



PHOTO COURTESY TARA FISCHER

Celebrating their championship season at Stephen Decatur High School are, from left, Seahawks football standouts Brycen Coleman, Gavin Solito, Careen Bolden and Coach Jake Coleman.

## Seahawks capture state championship

Stephen Decatur football goes undefeated on way to bringing home 2A title

By Bruce C. Walls  
Contributing Writer

(Dec. 7, 2023) It's great to see a community come out and support its local high school varsity football team like this one has done and, oh yes, there was a football game.

Last Thursday evening, Stephen Decatur High School football fans filled the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis to witness history.

The team left Berlin surrounded by a surprise send-off of banners, streamers and fanfare from a swarm of students, community members, family and friends. Fans lined Berlin's streets to watch the small parade assembled and wished the team well as it left for Annapolis.

A few hours later the team returned home the conquering hero's after pushing the Hurricanes of Huntington, Maryland out to sea, 21-13. On the way home, the team bus was met by an escort of fire trucks, police cars and other emergency vehicles blasting sirens with blue and red lights flashing following them home to Stephen Decatur.

Everyone in the Naval Academy stands knew the Seahawks were there to claim the MPSSAA Class 2A Maryland State Championship Trophy they had been steadfastly pursuing.

The Seahawks were there on a mission that began for Coach Jake Coleman back in 1996 when a team from Cambridge South Dorchester was the last Eastern Shore team to make the finals.

Now the head coach of Decatur, Coleman quarterbacked that Cambridge team. He has coached the Stephen Decatur Seahawks team for four years. Coleman's son Vanderbilt-bound Brycen, is on his father's Decatur team as a quarterback and plays other positions.

When asked, Coach Coleman said  
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PHOTO COURTESY TARA FISCHER  
The Class 2A championship trophy now rests at Stephen Decatur High School.

## OP Chamber reaches out under new name

In bid to broaden base, Pines organization rebrands with 'Worcester County' title

By Cindy Hoffman  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 7, 2023) The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce has rebranded itself as the Worcester County Chamber of Commerce ... and the results are mixed.

Kerrie Bunting, the executive director for the chamber, said on a recent podcast that this is just a name change and does not change the way the chamber does business. But the announcement has raised concerns with the Ocean Pines Board of Directors and others.

Bunting's perspective is that Ocean Pines is the largest residential community in the county. And being an HOA, not a municipality, it is just

from the north to the south gate. Her goal, she said, is to connect businesses across the county with this large residential population.

"In the past couple of years, we have stepped into that leadership position representing the community on the county level," Bunting said.

Bunting said that it can be confusing for businesses outside of Ocean Pines as to why they would want to join the Ocean Pines Chamber of

Commerce.

"We are marrying the customers with the businesses. We've been operating on the countywide scope for the past five years so this name change really just goes with that," Bunting said.

The chamber initiated discussions of a name change in May, according to Bunting, who said her group invited every county commissioner,  
See OP Page 4

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# Berlin residents encouraged to engage in planning effort

### Town embarking on two plans to guide spending, zoning, policies for future

**By Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 7, 2023) Berlin is embarking on two planning efforts: updating the comprehensive plan, which is being managed by the planning commission, and the strategic plan, which is being managed by Salisbury University's BEACON. Residents could be confused by these two parallel planning efforts.

"The comprehensive plan is at a more planning level, related to land growth and development," Mayor Zack Tyndall said.

It is, fundamentally, a guidebook for land use planning and zoning, and all legal jurisdictions — counties and municipalities — are required by the state's land use article to have one. It must be updated every 10 years.

"The strategic plan is more operational, more goal-oriented and a strategic vision for the overall town. It's not focused on land planning, growth and development," Tyndall said.

The comprehensive plan was last updated in 2010 to address potential growth in housing and infrastructure and the associated impacts through 2030.

The first strategic plan was approved in 2015 under Mayor Gee Williams. That plan was created with input from residents through surveys and public meetings. BEACON has collected survey data from residents and is planning town meetings in January.

Once the Berlin Planning Commission has completed its work on the

comprehensive plan, it will go before the mayor and council for approval.

Tyndall said that while the plans have different purposes, some areas could overlap in both. For instance, increasing services such as fiber optics cable or more affordable housing could be found in both documents.

Tyndall said decisions on such things as annexations are based on the comprehensive plan.

The strategic plan will guide spending and policy decisions for the next three to five years. The comprehensive plan will address land planning, annexations and land use over the next 10 years.

"Both are important," Tyndall said.

"It's easy for those not involved in it every day to see them [the two plans] as one. They are really separate documents with specific purposes."

Members of the public are invited to attend the next public meeting of the planning commission on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street.

It is anticipated that several meetings will be required, and the planning commission typically meets on the second Wednesday of each month.

The town's comprehensive plan can be accessed on the Town website (berlinmd.gov) on the planning department page and the first selection of available resources.

The town is expected to announce public meetings in January for the strategic plan. Those meetings will provide another opportunity for residents to provide their opinions on the same questions that were mailed out with utility bills.



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RELIABLE & LOCAL NEWS

# OP Chamber now Worcester County Chamber

Continued from Page 1  
representatives of Worcester County Economic Development and Tourism and every chamber of commerce to a meeting to discuss the name change.

"Some chose not to be a part of that conversation," Bunting said.

Bunting said she also reached out to the Maryland Chamber of Commerce for guidance and consulted with lawyers. She also reached out to other chambers across the state that are county-named to get their guidance in how they interact with other

chambers.

"We did due diligence," she said. "We did focus groups with our most active chamber partners."

She asked them to play "devil's advocate" and provide her with their concerns and questions and she took those back to her board of directors.

She said the biggest concerns were how other chambers would perceive this and how Ocean Pines residents and businesses would feel.

"Will they feel abandoned?" she asked.

Bunting said she had spoken with

members of the Ocean Pines board of directors and prominent residents, and they were all for it.

But this week, some of those people provided a different story.

"The board has gotten a lot of calls and residents and businesses are incensed that this was done without any input or feedback from the business community or local county representatives. The [Ocean Pines] Board of Directors does not support this move," said Ocean Pines board President Rick Farr. "Ocean Pines should have its own chamber due to the size of our community."

Bunting said she sent an email to OPA General Manager John Viola and Farr and neither responded.

"That [OPA]board has not expressed one concern to me and that is disturbing. And frustrating," Bunting said.

Amy Thompson, the executive director of the Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce and a former board member for the Ocean Pines chamber also expressed reservations.

Thompson highlighted the confusion within the community about the role of the renaming of the Ocean Pines chamber and how that is different from what the Worcester County Economic Development and Tourism

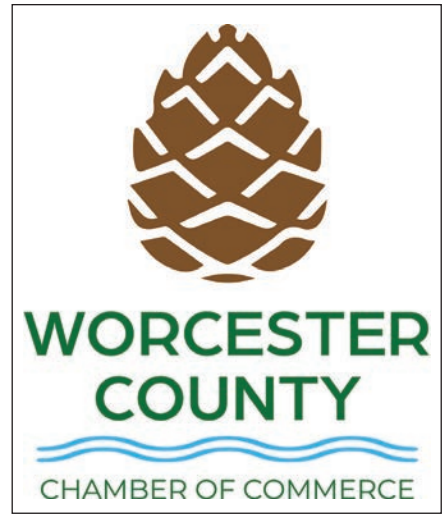


PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER CHAMBER

Cutline information will go here. Cutline information will go here. Cutline information will go here.

already does with economic development countywide. She said the Ocean City chamber is also concerned with how the regional chambers would then operate with this proposed entity because this is not a merger.

"I have been asking these questions since this idea first surfaced in the spring," Thompson said.

"The role of the Ocean Pines Chamber has always been a unique one, without a municipality to part-

See BUNTING Page 5

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# Bunting: chamber's function won't change

Continued from Page 4

ner with. But with such a large number of residents in that community, it made sense to have a chamber to serve as liaison between business and consumers.”

At a commission meeting on Tuesday, Worcester County Commission President Chip Bertino spoke about the name change.

“When it comes to advocating at the regional, state and federal [level] there is only one entity sanctioned to

speak for and act on behalf of this government: Worcester County Economic Development and Tourism.”

He went on to say, “county government should not support, encourage, promote or engage in any activity or effort by the newly named Worcester County Chamber of Commerce that undercuts or diminishes the roles of the other chambers within their individual communities or interferes with the objectives of Worcester County Economic Development and Tourism

or attempts to co-opt the relationships county government has with local, regional, state and federal partners and businesses.”

Bunting said the county commissioners did not voice one concern until the announcement was made.

She said she wants to alleviate any confusion between the new name and any involvement in the Worcester county government or Worcester County Office of Economic Development and Tourism.

“We are completely separate from any government entity. We are a 501C6, membership based non-profit.

“No matter what our name is, our support is the same, our dedication is the same. We are here to support our community,” Bunting said.

When asked what happens to the other chambers, Bunting replied,

“Nothing. They keep on going and representing their individual towns and communities.”

“We are far from the only county-named chamber. We did not reinvent the wheel. This is nothing innovative or controversial. It’s just never been done here.”

She encouraged businesses to join their local chambers in OC, Berlin, Pocomoke and Snow Hill and the newly named Worcester County Chamber can get businesses county-wide exposure. We will work in concert together.”

“We are just changing our name, not how we do business or what we care about. We are here for every community whether they are in OP or not.”

The chamber will remain in Ocean Pines and continue to run the Ocean Pines Visitors Center.

# Decatur Seahawks capture first state 2A championship

Continued from Page 1

he would rather be the coach and father than the player in the championship because he got to work with his son.

Last year, the Millers of Milford Middle Academy prevented the Seahawks from earning their first Maryland state championship. This year, Decatur knocked them out in the semi-finals.

In last Thursday’s title contest, Seahawks won the toss and elected to receive. As it turned out, it was a smart choice.

Stephen Decatur got a decent kick-off return up to their 38-yard line, and from there senior Careen Bolden scrambled 51-yards for a Seahawks first down.

On the fifth play of the quarter, Brycen Coleman scored the first of two rushing touchdowns he would score that evening. With 10:37-minutes left to play in the opening quarter, Coleman burst four yards through Hurricane defenses for the game’s first touchdown.

Senior Seahawks kicker Brogan Eastlack booted it between the up-

rights to give Stephen Decatur an early 7-0 lead.

The Seahawks continued to push, and in the second quarter senior Tyrbe Wise pulled down a short pass to put another six on the board. With the Eastlack kick splitting the uprights, Decatur led 14-0 at half time.

The Hurricanes showed they still had plenty of fight in the third quarter, as Landon Cawley reached the end zone for the Hurricanes. Their kick was good, closing the gap 14-7. But the Seahawks were quick to respond with a 68-yard drive and a run around the right end by Coleman for another TD. The point-after kick was good to give the Seahawks a 21-7 third-quarter lead.

The Hurricane continued to battle, however, and the fourth quarter saw Trent DePompa haul in a pass for the touchdown. But the kick was blocked with 11:12 left to play to leave the score at 21 to 13.

The team led the Ocean City’s Christmas Parade on Saturday and the Berlin’s Christmas Parade Thursday.

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CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester County Animal Control Officer Rob Shrieves and Kaitlyn Fitzhugh have partnered to get dogs out of the shelter and into forever homes. Together they have rehomed 167 animals and counting.

# Pets might not be the best idea for gift this Christmas

By Cindy Hoffman  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 7, 2023) It might seem like a wonderful idea to give a pet to someone you love this holiday season. But Rob Shrieves of Worcester County Animal Control and Kaitlyn Fitzhugh, co-founder of Iron Will Animal Rescue, beg to differ.

Adopting a pet is a life-time commitment, said Shrieves and therefore requires much thought and planning.

He said some cats can live to be 20 years old and dogs can live 11-12 years, sometimes longer. "You should not buy a living creature as a gift," said Shrieves.

There are many issues to consider before adopting a pet. Fitzhugh suggested that potential pet owners evaluate the cost, their home and lifestyle to consider what type of pet might be the best fit. Potential allergies should also be considered.

Shrieves said people should remember that puppies and kittens grow up. Puppies become adult dogs, so consider how big that puppy will get in adulthood. Kittens become adult cats that may be more aloof than a playful kitty.

Fitzhugh suggests that if someone really wants to give a pet as a gift to put a stuffed animal with a note in a box. After the holidays, everyone that will live with the animal can go out to a shelter, rescue or animal control to look at different animals and determine together which pet is right for them and their circumstances.

Fitzhugh said that puppies are the number one pet returned, because people don't consider the amount of time it might take to potty train a puppy or teach it proper manners. It might jump on children and scratch them, or chew on the furniture. Puppies take time. "But you can mold a puppy into the perfect family dog."

She encourages people to consider older dogs who might already be spayed or neutered, potty trained and calmer than a puppy.

Shrieves suggests easing into pets

## MYSTERIOUS RESPIRATORY ILLNESS IN DOGS

The news is ripe with stories about a new respiratory illness that is spreading through the canine population. Fitzhugh said that it is creeping up from the south and has been seen in Richmond. It has also been found in Pennsylvania. The bacterium is airborne and there is currently no test or vaccine for it, so the dog must be isolated and treated systematically.

Fitzhugh encourages people to try to keep their canine companions safe by avoiding doggy daycares, public outings and boarding where the disease is present. Keep pets up to date with vaccines including kennel cough. While the new disease will not be stopped by this vaccine, it helps to rule out diseases the animal is vaccinated for.

If your dog develops a cough that lasts a few weeks, has runny eyes and is sneezing, contact your vet.

as a family. Consider buying a goldfish first and see how the kids take care of that before getting a cat or dog.

Shrieves and Fitzhugh have partnered for the past year and together they have rehomed 167 animals. Shrieves is proud to say that since he has joined Worcester Animal Control, he has rehomed 250 animals to date this year.

"All good dogs deserve a chance," Shrieves said.

He works with various businesses and organizations to help get animals adopted out of Animal Control. He knows it is not the first place people think of when they consider adoption but hopes to change people's conceptions of animal control. There are

See PETS Page 10



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# CRICKET Center seeks funds for annual Shop with a Cop

By **Cindy Hoffman**  
Staff Writer

(Dec. 7, 2023) The Cricket Center will be bringing Christmas joy to 30 at-risk children in Worcester County with its annual "Shop with a Cop" event on Saturday.

"Watching the kids shop with law enforcement is just the most heart-warming thing to see," Lauren Cooper, the executive director of The Cricket Center, said.

During the event, the children get a \$150 shopping spree at Walmart with a police officer, and a ride on a police bus. They will then be sworn in as junior troopers. After that, they get to wrap their gifts and have lunch donated by Chick-Fil A and visit with the Chick-Fil-A cow and Santa. Snacks for the children will be donated by WaWa.

Each child gets to shop for gifts for their family members and maybe even pick out a special item for themselves. They will also go home with a bag of groceries, thanks to the Ocean Pines-Ocean City Kiwanis Club, and a blanket, thanks to the Berlin Rotary Club and Quilters by the Sea.

"We are still seeking Walmart gift cards for the shopping spree," Lauren Cooper, executive director of the

Cricket Center said.

Those interested in donating gift cards can contact Cooper to arrange delivery at 410-641-0097.

The Cricket Center is the only child advocacy center in Worcester County that works with children who are alleged victims of crime. The center provides child and non-offending family members with support, crisis intervention, trauma based therapy and medical intervention.

"When families come to us in crisis they're in need of basic necessities," Cooper said.

When a child undergoes a forensic examination at the hospital, their clothing and undergarments are seized as evidence, leaving them without any personal items. The CRICKET Center helps fill that gap by helping provide new clothing and essential items.

"Our needs are so vast," Cooper said.

Donations and gift cards to local clothing retailers give the staff the resources to purchase individualized items unique to each child's need. Staff also keep diapers, wipes, and hygiene items on hand.

The staff is opening a satellite office in Pocomoke to better serve the



CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Volunteer Katie Comforti and Executive Director Lauren Cooper hold some of the gifts that have been collected for children connected to The Cricket Center.

children and families located in the southern end of the county. Cooper said she hopes to start providing services out of that office by this spring.

She is looking for office furniture,

desks, filing cabinets, televisions and kid's furniture for the new space. Toys, diapers, cleaning supplies and donations are also always needed.

To contact The Cricket Center, visit [www.thecricketcenter.com](http://www.thecricketcenter.com)

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# Wor-Wic faculty unionizes with Md. State Ed. Assoc.

(Dec. 7, 2023) Full-time faculty members at Wor-Wic Community College have decided to unionize with the Maryland State Education Association.

According to a news release, on Oct. 27, the Public Employee Relations Board certified the education association as the Wor-Wic faculty's bargaining agent.

"We advocated for years to give community college employees greater voice and strength," Education Association President Cheryl Bost said in the release. "Having union representation will improve their working conditions, economic livelihood, and the learning environment for community college faculty and their students."

Kevin Justice, Wor-Wic computer studies professor and faculty organizer, added that he wants the community college to be the best it can be, which he contended can only be done with a union helping protect the rights of faculty members and providing "a unified voice to create an environment that professors will thrive in."

Faculty members obtained the right to organize through collective bargaining legislation that the education association and other labor allies advocated to pass in 2021. The law allowed faculty to begin organizing in the second half of 2022.

The release said education association representatives have raised awareness about the power of union voice, the success of organizing to improve working conditions, and the benefits of membership. Since the bill passed, faculty at Harford Community College have also organized a bargaining unit affiliated with the association.

The Maryland State Education Association is the largest professional employee organization in the state, representing 75,000 educators. Members include elementary and secondary teachers, education support professionals, certificated specialists, school administrators, retired educators and higher education faculty. The group also supports more than 40 local affiliated associations throughout Maryland.

**"We advocated for years to give community college employees greater voice and strength."**

Education Association President Cheryl Bost

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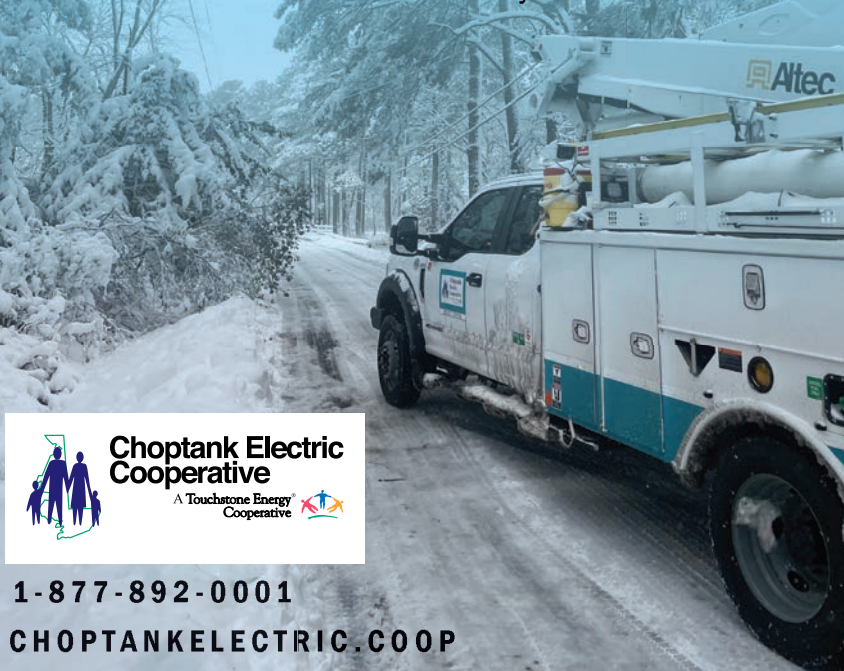
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PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

A firefighter exits a single-story house on St. Martins Road in Berlin while fighting a blaze that broke out late Monday morning.

# Three residents temporarily displaced in Berlin house fire

(Dec. 7, 2023) Three people have been temporarily displaced from their home after a fire that broke out late Monday morning in Berlin.

According to a news release from the Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office, crews from the Berlin Fire Company were called out just after 11 a.m. Monday to a structure fire on St. Martins Road. Upon arrival, they discovered smoke coming from the single-story home and worked to bring the flames under control and search for any occupants inside.

The release said firefighters spent about an hour-and-a-half performing

overhaul operations and ensuring the fire was fully extinguished.

Deputies from the fire marshal's office responded to the scene and conducted a scene investigation, through which they determined that the fire was caused by faulty electrical wiring that originated in the family room.

The release said the American Red Cross is assisting the three residents who lived in the home, who are temporarily displaced.

Berlin firefighters were assisted by the Ocean City, Ocean Pines, Showell and Willards volunteer fire departments.



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# Pets are lifetime commitment

Continued from Page 6  
great dogs and cats there looking for their forever homes.

Worcester County Animal Control has 12 kennels and keeps two open for emergencies. It is not a no-kill facility so Shrieves works with Fitzhugh of Iron Will Animal Rescue, Worcester Humane Society, Delmarva Cat Connection and Delmarva Cat Coalition to move animals out of animal control and into shelter or foster situations.

Both Shrieves and Fitzhugh encourage people to visit shelters, rescues and animal control after carefully evaluating their ability to care for a pet.

Fitzhugh said people might consider fostering before they commit to a pet. That way, they can try out different dogs or cats to see what kind of animal fits best with their lifestyle.

The first two weeks in a new home are critical to the adjustment of a new animal. Shrieves and Fitzhugh suggest what they call a "two week shut-down" when bringing a new animal into the home.

This provides the pet time to see and hear you and the sounds and routines of its new home as well as build trust. Keeping the pet in a crate

during this time provides a safe place for it to start to adapt. Slowly introducing the dog to other animals in the house, access to the house and yard for short periods of time will help it adjust.

The main point is to slow down and not to push a new dog or cat to accept many different things and give it the opportunity to get to know you and the rest of the household.

There are many ways people can help more pets find permanent homes.

To help Worcester County Animal Control, Shrieves said the best thing is to share his posts on social media so more people can see the great dogs and cats the facility has ready for adoption. [www.facebook.com/Worcester-countyanimalcontrol/](http://www.facebook.com/Worcester-countyanimalcontrol/)

Iron Will Animal Rescue helps animals all over the region. The organization needs cleaning supplies, toys, towels and blankets, and food. Most importantly it needs volunteer fosters. The rescue does not have a facility, it relies solely on fostering until new homes are found. Sharing its social media posts also helps get the word out on adoptable animals. [www.facebook.com/IronWillRescue](http://www.facebook.com/IronWillRescue).




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### COPS AND KIDS

Ellie and Brooklyn Tunis join Chief Tim Robinson for some pancakes at the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City for a special "Shop with a Cop" pancake breakfast event last Saturday. The event proceeds benefited the Cricket Center in Berlin. 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."

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# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## TOUCH A TRUCK

The Town of Berlin Maryland, and Mayor Zack Tyndall recently brought a Touch a Truck experience to Worcester Preparatory School pre-K students, who learned about how different trucks that are used in the community. Students pose for a group photo with Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall and Head of School John McDonald along with parents, volunteers, teachers and staff.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pre-K student Rob Fitzpatrick climbs on the bucket of an electric vehicle and gives the hard hat a try.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Police Department Detective Cpl. Jessica Collins and K-9 Officer Dock smile with pre-K students Brooks Luckenbaugh, Priyansh Patel and Leo Hudson.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## SURF INTO INTEGRITY

The Ocean City Surf Club wrapped up another successful year with the group's Surf Into Integrity program at Stephen Decatur Middle School. The nine-week course taught the children life lessons in the classroom and surf lessons in the ocean. Pictured are Surf Into Integrity students, instructors, assistant instructors and officers with the Ocean City Beach Patrol.

# Snapshots



**GRINCH B-FAST**  
 (Far left) Kids get their picture taken with the Grinch during breakfast at the Ocean Pines Community Center last Saturday. Pictured, from left, are Grace Brady, Samuel Brady, and Madison Dolney. (Left) Children had the opportunity to shop for gifts for their family members during the breakfast with the Grinch. Pictured, from left, are Azion Nichols, Amir Nichols and Al-jah Powell with the toys they purchased.  
 CINDY HOFFMAN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**SQUEEGEE ART**  
 Third and Fourth grade students at Buckingham Elementary School show off collage paintings made with squeegees during their weekly after school art club led by teacher Carol Rydel. The club is a program of the Art League of Ocean City.  
 SUBMITTED PHOTOS/  
 BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Ashawnti Williams



London Reynolds



Marshall Chaney



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Members of the Worcester County Garden Club were instructed during the group's recent meeting on the basics of floral design from member Jackie Davies. Pictured is Davies with floral arrangements she created during her program.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID LANDIS SR.

## BODY ARMOR

Emily Tunis, president and chief operating officer of Hardwire LLC, holds a "soft" body armor protection sample, while her father, Kiwanis Club President Bob Wolfing, holds a "hard" handheld Emergency Response Shield during a recent meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City.

# Opinion

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

## Call it what you want, it's still OP's chamber

“What’s in a name?” Shakespeare asked in “Romeo and Juliet” to show that what we call something doesn’t change what it is.

That perspective is applicable in the case of the newly minted Worcester County Chamber of Commerce, which, for all purposes, is still the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce.

It will continue serving its Ocean Pines-area membership, regardless of what it calls itself and there’s nothing much anyone can do about the new name except protest. That includes the county government and the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors, since neither controls how, whether or why “Worcester County” is employed by whom.

The shame is the Ocean Pines chamber board and executive director apparently attempted to initiate a conversation about this label switch back in the spring, but most of those crying foul now had little interest in the chamber then.

That absence of interest, however, is the real challenge this and every other chamber of commerce in Worcester County faces: building and keeping the attention of its business members and the potential members they need to stay in business.

That’s becoming increasingly difficult for traditional chambers to do, as governments and governing authorities have more or less taken over the marketing and promotional responsibilities that were once the exclusive province of small chambers, and the reason they enjoyed a high community profile.

That has changed, and now chambers are scrambling for other ways to increase engagement with the public and prospective members so they can bring in the revenue they need to remain relevant.

Obviously, the Ocean Pines chamber’s name change was not designed to compete with the county’s economic development apparatus, but simply to enlarge the pool from which it might draw members. Chamber officials say they tried to convey all that back in the spring but that county government and the OPA board weren’t paying attention. If nothing else, they’re paying attention now.

## Light up the Pines decorating contest

### ‘Deck the Halls’ in Ocean Pines and compete for prizes

(Dec. 7, 2023) Ocean Pines residents and property owners interested in adding holiday cheer to the community are invited to participate in this year’s “Light Up the Pines” outdoor decorating program.

Those who register with the program will be featured on an online Google map, which will include locations of the decorated properties.

Participants will also be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$50 bill credits donated by Choptank Electric Cooperative, which sponsors the program. The first 25 registered participants will also receive a goody bag, courtesy of Choptank Electric.

Households interested in participating should submit a name, address, and phone number by email to [info@oceanpines.org](mailto:info@oceanpines.org). Participants are also asked, if possible, to submit a photo of their lighted home for a

holiday video.

The initial deadline to register is Friday, Dec. 8, although residents may continue to sign up after and through the holiday season to have their homes included on the online map.

The map of participating homes may be viewed at [google.com/maps/d/u/o/viewer?mid=1auX-xVB-Hty3kewz9t0dPEMIMGSKLNjo&ll=38.386755504138954%2C-75.15097174125991&z=14](https://google.com/maps/d/u/o/viewer?mid=1auX-xVB-Hty3kewz9t0dPEMIMGSKLNjo&ll=38.386755504138954%2C-75.15097174125991&z=14) or via the link on the home page at [oceanpines.org](http://oceanpines.org).

## Worcester Arts Council issues grants

### Funds go to local nonprofit groups for projects and events

(Dec. 7, 2023) The Worcester County Arts Council recently awarded nearly \$19,500 through the Community Arts Development Grants program for local nonprofit organizations to present projects and events for the first six months of 2024.

According to a news release, the projects are evaluated based on the overall quality of cultural excellence, community outreach and public impact, as well as financial and administrative merit.

In Fiscal Year 2024, the Worcester County Arts Council awarded almost

\$42,700 through the program, which is funded and supported by the Maryland State Arts Council.

The following is a list of organizations and projects awarded grants for the current period:

- Art League of Ocean City – After School Art Club
- Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra – 2024 Spring
- Ocean Pines Children’s Theater – Mean Girls, Jr.” Musical
- Pine Tones Chorus – Spring Concert and Sing Outs
- Pocomoke Drama Club – “Little Mermaid” Musical
- Town of Berlin/Berlin Main Street - Farmers Market Live Music
- Ward Foundation, Inc. – Ward Carving Competition

• Ocean City Library Branch – Children’s Area Entryway

The arts council is also accepting applications for art projects through a mini-grant program.

The program provides funds (up to \$500) for new projects facing emergency needs that emerge between grant periods and deserve immediate arts council support.

Visit [worcestercountycouncil.org](http://worcestercountycouncil.org) for more information.

The next deadline for applications for the Community Arts Development Grant Program is April 15. For technical assistance and more information, contact Anna Mullis, executive director, at [anna@worcestercountycouncil.org](mailto:anna@worcestercountycouncil.org)

**BAYSIDE GAZETTE**

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## Oldest, youngest Marines celebrated

(Dec. 7, 2023) Around the world every year on Nov. 10, active duty Marines and members of Marine Corps veteran associations gather to celebrate the birthday of the founding of the Marine Corps.

Along with that tradition is another, serving the first slices of the birthday cake to the oldest and youngest Marines in

attendance.

That tradition was upheld by the First State Detachment of the Marine Corps League when the group held its celebration at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club. The cake was ceremonially presented and sliced with a sword. Then the first two slices were presented to 97-year-old local Marine

Veteran Morris Semiatin, a WW II Purple Heart recipient, and to 18-year old PFC Jason Harney. Harney is temporarily assigned to the USMC Recruiting station in Salisbury while waiting for a slot to open in a Marine Corp school.

For more information on the First State Detachment, visit [firststatemarines.org](http://firststatemarines.org).



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A team poses during the TidalHealth Foundation Fall Golf Classic at GlenRiddle Golf Club. The event recently raised nearly \$150,000 for the graduate medical education program.

# Berlin Christmas parade slated tonight downtown

(Dec. 7, 2023) Main Street in Berlin will be closed from 5-10 p.m. tonight to accommodate one of the town's most popular holiday traditions.

The annual procession, which will be led by Santa Claus in a fire engine this year, will commence at 7 p.m. at the Welcome Center and proceed north to the Berlin Fire Company.

An array of decorated floats representing everything from local businesses to schools will ride up the road for crowds who will

gather along the sides of the street. The judging stand will be on West/Baker Street and a variety of prizes will be handed out.

Main Street will be closed from 5-10 p.m. from Roadie Joe's Bar and Grill to the Berlin Library and visitors should park at the Berlin Intermediate School on Franklin Avenue, where a shuttle bus, sponsored by the Casino at Ocean Downs, will take them to the parade viewing area.

The parade is set to officially conclude at 9 p.m.

# TidalHealth golf classic raises nearly \$150K

(Dec. 7, 2023) On Sept. 11, more than 200 golfers from across the region experienced a day of golf and fellowship while participating in the TidalHealth Foundation Fall Golf Classic at GlenRiddle Golf Club in Berlin.

The event raised nearly \$150,000 for TidalHealth's graduate medical education program.

education program.

"Through the power of a well-played tournament and the generosity of our sponsors, golfers and volunteers, we've turned the fairways into pathways to better healthcare," Jessica Hales, the president of the TidalHealth Foundation, said in a news release.

"Together, we've driven success not just on the golf course, but in the hearts and health of those we will touch through the Graduate Medical Education program."

Members of the TidalHealth Foundation thanked the golf committee, volunteers, team members, corporate

sponsors, and the GlenRiddle Golf Club staff members for helping to make this year's event a success.

To learn more about upcoming events, or to find out how to donate to programs and services supported by the TidalHealth Foundation, visit [tidalhealth.org/foundation](http://tidalhealth.org/foundation).



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# Cuisine

## Remembering childhood with simple BLT

Reprint from Dec. 15, 2022

Sometimes it pays to keep it simple.



By Paul Suplee,  
MBA, CEC, PC-3

As I had written a few weeks ago about Anton Ego's rata-touille and my own childhood reminiscence with Chef Kern's souse (reminding me of my dear old dad), it can be the simplest of

things that take us back to a bygone era in our minds.

It is important that all of us "elders" stick to our guns and retell the tales of our lives as time moves forward.

Unfortunately, if we don't, things will be forgotten.

Sharing only helps to fortify the memories of earlier days and years. Whether it's remembering sitting at a table with 10 people every day for dinner (I am the youngest of eight children), or being relegated to the kid's table at Thanksgiving, shunned from proper company because I was 6, these are all amazing and relevant memories that I wish never to forget.

When I was around that ripe age of 6, I would run into the kitchen after dropping my books in the foyer after a grueling day of school and pop a pan on the stove.

That was my mom's queue (her jewelry workshop was in the basement and when she heard that, she knew she would have to intercept).

She used to tell me that by the time she got to the top of the stairs, I already had the pan heating, and the butter, eggs and milk out to make some scrambled eggs for myself.

I imagine that I had the seasonings out and lined up as well, but that could be a touch of revisionism on my part. I won't claim that to be true.

A first-grader. What in the world?

I'm still not sure how I never burnt the house down, but that close-call award goes to my brother who decided to try smoking cigarettes out back. Luckily, the damage was not bad at all as I recall, but I'm pretty sure that he got in a lot of trouble for that.

As the years went on, it was only natural that I would gravitate to cooking as a career.

Luckily, I had parents who shared my sick and ill-advised dreams so I followed my passion and continued



on to accomplish a fair number of things.

Throughout the accomplishments, the good times and bad, the achievements and the losses and everything else that life throws at so many of us, it is safe to say that I have changed.

My children have changed. That is the very natural growth and progression of life, and we either embrace it or allow it to eat us alive.

As circumstances change, they leave us uncertain as to the future, and it really is up to us to take the next step, which in this case is as easy as taking a break and making a BLT.

No, a sandwich won't pay your bills or fix all of your problems, but it can sure put a smile on your face when you take that first bite.

I could easily have written about a peanut butter, banana and Fluffer Nutter sandwich on Wonder Bread and it would have had the same effect. These were my go-tos as a kid; my must-haves after my boss (teacher) grilled me about missing my deadline (not doing my homework). I already had the worker's mindset and I was six.

Through it all, I learned to progress my skills beyond these sim-

ple sandwiches, but I would not trade the memories for anything.

They represent where I was as a child, and sometimes our mind just runs with the simplicity of a delicious sandwich takes us away to a different time. Yes we have changed, and yes we can never truly be like we were, but we can always have our moment.

As Tom Wait so famously wrote, "It was a train that took me away from here, but a train can't bring me home."

### BLT

Makes 4 sandwiches (or 2 mean sized ones)

8 slices multi-grain bread (white bread if you're a traditionalist)

1# Good quality bacon

8 slices good quality tomato (buy hot house this time of year)

1 head romaine lettuce, cleaned  
As much Mayo as you think you need

- We have to talk about the choice of bread, whether to toast or not and of course the type of bacon, so saddle up
- When I was growing up, it was

Wonder Bread, untoasted, no exception. Now I like multigrain (not plain wheat) with a lot of mayonnaise

- Toasting is 100 percent up to you.

- Bacon comes in many forms. Look for a thick cut, unless you like it crumbly and overly crispy; then go for the thin. Also, try to look for nitrate- and nitrite-free so that at least you can pretend that it's healthy

- I prefer to cook my bacon in the oven. Much less grease splattering, a more even cooking throughout and simply more control over the whole process

- Bake at 350F on a lined or sprayed baking pan until done. Some people like it crumbly, while folks like me prefer it to feel cooked but still tender

- Remove and drain. Now, mayonnaise as a rule acts to 'waterproof' the bread, preventing it from getting overly soggy. So, schmear some mayo on the top and bottom pieces and build your sandwich

- Serve immediately

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



# United Way disc golf tourney raises \$26K for kids' books

(Dec. 7, 2023) Risk Placement Services and Gallagher recently hosted the 10th Annual Disc Golf Tournament for United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program at Schumaker Pond Park.

According to a news release, 30 teams participated in the event, and more than \$26,000 was raised to help the United Way provide free, home-delivered books to children ages birth to five across the lower shore.

"This year's event helps us provide a full year of free books to over 1,000 children in Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties," Pam Gregory, the president and CEO for the United Way, said in the release.

"Increasing access to books through home delivery not only instills an early love for books but also helps build essential developmental and early learning skills children need to be successful when they start school. We are so thankful for the partnership with RPS and Gallagher to help make this significant impact each year."

The fundraiser was made possible thanks to many sponsors: Literacy Sponsors – At-Bay, Avery Hall Insurance Group, CFC, The Hanover Insurance Group, Hottle and Associates, Tokio Marine HCC, and Travelers Insurance. Reading Corner Sponsors – Beazley, Cowbell Cyber and Pen Underwriting. Bookshelf Sponsors- Charles Brown Glass Company, Delco Packaging, Draper Media, First Shore Federal, GKD, Shore United and USLI. Tee Sponsors- Integra Administrative Group, The Hartford, and The Salisbury School. Golf Cart Sponsors – Bestemps and Selective. Beverage Sponsor – Corvus. Lunch Sponsor – Risk Placement Services and AXA XL.

Tokio Marine and DiCarlo were the top teams with the first and second place awards.

Jack Shelton of DiCarlo won the men's closest to the pin and Catie Windsor with SVN won ladies' closest to the pin. Ambridge's Amy Landefeld won the ladies' longest drive, and the men's longest drive went to First Shore Federal's Rich Ashley.

Awards such as Best Team Costumes for Avery Hall, Lumberjack Award to Tokio Marine, Jacques Cousteau award to Jim Miller from The Beazley Group and several others were also presented.



Members of the Tokio Marine disc golf team pose with their first place award at the United Way of the Eastern Shore's recent tournament.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate			
Sat & Sun, 11am-3pm	Harbor Court, 12801 Memory Lane	3-6BR/3.5-6.5 BA	Residential	-	Kathleen M. Clark/Monogram Realty			
Saturday 11am-1pm	21 Abbott Place, Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Residential	\$399,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty			
Saturday 10am-1pm	121 81st St. Unit 706 Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Condominium	\$815,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty			
Saturday 2-4pm	1 66th Street, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condominium	\$499,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty			
Sunday 10:30-12:30pm	134 Captain's Quarters Rd. #10, OC	2BR/1.5BA	Condominium	\$334,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate			

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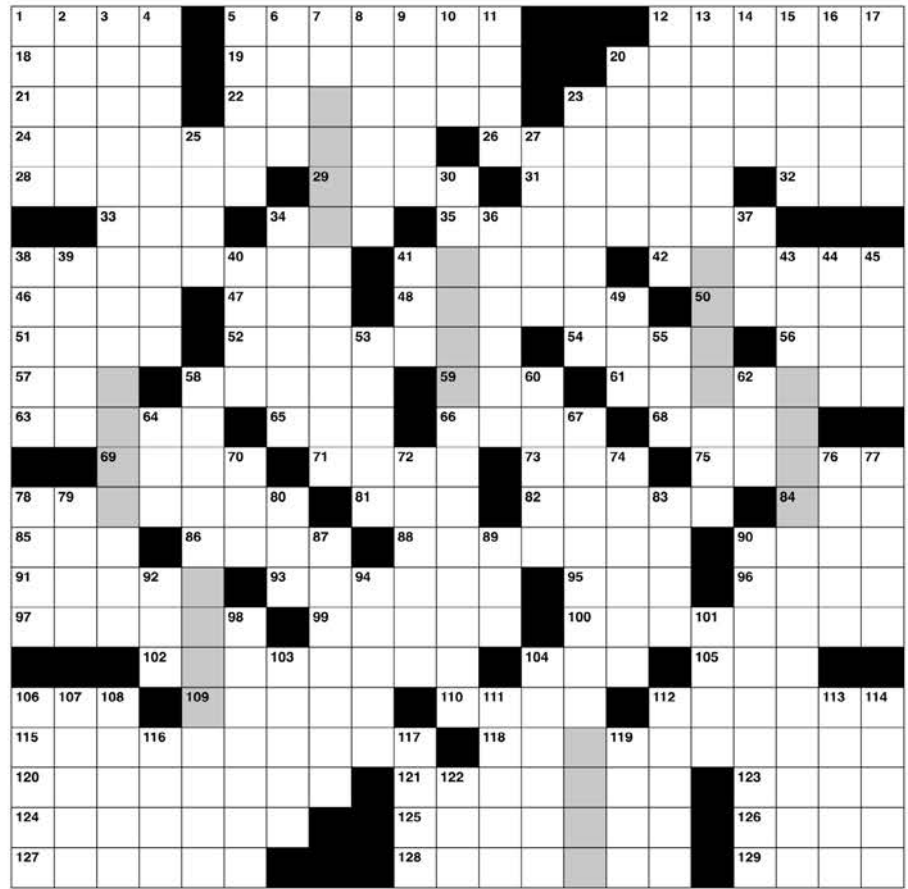
# Puzzles

## GROWTH SPURTS

BY ADAM WAGNER AND MICHAEL LIEBERMAN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Adam Wagner, of Oakland, Calif., is a creative lead at Patreon, a monetization platform for content creators. Michael Lieberman, of Washington, D.C., is a consumer-protection lawyer at Fairmark Partners. They're also each dads of fast-growing toddlers, which is what inspired this puzzle. Adam sent the title to Mike, who sent back what became 3- and 13-Down ... and they were off and running. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sweeties
  - 5 Heaven on earth, to the ancient Greeks
  - 12 International pizza chain founded in Brooklyn
  - 18 Pipsqueak
  - 19 "We're not ready to joke about this yet?"
  - 20 Caps that lack brims
  - 21 Apt name for a Whirlpool salesman?
  - 22 Trying to get a rise out of
  - 23 Gut
  - 24 Deserved
  - 26 "Don't believe one word of that!"
  - 28 Visibly scornful
  - 29 Reptile with a big bite, informally
  - 31 Surprise and delight
  - 32 Slip up
  - 33 One of the seven in "Se7en"
  - 34 Agcy. that oversees the Secret Service
  - 35 One's natural habitat
  - 38 Sequin-covered undergarment popularized by Lady Gaga
  - 41 Permitted
  - 42 Place to rest your head
  - 46 Musician Parks or Guthrie
  - 47 \_\_\_ cit. (footnote abbr.)
  - 48 They're just over two feet
- DOWN**
- 19 1982 Stevie Wonder hit
  - 10 It's never free of charge
  - 11 Home-services website
  - 12 Fully divests one's stake
  - 13 Yao Ming, before joining the N.B.A.?
  - 14 Actress Taylor-Joy
  - 15 Search (through)
  - 16 Show again
  - 17 Blender brand
  - 20 Doozy
  - 23 Detector of nonsense, informally
  - 25 Toymaker Rubik
  - 27 Language that gave us "mulligatawny" and "patchouli"
  - 30 Peruvian road sign?
  - 34 Spoke monotonously
  - 36 English philosopher William of \_\_\_
  - 37 Go by air
  - 38 Shirley Bassey and Agatha Christie, for two
  - 39 Gloater's words
  - 40 Photo-editing option
  - 41 Midback muscle
  - 43 Reasons that South American furniture stores have super-long lines?
  - 44 Org. concerned with plant-based well-being?
  - 45 Methods
  - 49 Nursery purchase
  - 53 Historic quinoa cultivators
  - 55 Amount owed
  - 58 Things like "What do we want?" "Headache relief!" "When do we want it?" "Now!?"
  - 60 Best-case
- ACROSS**
- 50 Lake on the Malawi-Mozambique border
  - 51 Subatomic particle
  - 52 Release, as a trailer
  - 54 Campus military grp.
  - 56 "Your" of yore
  - 57 "Monday Night Football With Peyton & \_\_\_"
  - 58 "The results \_\_\_ ..."
  - 59 Japanese "yes"
  - 61 Showy flowers native to Mexico
  - 63 Thrills
  - 65 Political org. with a quadrennial convention
  - 66 Website with info about the stars
  - 68 Well, in both French and Spanish
  - 69 Get by
  - 71 "Top Chef" judge Simmons
  - 73 Bother, with "at"
  - 75 Classic name in wafers
  - 78 One who doesn't have a prayer?
  - 81 Producer of sketches, in brief
  - 82 Addis \_\_\_
  - 84 When doubled, fake laugh
  - 85 "Yellowjackets" network, for short
  - 86 Subscribe again
  - 88 Fox-hunting shout
  - 90 Where the proverbial buck stops
  - 91 Actress Hedren
  - 93 Mississippi city in a Neil Simon title
  - 95 Marathoner's wear
  - 96 World capital near the 60th parallel
  - 97 How a Broadway star might break out
- DOWN**
- 1 Pub orders
  - 2 "Autumn Song" poet
  - 3 Barbecue buffet offering?
  - 4 Princess Di or Prince, once
  - 5 In check
  - 6 Sound from a den
  - 7 Invent the sound of a cash register?
  - 8 Fall blooms



- 62 California congresswoman Barbara
- 64 Fawn's mother
- 67 Affectionate squeeze of an infant's bottom?
- 70 Language suffix
- 72 Altogether
- 74 Setting for many Gauguin works
- 76 The \_\_\_ Honors (annual picture-book awards)
- 77 Black-and-white cookies
- 78 Italian wine region
- 79 Flimsy
- 80 Where you might get into hot water
- 83 Bubble tea
- 87 Things that kids are encouraged to break
- 89 Sass
- 90 Items exchanged when a relationship gets serious
- 92 Polynesian food
- 94 Access an account
- 98 Bit of soccer or hockey equipment
- 101 Nickname for a muscly Disney protagonist
- 103 Plucked instrument
- 104 Start of a famous Kennedy quote
- 106 Tennis's Naomi
- 107 Roof toppers
- 108 The opposition
- 111 Yoga pose
- 112 Destinies
- 113 Everglades wader
- 114 What tickets may afford
- 116 Comedian Lydic of "The Daily Show"
- 117 Virtual replications, for short
- 119 North or south end
- 122 One might be spotted on a farm

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

### HARD - 61

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.

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

### Answers to last week's puzzles

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

BARK	HULA	ELSE	PAPAW
OHIO	BRIS	NAPA	ECOLI
BANKROLLS	GOOGLE	APPS	
ASDOI	SNIT	SILLO	BOP
MMA	ASOF	LETSGO	
CHOOSE	SIDES	STARTLE	
HEH	HOAX	ODES	ABATES
OLDSONG	OLSENS	RVLOT	
PLEATS	ANI	DEADEYES	
SNAGS	BLESS	AVAST	
ORE	TALK	TURKEY	RUT
ARENT	SPEED	PANAM	
ENDING	IT	EAR	ELISHA
STEVE	SEWARD	IWANTIN	
UNWISE	DASH	PREY	OTS
NASCENT	SHEPHERD	SPIE	
RENEW	EROS	SAT	
OVA	CEOS	ORCA	TOPAZ
KICK	THECAN	TABLE	WINE
ASKEW	ZANY	ALBA	ENYA
YESNO	EPEE	LEAD	DEAL

# Calendar

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

## Thurs., Dec. 7

### BERLIN CHRISTMAS PARADE

Historic Downtown Berlin, 124 N. Main St., 7-9 p.m. Parade starts at The Berlin Welcome Center and proceeds north to the Berlin Fire Company. Judging stand located near the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum.  
<https://berlinmainstreet.com/christmas-parade/>

### DEADLINE TO RSVP FOR ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Held Dec. 14, 11:30 a.m. at the Princess Royale Hotel. The Art League of Ocean City will celebrate the grand finale of its 60th year and awards ceremony. Cost is \$45. RSVP by Dec. 7: 410-524-9433.

### CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. Appointment required: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

### MAKE & TAKE: HANUKKAH

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Drop in the library to make a Hanukkah craft. While supplies last. For ages 6 years and older. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### MUSIC & MOVEMENT: WALKING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. A fun, winter-themed music and movement program. Get ready to shake all those sil-lies out. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME 'THREE LITTLE KITTENS'

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

### CHESS CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. A quiet place to meet new friends and play some chess. Bring your boards and enjoy the strategy. All are welcome. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BOOK DISCUSSION: 'THE UNCOUPLING' BY MEG WOLITZER

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the Pocomoke circulation desk. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PUZZLE-PIECE WREATHS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Make a

decorative wreath using cardboard rings and puzzle pieces. All materials provided. Registration required: 410-641-0650. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### DIY UGLY SWEATERS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 4:30 p.m. Make your own ugly holiday sweater. Bring your own sweater. All other materials will be provided. All ages. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### 12 TOURNAMENTS OF CHRISTMAS

Ocean Downs Casino, 10218 Racetrack Road, Berlin, 6 p.m. Slot Tournaments: Dec. 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12. Blackjack Tournaments: Dec. 3, 5, 7, 10, 11. Benefits Toys for Tots.  
<https://www.oceandowns.com/promotions/12-tournaments-of-christmas-2/>

### 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](http://BeachSingles.org).

## Fri., Dec. 8

### BABY TIME

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

### MAHJONG CLUB

Dec 8 &mdash; Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. 410-524-1818. 10:30 a.m.-11:59 p.m., Enjoy a fun morning of playing tile Mahjong. Feel free to bring your own tile set. All are welcome. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org).

### HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Join in for STEAM activities and socialize with other homeschool families. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BOOK DISCUSSION: 'WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN' BY HOLLY MILLER

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

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<https://www.oceandowns.com/promotions/12-tournaments-of-christmas-2/>

### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND TRADITIONAL CAROL SING-ALONG

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 6:30 p.m. Featuring several local choirs. A love offering will be taken to benefit: St. Paul UMC, Berlin. Complimentary homemade goodies, hot coco, tea, coffee and a "meet the artists" reception to follow.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT BY PINE TONES CHORUS

Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., Ocean City, 7:30 p.m. The concert is titled "A Very Jazzy Christmas" and will feature spirited and syncopated selections as well as some with dream-like harmonies. An offering will be received. Refreshments serve afterward.

## Sat., Dec. 9

### COMIC CON

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Featuring guests, vendors, exhibitors, cosplayers and artists. Cost is \$12 for adults, free to those 9 years and younger. Get \$1 off for costumes and \$1 off for non-perishable food items.  
<http://oceancitycomiccon.com>

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 8-11 a.m. Cost will be free to children 3 years and younger, \$5 for children ages 4-11 years and \$10 for children 12 years and older and adults. Santa will be available for pictures. [officealpost166@gmail.com](mailto:officealpost166@gmail.com)

### OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 a.m. Guest Mary Brown, Director of Ocean City's Believe in Tomorrow, will share the Anglers Club Captains impact on their program. Also "Walt Bone Memorial Fishing Contest" awards presented. All welcome.

### VETERAN VOICES: BUFFALO SOLDIERS

Germantown School Community Heritage Center, 10223 Trappe Road, Berlin, 10 a.m.-noon. Dr. Clara Small will discuss the history of the role of Buffalo Soldiers. The event is free but registration is recommended: [germantownschool@gmail.com](mailto:germantownschool@gmail.com), 410-641-0638.

### HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW

Selbyville B. P. O. Elks Lodge 2173, 13308 Worcester Highway, Bishopville, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. More than 15 vendors, bake sale table, Chinese auction and food available for purchase. Hosted by Boy Scout Troop 2173. Eileen Dudley, 443-880-7180

### TAPE TRANSFERS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Fun crafts for teens and adults, all sup-

plies provided. Participants may bring their own magazine image of photo (photocopied) that is less than 2". 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PAWS FOR READING

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 11 a.m. Read to Piper, a Portuguese Water Dog, and make a craft. For ages 5 years and older. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### VIDEO GAME DAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 12:30 p.m. Test your skills on the Nintendo Switch and more. All games provided by the library and rated E-E10. For ages 11 years and older. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### HOLLY JOLLY HOLIDAY VENDOR MARKET

Ocean Resorts Golf Club, 10655 Cathell Road, Berlin, 2-5 p.m. Featuring area artisans selling handmade goods and gifts for the holiday. Visits and hayrides (\$5) with Santa, interactive story time, face painting, ugly sweater contest and putting contest.

### MONTEGO BAY TREE LIGHTING

Montego Bay Community, Ocean City, 5 p.m. The residents of Montego Bay will be lighting their crab basket Christmas Tree. Cindy Hendrix, 410-852-1000

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### DRAMATIC READING OF CHARLES DICKENS' 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL'

Salisbury Art Space, 212 W. Main St., 7:30-8:30 p.m. John Ebert leads the ensemble cast as Scrooge with local writers and actors providing the supporting voices. <https://mwales.substack.com>, Anthony Russo, 443-614-2290

### 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., Dec. 10

### CELEBRATING 146TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

St. John's United Methodist Church, 8829 Lewis Road, Berlin, 3:30 p.m. Guest preacher: Rev. Peggy M. Briggs of St. Paul United Methodist Church, Berlin, Md. Host Pastor: Diallo Purnell.

Continued on Page 20

# Calendar

Continued from Page 19

## 12 TOURNAMENTS OF CHRISTMAS

Ocean Downs Casino, 10218 Racetrack Road, Berlin, 6 p.m. Slot Tournaments: Dec. 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12. Blackjack Tournaments: Dec. 3, 5, 7, 10, 11. Benefits Toys for Tots.

<https://www.oceandowns.com/promotions/12-tournaments-of-christmas-2/>

## JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

## Mon., Dec. 11

### STORY TIME: 'SNOWMEN'

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

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

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

### HOLIDAY HORRORS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5:30 p.m. A talk about Krampus, Grill, Frau Perchta and Père Fouettard, all characters created to keep children in line. Creepy craft to follow. Limit 16. Registration is required: 410-632-3495.

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<https://www.oceandowns.com/promotions/12-tournaments-of-christmas-2/>

### HOLIDAY SING ALONG WITH THE DELMARVA CHORUS

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 6:30-7:30 p.m. The Delmarva Chorus invites everyone to join us for our annual Holiday Sing Along. 484-949-5515

### 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., Dec. 12

### STORY TIME: 'ELEPHANTS'

Worcester County Library - Berlin

Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and fingerplays. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME AT THE DELMARVA DISCOVERY MUSEUM - 'BEAVERS'

Delmarva Discovery Museum, 2 Market St., Pocomoke City, 10:30 a.m. Join the group the second Tuesday of each month to see, touch and learn about local animals and enjoy stories, songs and crafts. For ages 2-5 years. 410-957-0878

### OC KNITTING GROUP

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

### FREE WRITERS' GROUP

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., Ocean City, 1-3 p.m. Bring your written reflection along with 10 copies for the group to read along. Writing must be single-sided and without staples. Register: <https://canvas.artleagueofoceancity.org/classes/1183>. 410-524-9433

### PHOTO TRANSFER TO WOOD

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Local artist John Iampieri teaches the process of photo transferring. Images provided or bring a 5 x 7 photo that can be photocopied. Limit 10. Registration required: 410-524-1818.

### PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3:15-4 p.m. Providing discussions and support, along with education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765, [kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org)

### DIY KEYCHAINS AND MAGNETS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. Make your own keychains and magnets using Shrinky Dink. For ages 12-18 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR SASSY GIRL BOUTIQUE AND BISHOP'S STOCK FINE ART, CRAFT AND WINE

Sassy Girl Boutique, 114 W. Green St., Snow Hill, 5-7 p.m. Held at Sassy Girl Boutique from 5-6 p.m. and Bishop's Stock from 6-7 p.m. Two ribbon cutting ceremonies and light refreshments. RSVP by Dec. 8th. 443-420-7441, [info@snowhillchamber.com](mailto:info@snowhillchamber.com)

### FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

St. Paul's by-the Sea Episcopal Church, 302 Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, 6 p.m. Special Holy Eucharist service with a procession outside following the statue of the Virgin Mary into the church. Bulletins provided in English and Spanish. Followed by Mexican music and food.

### TIDES & VINE BOOK CLUB

Tides & Vine, 106 W. Green St., Snow Hill, 6 p.m. An evening of books and wine. For December, bring your own book. Tell the group about what you are reading. Must be 21 years and older. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### SONG CELEBRATION

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6 p.m. Bring a song and share it with other players and writers in a welcoming and encouraging space. Originals encouraged. Listeners welcome. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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### BEACH HEROES-OC

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

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

### OC KNITTING CLUB

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

### ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

### ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

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

## Wed., Dec. 13

### BIARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

### BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Come by for a time just for you and your

teeny tiny. Stay after to socialize with other families. For children under 2 years and their caregivers. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BEADED BRACELETS

Snow Hill 50plus Center, 4767 Snow Hill Road, 11 a.m. The group will be using cord and thread make beaded bracelets. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### YOUNG CHEFS: HOLIDAY SNACKS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Learn how to make several homemade holiday cookies and snacks. For ages 6 years and older. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BOWLING FOR PIZZA

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. The meeting room will be transformed into a bowling alley. For ages 8 years and older. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### D & D NIGHT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5 p.m. Great for adults and teens. Limit 15. Register: 410-632-3495. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://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](http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org)

### ZUMBA WEDNESDAYS

*Wednesdays* - Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st St., 10 a.m. Dance background not required. [zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com](mailto:zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com)

## ONGOING EVENTS

### BOOKS BEHIND BARS

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., during December. Donate books to the Books Behind Bars drive, which helps promote education and enrichment in local facilities. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### TEEN STEAM STATION

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., during December. Drop-in for fun STEAM challenges. Create jewelry using binary code, construct a flying glider, design your own city out of recycled material and more. Challenges will change each week. For ages 11 years and older. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS AT SNOW HILL

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., Dec. 4-9. To prepare for the Dickens Weekend in Snow Hill, the Snow Hill library will be decked out in Victorian decor with crafts and activities for all ages. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

# Classified

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Call 410-723-6397  
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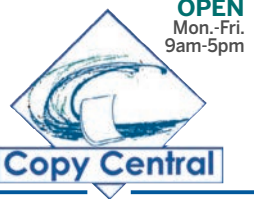
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