



School board cries foul on crime charge

Says accusations of being soft on crime employed misleading information

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 7, 2024) In a rebuttal to charges by local law enforcement officials that Worcester County Public Schools are experiencing a surge in student crime and are doing little about it, representatives of the school system said last Friday accusers used misleading data to make their argument.

Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor and Board of Education President Todd Ferrante also countered that they have been working on many of the safety improvements recommended by the state's attorney and sheriff's office, despite their critics' assertion to the contrary.

Taylor and Ferrante took turns at the rostrum at their own press conference three days after State's Attorney See SCHOOL Page 5

CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

"We don't know what has motivated law enforcement to publicly and aggressively defame our school system but I'm here to tell you we can't stand for it," Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor says at last Friday's press conference.

Backlash gets OPA to drop racquet sport fee package

Combination deal still available, but single-sport fee reinstated after board hears from audience

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(March 7, 2024) The decidedly negative reaction to a new racquet sports fee package in Ocean Pines has led association officials to reinstate the single sports fee membership for racquet activities and the previously favored three-sport package.

At a special meeting last Saturday, the OPA Board of Directors listened as property owners complained that the new program gave

them only one option: to purchase a tennis, platform tennis, and pickleball combination package rather than an individual memberships.

The board agreed to keep the three-sport choice and reestablish one-sport options. The board also voted to increase the yearly rates by 10% for each sport and 5% for the combo selection.

Board Vice President Stuart Lakernick discussed the thought process that led to the one yearly option, arguing that many individuals are taking advantage of the center.

"I thought during the budget process that a one racquet membership made the most

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TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Tina Vincent (standing) expresses her concerns with a proposed elimination of the single-racquet sport fee structure in favor of a three-sport combo package at the Feb. 29 special board meeting in Ocean Pines.

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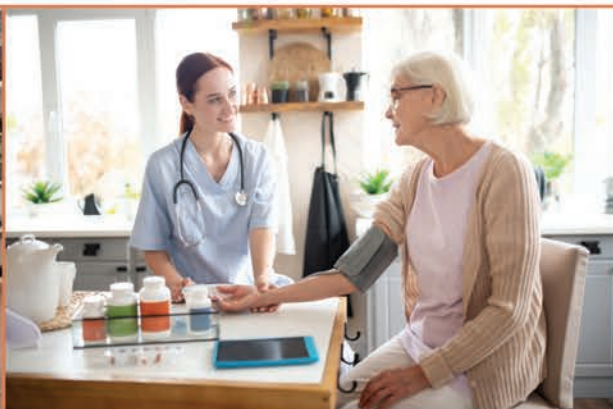

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines eateries will foster community engagement by welcoming residents with deals starting Friday, March 8 for the neighborhood's third annual Restaurant Week.

Eight-day Pines Restaurant Week kicks off this Friday

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(March 7, 2024) For the third year, Ocean Pines establishments will welcome residents with delicious deals during restaurant week, which kicks off on Friday, March 8, and extends through Saturday, March 16.

The Worcester County Chamber of Commerce in Ocean Pines and ERA Martin Associates/Shamrock Division are hosting the event, which they hope fosters neighborhood spirit and stimulates business.

"We want the week to be community-centric," Chamber President Kerrie Bunting said.

Participating restaurants include Serpone's Pizzeria, Don's Seafood & Chophouse, Paradise Grill, Oasis Nutrition, Ocean Pines Yacht Club and Golf Clubhouse, Poseidon's Pub, Hunan Garden, Plaza Tapatia, Taylor's Neighborhood Restaurant, Southgate Grill, and Playa Bowls.

The event planners have organized a contest to spur participation. Diners who visit three or more contributing locations and get their restaurant week card stamped can be entered into a raffle to win \$300 in gift cards to Ocean Pines eateries.

The idea was conceived to drive traffic to local businesses during winter and give them an extra boost before summer. "This is a blah time of year, so this will hopefully give restaurants a little more business,"

Bunting said. "It behooves the restaurants to promote that they are participating."

Some places, like Playa Bowls, which opened in July 2023, are partaking for the first time this year. The new establishment is excited to join in on the tradition.

According to operations manager Frank Cortazzo, the summer-themed spot plans to offer \$10 bowls during the week. "We're excited to get more involved in the community," he said.

The establishment, located by Walmart on Samuel Bowen Boulevard, has participated in outreach

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Berlin continues comprehensive plan review

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 7, 2024) Talk of growth, the importance of trees and the need for commercial design guidelines highlighted a recent comprehensive plan meeting in Berlin.

The Berlin Planning Commission met last week to continue the ongoing review of the municipality's comprehensive plan. In addition to its regular meetings the second Wednesday of the month, the commission has been meeting to review the comprehensive plan the fourth Wednesday of each month.

One of the first issues the group tackled last week was growth. Commission member Ron Cascio said he felt there was plenty of room for infill development in Berlin. That type of development, which would target vacant or underutilized properties, would involve land already within the

town's corporate limits.

"We want to grow from within," Cascio said. "We know we have a number of areas to do that."

He said property along the railroad tracks, for example, was underutilized. He said some of the land near the tracks was already developed with tall buildings. In situations like that, he believes the town should upzone. If the zoning was changed, a property could continue to operate the way it did now but would have more future development potential, Cascio said.

Planning Director Dave Engelhart said the town had upzoned the old Southern States building that is now set to become a brewery. He said a question for the commission though was how they'd incentivize land owners to further develop a property.

Cascio said their property would be worth more. He added that infill

development would make the town more walkable and bikeable.

Another issue discussed was the need for design guidelines. Engelhart said the commission was already responsible for approval of all architectural elements. He said that when the commission met with Wawa, they'd made it clear they didn't like the design but weren't able to offer the developer input on what they'd like changed.

"Nobody wanted to step up to the plate," he said.

Engelhart indicated he was surprised by that because the commission in the past had requested changes of other franchise establishments. He referenced the Auto Zone, Arby's, Royal Farms and Dollar General.

Cascio said the commission hadn't been able to provide input because the town didn't have design guidelines. Commission member Chris Denny said if the developer had come

in with a few different options, the commission would have been able to select one. Engelhart pointed out the Wawa had come for site plan approval, not concept approval.

"There wasn't that intermediate step of a concept," he said. "I want you to show it to them first so you don't waste all your energy and architect dollars now."

He added that the town's special projects coordinator was expected to help him develop some commercial design guidelines. In the meantime, Wawa developers are expected to return to the commission March 27 with updated renderings.

The commission in March is also expected to consider plans for a Microtel that has been proposed for land near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Route 113. Engelhart said that was slated for discussion March 13.

Annual event created to stimulate business

Continued from Page 3

programs since its conception last year. Playa Bowls offers to "Dine and Donate," in which they team up with a fundraising organization, post their

flyer, and members, who are strongly encouraged to mention the location on their social media, have from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the designated dates to stop by. The eatery gives 10% of its

total sales to the group's efforts. For Cortazzo, Ocean Pines Restaurant Week is a similar and exciting way to stay involved.

Oasis Nutrition also has planned specials during the week. Health coach and owner Diana Sabia informed that starting Friday, March 8, and going through Saturday, March 16, they will offer a happy hour from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Customers will get a dollar off every shake and two dollars off shake and jump juice combos.

The event provides a variety of cuisines to try. For lunch and dinner options, the Nicholas Lane-located Paradise Grill and Pizzeria is offering a medium pizza with three toppings for \$15.99, a large pizza with 20 fresh wings for \$39.99, and a large pizza

with three toppings for \$18.99.

Other participating venues include Crabs to Go, Windmill Creek Vineyard, and Paul and Vinny's Pizzeria.

Bunting said the week is always well received, and almost every restaurant has found that it helps foster extra business during a slow season. She assures that the event is a fantastic way for patrons and eateries alike to show community support.

Stamped cards can be picked up at any participating location and dropped off at the ERA Martin Office, along Racetrack Road, no later than 11 a.m. on Monday, March 18. The drawing is scheduled for the same day at noon and can be streamed live on the Worcester County Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page.

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OPA board relents, reinstates single-sport fee

Continued from Page 1

sense," he said. "We are supposed to, by our governing documents, run these amenities like a business, and we are not capturing fees the way we are supposed to. We have folks paying for pickleball, then walking over and playing tennis. We also have people jumping the fence and playing for free."

Public comments were welcomed at the assembly, and Ocean Pines homeowner Tina Vincent expressed her grievances with the original budget. She explained that her family has a pickleball membership, as do a few of her friends, and they feel uncomfortable paying for sports in which they do not participate.

"We do not want to pay a membership fee for sports we do not play," she said. "Our family pickleball membership fee would increase from \$295 to \$475, and so we ask that you reinstate the single-sport membership fee structure as is currently in place."

Ocean Pines resident and tennis instructor Darryl Noble echoed Vincent's sentiments. According to the homeowner, he and his wife moved to the community because of the racquet center and the ability to get three sports, tennis, pickleball, and platform tennis, in one location. Noble approved including the three-sport membership to the individual options but believes racquet players should have several choices.

The approved fees were also discussed at the meeting, and Vincent urged the board to reconsider the 10% increase for racquet sports. She said the rate rise presents an equity issue, as it is higher than the approved upsurge for other activities. Swim memberships, for instance, were raised 3.3%, from \$300 to \$310 for the year.

Noble articulated his confusion with the 10% increase as well.

"It was fair to increase all three sports the same," the tennis instructor said. "That was one of the biggest objections when it came out you were only increasing pickleball, and the other sports were not being increased at all. So now you're increasing them all equally. But I am not sure where the 10% came from. I did a little research, and according to the Consumer Price Index, published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, the inflation rate in 2023 was 3.4%, which is a lot different than ten."

Despite the audience's opposition, the board maintained the 10% rate increase. At the Feb. 7 budget town hall meeting, OPA General Manager John Viola said the raised fee reflects the costs of court upkeep, such as filling in cracks and annual care assessments. However, the group voted to increase the multi-sport combo by only 5%.

"It's great to throw out percentages, but you also have to look at the actual dollar increase," Director

Elaine Brady said. "I do feel like some folks have gotten hung up on percentages. We are looking at it by the actual dollar amount."

"The 10% sounds like a lot of money until you see it's 20 bucks," Lakernick agreed.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the board voted 6-1 in favor of a revised racquet sports fee structure that includes a 10% increase for all pickle-

ball, tennis, and platform tennis yearly memberships and a 5% increase for the multi-sport option.

The pickleball family membership will increase from \$295 to \$325, and the pickleball individual choice will rise from \$180 to \$200. The tennis family option will go from \$420 to \$465, and the tennis individual will surge from \$265 to \$295. The platform tennis family will be raised to

\$325 from \$295, and the platform tennis individual is going from \$180 to \$200.

The three-sport family option will increase from \$655 to \$690, and the three-sport individual package will be raised from \$420 to \$440. The entire racquet sports center fee structure can be found on the Ocean Pines Association website under the Latest News subheading.

School officials rebut allegations

Continued from Page 1

ney Kris Heiser and Sheriff Matt Crisafulli showed charts depicting rising crime rates and videos of fighting in local schools to augment their charge that the schools have been uncooperative in seeking a solution to the alleged problem.

Both Taylor and Ferrante, however, said the numbers cited by Heiser and Crisafulli to show an increase in assaults included the schools' reports of referrals for discipline, which can be issued for other behavior problems besides actual crimes.

"I was saddened and frankly appalled to see our elected law enforcement leaders choose to manipulate student referral data and attempt to say our schools were hotspots for assaults," Taylor said. "Student disciplinary referrals are not crimes. To label referrals as assault rate is an affront to our schools, our students and our staff, particularly those staff who lent their expertise to putting this data together not knowing it would be manipulated in such a way."

Taylor then ticked off items on the list of local law enforcement's recommended safety improvements that listed the schools as having taken no action, when some of the improvements had already been instituted or were about to be.

He said officials would not stand idly by while the reputations of students and staff were smeared.

"We don't know what has motivated law enforcement to publicly and aggressively defame our school system but I'm here to tell you we can't stand for it," Taylor said.

A statement released by Heiser after the school board press conference said, "Despite their best efforts to label the Sheriff and State's Attorney as liars and data-manipulators, their press conference today confirmed the two main points that law enforcement has been making for months: (1) that crime in schools is rising at an unacceptable rate and (2) that none of law enforcement's recommendations to improve school safety have been implemented by

Worcester County Public Schools. "Now that the Board of Education and Superintendent have publicly acknowledged these two facts, we once again call on them to take immediate action on these recommendations to improve safety in our schools."

According to Heiser, school system officials were told for months that law enforcement would update the public on safety concerns so they shouldn't have been surprised by last week's press conference.

Members of the school board and school administrators said they learned of the Heiser/Crisafulli press conference when they were contacted beforehand by the media.

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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Though not official until the budget is approved this spring, Berlin council members said last week they wanted employees to get a 2% COLA in addition to a step increase.

Berlin planning budget with 2% COLA for town staffers

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 7, 2024) Berlin officials agreed to include funding for a step and grade system and a cost-of-living adjustment in the upcoming budget.

During a presentation regarding the projected costs associated with both implementation of the step and grade system as well as providing a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), council members made it clear that while revenue figures aren't in yet, they're hoping to provide staff with a COLA.

"I would prefer a placeholder with a COLA because a COLA is important to me," Councilman Steve Green said.

Last month, elected officials reviewed plans for the town's new step

and grade system and asked Kelsey Jensen, the town's human resources director, to also look at what it would cost to provide town staff with a COLA during the coming fiscal year. Jensen said at last week's meeting that the step and grade system was expected to cost \$204,000 to implement. She said that implementing that system with a 2% COLA would cost \$316,000. The system with a 3% COLA would cost \$372,000 and the system with a 4% COLA would be \$428,000. Jensen said incorporating one of those figures into budget projections didn't mean officials had to give staff a COLA.

"It would not tie you to anything," she said.

Mayor Zack Tyndall said he felt just the cost of the step and grade system should be included in the proposed budget, which will be developed this spring.

"I think the budget should just reflect the step and grade," Tyndall said. "The 2, 3, or 4 is something I think we're going to have to work through."

Green said he'd like to see some sort of COLA included in the proposed fiscal year spending plan. Tyndall pointed out that with the step and grade system, employees were getting moved up a step which would be a 2.5% increase.

"it's very challenging trying to be fair to everyone but I'm going to bring this group to what we said to our staff last year and what we have said again this year," Councilman Dean Burrell said. "When the budget development starts, we're not going to have staff at the end of this process. We're going to consider our staff first. I think considering our staff first means that we put a number in just like Steve is suggesting to, a number that may be fluid but we have an idea and staff has an idea."

Tyndall said he just didn't wanted elected officials to talk about a COLA and then in the end not provide it.

"People begin to bank on those things," he said.

Burrell said if that was the case then officials needed to work harder to ensure the COLA was in fact provided.

"I want this body to be cognizant of, whatever we put there, I really don't want us to take it away," Tyndall maintained.

He also questioned where officials would find the revenue to pay for a COLA. Staff said the town was not anticipating a major change in revenues.

Green said if that was the case maybe a smaller COLA, such as 2%, could be worked into the budget. Councilman Jack Orris said that if town workers were paying attention

See COUNCIL Page 7

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Unanswered questions with lost property tax notices

Delegate worried over major budget impact for local governments

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(March 7, 2024) Local Maryland governments face a loss of hundreds of millions in tax property revenue for education, law enforcement, and other local services in the budget after a printing and mailing vendor failed to send property assessments to over 100,000 accounts this year.

According to a statement from the State Department of Assessments and Taxation Director Michael Higgs, a printing process error by the League for People with Disabilities, the vendor responsible for the property evaluations, resulted in 107,000 accounts not receiving their new projected home value notice by the Jan. 30 deadline. The recipients can expect the documents in the coming weeks.

Property tax is a significant source of revenue for local governments. One-third of the state's properties are reassessed each year and given a new value. The tax amount owed is adjusted based on the revised calculation, often higher than the prior analysis. As property values rise, homeowners pay more in taxes, resulting in more property tax revenue for governments.

As per current law, owners must be given time to review the updated value and appeal it if they disagree with the estimate. The property value and the tax remain the same from the previous assessment if the notice is sent after the deadline.

Lawmakers believe this mistake could leave municipal governments

hundreds of millions of dollars short in funding for school systems and the police force if the issue is not resolved.

"I didn't get a total number, but it was in the hundreds of millions of dollars, not in the tens of millions," Senate President Bill Ferguson (D-Baltimore City) told Maryland Matters.

Higgs' statement assured that his team is working "in partnership with the General Assembly to draft legislation that will enable a temporary timeline adjustment to distribute the reassessment notices." He also promised that every homeowner would receive their valuation and be given the full 45-day timeframe to review and appeal.

The Maryland General Assembly is halfway through its 90-day session, and any late-filed bills may face roadblocks. However, lawmakers could amend existing bills to account for an adjusted deadline, such as Sen. Guy Guzzone's (D-13) Senate Bill 1027, which defines "taxpayer" in relation to property tax appeals, according to a Maryland Matters report.

"Local governments depend on property tax revenue the most," Del. Wayne Hartman (R-38C) said. "If it can't be resolved, it will hurt counties for three years. We also don't know how many of these missed properties are in Worcester County as opposed to Wicomico County."

Hartman said he and many of his peers have yet to be briefed on the costly mistake, or if there are any plans to fix it.

"I found out about this through a Maryland Matters report," he said. "The lack of transparency is concerning."

Council eyes 2% COLA for now

Continued from Page 6

to the council's discussions regarding the pay scale and the COLA, they'd be aware that it wouldn't be finalized until the budget was actually adopted. He said he'd like to see a 3% COLA with the step and grade system.

"I think I would rather aim high

and go down," he said.

In the end, after further discussion, Tyndall said staff would incorporate the 2% COLA figures into the proposed budget as it was being developed. If approved, town employees would receive a 4.5% raise in total - 2.5% from the step and 2% COLA.

Public hearing next week on Berlin's \$3.8M bond

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 7, 2024) The Town of Berlin is moving forward with seeking a bond to fund electric meter upgrades and a new public works facility.

The Berlin Town Council held a first reading last week for an ordinance related to infrastructure bonds.

"This ordinance will allow the mayor and council to go to the bond market," said David Gaskill, the town's attorney.

Last month, Berlin officials began discussing the possibility of seeking bond funding to allow the town to move forward with two major projects. Staff said there was a need for AMI electric metering, as it would be more accurate and would cut down on the staff time used to read meters. That new metering is expected to cost \$1 million.

"They're down to pen and paper right now which is not a good way to be reporting," Mayor Zack Tyn-

dall said at the time.

Because the town was interested in the possibility of general obligation bonds to fund the electric meters, Tyndall said it made sense to also include funding for a new public works facility. The building the town currently uses for its public works facility was meant to be temporary and is lacking heat and air conditioning.

If the town seeks \$2.8 million for a new public works facility, the total bond would be \$3.8 million. According to staff, the town's electric fund could handle the annual debt associated with its portion of the proposed bond, which would be \$80,000 to \$90,000 a year. The general fund portion of the bond tied to the public works facility would come with an annual debt of about \$185,000.

The town has the opportunity to participate in a municipal bond issuance in April. Now that the bond ordinance has been introduced, a public hearing on it is set for March 11.

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OPA Board election process gets underway

Important deadlines announced for candidate filing, voter eligibility

(March 7, 2024) Members of the Ocean Pines Elections Committee recently announced dates for the 2024 election process, including filing and voting deadlines.

The seven-member volunteer board is the governing body of Ocean Pines. Terms for elected directors are three years.

This year, two seats on the board of directors will be up for election: those currently held by directors Rick Farr and member Jeff Heavner.

The deadline to file is by 4 p.m., May 10.

“We encourage anyone who is thinking about running to do their homework, read up on the Association’s governing documents, attend the regular meetings, and volunteer,” Elections Committee Chairperson Tom Piatti said in a news release. “Volunteers have helped make this

community what it is today, and there’s no better way to give back than to serve on our Board of Directors.”

Applications are available at the administration building or on the Ocean Pines website at oceanpines.org/documents/20124/126321/Candidate%20Registration%20Form.pdf/9e3aff7-56ca-1cf9-4008-fc4a0da89c9a.

Important upcoming election dates are:

- Filing deadline — by 4 p.m., Friday, May 10
- Eligible Candidate Draw and

Workshop (to determine ballot order and seating during the candidate forum) – Friday, June 7

- Voter eligibility deadline – Tuesday, July 2
 - Candidate Forum – TBD
 - Ballot deadline – by 4 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 6
 - Ballots counted and vote totals announced – Thursday, Aug 8
 - Annual Meeting – Saturday, Aug. 10
- For questions about the election, contact elections@oceanpines.org.

Hitchens promoted to aquatics director role

Pines GM Viola says new position logical, manager ‘has earned’ new post

(March 7, 2024) Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Viola recently announced that Aquatics Manager Michelle Hitchens will be promoted to aquatics director, effective March 1.

Hitchens has over a decade of experience in the aquatics department. She was promoted to aquatics manager in September and reported to



Michelle Hitchens

Senior Executive Office Manager Linda Martin.

As a director, she will report directly to Viola.

“Michelle has taken on a leadership role in the Aquatics Department and stepped up accordingly,” Viola said in a news release. “Credit to her, and credit to Linda for helping to develop her skillset as a director.”

Martin mentored Hitchens over the last five months, helping with

budget development and financial accounting, among other things.

“Michelle has been a dedicated Aquatics employee for many years, and we’re excited to see her take on this new role,” Martin said in the release.

Hitchens said she is looking forward to new challenges and new opportunities in her expanded role.

“I am very thankful and excited for everything between the position and what we are trying to bring to the Aquatic Department,” she said. “We

want everything to run as smoothly as possible, so everyone has a fun and relaxing time at the pools.”

Viola said Hitchens stepped up in September and was looking for more responsibility, and Ocean Pines had a need in aquatics.

“Michelle has earned this and, as I structure the organization to meet the needs of the coming year, I hope to be able to make a few more announcements like this down the road,” he said. “Please join me in wishing Michelle continued success.”

Commissioners delay radio system hardware purchase

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 7, 2024) The Worcester County Commissioners delayed a decision to buy radio system hardware until they get more information on the nearly \$2 million proposal.

The commissioners voted unanimously on Feb. 20 to table consideration of staff recommendations to purchase new radio system hardware from L3Harris.

“I have a lot of questions...,” Commissioner Caryn Abbott said. “I think we’ve spent an enormous amount of money. They may have been lowest bidder in 2015 but I think we over-spent any savings that we have.”

James Hamilton, the county’s deputy director of emergency services, told the commissioners the de-

partment was seeking permission to move forward with a contract with L3Harris regarding a refresh of IT hardware components. He said the generally acceptable life cycle of IT hardware such as servers, routers and switches is three to five years. The county’s equipment is now six years old. He said the timing of the project had been closely coordinated with the Town of Ocean City because the town’s radio system and the county’s worked together.

“We’ve coordinated this project to remain in line with our tempo the town’s tempo as well as each budget cycle,” he said.

He said there had been \$2 million budgeted for the work and it was expected to cost \$1,787,584.

See COUNTY Page 10

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Pines fire department planning fundraisers

Weekly virtual drawings announced to help with upcoming expenses

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(March 7, 2024) The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department is hosting a new fundraising initiative to collect profits for significant capital expenses like their Apparatus Replacement Fund and the new South Station facility.

The Queen of Hearts fundraiser will generate profits for the OPVFD to help garner funds for apparatus replacement efforts, which include fire truck, engines and other specialized equipment, and an upgraded and improved South Station.

The Queen of Hearts fundraiser kicked off on Feb. 28. According to OPVFD President Joe Enste, purchasers will select an available spot, somewhere between one and 54, on the Queen of Hearts board. A random number generator will choose a player as the winner each week via a Facebook live stream, and that space will be scratched off to reveal either a pay card in the form of a Joker or the Queen of Hearts or a non-pay card. In the case of the latter, the participant will receive \$25. If the Joker is re-



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department is giving residents the chance to win big as it hosts an ongoing fundraiser to garner resources for its Apparatus Replacement Fund and the planned new South Station facility.

vealed, the selected will win \$50; if the Queen of Hearts is shown, the player will win 60% of the jackpot. The fire department will receive the remaining 40%.

The raffle will continue until the Queen of Hearts is drawn. Each week that it is not revealed, the pot will roll over and continue to increase in

value. Participants must buy new tickets to be eligible for the weekly selections and may purchase as many as they wish.

The Queen of Hearts campaign is conducted at fire departments and non-profits across the country, Enste said. The idea was presented to the OPVFD Board of Directors in 2023 and unanimously voted to host it for the Ocean Pines community.

“Research for the idea has been going on for more than six months,” Enste said. “The planning process for this fundraiser included researching what and how other non-profits facilitate similar games. We’ve also had to research and launch a new online platform allowing ticket sales with custom tickets for each chance.”

Additionally, the fire department

had to ensure proper paperwork was filed, and player information could be collected appropriately, as winners of \$600 or more must pay income tax on the prize amount.

“Our goal is to have at least 100 participants the first week and steadily increase the number as more people in the community learn about the opportunity to win the jackpot,” Enste said. The first week’s prize pool reached \$1,000.

The department president said the OPVFD hosts various fundraising activities every year. Last April, they launched their first cash bingo, which sold out leading up to the event. The facility is holding another bingo on April 18. Tickets can be purchased on the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department website for \$35 in advance or \$45 at the door, provided they are still available.

OPVFD raffles off a vehicle yearly and is still finalizing plans for the 2024 drawing. The department is also selling 4x8 and 8x8 bricks to raise money for the construction of the new South Station building, and the blocks will be used to erect a “unique feature at the station,” Enste said.

The fire department president urged interested community members to secure their tickets for the Queen of Hearts fundraiser online by visiting opvfd.com/queen-of-hearts/ and clicking the button that says “Purchase Today.” Once selected, buyers will be taken to a different page where they can complete their purchase(s).

The \$5 “chances” are available weekly from Wednesday at 9 a.m. through Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. and can only be obtained online. Drawings will be live-streamed on Facebook at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday, and winners have 14 days to collect their prizes.



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County slowing radio system buy

Continued from Page 8

Abbott said she had questions about the proposal, as well as the next one Hamilton was scheduled to present regarding a new transmitter. She said she wanted to table discussion until the county got input from state radio officials. Commissioner Eric Fiori agreed it was an intricate issue and said he didn’t think a slight delay would hurt. Abbott also asked what would be done with the equipment being replaced.

Hamilton responded that the existing servers, network switches and routers would probably be wiped and sold on govdeals.com. Staff said any money generated from those sales would go back into the general fund.

Hamilton indicated a brief delay in the approval process would not impact the project schedule.

OK'd calendar nixes professional half days

School board approves finalized plan after review of parental feedback

By **Tara Fischer**
Staff Writer

(March 8, 2024) The Worcester County Board of Education announced the 2024-25 school year calendar, which removes the controversial Wednesday half-days previously included for teachers' professional development.

Carrie Steers, the public relations and special programs coordinator for Worcester County Public Schools, presented the finalized calendar to the board of education at their Feb. 20 open meeting.

The school system gathered feedback for the proposed schedules from

Dec. 21, 2023, to Jan. 12, 2024. The survey garnered 2,092 responses. The participants were 49.6% parents, 32.8% employees, 11.9% students, and 4.9% from other community members. According to the data, the moderately balanced calendar was preferred instead of the early release and longer/frequent break options. The study also welcomed open-ended replies.

"Over 50% of the open-ended responses left comments asking for half-days for professional development to revert to the end of the week," Steers said. "Over 25% asked for elongated breaks during the school year, particularly Spring

Break."

Superintendent Lou Taylor's modified schedule reflects these changes. The county must observe Good Friday and Easter Monday, but they opted to shift the closure from April 17 to April 23 to provide a longer stretch of days off.

'We listen to our parents, so Superintendent Taylor decided to remove those days from the calendar completely.'

Annette Wallace,
Chief Operations and
Academic Officer

The upcoming school year calendar also does away with half-days for professional development.

"We decided to remove the Wednesday half-days because parents were having issues with babysitting scheduling," Taylor said. "When we had Friday half-days, we watched our staff and student attendance decline across the

county. For now, we will encourage our teachers to sign up for after-school and summer professional development."

Chief Operations and Academic Officer Annette Wallace said that the professional half-days yielded increased participation among teachers and improved student attendance, unlike when they were on Fridays. However, she maintains the board of education values community feedback.

"We listen to our parents, so Superintendent Taylor decided to remove those days from the calendar completely," she said. "It was not best for the kids to have professional development on Fridays because our teachers and students weren't here. As a transparent organization, we listen to our families and do what is best for the kids."

OP groups accepting golf scholarship apps

Grants awarded 'to allow kids to fulfill their ambitions and dreams'

By **Tara Fischer**
Staff Writer

(March 7, 2024) Graduating seniors from Stephen Decatur High School and Worcester Preparatory School with a golf passion could get funding help for college.

The Ocean Pines Golf Club and the Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council intend to award multiple scholarships to men and women from the class of 2024. Applicants must submit their materials to their school's guidance office no later than April 12. The committee will announce the recipients in May.

According to Scholarship Committee Chairperson Dave McGregor, recreational and competitive golfers, as well as individuals interested in golf man-

agement and turf science, are eligible. While the program typically reserves the awards for local students, anyone with a connection to Ocean Pines may apply, including children who stay with relatives during the summer.

The council has approximately \$12,000 to allocate as it sees fit. There are typically six award winners, and the committee will rank the candidates based on their list of criteria. The chairperson expects awardees to receive between \$1,000 and \$3,000 each.

The program has given more than \$53,000 to local seniors over the past seven years but has awarded scholarships for over 16. "We want this grant to allow kids to fulfill their ambitions and dreams," McGregor said.

The Ocean Pines Golf Club and the Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council are confident that by continuing to sponsor the scholarship, they will promote higher education and their favorite sport. McGregor also hopes to

branch out in the future and encourage an interest in golf in younger kids, particularly those who come from an underprivileged background.

The chairperson's goal is that the earlier children start practicing their swing, the more motivated they will be

to join their high school teams or partake in the game recreationally.

Students who wish to apply may download the paperwork from the official Ocean Pines Association website. A commitment to join a university golf group is not required.

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Elite schools on list of WPS early college options

(March 7, 2024) As of early January, Worcester Preparatory School seniors had received more than 100 offers of admissions to 50 colleges and universities.

A sampling of the colleges include: Auburn University, Clemson University, College of Charleston, Drexel University, Emerson College, Florida Southern College, Fordham University, Georgetown University, High Point University, Miami University, Oxford, Old Dominion University, Pepperdine University, Quinnipiac University, Seton Hall University, Stanford University, Texas A&M University, The University of Alabama, The University of Tennessee, University of Delaware, University of Georgia, University of Kentucky, University of Mississippi, University of South Carolina, University of Vermont, Ursinus College and West Virginia University.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

A group of Worcester Preparatory School seniors celebrate early college acceptances by making it "snow." As of early January, students received more than 100 offers of admissions to 50 colleges and universities.

Ocean Pines' latest activity guide now available online

(March 7, 2024) The latest issue of the Ocean Pines Activity Guide, the association's twice-annual listing of amenity programs and classes, is now available online.

Physical copies should be mailed to homeowners within the next few weeks.

The issue showcases spring and summer 2024 programs, classes and

other events in Ocean Pines' recreation and parks, aquatics, and racquet sports amenities. There is also information on offerings from the Golf Club, Farmer's and Artisans Market, and Ocean Pines food and beverage operations.

To view the activity guide online, visit oceanpines.org/web/pages/activity-guide.

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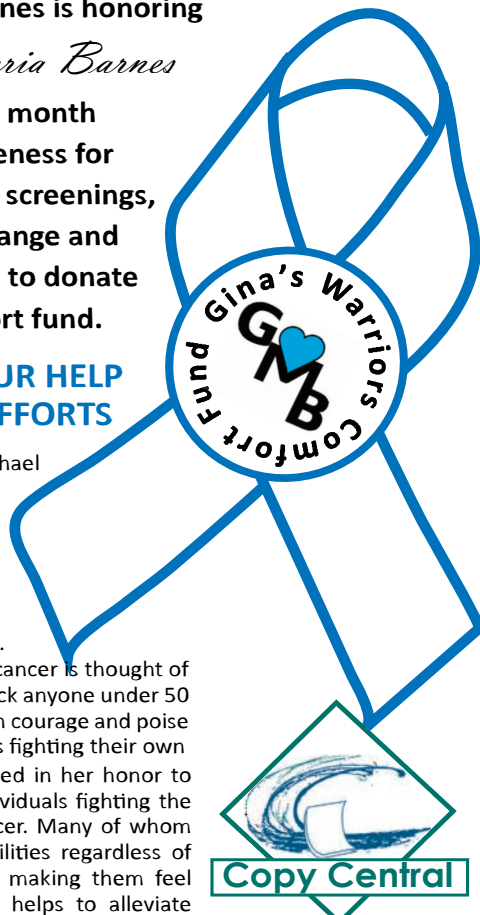
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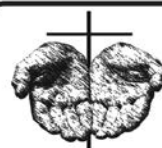
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PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

(Left) Members of Worcester Prep's varsity boys and girls basketball teams, and JV boys basketball team, pose with winter sports awards they recently won. (Right) Members of Worcester Prep's swim and cheer team pose with their winter sports trophies.

Worcester Prep winter sports award winners

(March 7, 2024) A number of Worcester Prep upper school athletes recently earned winter sports awards for varsity cheerleading, varsity girls and boys basketball, junior varsity boys basketball and swim team.

The winners are as follows:

Varsity Cheerleading

MVP – Madilyn Nechay
Coach's Award – Avery Roselle
Most Improved Player – Keerat Pandher

Varsity Girls Basketball

MVP – Esi Mehilli
Coach's Award – Sydney Mize
Most Improved Player – Leah Gaito

JV Boys Basketball

MVP – Paxton Mault
Coach's Award – Michael Hebert
Most Improved Player – Jackson Griffin

Varsity Boys Basketball

MVP – Mike DePalma
Coach's Award – Connor Ferguson
Most Improved Player – Ben Anthony

Swim Team

MVP – Jude Damouni
Coach's Award – Will Wells
Most Improved Player – Paul Kraeuter



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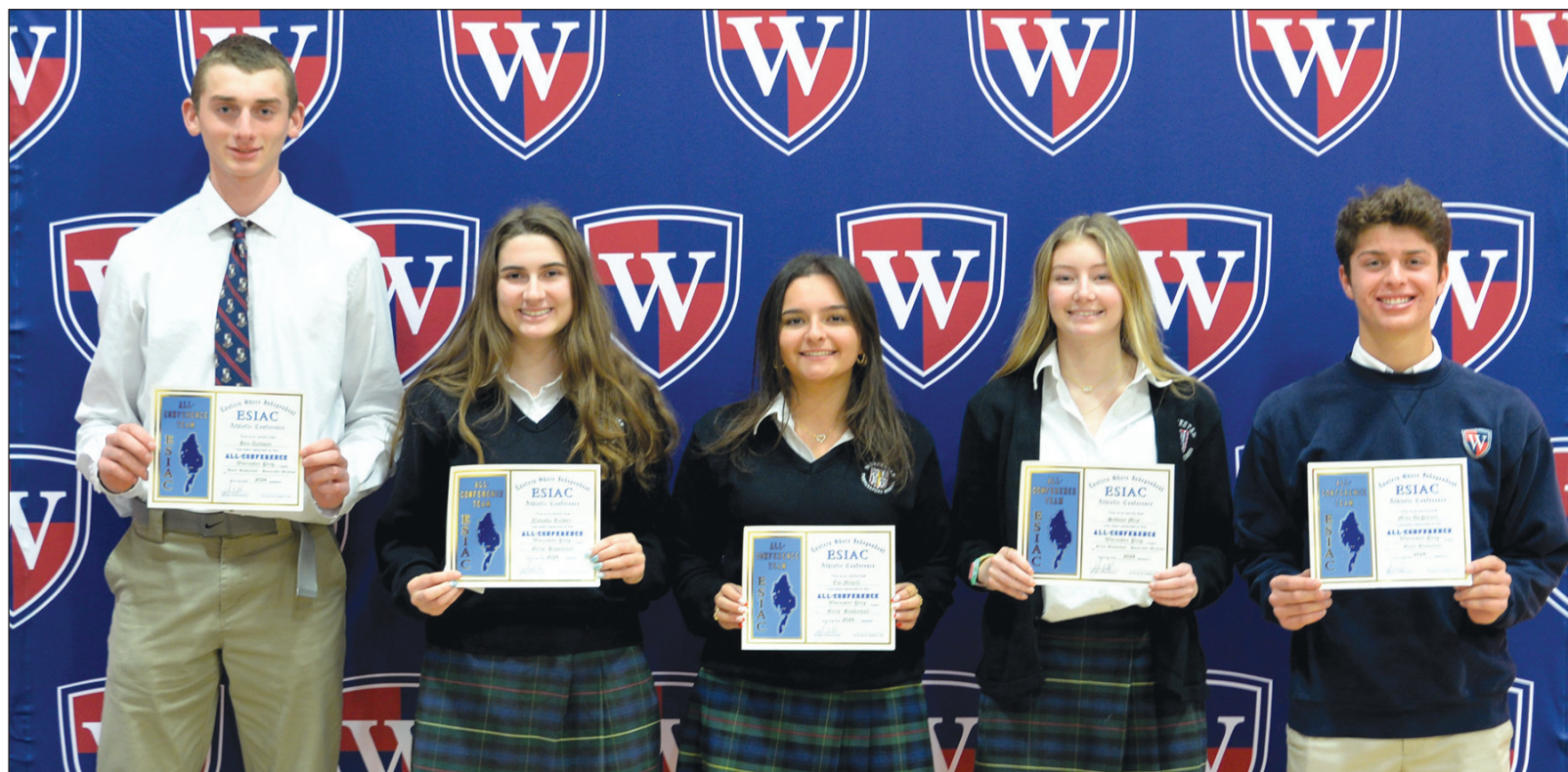


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Worcester Prep's all-conference athletes are pictured with their recognitions. PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Ocean Pines Opening Day Scramble to kickoff season

April 6 tournament offers prizes for best men, women golfers

(March 7 2024) Members of the Ocean Pines Men's and Ladies golf associations recently announced they will be hosting an opening day golf scramble to kickstart the 2024 golf season.

The 2024 Ocean Pines Opening Day Scramble is set to begin with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 6.

The scramble will feature four-person teams, but golfers can sign up as individuals or groups of two, three or four players. Organizers will help fill empty spots to make up teams.

With the scramble format, each player contributes to the team's success and participants will enjoy a challenging yet inclusive game. Women will tee off from the Charcoal (formerly Red) tees, while men will take

on the course from the Orange (formerly Gold) tees. Golfers over 80 may also opt to play from the Charcoal tees.

Each player's drive must be used at least once, adding an extra layer of strategy and excitement to the game.

A variety of prizes awaits the victors, including awards for the Best Overall, Best All-Women Team, and Best Mixed-Gender Teams.

Lunch will be provided, and a cash bar will be available for refreshments.

Tournament entry fees are as follows:

- Ocean Pines Golf Members with cart package: \$35
- Ocean Pines Golf Members without cart package: \$50
- All Others: \$60
- Lunch for nonplayers: \$30

For inquiries or to secure a spot, contact Dave McGregor at 703-975-7876 or email david.b.mcgregor@gmail.com. Entries, along with checks, must be submitted by March 22.

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PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SENIOR BREAKFAST

(Left) Worcester Prep Head of School John McDonald, Alumni Association President Chris Hoen, and Assistant Head of School/Athletic Director Mike Grosso stand ready to serve breakfast to senior students during a recent celebration of their final 100 days before graduation. (Right) Grosso and McDonald serve breakfast to seniors Caitlin Williams, Koda Bauer, William Mumford and Vanessa Hall.



(Left) From left, Worcester Prep seniors Caitlin Williams, Izzy Huber, Elaina Elrick, Madilyn Nechay and Claire Windrow eat breakfast together during the 100-day celebration. (Right) Worcester Prep Head of Lower School Sara Timmons and several lower school students line up to share thoughtful advice with the seniors as they prepare for college life.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SCHOOL DONATION

Cato, Inc. recently presented a \$500 ExxonMobil Educational Alliance program grant to Worcester Preparatory School. Pictured, from left with the check, are Cato, Inc. marketing representative Gordon Abercrombie, Upper School Science Teacher Mike Mariotti, freshman Mia Jaoude, Head of School John McDonald, freshmen Gabriella Damouni and Ronen Poddar, and Head of Upper School Carol Evans.



KIWANIS EVENT

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Bob Wolfing poses as first president George Washington in celebration of Presidents Day during a club happy hour on Feb. 22 at Taylor's Restaurant. The gathering was held to celebrate and seek new member prospects.

PHOTO COURTESY DAVID LANDIS SR.

Snapshots



PHOTOS COURTESY ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY

FOUR-SQUARE PRINT CREATIONS

Members of Berlin Intermediate's after-school art club, an outreach program of the Art League of Ocean City, recently made four-square prints from Styrofoam printing plates they cut out of meat trays. (Left) Aaliyah Manning, Natasha Gonzalez-DeRocher and Meara Emerick pose with their prints. (Right) Nola Gisriel works on a print with Joanne Guilfoil, an artist and educator who runs the art club.



(Left) Kily Mikulski, Nola Gisriel and Zoey Brown pose with their prints. (Right) Students Landon Anders and Maleah Maness pose with their prints.



PHOTO COURTESY DONNA GREENWOOD

NEW LIONESSE WELCOMED

From left, Ocean City Lioness Club Gov. Kathy Crockett poses with new member Ruth Scott, sponsor Donna Greenwood, club president Ann Runo, sponsor Roberta Taylor, and new member Joann Warren. Scott, Warren and fellow new member Lois West were recently inducted into the club.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

MENTAL HEALTH IN FOCUS

Farah VanGnderen, a practicing mental health clinician, and Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Bob Wolfing pose for a photo at a recent meeting. VanGnderen spoke to club members about the importance of sleep and dreams and the healing powers of dreams.

McMullen named ESIAC golf coach of year

(March 7, 2024) Worcester Preparatory School officials recently announced that Varsity Golf Coach Don McMullen was named the Eastern Shore Independent Athletic Conference, or ESIAC, Fall Sports Coach of the Year.

According to a news release, McMullen has guided the golf team for the past seven years, leading them to win five ESIAC Conference Championships (2018 and 2020-2023), and placing second in two others (2017 and 2019). His dedication, expertise, and strong leadership continue to be instrumental to the team's ongoing success.

"I'm honored with the recognition, and I share this award with our Assistant Golf Coach, Jim McKee, who has coached beside me for the past seven years," McMullen said in the release. "This award is due to the many players who were committed and dedicated to playing some very competitive and outstanding golf on our team. We're looking forward to the 2024 Fall Golf season."

School officials expressed gratitude to McMullen for his dedication to the golf program and ongoing commitment to student-athletes' development in the sport.

"Coach McMullen's dedication, skill and passion for golf have directly contributed to our team's continued success," Worcester Preparatory School Athletic Director Mike Grosso said in the release. "His guidance has been instrumental in developing student-athletes who excel both on and off the course."




Eastern Shore Independent Athletic Conference Fall Sports Coach of the Year Don McMullen (center), accepts the award with members of this year's golf team by his side.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE


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County Veterans Memorial looking for volunteers

Docents help to educate students on field trips

(March 7, 2024) The Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines is looking for a few good docents to help with educational programs.

The Veterans Memorial Foundation each year sponsors field trips to the memorial for all fifth-grade students in Worcester County.

Students learn about the history of the American flag, and how to properly fold and display it. While touring the memorial grounds, they learn about the different branches of the U.S. Military and a brief history of U.S. armed conflicts.

“Our educational programs begin May 10, with a field trip to the memorial from Most Blessed Sacrament School. It’s the first of many field trips by fifth grade students in Worcester County,” Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said in a news release. “Before the month is over, more than 650 students will have been met by docents and learned the stories of veterans and their sacrifices for our freedom.”



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Docent Mary Adair teaches Worcester Prep fifth graders the history of the U.S. flag during a fall field trip to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial.

Docents who assist with the trips don’t have to be veterans or teachers – they just need a desire to engage students in a fun and interesting way.

“Please consider becoming a docent,” Gilmore said. “It’s a great way to give back to the community and help connect local school children to our wonderful veterans memorial.”

Docent training is scheduled at 3 p.m., April 24, at the memorial. For more information on volunteering, call Susan Pantone at 410-430 1040 or Don McMullen at 443-388-2941.



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Opinion

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

School safety dispute damages reputations

If the intention of county law enforcement's press conference last Tuesday was to beat the board of education into submission with its allegations of school safety mismanagement, it did not work out as planned.

Three days later, public school system officials staged a forceful countermove that might cause the public to wonder if this is going to be a best two-out-of-three falls contest.

That wrestling metaphor seems apropos now, considering this dispute between the schools and local law enforcement has become a public spectacle that aims to prove, finally, who deserves the good guy label and who doesn't.

Forget everyone's use of statistics, data, charts and punch lists, because these seldom resonate with most people, who are more likely to be influenced by their impression of an argument than the argument itself. This, then, calls on the public to decide the fundamental question of who's lying or exaggerating and who isn't.

Unfortunately, making that distinction is not that easy, since these attempts to sway the public have done little more than damage the reputations of both entities to the extent that the eventual emergence of a clear winner verges on the impossible.

Warranted or not, the suspicion that something isn't right somewhere will affect the public's perceptions of the school system, the state's attorney and the sheriff regardless of what they do from now on.

The next time either party finds itself facing a crisis or is at a crossroads in terms of public opinion, lingering suspicion borne of this sorry episode will come into play and the public will ask, is this for real or is this political theater?

To a public that tends to operate on its own interpretation of events, this point/counterpoint exchange leaves observers aware but skeptical, much like Bob Dylan sang back in the 1960s: "... something is happening here, But ya' don't know what it is, Do you, Mister Jones?"

Letter

Why are county commissioners fighting our schools?

Editor,

(The following letter was addressed to the Worcester County Commissioners and sent to this publication for inclusion.)

"You break it, you own it." And I refer to Worcester County Public Schools.

The downgrading of WCPS will be your legacy. For some reason, the County Commissioners seek to undermine and underfund WCPS two years in a row. Money is not the problem. The county can well afford to maintain excellence in our schools. Despite a 46.1% increase in the value of properties reassessed in Worcester County, some of the Commissioners choose not to support their local communities and to once again give the minimum amount of funding required by law. They undermine the school system through insinuation and complain about lack of transparency. Where is their transparency and accountability to the public?

We fear that they have forgotten the value of a public school system. It may be that we have lived so long with the benefits of public education we can't help but take it for granted. We forget that it lifts us all up. It teaches us to read, write, speak well, learn to cooperate, make financial decisions and conform to acceptable civilized behavior. And it unifies us. For what would be the repercussions of underfunded public schools? We know the answer to that. It would include a workforce with few skills, low economic standing, poor health, a lower tax base and increased crime. We are both blessed and cursed by the high property values of Ocean City that allow the county to have the funds to provide a quality education for our future work force and citizens. Due to these same high property values, however, we receive the least amount of support from the State.

So, do we invest in WCPS in a meaningful way or pay for the social and economic consequences of underfunded, low quality schools? It is by fully funding the needs of the public school system, paying for excellent teachers and keeping class sizes small that make Worcester County so desirable.

With respect to Maintenance of Effort, it sounds fairly harmless. Doesn't it mean that the schools will be in the same good position that they were before? We thought so. But costs increase, such as tuition for dual enrollment at Wor-Wic, for energy, and supplies and for funding the steps of teachers. Thus, MOE means underfunding our

schools. Last year WCPS had to cut programs and lose teachers. This year, there are increased costs due to an unfunded mandate by the state. A second year of MOE would compound our difficulties. Teacher numbers will be further reduced, class sizes increased and summer schools for enrichment and special-need students would be eliminated or curtailed. Some commissioners fret over a summer-school trip to Jolly Roger's. May we point out that the tickets are donated and many students would not otherwise be able to enjoy an experience that is in their own community. Can we really not provide the bus service for such an experience?

Others argue that BOE cuts made last year to meet MOE were prioritized wrong. They claim to favor increasing salaries and keeping small class sizes but if 85% of the budget is for teachers, bus drivers, custodians, secretaries, educational assistants, etc. where else can we make meaningful cuts? Maintenance of buildings? Heat? (Administrative staff at the Board has not increased for years. Payroll has increased by half of a person in 20 years).

A more important question is why are the County Commissioners choosing to undermine and underfund the school system in a time when the County has the funds? Please note that while the portion of the county budget for WCPS has gone down from 45.53% to 42.72%, the county fund balance has grown since 2019 from \$51M to \$92M. Again, what are the County Commissioner's priorities? Remember that WCPS provide both direct and indirect employment to a large portion of our population and the success of our schools and their excellent reputation are a large draw for people to move here. Why are Chip Bertino, Jim Bunting, Caryn Abbott, Eric Fiori and BOE member Kate Addis through innuendo and half-truths purposely damaging the reputation of our schools? Since the County is flush with cash from the rise in property values, shouldn't they be encouraging the BOE to spend that money to improve school safety and fund special programs and gradually improve the salaries of teachers to satisfy the requirements of the new state mandates?

Therefore, I respectfully urge you and the public to consider the educational, social and economic consequences on the community that would result from underfunding Worcester County Public Schools unnecessarily two years in a row.

Jan Adamchak
Berlin

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842
Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

- EDITOR Stewart Dobson
- EXECUTIVE EDITOR Steve Green
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Have an opinion?

We invite you to share it, but all letters are subject to verification, so please include your name and phone number. All letters are subject to editing for space and to protect the author and this newspaper from legal action. Email letters to editor@baysidegazette.com. For questions, call 410-723-6397.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL

An aerial view of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial grounds in Ocean Pines.

Events upcoming at Veterans Memorial Park

(March 7, 2024) The Veterans Memorial Foundation and Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club are co-sponsoring the return of "Flags for Heroes" from May 18 to July 4.

During the installment, a display of flags will fly in Veterans Memorial

Park along Route 589 to honor heroes.

"A 'hero' is defined by anyone who has made a difference in your life. Living or deceased, veteran, teacher, doctor, parent, or child," Veterans Memorial Foundation President

Marie Gilmore said in a news release.

Individuals and local businesses can be part of the tribute by sponsoring a flag for \$50. The sponsor's name and their hero's name will be identified on each flag on a medallion. Medallions may be removed at

any time by the sponsor.

Proceeds from the project will benefit education outreach projects.

The cutoff date to sponsor a flag is May 11. Forms are available on the Veterans Memorial Foundation website. See DEADLINE Page 22

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WPS senior named national merit scholarship finalist

(March 7, 2024) Worcester Preparatory School senior Izzy Huber is one step closer to earning a national merit scholarship.

In September, Huber was named a 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program semifinalist, and this month she was named a finalist.

A news release said Huber qualified for the accolade through her 2022 PSAT scores. She was among 16,000 students selected as semifinalists, representing less than 1% of all U.S. high school seniors.

As a finalist, the release said Huber has an opportunity to compete one of roughly 7,250 national merit scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be offered this spring. About half of the finalists will win scholarships. Merit scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation, a nonprofit organization that operates without govern-

ment assistance, was established in 1955 to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by the corporation and approximately 340 business organizations and higher education institutions that share the corporation's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

For more information, visit nationalmerit.org.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Worcester Prep senior Izzy Huber, third from left, poses with WPS Director of College Counseling Vickie Garner, Head of Upper School Carol Evans, and Head of School John McDonald. Huber is a finalist in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Deadline for flag heroes on May 11

Continued from Page 21
site at WoCoVets.org.

The annual Memorial Day ceremony also is set for 11 a.m., May 27, at Veterans Memorial Park.

The event each year draws thousands of people and features music, demonstrations and public speakers honoring U.S. Military men and

women who gave their lives in service.

"Memorial Day honors all who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our county," Gilmore said. "This year's ceremony, as those before it, will honor the brave men and women who served our country and lost their lives in doing so."

Public parking will be available at Veterans Memorial Park on Route 589 and Cathell Road in Ocean Pines. Limited seating will be available during the Memorial Day ceremony and guests are encouraged to bring chairs.

The ceremony will include a special dedication for a new gazebo.

"The Worcester County Veterans Memorial, along with the Ocean Pines Association, will be constructing and dedicating a large gazebo in Veterans Memorial Park. This joint project will provide the sheltered space we need for our educational programs as well as a space for visitors to Veterans Park to enjoy some shade for a picnic lunch," Gilmore said. "We are very excited to see the finished project, which should be in place for this year's educational programs."

For more information on the foundation, visit WoCoVets.org or find Worcester County Veterans Memorial on Facebook.

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Sat & Sun, Noon-4pm	Harbor Court, 12801 Memory Lane	3-6BR/3.5-6.5BA	Single Family	From \$849,900	Kathleen M. Clark/Monogram Realty
Saturday 10am-Noon	1 66th Street #101	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$499,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 12:30-2pm	7704 Coastal Hwy. #102	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$310,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 2:30-4pm	121 81st St. #706, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Condo	\$815,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 11am-1pm	38331 Bluebird Lane, Selbyville, DE	2BR/2BA	Single Family	\$379,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 10am-Noon	12131 Pimlico Lane, Berlin	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$699,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate
Sunday 11am-1:30	9 127th St. #204, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$445,900	Summer Forbes/Coastal Life Realty Group
Saturday Noon-2pm	69 Burr Hill Drive, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$345,000	Cindy Crockett/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday 10:30am-12:30pm	107 Convention Center Dr. Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$469,900	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 1-3pm	11000 Coastal Hwy., #1703 Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$539,900	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty



MCBP sponsoring Bay Day in Ocean Pines on May 19

Free annual event in fifth year, set from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at White Horse Park

(March 7, 2024) The fifth installment of Bay Day at White Horse Park in Ocean Pines is officially set from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 19.

Bay Day is a collaborative, conservation effort of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and Ocean Pines Association and aims to help improve the health of the waterways that shoulder the residential shores of Ocean Pines.

The free, family-friendly event caters to all age groups through hands-on activities, free boat tours, live music, food trucks, live animal exhibits and more.

"We are excited to bring Bay Day back this year for another year," Maryland Coastal Bays Education Coordinator Liz Wist said in a news release. "Bay Day is a great way for community members to learn more about how they can make changes that, over time, have a strong positive impact on our Coastal Bays."

She added that people should feel welcome to stay all day at the event.

They can learn from environmental organizations, take a boat tour of the St. Martin, eat lunch, listen to music, pick up a native plant, and participate in various hands-on activities," Wist said.

This year's Bay Day will feature more than 30 conservation partners,

including Go Green OC, UMES 4-H STEM, Chincoteague Bay Field Station, Assateague Coastal Trust, and Protectors of the St. Martin River. The first 200 attendees will receive a canvas bag, hand-painted by students from Worcester County Public Schools.

The recycling station will also be back this year. Community members can bring alkaline batteries, old phones and more to drop off for recycling. Go Green OC will also collect compost.

For more information on the compost and recycling program, and for weekly Bay Day updates, visit the "Bay Day in Ocean Pines" event on Facebook.



Willow, Fallyn and Quinn Westbrook enjoy making recycled paper out of newspapers at the Assateague Coastal Trust tent at last year's Bay Day in Ocean Pines.

FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Safe boating course slated March 19-21 in Ocean Pines

(March 7, 2024) The next Maryland Safe Boating Course is set from 6-9 p.m., March 19-21, at the Ocean Pines Library.

Certified instructors from the Ocean City Coast Guard Auxiliary will be offering the comprehensive class, which is required of anyone born after July 1, 1972, to possess a Maryland Basic Boating Safety Certificate to operate a boat in the state. All the required material is covered during the course, along with information on Those who attend the class and pass the test will receive a Maryland Boat-

ing Certificate which is National Association of State Boating Law Administrators-approved and valid in all states.

A fee of \$20.00 covers the cost of the course and materials.

Checks should be made payable to: "USGCAUX 12-05" and mailed to: USGCAUX 12-05, PO Box 1682, Berlin, MD 21811. Payment through PayPal is also accepted.

For more information, or to register, contact Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807 or email CGAUXOC@Gmail.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Members of the U.S. Coast Guard guide a boat into a dock on the bay.

Golf tourney sponsors, participants sought

Ocean City Ravens Roost hosting scholarship event, needs community donors

(March 7, 2024) Organizers of this year's Ocean City Ravens Roost #44 scholarship golf tournament are looking for players and sponsors.

Set May 31 at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, a Robert Trent Jones-designed course, the event raises money annually for college scholarships for students at three local high schools: Indian River, Stephen Decatur, and Worcester Preparatory School.

Event committee member Don McMullen said in a news release that scholarship funding this year would at least match the 2023 totals, which tied a record donation by the nonprofit.

"Due to successful fundraising by our members and the continued support by our local business community, Ravens Roost #44 is proud to announce that we will award a minimum of \$15,000 to our local students graduating in 2024," he said. "This will take our total awards to \$258,900 to local students since the inception of our grant giving."

He added that the organizers welcome participation in the event as Golders and tee sign sponsors.

"Merchandise and gift certificates for our silent auction are also needed for this event," McMullen said. "Please inquire to a Ravens Roost #44 golf committee member if your business would like to become either a Signature or Major Sponsor. These types of sponsorships help underwrite the cost of the banquet or mer-

chandise given to participating golfers.

The Ocean City Ravens Roost #44, Inc. is a nonprofit organization.

The following sponsorship levels are available:

• Signature Sponsor: \$2,000 – Includes two team entries, four tee signs, recognition at the tournament banquet, and business recognition on the tournament banner. Signature Sponsors without team entries will

cost \$1,400.

• Major Sponsor: \$1,000 – Includes a team entry, two tee signs, recognition at the tournament banquet, and business recognition on the tournament banner. Major Sponsors without team entries will cost \$700.

• Tee Sign Sponsor: \$100

For more information, contact McMullen at 443-388-2941, Gary Miller at 443-618-9972, Bob Rose 410-926-2558, or Anita Satterfield at 443-743-

6359.

To download sponsorship and registration forms, visit oceanpines.org/documents/20124/92950/tee+sponsors+and+reg+forms+2024.pdf/93be0712-42ab-c50a-fc36-8d28e3332a1d?t=1709671059448.

For more information about tournaments and other events at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, visit oceanpinesgolf.org.

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Calendar

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

Thurs., March 7

8TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The 4-day festival will screen 100 independent films and offer socializing with the filmmakers. Held throughout Ocean City and surrounding areas. Tickets and information:

<https://ocmddfestival.com>.

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. Appointments required: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

FINANCIAL LITERACY: BUSINESS & STRATEGIC PLANNING W/SBDC

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center, 14 S. Main St., 8 a.m. Breakfast and coffee provided. Free.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/fls-2024-2945089?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclxcollection&utm-source=cp&utm-aff=escb>.

STORY TIME: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. The group will be creating some lucky charms bracelets. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME 'A GOOD DAY FOR A HAT'

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

CHESS CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Looking for a quiet place to meet new friends and play some chess? Bring your boards and join the game. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SHIPWRECK AUTHOR TALK

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Michael Dougherty discusses his book, "The Wreck of the Faithful Steward on Delaware's False Cape." An objective retelling of a ship that was lost just north of Fenwick Island in 1785. 410-208-4014

TAXATION BOOT CAMP: MANAGING TAXES IN RETIREMENT

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 5 p.m. Learn how to minimize taxes in retirement, take distributions from your assets in a tax efficient manner and other advanced tax strategies to avoid paying more than you need to. 410-208-4014

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM' BY MARIE BENEDICT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Copies of the book area available at the Pocomoke library circulation desk. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

REMEMBER WHEN ADULT STORY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Come and share your own travel stories and memories. Feel free to bring pictures and souvenirs to share. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ST. PATRICK'S DAY TRIVIA

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 4 p.m. Test your knowledge. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GROWING UP WILD: SPIDER WEB WONDERS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 4 p.m. Learn about spiders and spiderwebs through a variety of activities. For ages 6-11 years. 410-632-3495

ZUMBA

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

WSW 22ND ANNUAL PINK RIBBON BINGO

Willards Lions Community Center, Hearn Street, 4:30-9:30 p.m. Tickets \$35. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., games start at 6:00 p.m. Cost of Tickets: \$35 in advance: \$40 day of. Tickets: 410-548-7880, <https://womensupporting-women.harnessgiving.org/events/1271>.

POETRY WORKSHOP WITH SISTA BIG

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 5 p.m. Join Sharnell Tull (aka Sista Big) as she shares about the poetry creation process. Begin working on a poem of your own and consider sharing at the Open Mic Night. 410-957-0878

FREE ENTREPRENEUR TRAINING FOR VETERANS

Lower Shore American Job Center, 31901 Tri-County Way, Salisbury, 6 p.m. This mandatory Orientation Session is a vital step in the application process for the Project Opportunity Spring 2024 program, held March 12-May 14. www.project-opportunity.com/class/registration

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-opportunity.com/class/registration

Fri., March 8

8TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The 4-day festival will screen 100 independent films and offer socializing with the filmmakers. Held throughout Ocean City and surrounding areas. Tickets and information:

<https://ocmddfestival.com>.

YOUTH IMPACT SUMMIT 2024

Golden Sands Ocean Resort, 10900 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Held March 8-10. Youth advocates, industry professionals and change-makers converge for this conference. Reservations: www.villagebuilders2024.com/ and EventBrite.

BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes and finger plays. For ages 0-2 years and their caregivers. 410-641-0650

MAHJONG CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Fun morning of playing tile Mahjong. Feel free to bring your own tile set. 410-524-1818, 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

DOCUMENTARY ABOUT INLET VIEW CAMPGROUND AT OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort, 9110 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12-2 p.m. Tickets \$35. Documentary about the last summer of Inlet View Campground at Ocean City Film Festival. 917-693-0171

HOMESCHOOL CAFE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 p.m. Enjoy activities and refreshments and see what's brewing. For families. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'JUST AS I AM' BY CICELY TYSON AND MICHELLE BURFORD

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

'REFLECTIONS' JURIED SHOW AWARDS AND RECEPTION

Worcester County Arts Council, 6 Jefferson St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. View the 22 pieces of artwork completed by 16 local artists while enjoying complimentary refreshments. Awards presentation at 5

p.m. <https://www.worcestercountycouncil.org>

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. Cost is \$14 for a one-crab cake sandwich platter, \$24 for two-crab cake sandwich platter and \$10 for crab cake sandwich only. Platters include green beans, baked potato and cole slaw. Bake table too.

Sat., March 9

8TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The 4-day festival will screen 100 independent films and offer socializing with the filmmakers. Held throughout Ocean City and surrounding areas. Tickets and information:

<https://ocmddfestival.com>.

INDOOR FLEA MARKET & BREAKFAST

Bethany United Methodist Church, 8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 8 a.m.-noon. Breakfast items of sale. 410-641-2186, bethany21811@gmail.com

OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 a.m. Speaker will be Coast Keeper Taylor Swanson who will update local projects. Also new Pines Point Marina Store owners and members fishing tournament and charter trips updates. All welcome. 410-641-7662

BRUNCHY BOOK CLUB

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. March's theme is "Stranger Than Fiction." Light refreshments and casual discussion. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

JOHN WATERS LIVE! WITH 'HAIRSPRAY' MOVIE

Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$59-\$129. VIP with John Waters "Group Therapy" is \$229. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/80607905/john-waters-live-hairspraymovie-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

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

Sun., March 10

8TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The 4-day festival will screen 100 independent films and offer socializing with the filmmakers. Held throughout Ocean

Calendar

City and surrounding areas. Tickets and information: <https://ocmdfilmfestival.com>.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., March 11

'IRISH' YOU LUCK SCAVENGER HUNT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Use the clues to find answers to the Irish trivia questions. For ages 10 years and older. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

LITTLE LEARNERS WITH THE OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S K9 AND MOUNTED UNIT

Ocean City Life-Saving Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., 10:30-11:30 a.m. Ocean City Police K9 and mounted units along with story time and a craft. For ages 0-5 years but all are welcome. This program is free with free parking in the Inlet parking lot. www.ocmuseum.org, 410-289-4991

STORY TIME: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Crafts, songs and stories. For ages 0-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

WRITING FOR WELLNESS

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

TRUE CRIME BOOK CLUB: 'SAVAGE APPETITES' BY RACHEL MONROE

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Join in for an afternoon of true crime. 410-524-1818, 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

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

TidalHealth Avery W. Hall Education Center - auditorium, 100 E. Carroll St., Salisbury, 6-7 p.m. Himani Pulivarthi, MD, of Peninsula Nephrology Associates, will discuss the impact of diabetes on kidney health and prevention of kidney disease. Free and open to the public. 410-543-7061

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Cen-

ter, 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., March 12

'IRISH' YOU LUCK SCAVENGER HUNT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Use the clues to find answers to the Irish trivia questions. For ages 10 years and older. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CLAY 'N' PLAY

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Sculpt, squish, roll and stamp using the clay and tools. For ages 0-5 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Clap, sing and move to the beat. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

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

GENEALOGY 101

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Learn how to compile your family history and get tips on finding good sources. Individual help is not offered at this program, but appointments are available for one-on-one assistance. 410-632-3495

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3:15-4 p.m. Group provides discussions and mutual support, along with education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765

GROWING UP WILD: SPIDER WEB WONDERS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. Learn about spiders and spiderwebs through a variety of activities. For ages 6-11 years. 410-641-0650

SONG CELEBRATION

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6 p.m. Bring a song and share it with other players and writers. Originals encouraged. Listeners welcome. Hosted by Mikel Campbell. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TIDES & VINE BOOK CLUB: 'WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN' BY HOLLY MILLER

Tides & Vine, 106 W. Green St., Snow Hill, 6 p.m. Join in for an evening of books and wine. Stop by the Snow Hill library to pick up your book. Must be 21 years of age. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CHRISTIAN CONVERSATIONS

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 6 p.m. Held Tuesday Feb. 20-March 26. A free moderated group discussion based on the works of C.S. Lewis. Everyone is welcome. Explore a great opportunity for Lenten reflection. 410-641-7052

ATLANTIC COAST SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION MEETING

American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Scott Lenox of "Fish in O.C." magazine and TV. Topic will be "Spring Flounder Fishing." Food and refreshments available at 6:15 p.m. The public is cordially invited.

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

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AND WELLNESS GROUP

Tuesdays - Holy Trinity Cathedral, 11021 Worcester Highway, 2-2:45 p.m. Use the weight loss program/app/plan of your choice. Free and open to everyone. 410-641-4882, www.htcanglican.org/activities.

Wed., March 13

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

'IRISH' YOU LUCK SCAVENGER HUNT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Use the clues to find answers to the Irish trivia questions. For ages 10 years and older. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join in for a silly morning full of movement and music themed stories, songs and interactive activities to get everyone moving. For ages 0-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ST. PATRICK'S DAY STEM

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Can you create a trap so clever that a leprechaun couldn't escape? Drop in for this STEM challenge. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ADULT CRAFT: BOOK PAGE WREATH

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Take a leaf out of the library's old books and create a beautiful wreath. Limit 30. First come, first serve. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

VINTAGE SEED PACKET PAPIER MACHE BOXES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. These decorative boxes make great gifts. The box tops will be decorated with vintage seed packet covers. Limit 12. Registration required: 410-641-0650. www.worcesterlibrary.org

D&D GAME NIGHT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5 p.m. D&D game for adults and teens. Limit 15. Registration required: 410-632-3495. www.worcesterlibrary.org

FREE SQUARE DANCE LESSONS

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 7-8:30 p.m. Pine Steps Square Dance Club welcome singles and couples. barbcroos@gmail.com, 908-229-8799, 302-222-4448

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.kiwanisofpopoc.org

Classified

MARKETPLACE

Call **410-723-6397**
by Monday 5 p.m.

Classifieds appear in **OC Today-Dispatch & Bayside Gazette** each week and online at oceanacitytoday.com & baysideoc.com



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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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Local Family-Owned Business is looking for a **Full-Time Office Person**. Applicant should be computer savvy, have good phone skills, punctual, and willing to work in a small busy office environment. Applicants should email resume to office@fireprotectiveservices.com.



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Candidates should have a customer-service background, and be extremely detail-oriented. This is a chance to shine with your multi-tasking tools, and to build and maintain a customer base. You must be proficient in Microsoft Office, have strong communication skills and a terrific work ethic. This is your golden opportunity to join a winning team.

E-mail resume with **OFFICE MANAGER** in the subject line to:
AdSales@coastalpoint.com



FULL-TIME PERSONAL BANKER

Farmers Bank of Willards has a **full-time Personal Banker position** available for our **87th St. Ocean City, MD location** and our **Willards, MD location**. Looking for professional and motivated individuals with extraordinary customer service skills. Cash handling experience & excellent computer skills a must.

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Send resume to bob@castleinthesand.com or apply in person at The Castle in the Sand Hotel, 37th Street and Oceanfront, Ocean City Md.

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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 & long hours; working alone or with others 410-289-4902 ask for Suzanne.

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Boat Yard Help Needed at West Ocean City boat yard. Call 410-213-2296.

We are looking for a Dependable Handyman that can complete various remodeling and maintenance tasks in Ocean City and surrounding areas. Remodeling job duties include painting, hanging drywall, finish work, minor electrical, minor plumbing, trim, cabinetry and installing floors. You must be able to lift at least 50 lbs., be proficient with hand and power tools and have a good driving record. Email ocjobs@paramountserv.com or Call 903-814-4469.

BOOKKEEPER NEEDED Full time. Flexible hours available. Fruitland, MD. Excellent pay. Real Estate & Property Rental. Must have Degree in Accounting. Please email your resume/contact info to office@fenzelinvestments.com

Hiring: Massage Therapist/Aesthetician Cosmetologist West Ocean City Commission/Room Rent 410-600-3437

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Summer Seasonal Rental, 2BR/1 bath Garage Apt., bayside on 26th St. Occupancy 6. \$13,000 plus \$1,000 security dep. Comes with A/C, parking for 1, free WiFi and shared laundry facilities. Resort Rentals, 410-524-0295.

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Do you have an old bicycle not being used? It could mean a world of difference to a hard-working international student. Your donation will be tax-deductible. Contact Gary at 443-975-3065.

FOR SALE

Everything Must Go!!! Weekend Yard Sale Entire Contents 4 UNIT APT. BUILDING Emerald Apts., 319 Robin Drive, Ocean City Cash & Carry Only. Sofas, loveseats, chairs, end tables, entire working kitchen items. Bedroom furniture, mattresses, bed linens, lamps, pictures & small appliances. Patio furniture, 12 TVs, DVDs, VCRs, A/Cs. March 9 & 10 ~ and ~ March 15, 16, 17 10 am to 6 pm

Classifieds 410-723-6397 www.baysideoc.com ~ www.oceancitytoday.com

Castle in the Sand HOTEL KITCHEN SUPERVISOR BAR SUPERVISOR Coconuts at The Castle in the Sand Hotel is looking to add to our management team with one front of the house supervisor, one back of the house supervisor. MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE. Full-time seasonal positions starting at up to \$19/hour, pay commensurate with experience. Send resume to jeff@castleinthesand.com or apply in person at Castle in the Sand Hotel, 37th Street and Oceanfront, Ocean City.

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