750 to help fund the department's community engagement programs.

EMS calls down for this quarter

Continued from Page 3

Berlin Fire Company's Emergency Medical Services responded to 285 EMS calls in town this quarter, which made up about 55 percent of their total calls. Compared to the same quarter last year, there has been a decrease by 44 calls in town.

Of the 285 in-town calls, 211 were transports and 74 were non-transports, which is down by 22 transports from last year.

The company's EMS responded to 232 out-of-town calls, 121 of which were transports while 111 were non-transports.

From July 1 to Sept. 30, the company's EMS had 82 instances where calls overlapped.

The busiest day for Berlin EMS was Sunday followed by Monday, and the busiest time was 4-5 p.m.

The average EMS response time was 48 seconds, while last year it was 59 seconds for the same quarter.

Berlin Fire Co.'s EMS received about \$1,389 from invoicing and \$210 in donations.

Costs for overtime-shift coverage increased to \$11,390 this year, cost for medical supplies increased to about \$1,782 this year, and vehicle repairs and maintenance increased to about \$1,110 this year, all compared to last year.

EMS also ordered an ambulance for 2025 at a price of \$411,000.

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Berlin Council Briefs

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Berlin mayor and City Council voted to approve motions for a land transfer, rain dates and a water works apprenticeship at their Monday meeting.

Land transfer on Flower St.

Council members unanimously approved a transfer of property from the Berlin Community Improvement Association to the Town of Berlin with the intent of building a Berlin Community Center on the site.

The property includes two land parcels on Flower Street near the intersection across from the Showell Street, which contain a multi-purpose center and the Shore Up Head Start buildings, according to the contract and agreement of transfer.

The association is donating the land to the town.

Shore Up's Head Start program is a community based early learning center for economically disadvantaged families, according to the organization's website.

Mayor Zack Tyndall said the Shore Up Head Start Center will remain active at the site and described the use of the two parcels as a partnership between the Berlin, Shore Up and the improvement association advancing.

Once the agreement is ratified it will be transferred to the town within 90 days

The agreement states that the town will use the land for the community cen-

ter in perpetuity. If the community center goes out of use, the land would go back to the association, according to the agreement.

Berlin event rain dates

The council unanimously approved rain dates for three town events in 2024.

The Jazz and Blues Festival, which is set for May 4 next year, will have a rain date of May 5. The Fiddler's Convention, which is set for Sept. 21, will have a rain date of Sept. 22. And Oktoberfest, which is set for Oct. 12, will have a rain date of Oct. 13.

Ryan Nellans, the executive director of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce, said that after missing the Fiddlers Convention and most of Berlin's Oktoberfest, local businesses missed out on a lot of business.

The rain dates would help save the much needed economic influx that local businesses received from events with the hope that 24 hours makes a big difference for weather, Nellans said.

Nellans estimated that one of the town events can generate a collective \$100,000 spread out across town businesses.

The rain dates were scheduled for the Sundays following the Saturday events, which would be much easier than pushing an event a week later than originally scheduled, Nellans said.

He said that organizers would ideally

Continued on Page 8

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Drop off unwanted, expired drugs on Oct. 28 at OC Elks

(Oct. 26, 2023) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is this weekend, and the Ocean City Elks Lodge #2645 and the resort police department have teamed up to collect expired, unused and unwanted prescription medications.

According to a news release, the effort helps prevent drug abuse and theft, and also helps prevent the pollution of landfills and water supplies. It could also save the lives of pets.

Residents are asked to check their

medicine cabinets and collect unwanted drugs and medications to drop off between 1 and 3 p.m., Oct. 28, at the Ocean City Elks Lodge between 137th and 138th streets, bayside, in Ocean City.

Those who come to the lodge to drop off medications do not have to be Elks members.

Members of the Ocean City Police Department will handle the proper disposal of the medications. Liquids and sharps will not be accepted.

Berlin Council Briefs

Continued from Page 7
be able to call the rain date 48 to 72 hours ahead of time.

Nellans said that Ivy Wells, of the Berlin Farmers Market, which also takes place on Sundays, originally suggested these dates.

"I think of this as a no-brainer," said Councilman Steve Green.

Water Apprentice

Berlin's Water Resources Department received unanimous approval from the mayor and council to become an employer in the Maryland Rural Water Association's Water and Wastewater Operations Spe-

cialist Apprenticeship Program.

According to the staff report, the apprenticeship program was created to train up-and-coming professionals and standardize training across the state.

The two-year program consists of classroom education along with job experience, and after completion participants gain a certification from the Maryland Department of the Environment.

"I think it's a smart move in a field that's a dying field," said Jamey Latchum, the director of water resources.

The U.S. Department of Labor, the Office of Apprenticeship and the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council have all approved the program.

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HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Mayor and Council reviewed a memo about equivalent dwelling units, or EDUs, which are measurements of water and sewer usage, at their meeting on Monday following some confusion members were facing over the subject. Pictured is the mayor and council at their Monday meeting.

Berlin gets more info about EDU defintion, acquisition

By Cindy Hoffman and Hunter Hine
Staff Writers

(Oct. 26, 2023) The debate over what the Town of Berlin could and could not do with EDUs was one of the key factors that sabotaged the deal with Palmer Gillis of Coastal Ventures Properties to purchase parcel 57 on the Heron Park tract, once the site of the Tyson's chicken processing plant on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

During the Oct. 23 council meeting, Mary Bohlen, the town administrator, sought to clear up the confusion via a memo that explained what EDUs (equivalent dwelling units) are and how they are acquired.

EDUs are a water and wastewater capacity measurement that is required for any development that intends to use or discharge water. One EDU equals 250 gallons of flow a day, the amount of water and wastewater needed for an average home, although EDUs are associated with resident and commercial properties.

Currently, the town itself is paying a minimum bill of \$1,100 a month or \$30 per EDU for the water/wastewater units it owns on the parcel 57. This is a locked-in rate from the purchase date of the property. This appears to be a deal that was cut by a previous town administrator. Today, the minimum bill would be \$61 per EDU, saving the town \$13,000 a year.

If a private entity purchases a wastewater EDU, the price would be \$16,686 said Jamey Latchum, director of water resources. A water service EDU is over \$4,200, he added.

Bohlen said the initial purchase of an EDU is different than paying the minimum bill on it.

While council members discussed moving EDUs from parcel 57 to other parcels in the future in preparation for any development in Heron Park, they did not decide to write any motions to do so yet.

Councilwoman Shaneka Nichols said that with the a skatepark set to

be added to Heron Park, along with a potential public works building, moving some EDUs around to different parcels should be considered at some point.

A potential public works facility is not a "done deal," but still in the planning phase, said Mayor Zack Tyndall.

"As long as we own the properties, you don't really need to do anything. It's there, it's not going anywhere," Bohlen said.

See GILLIS Page 12

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Berlin tables approval of West Street improvements

By Hunter Hine
Staff Writer

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Berlin Town Council on Monday tabled a motion that would contract the design of infrastructure improvements on West Street until its next meeting on Nov. 2.

Council members voted 4-1 to push the motion down the road, with Councilman Steve Green voting against it.

The motion would grant a contract for the design phase of West Street's reconstruction and utility upgrades to Davis, Bowen and Friedel Inc. (DBF) an architecture, engineering and surveying firm from Salisbury.

Joshua Taylor, an engineer with the firm, said waiting another two weeks for the vote would give the company time to modify the proposal's language to make sure engineers consider more stormwater planning around Buckingham Lane, Abby Lane and Westminster Drive.

Councilman Jack Orris suggested tabling the motion pending a meeting between DBF and EA Engineering, Science and Technology, an environmental engineering consulting firm.

DBF's proposal estimated the project's design would cost \$90,100, and the council's motion would have approved the builders to spend a maximum of \$100,000.

Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said that town had budgeted over the company's estimate in case planners decided to extend the work partly into Buckingham Lane.

As the project was presented in DBF's proposal on Monday, the improvement project would encompass West Street from Broad Street to Buckingham Lane and includes roadway reconstruction, sidewalks, a potential bike path and utilities.

Mayor Zack Tyndall said that the design doesn't include putting utilities underground because, even though it is recognized as a best practice, the cost would be "several million dollars." Tyndall also requested that DBF plan for underground conduits, which

could help serve future projects.

The most expensive aspects of the design are the topographic and utility survey and the design and construction drawings, which both come at a cost of over \$22,000 each, according to the proposal.

The topographic and utility survey is an overall assessment of the existing street, utilities and a determination of the street's right-of-way. The survey may require testing to find the depths of underground utilities, the cost of which is not included in the proposal.

Design and construction drawings would outline the work that's required to complete the upgrades and include bidding documents for the construction phase that is yet to come.

Taylor said the cast iron water main along West Street is probably rusted and shrunk to about half its original diameter, so a new main would improve water pressure. There are also lead "goosenecks," or water service lines, which must be removed per a new EPA mandate, and the mains have likely been collecting lead particulate over the years too, he said.

It would also help to replace the clay sewer mains with PVC, Taylor said.

In the proposal, company personnel wrote that about 28 properties will have to agree to easements in order to fit in the bike path, a portion of the project that they estimate to cost between \$14,000 and \$15,000.

To incorporate a bike lane into the project, it would likely only be four feet wide — meaning it would be a one-lane bike path — unless they obtained a significantly larger easement, Taylor said.

Taylor said that the original hope of the plan was to improve the roadway for pedestrian use. He said that in order to include sidewalks and bike lanes, it would be necessary but challenging to work through trees, landscaping and inclines.

Other aspects of the planning design would include geotechnical sam-



HUNTER HINE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Mayor and City Council voted to table a motion that would have approved a contract with the company Davis, Bowen and Friedel to design the upcoming paving and utility improvements on West Street. Pictured is West Street.

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Vote would have allowed for up to \$100K for design work

pling, which is an assessment of trench restoration and road paving design, erosion and sediment control plans and stormwater management plans. All these pieces of the design phase would range in price from \$4,000 to \$8,500, according to the proposal.

The company estimated the total design phase of the pump station replacement would cost \$12,600. According to DBF's proposal, the pump station, which is currently in the roadway, would be moved to a new location adjacent to West Street, but that new spot isn't yet determined.

"We really want to get that pump station out of the street. It's just not a safe working environment for the public works department. It's not smart from a structural standpoint to have a pump station under the roadway," Taylor said.

The pump station is estimated separately because company personnel anticipate the station would be designed and constructed before the rest of the project, according to the proposal.

The pump station would also require easements but DBF personnel expect it to be built on county property along West Street.

Orris said he wants to make sure this project is fluid enough in the design process so that the town doesn't have to dig into West Street a second time and can fit in as many improvements as possible with this project.

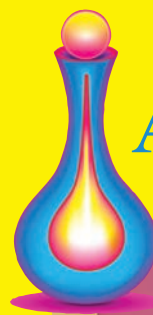
Once the construction comes, authors of the DBF proposal said the company will handle bidding and award contracts, as well as serve as administrators for construction throughout the project.

The construction of West Street, its adjacent utilities and the pump station are estimated by the firm to come out to \$168,900.

The firm estimates the total project — design and construction included — to cost \$259,900.

After hearing about the lead water lines, Councilman Dean Burrell raised concerns about other lead pipes that exist around town. Taylor said that DBF is working with the town to meet a deadline set by the Maryland Department of the Environment to make a lead service line inventory.

The state of Maryland will help fund replacements of lead water lines based on the inventory, and replacements have already begun on Williams Street and West Street, Taylor said.



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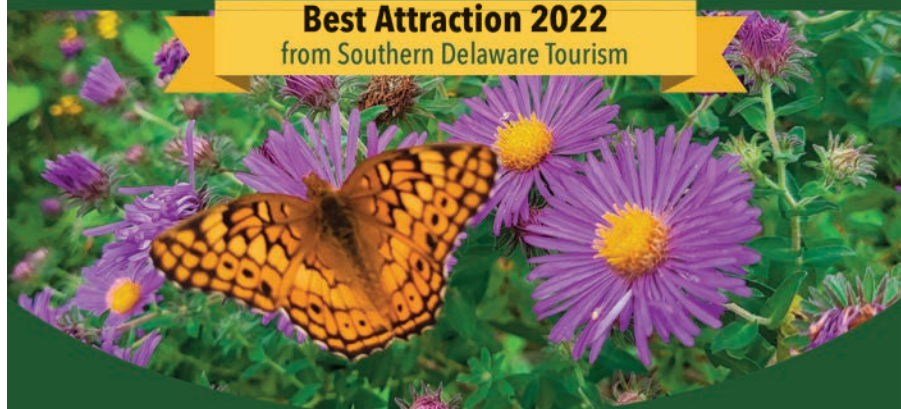


Photo by Brent Baker

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DIAKONIA DONATION

The Ocean City Lions recently donated \$2,000 to Diakonia. Pictured, from left, with the donation check are Lions Club Past District Governor Norm Cathell, Diakonia Executive Director Ken Argot and Lions Club First Vice President Scott Stark.

Gillis deal brought up questions

Continued from Page 9

During the debate over the sale of parcel 57 to Gillis in early September, Councilman Jay Knerr suggested that the town charge Gillis more money for the EDUs on parcel 57.

“EDUs are attached to the property. You don’t charge additional fees for the EDU,” Town Administrator Mary Bohlen responded.

On Monday, council members discussed how a misunderstanding seemed to form on whether the EDUs were valued into the price of parcel 57 in the canceled sale to Gillis.

Bohlen said that while the EDU may not have been specifically valued into the price of the sale, developers might consider that the EDUs are part of the price since EDUs are inherent in the value of a property. Without EDUs, a developer can’t build anything.

In an email exchange where council members asked questions about EDUs, Knerr asked whether the EDUs from parcel 57 could be transferred to parcel 410 or 191 or give them back to the inventory of unassigned and available EDUs, according to Bohlen’s memo.

If the town gave the EDUs back to

the inventory, it would forfeit all the money paid to date, and the rate would no longer be locked in for future EDUs, but it would avoid paying the monthly changes going forward.

At the Oct. 23 meeting, Knerr asked what it would mean to forfeit the money. Bohlen explained it with the example of a residential property. If residents stop paying the minimum bill on an EDU then the town can take back the EDU. In that scenario, any money the resident had paid to date on the EDU would be gone, she said.

Bohlen’s memo says that if the town transfers all or some of the EDUs away from parcel 57, or if the town reverted the EDUs back to the inventory, it’s staff’s opinion that parcel 57 would decrease in value.

“A potential purchaser will take into consideration that both water and sewer EDUs will need to be purchased separate from the purchase of the parcel. Staff would agree that it may be prudent to transfer a few of the sewer EDUs to parcel 410 and/or 191, but to leave the bulk of the EDUs on parcel 57 and continue to pay a monthly bill on all,” according to Bohlen’s memo.

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Local students help with Diakonia food drive

By Cindy Hoffman
Staff Writer

(Oct. 26, 2023) It's food drive season and this year, Diakonia is working with local schools to host drives that will allow students to receive service learning hours for their efforts.

Currently, the nonprofit is working with both Stephen Decatur Middle and High schools, Wicomico High and Worcester Prep.

The students will get a firsthand look at the programs Diakonia offers in the community and learn the importance of food drives to the nonprofit's residents and families that rely on them.

"Any student that calls can get engaged," said Susan Blaney, the community coordinator for Diakonia.

She provides them with "how to" instructions so they can do their food drive on their own schedule.

Some students help out at events too. Blaney had five students join her at the convention center on Saturday to collect leftovers from a food show with 80 vendors at the Maryland School Nutrition Association Convention.

Three ninth graders from Stephen Decatur High School joined in the collection at the convention center, along with members of their families.

"Diakonia helped me and I wanted

to be able to help other people," Student Doe Action said.

Her mother, Nichole, said they wanted to do something that mattered.

Student Daniel Kott came with his dad and sister. He heard about Diakonia from a food drive at his school last year.

Student Hailey Lewis joined in the effort because she wanted to help an organization that gives back to the community and helps people in need. She is also running a food drive in her neighborhood this fall.

The volunteers hauled six truck loads of food, including fresh and frozen foods, snacks, drinks and desserts. Some of the fresh food was served to residents that evening.

Diakonia receives 2000 pounds of non-perishable food items from the government once a month. While it may seem like a lot, Blaney said that this can be gone in two weeks time. The food drives help supplement Diakonia for the rest of the month.

Diakonia serves its residents breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. They also have a food pantry that serves about 250 families a week, as well as distributing street homeless backpacks.

Food drives in November and December bring in about 20,000 to



Volunteers with Diakonia at the convention center on Saturday where they collected six truck loads of food from the Maryland School Nutrition Association Conference. Pictured, from left, are volunteer Doe Action, John Hanberry from the Kiwanis Club, and volunteers Nichole Action and Trinity Miles.

CINDY HOFFMAN/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

30,000 pounds of food. Diakonia receives about the same amount in the spring from food drives.

"We store this food like squirrels," Blaney said.

Beyond food drives, Diakonia is the benefactor of fresh food from numerous local businesses, including Starbucks, Panera, Chipotle, Chick fil A, Outback, Wawa, Food Lion and Acme.

The restaurants and stores provide meats, dairy, fruits and vegetables.

Blaney said people come from Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties because of the quality of food at the Diakonia pantry.

Diakonia has 50 residents that live on site, including men and women.

Twenty percent of the residents are children.

The organization is nearly full, with food storage on site, a working kitchen that serves residents meals and sleeping quarters as well as offices at the Ocean City location. Blaney said they will be launching a capital campaign to build a new facility on land off of 611. She hopes the new building will be open within the next two to five years.

People who want to donate but are not connected to one of the schools sponsoring a food drive can deliver donations directly to Diakonia, at 12747 Old Bridge Road in West Ocean City. For information on hosting a food drive, email info@diakoniaoc.org.

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Worcester Prep Spirit Week



Junior and senior boys were proud to wear their red, white and blue. Pictured, from the left, are Kannon Cropper, Mason Williams, Caleb Collins, Ryan Mann, Owen West, Mike DePalma and Jack Lynch.



Pictured, from left, are seniors Luke Hopkins and Dylan and Hunter Simons playing tourists during Spirit Week.



A group of senior girls earned the championship trophy at the Worcester Prep Powderpuff games. Pictured, front row from left, are players Lebyy Becker, Moorea Phillips, Summer Vent, Ava Conaway, Madilyn Nechay, Ansley Gardner, Claire Windrow, Esi Mehilli, Leah Gaito, Sara Freih and Natasha Richter. Back row, from left, are senior coaches Cole Campbell, Baylor Hoen and Caleb Collins, along with players Izzy Huber, Caitlin Williams, Vanesska Hall, Natalie Chadwell and Emma Crivella.



Upper School students Emma Nordstorm, Isha Garg, Sydney Parker, Kain Crosset and Ansh Batra threw it back to the '50s on Time Travel Day during Spirit Week.

SCHOOL SPIRIT
 Worcester Prep Upper School students recently celebrated Spirit Week by dressing according to each day of the week's theme leading up to homecoming on Oct. 7.
 SUBMITTED PHOTOS/
 BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Pictured, from left, are Worcester Prep juniors James Haley, Jackson Fernley, Sydney Tingle, Williams Wells, Briar Parsons and Frank Miller representing their class "Jurassic Juniors" during Spirit Week.



A group of sophomores got a gold star for their Super Mario costumes on Character Day during Spirit Week. Pictured, from left, are Ayla Yonker, Sydney Todorov, Lilly Phillips, Anisha Batra, Jude Anthony, Catherine Cullen, Sydney Mize, Emily Patrowicz and Marina Farlow.

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MARLIN CLUB DONATES

The Marlin Club Crew of OC, Inc. recently donated a \$2,500 check to the SkillsUSA student organization at the Worcester Technical High School. Pictured, from left, with the check are Principal Thomas D. Zimmer, SkillsUSA Student Kloe Cropper, Marlin Club Crew representative Raye Simpson, and SkillsUSA advisors Crystal Holloway Bunting and Richard L. Stevens.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

LIONS CLUB CHARITY

Belinda Gulyas, the principal of the Cedar Chapel Special School, accepts a donation from Ocean City Lions' President Greg Cathell. The Snow Hill school serves students from across Worcester County from birth to age 21.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

Pictured, back row, are the Worcester County Commissioners, at their Oct. 3 meeting after presenting a proclamation naming October as Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Pictured in the front row with the proclamation, from left, are Life Crisis Executive Director Jamie Manning, Domestic Violence Services Coordinator Karen Hughes, 24/7 Services Director Maxine Hilliard and Therapist Lisa Garcia.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW LIONS

The Ocean City Lions Club recently inducted two new members to the service club. Pictured, from left, are new inductees Dorothy Beran and Joe Beran, and Past District Governor Norm Cathell.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FIRE PREVENTION LESSON

Members of Alayne Shockley's fifth grade class at Worcester Prep pose for a group photo with members of the Berlin Fire Company after a recent fire prevention assembly. Pictured in front kneeling with the class from left, are Berlin Fire Company Spokesperson Jimmy Corron and Firefighter Colbey Sirman. Standing in the back row with the class are Firefighter Stacy French, Asst. Chief Nate Thompson and Firefighter Zack Winkler.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DRESS MINISTRY

Violet, of Pittsville, holds up a creation she assembled during a recent craft show at Snow Hill Volunteer Fire Department. Dress Ministry participated in the craft show and scarecrow kits were available for children to assemble. Money raised from the scarecrows will help provide water filters to villages in remote areas in Third World countries.

Opinion

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

Understanding EDUs and why they exist

What is an EDU, anyway?

As the discussion continues over the future of Heron Park in Berlin and the parcels within it that are or could be for sale, the big snag in the process seems always to come down to who gets the EDUs attached to a specific piece of land.

The general public and many officials may be excused for not understanding the overall nature of an EDU, because it is complicated scientifically, financially and legally.

First, it is an acronym for Equivalent Dwelling Unit, which is the name for a water consumption unit of measure that is calculated by water and environmental engineers using a mathematical formula based on years of observation and studies.

The general assumption by the Maryland Department of Environment is that the average household (dwelling unit) will use and discharge not more than 250 gallons of water per day.

The Department of Environment uses that measurement to determine how many equivalent units a wastewater treatment plant can handle given its total capacity to process and discharge wastewater safely. The department then tells the plant's owner — in this case the town — how many EDUs it is allowed to issue.

And that's when the fun begins, because, as the adage goes, development goes where the sewer flows.

When a property owner acquires an EDU for an undeveloped piece of ground, that person is buying access to the treatment system for an upfront connection charge followed by monthly payments to, in Berlin's instance, the Wastewater Enterprise Fund.

Generally, that EDU remains assigned to that property no matter who the owner is as long as the monthly payments are maintained.

If the EDU is not being used, it can be transferred to another parcel owned by the same individual, or turned back into the town for use elsewhere if needed. Otherwise, it stays

See EDUS Page 17

OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION REPORT

Beware of electric bill scams

A message from the Ocean Pines Police Department

In recent weeks, the Ocean Pines Police Department has received a number of reports from residents who received suspicious calls from people posing as representatives from Choptank Electric.

The callers, who are not affiliated with the utility company, have been making threats about disconnecting electricity because of nonpayment. These scammers employ a range of tactics, including coercing victims into revealing their banking information, or persuading them to buy gift cards to settle their bills.

In one instance, the scammers told a resident that Choptank had changed her electric box during the summer, which also changed her account number. When the resident told the fraudulent caller she had paid her bill on time each month, they offered to refund her payments — but said they first needed her to provide banking information to put her account in good standing. This case serves as a stark reminder of the need for vigilance and caution.

As we enter the colder months and the holiday season, it is important to be on high alert for such fraudulent activities. Scammers often exploit this time of year,

knowing that individuals may be more vulnerable or distracted.

The Ocean Pines Police Department urges the community to use caution and adhere to some basic safety measures. First and foremost, never give out banking or credit card information to anyone or any company you did not initiate a conversation with.

If you receive an unexpected call, be proactive by independently verifying the caller's identity and contact information. If there is any doubt about the legitimacy of the call, hang up and call the official customer service number for the company in question.

In these challenging times, community solidarity and informed decision-making are essential. By staying vigilant and informed, we can collectively protect ourselves and our neighbors from falling victim to scams.

The Ocean Pines Police Department is committed to safeguarding our community, and we encourage you to contact us at 410-641-7747 to report any suspicious activity.

Together, we can ensure a safe and secure holiday season for all.

Pines Shop with a Cop set for Nov. 18

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Ocean Pines Police Department is partnering with the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City for a Shop with a Cop pancake breakfast next month.

The event, set from 8-11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 18, in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center, will benefit the Cricket Center in Berlin.

The facility is the only state-supported child advocacy center in Worcester County.

Tickets are \$9 at the door and children under 10 are free. Carryout and dine-in options are available.

Members of the Kiwanis Club said in a news release that the Shop with a Cop event is a "partnership with Worcester County law enforcement agencies, giving children the chance to shop with a local law enforcement officer for holiday gifts for their families."

Traditionally, the campaign gave local at-risk children \$150 to spend on gifts for themselves.

In years past, Kiwanis members noticed that the recipients were using the money to buy basic necessities instead of holiday gifts, which prompted a collection drive.

The organization will set up a drop box at the pancake breakfast to help collect those types of items.

According to the news release, a spokesperson for the Kiwanis said essentials that are needed are new, unexpired, items (30 of each) of boxed stuffing, canned vegetables and cranberries, jelly/jam, peanut butter, pancake mix, trail mix, crackers, fruit snacks, powdered drink mix, unpopped popcorn, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap, bar soap, boxed cereal, granola bars, cereal bars,

pasta, pasta sauce, mac and cheese and canned tuna.

Additional drop boxes will be available in the Community Center lobby, The Parke at Ocean Pines clubhouse on 2 Arcadia Court, and the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on 11443 Manklin Creek Road.

Ocean Pines Police Chief Tim Robinson said in the release that it's important for local law enforcement to support these types of projects.

"We're very honored to partner with the Kiwanis to support a worthwhile endeavor like the Cricket Center," he said. "Things like the Cricket Center are instrumental in helping to keep some of our vulnerable youth safe."

More information about the collection items and online ticket sales is available at kiwanisofopoc.org.

For more information, contact David Landis at 410-641-7330.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Snow Hill Halloween events slated Oct. 28

Parade set to begin at 6 p.m. and travel through town, block party to follow

(Oct. 26, 2023) After a 32-year hiatus, the Town of Snow Hill revived the town's once annual Halloween Parade in 2022.

Hundreds of spectators lined the streets as people in costume, decorated cars, and floats paraded along a half-mile loop around downtown.

It's now that time of year again, and the 2023 Halloween Parade will

return on Oct. 28.

The parade will begin promptly at 6 p.m. at the Green Street Extension Parking Lot, travel down West Green Street, and cross the municipal parking lot to continue down Market Street back to the Green Street Extension parking lot.

Trophies will be awarded for first and second places. To register, visit Eventbrite.com. Participants will meet in the Green Street Extension parking lot at 5 p.m. for staging.

Immediately following the parade, Green Street will transform into a

Halloween Block Party. DJ Deogee will play music and The Bearded Men's Society of Ocean City will host a beer truck for attendees 21 and over to benefit Diakonia.

There will be a bounce house, Halloween crafts, face painting, and at 7 p.m. there will be an outdoor showing of Disney's Hocus Pocus on Pearl Street. Attendees are asked to bring

their own chairs and/or blankets. Winners of the costume contest will be announced at 9 p.m.

The Town of Snow Hill, Downtown Snow Hill, Maryland's Coast, The Bearded Men's Society of Ocean City, and Tides & Vine are hosting the event.

For questions, call Lorissa McAlister at 410-632-2080.

EDUs determine who uses what

Continued from Page 16

with and adds value to the property, since it allows the property to be used for its original purpose or developed into something else.

That's why the Town of Berlin is paying the sewer fees to the Wastewater Fund for the 37 EDUs assigned to Parcel 57 of the former poultry processing plant's location. Those payments might be looked on as a sewer availability fee.

So, one might ask, how can the town pay itself for something it already owns?

As is standard accounting practice, the town takes money from the general fund, which might be re-

ferred to as its checking account, and deposits it in the Wastewater Fund, a separate and protected account created so the wastewater treatment operation can be run like an independent service-providing business.

In this instance, the town is just another customer of the nonprofit service provider, and if it didn't pay the fees on those EDUs and didn't reassign or sell them to another user, the Wastewater Fund would have to make up the difference elsewhere to continue to break even.

Still don't quite get it? Try this: an EDU is a way to keep track of what's going down the drain, where, and by whom.

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Pine'er Craft Club member and October Crafter of the Month Bill Lobecker poses with one of his crafted home decor signs at the club's artisan gift shop in Ocean Pines.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE



David J. Landis Sr., Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City coat drive chairman, and Kitty Wrench, toy drive chairwoman, pose during a collection day for the group's toy and coat drive in 2021. This year's drive will begin next month.

PHOTO COURTESY
DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

Lobecker named Crafter of Month

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Pine'er Craft Club has named club member Bill Lobecker as the October 2023 Crafter of the Month.

After retiring from a career as circulation director of a chain of local newspapers in the Quakertown, Pennsylvania area, Lobecker and his wife, Terry, settled in Ocean View, Delaware in 2017. Lobecker joined the Craft Club about four years ago.

He had been assisting his son with a home decor business until covid hit, and the business closed.

"With the loss of my son's business and his move, I had time on my hands," Lobecker said in a news release. "I like to stay busy in retirement, so I became a member of the club at that time. It's nice to be creative in a side business."

Today, both Lobecker and his wife are involved in the craft club. Together, they create wreaths, candles, sublimation mugs, tumblers and coasters.

Lobecker's home decor signs, which often feature the phrase "this is my happy place Ocean Pines, MD," are popular in the artisan gift shop. He also sells crafts at a booth at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market and has been a fixture there for the last three years.

Along with crafting, Lobecker recently joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, which is the uniformed, nonmilitary volunteer component of the Coast Guard comprised of about 26,000 members. The membership supports the Coast Guard and has advanced training in boating and water

safety.

To see Lobecker's works and more creations, stop by the Pine'er Artisan Gift Shop, open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Sunday, except holidays.

The club is always seeking new crafters, and club meetings are open to the public.

Artisans interested in selling their creations at the shop are asked to contact shop managers Debbie Jiwa or Barbara Herzog, or email opcraftclub@aol.com for more information.

Since its inception, the Craft Club has donated nearly \$179,000 back to Ocean Pines. The club has been hand-crafting in Ocean Pines for 49 years.

For more information, visit oceanpines.org/web/pages/artisan-gift-shop.

Kiwanis toy and coat drive begins next month in OP

(Oct. 19, 2023) The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City is beginning its annual coat and toy drive next month.

Collections will be from 9 to noon on Wednesdays in November in the parking lot of the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Coats, new or used in good condition, will be collected to go to various local organizations for those in need. New, unwrapped toys will go to Worcester GOLD for distribution.

The Kiwanis Club and the organization's members will donate and members of the public are asked or donate as well. There will be a sign designating the donation spot.

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Saturday 11am-1pm	12131 Pimlico Lane, Berlin	3BR, 2.5BA	Residential	\$725,000	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate		
Saturday 10am-1pm	310 S. Heron Gull Ct., Ocean City	6BR/6BA	Residential	\$2,499,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 2-4pm	14111 Fiesta Rd., Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Residential	\$739,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Sunday Noon-2pm	1 66th Street #101, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Residential	\$535,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 1-3pm	89 Sandy Hook Rd., Ocean Pines	3BR/3BA	Residential	\$440,000	Su Mei Prete/BHHS/PenFed Realty		
Saturday Noon-2pm	36463 Wild Rose Circle, Selbyville, DE	4BR/4BA	Residential	\$729,900	Elaine Davidson/RE/MAX Advantage Realty		
Saturday 1-3pm	202 32nd Street #306, Ocean City	1BA Studio	Condominium	\$215,000	Team Bouse/RE/MAX Advantage Realty		
Saturday 10am-2pm	12346 Old Bridge Road, OC	2BR/1BA	Residential	\$169,900	Larry Holdren II/Larry Holdren Real Estate		
Sunday 11am-2pm	12346 Old Bridge Road, OC	2BR/1BA	Residential	\$169,900	Larry Holdren II/Larry Holdren Real Estate		
Saturday 1-3pm	70 Pinehurst Rd, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Residential	\$444,900	Sandra Dougan/BHHS/PenFed Realty		

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Health dept. hosting Berlin Glow Walk Nov. 3

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Worcester County Health Department will be hosting a glow walk in a couple of weeks in Berlin as part of a campaign to promote exercise and healthy lifestyles. The Berlin Fall Glow Walk is part of the department's Just Walk initiative created to encourage people to get active and explore different

parts of Worcester County. A total of seven fun walks are set from fall to next spring. The Berlin walk will begin is set to start at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 3, with registration opening at 5 p.m. It will begin at Stephen Decatur Park and follow a 4.5-mile route around and through downtown. Participants are asked to bring and

wear glow-in-the-dark items. Limited supplies will also be available at registration. Health department representatives will be on site providing pre-diabetes screenings and distributing health information and free giveaways. Pre-registration is available at eventbrite.com by searching "Berlin Fall Glow Walk".

The event is stroller and leashed-dog friendly. All participants will receive a free raffle entry for a Berlin Basket. Organizers are actively seeking volunteers to help direct walkers along the route. For more information and/or to volunteer, contact Kate Daub at 410-641-4002 or kdaub@berlinmd.gov.

Atlantic General achieves designation as 'most wired'

(Oct. 26, 2023) Atlantic General Hospital and Health System was recently named the recipient of the Most Wired Level 8 distinction for both the acute and ambulatory care settings.

survey assessed the adoption, integration and impact of technologies in health care organizations at all stages of development, from early development to industry leading.

The distinction was announced in the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives' October release of the 2023 Digital Health Most Wired Survey results.

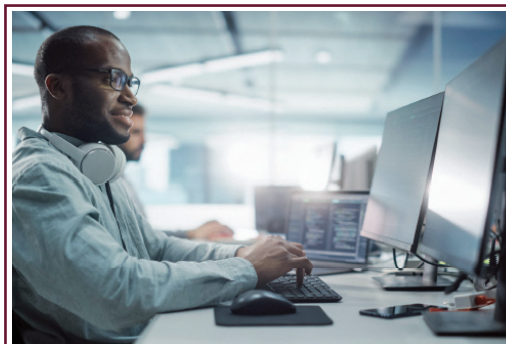
Among the multitude of IT-supported initiatives included in the organization's survey was online appointment scheduling, the release said.

According to a news release from the hospital, among the more than 55,000 facilities represented, Atlantic General ranked in the top 1 percent, above peers in categories like analytics and data management, population health, infrastructure and patient engagement. The

Initially rolled out in late 2021, the secure web-based scheduling service was first made available to current patients of AGH seeking appointments with the network's primary care providers and specialists.

This month, the appointment scheduling feature was fully inte-

See AGH Page 21



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Cuisine

Steak and Bearnaise still perfect pairing

Reprint from Nov. 24, 2022

Steak and Bearnaise. Has there ever been a more appropriate pairing?

Indeed, yes there has, and I fell in love again last weekend.

A couple weeks ago I made mention of having the privilege of tasting a 21-year-old Chardonnay, and it was magical.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

It was stunning, and none of us quite understood what was happening that made this even possible.

It was a 1973 Heitz Chardonnay from Martha's Vineyard and we tried it in 1994 as a sampling to the servers and cooks at Citronelle from none other than Robert Parker himself.

We were much more fortunate than we gave ourselves credit for back then. We tasted some priceless wines. Were they mere sips?

Absolutely, but it was about as fascinating then as it is now watching researchers figure out how to bend light.

I obviously have never forgotten that story. It was a life-changing event for me and was probably the one moment that pushed me to learn more about wine: much more.

Last weekend, I took a much-needed trip to Atlantic City (yes, I realize that sentence can be utterly confusing and very concerning to many). I needed to get away.

As we had visited the newly remodeled Golden Nugget in Vegas this summer, and the food at Vic & Anthony's Steakhouse was second to none, I followed suit and stayed at one of AC's stalwart institutions, the Golden Nugget.

While not as posh as their Vegas counterpart, the room was lovely, they had the same Landry's Brand restaurants, and they had craps tables.

My first day there, I was sure to get there half an hour before opening and grab a seat at the bar. As I pored through the wine list, my soul leapt from my body when I saw a Heitz Cabernet.

I quickly looked it up and it was highly rated, so I ordered it. It came out, I perused the label and it read 'Napa Valley'.



This is after I had shared my tale with the bartender and the couple next to me who had joined the conversation.

The bartender said "Oh, that's the Napa Heitz. The Martha's Vineyard Heitz is the next one down."

And while I will not share the price of the Napa Valley Cab – the one I ended up ordering – I can assure you that I was not about to spend \$350 on my originally preferred bottle, so I passed.

Still perfectly paired with a bone-in filet with bearnaise and bone marrow (yes, bone marrow), it was an angelic pairing, the tannins cutting through the exceptionally fatty dish.

It was the perfect introduction to my weekend melee.

And my dear friend Atlantic City, you are in my sights again. I'll see you soon.

the temperature of your liking. Make sure to give yourself at least 15 minutes to rest the steak before serving.

- For the marrow, turn the broiler on, and season the marrow canoes.

- Broil until the marrow is cooked through.

- Remove and make sure to save the drippings to drizzle on top of the steak.

- Serve the steak with the marrow in the canoe and Bearnaise on the side. It is proper etiquette to allow the guest to do the scraping and pouring. That is one of the guilty pleasures of this dish.

Bearnaise

makes about 3 cups

1/2 c. Champagne vinegar

1 ea. Small shallot, diced

1 Tbsp. Tarragon

2 whole pasteurized eggs (see notes)

2 c. Melted butter, whole

Salt & Pepper as needed

Lemon juice as needed

dash of hot sauce

1. Combine the vinegar, shallot and tarragon and simmer until reduce to about 2 tablespoons.

Strain and set aside

2. Melt butter and heat to 135F.

3. Place the eggs and reduction in the blender.

4. Cover and turn on high for a few seconds.

5. Remove the lid or plunger and slowly drizzle the butter in until you get to the bottom layer of water and solids. The sauce will start to thicken quickly. If too thick, add lemon juice and continue. If it continues to be too thick, a touch of hot water will loosen it.

6. Add the hot sauce and season to taste. Keep it warm and use quickly as it will solidify if it cools too much.

*For pasteurizing whole shell eggs, jump into the sous vide game if you're not already playing.

You can buy an immersion circulator at Aldi on occasion, and they are only about forty bucks! Anova is another good brand, and Chef Steps has a nice one as well, albeit pricier. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for pasteurizing the eggs.

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

Bone-in Filet, Bearnaise, Bone Marrow

serves 2

2 1 lb. Bone-in filet

Trimix, as needed

Clarified butter, as needed

2 sprigs rosemary

1/2 c. Bearnaise (recipe follows)

2 canoes of bone marrow

- Season filets well on all sides.

- Heat a high-carbon or good quality frypan until it is smoking hot.

- Add the clarified butter and once melted and hot, carefully add the steaks.

- Cook for about four minutes on the first side, or until you have a commendable crust.

- Turn and do the other side the same favor.

- Here, you can either keep turning and basting, or as I like to do, place the rosemary sprigs in the pan and place in a 400F oven and cook until it is to

have a safe & happy halloween!

Berlin bulk waste collection set Nov. 1 and 8

(Oct. 26, 2023) The Town of Berlin will hold free curbside bulk waste collections in November. Collections are for improved, occupied residential properties and the collection date coincides with regular trash collection schedules.

For neighborhoods that have Tuesday and Wednesday trash collection, bulk waste collection will be on Wednesday, Nov. 1; and for Thursday customers, bulk waste collection will be on Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Anyone placing items for collection must submit a request to the town, ei-

ther by phone or online, no later than 4:30 p.m. the day before their collection day.

A form is available online at berlinmd.gov under "Departments/Public Works" or by calling Town Hall at 410-641-2770, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A maximum of four items will be collected. All fabric items must be bagged or wrapped in plastic and sealed. Bags for large items such as mattresses are available at local retailers and a limited supply is available at Town Hall.

Other regulations may also apply. Details are available online and/or can be emailed or picked up at Town Hall before collection day.

Several holidays in November will also impact regular trash or recycling collection. In observance of Veterans Day, town offices will be closed on Friday, Nov. 10. There will be no recycling collection that day.

Business trash will be collected on Thursday, Nov. 9, along with regular Thursday trash collection.

On Thanksgiving, town offices will be

closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24. Thursday and Friday trash collection will be picked up on Wednesday, Nov. 22, along with regular Wednesday collection. There will be no recycling collection on Friday, Nov. 24.

Fall Yard Waste Collections will be scheduled for December as well. Look for additional details in the coming weeks.

For more information about special collections, visit the town website at berlinmd.gov and go to the Public Works page under Departments.

AGH in top 1 percent in tech

Continued from Page 19

grated into FollowMyHealth, the patient portal tool associated with the organization's electronic medical record. And, by the end of the calendar year the web-based scheduling tool, which allows individuals to search by provider and available

appointment dates and times, will be extended to new patients.

It also follows the expansion of mobile features such as text-based appointment confirmation and cancelation capabilities and advance check-ins for appointments.

Obituaries

CHARLES OWEN ROUSE

Ocean Pines

Charles Owen Rouse, age 73, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023 at Tidal Health in Salisbury.

Born in Baltimore to the late Charles R. Rouse and Mary Bernadette Rouse, Charles was the second oldest of six children in a close, loving family.

After graduating from college, he obtained a masters of social work from Washington University in 1998 and a masters of business administration from Fontbonne College in 1998.

He enjoyed a career of service, most recently helping addicts escape a life of addiction with Reach Behavioral Health in Baltimore.

In his youth, Charles summered at the family home on Fifth Street in Ocean City, working at such venerable establishments as The Embers, Pappy's Restaurant and Candy Kitchens, where he often displayed his fudge-making skills in the window of the Sixth Street Boardwalk front store.

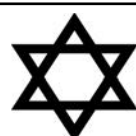
Charles retired to Ocean Pines where he volunteered at the Ocean Pines Library serving as treasurer of the board, and as a docent and on the board of the Skipjack Nathan of Dorchester County.

He was a skilled sailor and raced for the North Point Sailing Club in Edgemere, and also a bridge player in the Ocean Pines Sanctioned Bridge Club.

He is survived by his sister, Eileen Leonhart of Ocean Pines; and his brothers, Mark Rouse of Towson, John Rouse of Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania and Thomas Rouse of Timo-

onium; and many nieces and nephews.

Interment will be family affair with a luncheon in his honor to be held at a future date.



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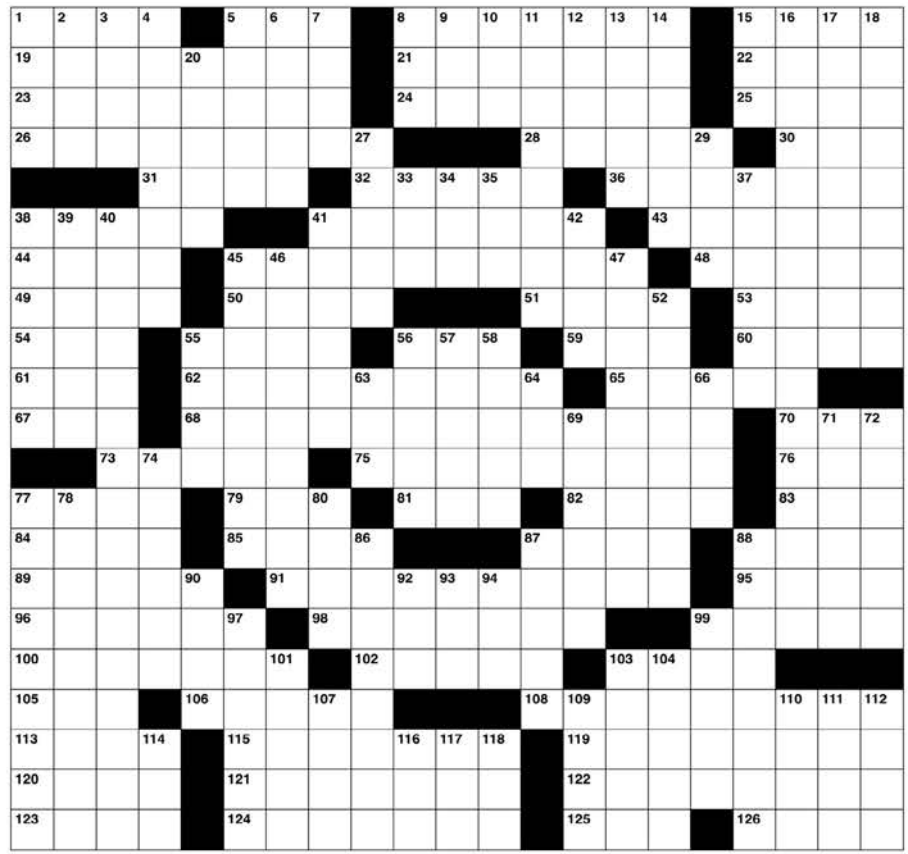
Puzzles

DOING DOUGHNUTS

BY JEFF CHEN AND JULIANA TRINGALI GOLDEN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Jeff Chen is a writer in Seattle and a frequent crossword contributor for The Times. Juliana Tringali Golden is an editor in Northern California, making her fourth appearance here. The idea for this puzzle was Juliana's. She says she always wanted to create a crossword with a doughnut theme, and when Jeff showed her some blank grids he'd made with interesting patterns, this one, with a torus shape in the middle, "screamed 'doughnut' to me!" — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pieces of praise
 - 5 Host
 - 8 D-lister's quest
 - 15 Anjou alternative
 - 19 Hot sauce with a reduplicative name
 - 21 About whom an early critic said: "Can't act, can't sing, Balding. Can dance a little"
 - 22 Opposite of baja
 - 23 Case study?
 - 24 "Definitely, leave it to me!"
 - 25 Japanese noodle dish
 - 26 "I declare this doughnut to be a truly tasty treat!"
 - 28 Blends
 - 30 Egg ___ yung
 - 31 Final opponent in many a video game
 - 32 Source of division at a wedding
 - 36 Download in progress?
 - 38 Cube's 12
 - 41 Items of apparel in the song "My Favorite Things"
 - 43 Blows past
 - 44 Turn into a puddle, maybe
 - 45 "Here's one way to eat a doughnut without getting icing on your nose ..."
 - 48 2006 Amy Winehouse hit
 - 49 La Perla purchases
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
- 50 ___ Day, nickname for Billie Holiday
 - 51 Dawson of "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay"
 - 53 Work (up)
 - 54 Alternative to Betsy
 - 55 Stew
 - 56 Mark in a shell game
 - 59 Sign of a sellout
 - 60 One way to have something down
 - 61 Night before
 - 62 Pulls rank on, in a way
 - 65 Character asked to "shine down," in a children's song
 - 67 ___ student
 - 68 "Let's raise a glass to this outstanding doughnut!"
 - 70 Tolkien's Treebeard, for one
 - 73 Mideast rulers
 - 75 Interrupts when it's not one's place to do so
 - 76 It "shines with a mournful light, like its own tear," in an Andrew Marvell poem
 - 77 Prix ___ menu
 - 79 "Lemme think ..."
 - 81 Originally named
 - 82 Natural leaders, it's said
 - 83 Corsica, par exemple
 - 84 Likely to offend, for short
 - 85 Telenovela, e.g.
 - 87 "___ everybody?"
 - 88 Inventory: Abbr.
 - 89 D.E.A. agent
- DOWN**
- 1 Oil-industry acronym
 - 2 Megacelebrity, maybe
 - 3 "Red" leader
 - 4 Some blackjack wagers
 - 5 Makes, as money
 - 6 Pod cast?
- 91 "It is an undeniable fact that this doughnut is awesome!"
 - 95 Long span of time
 - 96 Massages
 - 98 Downtempo electronica genre
 - 99 Like those celebrating a day of visibility on March 31
 - 100 Heading on a certain neighborhood poster
 - 102 Lure in the "Odyssey"
 - 103 Foofaraws
 - 105 Certain filler words
 - 106 Like a baseball shutout
 - 108 "This doughnut is the talk of the town!"
 - 113 Pass quickly (through)
 - 115 Small houses in the Southwest
 - 119 Movie featuring Mickey Mouse in a wizard's cap
 - 120 "Me as well!"
 - 121 Magazine "real estate"
 - 122 Frozen treat named for a playful animal
 - 123 Little copper?
 - 124 Keep going
 - 125 "Get it?"
 - 126 Their first five parts are often disguised, for short
- 7 Response to "Cómo estás?"
 - 8 "Come to think of it ..."
 - 9 When doubled, a fly
 - 10 Symbols in social media handles
 - 11 Clothing
 - 12 "Bones"
 - 13 Sonicare competitor
 - 14 Civil rights activist Sylvia who was awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom
 - 15 German lead-in to haus
 - 16 "This doughnut would be great dipped in milk!"
 - 17 Game popular in Brooklyn streets
 - 18 What has good coverage for retirement?
 - 20 Mazatlán moola
 - 27 Symbol of freshness
 - 29 Foofaraw
 - 33 TV "Cousin"
 - 34 Chateau ___ Michelle (Washington winery)
 - 35 Headed up
 - 37 Pithy review
 - 38 Symbol
 - 39 Get
 - 40 "I'll bet you dollars to doughnuts ..."
 - 41 Up-to-date
 - 42 Doesn't move
 - 45 An annual vaccination can limit its spread
 - 46 Japanese noodle joint
 - 47 Fixed completely
 - 52 Indeed, quaintly
 - 55 Two inside an ellipse



- 56 Garfunkel's partner in song
- 57 Treasure
- 58 Trattoria bowlful
- 63 Cheer squad's cry
- 64 Numbered things in N.Y.C.
- 66 Subway stops: Abbr.
- 69 Gets ready for a Ms. Olympia contest, perhaps
- 71 Civil rights icon Mandela
- 72 Many fans of the "Enola Holmes" franchise
- 74 Hotbeds of tourist activity
- 77 Genre for George Clinton or Earth, Wind & Fire
- 78 Like rocks or clocks, but not a fox or an ox
- 80 Pull up
- 86 They're called "white carrots" in Scotland
- 87 Gets something straight?
- 88 Snickers alternatives
- 90 One-eyed god
- 92 Kid often nicknamed "Trey"
- 93 "Rough Translation" podcaster
- 94 Not just "a"
- 97 Bit of movie-theater candy
- 99 Dense cake
- 101 A, B, C or D, but rarely E
- 103 Banded gemstone
- 104 Author of "De vulgari eloquentia"
- 107 Former governor of Georgia?
- 109 Popular tabloid subjects
- 110 Org. with "Informed Delivery" emails
- 111 The Promised Land
- 112 Nukes
- 114 Great deal
- 116 Mai ___
- 117 Coolers, for short
- 118 Word with "to work" or "to stun"

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HARD - 67

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

Calendar

Submit calendar items to: editor@oceancitytoday.net. Submission deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, the week of publication. Local submissions have priority. Area event listings are subject to space availability.

Thurs., Oct. 26

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

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

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Learn about the Native Americans who contributed to rock music. This is part of the community read series. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FIRESIDE CHAT

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3 p.m. A popular and entertaining book discussion featuring books participants have read and want to share. Come and find your next great read. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ZUMBA

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Join licensed, certified Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required: 410-208-4014. www.worcesterlibrary.org

WOR-WIC TREAT STREET

Wor-Wic Community College, 32000 Campus Drive, Salisbury, 5:30-7 p.m. Family-friendly trick-or-treat event. Costumed children and their families collect candy during the event. Held rain or shine. www.worwic.edu

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., Oct. 27

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

HOWL-O-WEEEN COSTUMES & COCKTAILS

Seacrets, 117 49th St., Ocean City, 6-9

p.m. Featuring a buffet, open bar, live music, silent auction and 50/50 raffle. Costumes are encouraged. Cost is \$90. 410-749-0632, tjohnson@lifecrisiscen-ter.org, www.lifecrisiscen-ter.org

FRONTFEAR TOWN'S HAUNTED TRAIL

Sun Outdoors Frontier Town, 8428 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 7-10 p.m. The Haunted Trail is free to Sun Outdoors Frontier Town and Ocean City Gateway guests (with their campground wristbands). Admission for all others will be \$10 cash per person. 443-978-0674

Sat., Oct. 28

OCEAN CITY RUNNING FESTIVAL

Hugh T. Cropper Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City. Featuring a full marathon, half marathon, 8k and 5k race distances. Ocean City themed race medals for all finishers. Event releases: @OCRUnFest. www.OCMDrunfest.com

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET

Whaleysville United Methodist, 11716 Sheppards Crossing Road, 7-10 a.m. Buffet includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, scrapple, scrambled eggs, chipped beef, hash brown potatoes, toast, fruit and assorted beverages. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City. 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

DR. MADDOCKTER'S HAUNTED LABORATORY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Walk the road to the mad doctor's lair if you dare. See a dinosaur, an alien, a zombie horde and more. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BERLIN TRUNK OR TREAT

Stephen Decatur Park, Tripoli Street, Berlin, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Bring the family to Stephen Decatur Park to see our town trucks in action, fire and police vehicles, demos plus wear your costume for trick-or-treat! <https://www.facebook.com/events/341617391552704>

WORCESTER COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PIG ROAST

11043 Mumford Road, Bishopville, 12-5 p.m. Cost is \$35. Event reservations on

Facebook: Worcester County Republican Central Committee of Maryland. Info: 717-448-1741.

OCTOBERFEST SHORE CRAFT BEER FEST

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 1-5 p.m. Includes live music, vendors, for trucks and unlimited tastings of over 30 different local craft beers. Prices are \$65, \$40 and \$10. <https://www.shorecraftbeerfest.com/octoberfest.html>, 410-703-1970

SURFMEN OF THE U.S. LIFE-SAVING SERVICE AND U.S. COAST GUARD

Author John Kopp will do an online program called "Turfmens of the U.S. Life-Saving Service and U.S. Coast Guard," 1-2 p.m. Free event. Sign up: <https://oc-museum.wufoo.com/forms/z18ij9l0hy3w5d/>. 410-289-4991

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 9 a.m. to noon. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Oct. 29

OCEAN CITY RESORT GIFT EXPO

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This is the northeast's leading souvenir and resort trade event with retailers from Maine to Virginia Beach. Discounted hotel rates, and on-site buyer amenities. www.oceancitygift-show.com

OCTOBERFEST

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Community Life Center, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 11:30 a.m. Menu includes sour beef & real dumplings, brats & sauerkraut, hot dogs, string beans, desserts, iced tea, coffee and water. BYO beer or wine. Cost is \$25. RSVP: amy.splcoc@comcast.net, 410-524-7474.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., Oct. 30

OCEAN CITY RESORT GIFT EXPO

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This is the northeast's leading souvenir and resort trade event with retailers from Maine to Virginia Beach. Discounted hotel rates, and on-site buyer amenities. www.oceancitygift-show.com

DR. MADDOCKTER'S HAUNTED LABORATORY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Walk the road to the mad doctor's lair if you dare. See a dinosaur, an alien, a zombie horde and more. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MONTHLY MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Catch a recent movie you might have missed in the theaters. Free event. Info: 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

ONE MARYLAND ONE BOOK: TED TALKS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m., Watch three talks including "Native Americans: We Shall Remain," "The Rise and Fall of the Lakota Empire," and "America's native prisoners of war." 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

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., Oct. 31

Ocean City Resort Gift Expo

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., This is the northeast's leading souvenir and resort trade event with retailers from Maine to Virginia Beach. Discounted hotel rates, and on-site buyer amenities. www.oceancitygift-show.com

HISTORICAL FIGURE COSTUME CONTEST

Ocean City Life-Saving Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Come dressed as a historical figure to be entered for a chance to win a museum gift basket. emma@ocmuseum.org, 410-289-4991, www.ocmuseum.org

GHOST STORIES FROM THE SEA

Ocean City Life-Saving Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 10 a.m.-noon.

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 23

1883 shipwreck victim. Hear how the Sallie W. Kaye ran aground off Ocean City and how one crew member made the deadline attempt to swim ashore. www.ocmuseum.org, 410-289-4991

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

DR. MADDOCKTER'S HAUNTED LABORATORY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1-7 p.m. Walk the road to the mad doctor's lair if you dare. See a dinosaur, an alien, a zombie horde and more. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CHAIR YOGA

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Nicole Long, certified yoga instructor, teaches how to stretch in a safe and low impact manner. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TANGER REHOBOTH BEACH TO HOST TRICK OR TREAT OFF THE STREET, OCT. 31

Tanger Rehoboth Beach - Surfside, 35000 Midway Outlet Drive, Rehoboth Beach, 5-7 p.m. Kids invited to enjoy Halloween while trick or treating at At-

lantic Coast outlet destination. Children 12 years old and younger are welcome to enjoy trick-or-treating from store to store.

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.

ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

Tuesdays - Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 5:30 p.m. Zumba with optional light weights. zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com

Wed., Nov. 1

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

Takes place via Zoom the first and second Wednesday of each month. For non-surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatric Center, 410-641-9568

GRACE PARKER BREAKFAST

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 7-11 a.m. Cost is \$12 to dine-in with one reorder or \$10 for take-out. 410-208-9340, ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com

MERRY MAKERS: PAPER BEADS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. All materials provided, but if you have some unique paper or wallpaper, bring it along to share. Limit 10. Registration required: 410-208-4014. www.worcesterlibrary.org

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Providing discussion and education on the topic of diabetes. Darlene Jame-

son, 410-208-9761, djameson@atlantic-general.org

JUNIOR MAKERS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 4:30 p.m. Explore science and the arts through fun learning activities and stories. For ages 6-8 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STOMP

Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters and more fill the stage with energy. Tickets cost \$55-\$75 at <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/7521323/stomp-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>. 410-289-2800.

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

ZUMBA WEDNESDAYS

Wednesdays - Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st St., 10 a.m. Dance background notrequiredzumbajoyceoc@gmail.com. www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

Ocean City Florist Now Hiring **PT Floral Designer.** 2-3 days a week. Some Saturdays will be required. Experience necessary. Call 410-250-1636 or apply within.
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Classifieds 410-723-6397

Newly-Furnished, Spacious, Two-Level, 3 bedroom/ 2 Bath Condo with sunroom overlooking Ocean Pines Golf Course. First and Second level family rooms. Eight-month lease through mid-June. \$2,200/month + utilities/security deposit. NO smoking. Will consider dog/two-month renewable lease. **Email: adkins.susan80@gmail.com**

WOC - YR Rental - 5BR, 3.5BA, 3600 sq.ft. on pond. \$2950/month and one months security plus utilities. **Contact Lou, 410-713-0065.**

Seeking YR & Seasonal Rentals! Call Howard Martin Realty 410-352-5555.

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

Year-Round Room For Rent Ocean Pines \$800/month and \$200 security. Fully furnished. All utilities included. **443-880-2317**

Winter Rental - Ocean City. XL Master bedroom w/private bath. Fully furnished. \$800/month. Includes all utilities. No pets. No smoking. **443-880-2486**

HOUSE SHARING
Nice house. 94th Street area. Enclosed hot tub room, other amenities. Nice pets considered. Seeking employed males 20-30 years old who have their life together. Winter or year round. \$600/month plus utilities. **Text Rob, 410-726-5200.**

COMMERCIAL
Industrial Warehouse. Space: 1500 sq. ft. Masonry construction, 18' high ceiling, large garage door, bathroom. Route 90/Bishopville. **Call 443-497-4200.**

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JOB SUMMARY: This individual serves as a liaison between the public and Town staff. This individual answers phones; performs clerical and receptionist duties for the Town; handles administrative work for management and occasionally Town staff; and keeps reception area clean and presentable for the public. The goal of this individual is to be the face of the local government to those needing Town services and make certain interactions provided are positive and welcoming. Visit www.snowhillmd.gov for Job Description.
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