



CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin resident Gussie Sholtis takes her turn with the sledgehammer to kick off demolition efforts of the former poultry processing buildings at Heron Park.

Plant walls to come tumbling down

Community members take swings of their own to mark Tyson buildings' demolition

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) Community members joined state and local officials to celebrate the pending demolition of the former processing plant building at Heron Park.

Maryland Secretary of Housing and Community Development Jake Day joined Berlin's elected officials as well as several municipal employees

and community members to kick off the demolition process beginning this month at Heron Park. A \$500,000 grant from the state will allow the town to knock down a portion of the dilapidated structure.

"Congratulations to the entire Berlin team and community," Day said. "Let's knock this thing down."

After more than a year was spent negotiating with a developer who

wanted to turn the old processing plant into a mixed-use project, the council in late 2023 opted not to proceed with the sale of the property. Instead, officials decided to take advantage of a \$500,000 strategic demolition grant the town received from the state in 2021 to knock down the derelict building.

Last Thursday the town hosted a "demolition party" to celebrate the

fact that the process is finally expected to begin this month. Mayor Zack Tyndall said the town was grateful to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for awarding Berlin the grant. He said the town would be working with contractor JNT Enterprises to tear down as much of the building as possible with the funding.

"At the end of the day, the goal's going to be to have a front section of the building over here, repurposing what was once the offices as well as the cafeteria and some of the storage

See ASBESTOS Page 3

'Congratulations to the entire Berlin team and community. Let's knock this thing down.' – Jake Day

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MHCD Secretary Jake Day speaks at Heron Park in Berlin on March 7 before officials ceremoniously began demolition efforts at the former home to Tyson Foods.

Asbestos tests first, then demo

Continued from Page 1
area of the building,” he said. “Then there will be a portion of the back building that will still stand which could hopefully be repurposed for some sort of warehousing component. That’s the ultimate end goal. We’re excited to be able to be here today with everyone. I know our citizens are very happy to see something happening with the site.”

Day said that as he spent his days traveling the state in his role as secretary, he was pleased to be able to spend time in Berlin, a town he has visited with his family and has watched enjoy success in recent years.

“As mayor of Salisbury, I got to watch our neighbors here in Berlin build and grow America’s Coolest Small Town,” he said. “You all have done such an incredible job.”

He said he was proud his department was able to support the town with façade grants as well as with this strategic demolition grant.

“I’m so proud to be able to stand here with you, watch your vision come to life, come to reality,” he said. “The razing of this plan will do away with what is clearly been a long time, unused facility.... It’s a literal and physical and even figurative obstacle to progress and you’re taking it down in order to take the next step in Berlin’s future. I’m so proud to play a small part in that, to be a supporter.”

In the wake of last week’s demolition event, on Monday the Berlin Town Council voted unanimously to approve a \$302,210.28 contract with

JNT Enterprises. While the company was previously selected as the project contractor, officials asked for additional pricing for more work on the site, such as the cost of ensuring demolition to grade.

Officials reviewed that estimate at Monday’s meeting. While the estimate set the cost of demolishing the entire structure at slightly more than \$436,000, officials approved demolition of areas one, two and three as well as some cleanup in area seven for a price of \$302,210.28.

The town has already spent about \$80,000 of its grant on engineering fees and Tyndall pointed out that by going with the partial demolition, the town would have more than \$120,000 in grant funding left in contingency for unknown work. Andrew Welch of Davis, Bowen & Friedel said his company recommended maintaining some reserve funding.

“There could be utilities there we don’t know about,” he said. “There could be large concrete foundations under that slab. We’d like to keep a reserve.”

When Councilman Steve Green asked about the timeline for the work, town staff said additional asbestos testing had to be completed first. Tyndall added that in response to some calls he’d received from community members, he’d asked the contractor to do a sweep of the building each day before beginning demolition work to ensure that the building was clear.



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WORCESTER YOUTH SUPPORT

Members of the American Legion Post 166 recently presented a \$1,000 check to the Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services. Pictured, from left, are Post donations committee member Ben Dawson, WYFCS Executive Director Jennifer Leggour, Worcester Connects Director Kayla Figueroa and Post donations committee member George Spicer.

Major water main project advances with bid approval

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) Town officials selected a contractor this week to handle the relocation of a water main on Harrison Avenue.

The Berlin Town Council voted unanimously on Monday to have Goody Hill Groundwork relocate a water main that is currently under the new Berlin Beer Company.

“We would like to move it and get it in the right-of-way,” said Jamey Latchum, the town’s water resources director.

In January, the council approved a request for proposals (RFP) for the relocation of the roughly 100-year-old water main that runs under the former Southern States building at

the intersection of Broad Street and Harrison Avenue. Because the property is currently under construction as Berlin Beer Company prepares to open, town staff said this was the ideal time to abandon the aged water main currently under the building and place a new water main under Harrison Avenue, where it should be.

Latchum told officials this week the town received four bids in response to the RFP. He said Davis, Bowen & Friedel, the engineering firm the town works with, recommended awarding the project to the low bidder, Goody Hill Groundwork for \$156,725. While that exceeds what the town had planned to spend on the project, staff said \$36,725 could be transferred from the Powelltown Avenue well-house project. While that project is still on the horizon, Latchum said he didn’t want to do it during the summer months, as that well was the town’s largest one and water is used heavily during the summer.

“I don’t want to lose that during the busier months,” Latchum said, adding that he hoped to put that project out for bid in May and have the work done after the summer in the new fiscal year.

Latchum said he felt Goody Hill presented a fair price for the Harrison Avenue work and that he didn’t think there was anything that had been left out of the proposal. As far as the timeline, he said if the council approved the bid award he hoped work would begin within 30 days and be complete by May 1.

Road closures related to the project are not expected to exceed one day.

“Other than that everything’s going to be directional drilled so it’s going to be very minimal,” Latchum said.

The council voted unanimously to move forward and award the project to Goody Hill Groundwork.

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New 'Egg Your Yard' initiative launched by Chamber group

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(March 14, 2024) The Worcester County Chamber of Commerce in Ocean Pines (OPCC) hops into spring as the group gears up to deliver treat-filled eggs to residents' yards this Easter Eve.

The OPCC is committed to promoting local businesses, strengthening economic development, and fostering community advocacy and outreach on the Eastern Shore.

Parents can give their children a sweet surprise via the Egg Your Yard initiative, even if they are short on time, by purchasing plastic eggs filled with candy, stickers, and knick-knacks. Groups of chamber members will distribute the trinkets to the participating addresses on March 30, the day before Easter, when the sun goes down a little after 7 p.m.

"We will be stealthy as we distribute the eggs," said Chamber President Kerrie Bunting. "When the kids wake up in the morning, it will be just like the Easter Bunny came."

The Worcester County Chamber of Commerce in Ocean Pines' Young Professionals will host the event. This

chamber branch comprises 21- to 35-year-olds entering their industry across various concentrations, eager to cultivate their careers. According to Bunting, the group's primary goal is to network, learn from their peers, and get a head start in the professional world.

"These are ambitious future business leaders in their field," the chamber president said. "We accept everyone and bring along the next generation of industry leaders."

The Easter-surprise idea was formed by a member of the young professionals' club, who are also overseeing the project. Parents can purchase 25 eggs for \$25, 50 eggs for \$40, and 75 eggs for \$60.

The young professionals are also running the chamber's fourth annual corn hole tournament. The event, held on Saturday, March 23, at 11 a.m., will feature cash prizes, music, and a raffle.

Bunting emphasizes that for those interested in having their yards egged, orders must be placed by March 22.

"We are excited about the project," Bunting said. "It is such a cute idea for parents with little kids."

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PHOTO BY CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester County Public Works Director Dallas Baker addresses the updated Consolidated Transportation Plan with the commissioners March 5.

No major additions with county's transportation plan

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) Route 90, Route 589 and the Route 50 bridge remain the local transportation priorities for Worcester County officials.

On March 5, the Worcester County Commissioners approved the 2024 Consolidated Transportation Plan letter, which will be sent to the Maryland Department of Transportation to highlight improvements local officials would like to see made on area roads.

"The CTP letter is the county's request to the Department of Transportation for projects we'd like to see undertaken," Dallas Baker, the county's director of public works, said. "Generally the guidelines are to try to isolate projects within State Highway's right of way or MDOT's right of way."

He said the county's proposed 2024 letter was the same letter that had been sent last year except for one minor change. Baker said the crosswalk at Route 589 and Manklin Creek was removed because it was actively under construction.

"It should be done in the next month or two," he said.

Identified in the letter is the dualization of Route 90, the dualization of

Route 589 and construction of a new drawbridge on Route 50. Also included is the signalization of the intersection of Route 611 and Assateague Road, and addition of a traffic signal at the intersection of Route 367 and Route 368 in Bishopville, among several other projects.

"As always, the top three are 90, 589 and the 50 drawbridge and then we have various other projects related to safety improvements, signal improvements, interchange improvements, studies," Baker said. "With MDOT they have various pots of money designated toward large capital projects smaller safety projects, intersection improvements. We've tried to pepper this letter with being able to hit all the various funds. We've been pretty successful last year we had movement on six of the 10 projects we put forward."

Baker said he'd received some last-minute input on the letter related to the need to address standing water at Route 113 and Johnson Neck Road and that he could include it in the letter if the commissioners agreed.

They indicated they'd like to see the addition and asked for updates from Baker on several of the projects

See ROUTE Page 9

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PHOTO BY CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The building off William Street serves as the office for the Town of Berlin's Public Works Department currently.

OK'd bond to fund new public works complex in Berlin

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) Town officials voted unanimously to move forward with seeking bond funding for a new public works building and electrical infrastructure.

The Berlin Town Council on Monday approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale to the Community Development Administration of \$3.8 million in general obligation bonds. The funding will finance new electric meters and construction of a new public works building for the Town of Berlin.

"Both of these projects are very much needed for our town and the services that we provide to the people of Berlin," Mayor Zack Tyndall said.

Last month, municipal officials started talking about the possibility of using bond funding for two much needed projects. Electric department leadership has advocated for new meters for years, as staff currently spent

See BOND Page 9

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Bond also to fund electric meters

Continued from Page 8
close to three days every month reading meters. In addition to the time spent, new meters would be more accurate and eliminate potential for human error.

With the town needing \$1 million in bond funding to move forward with purchasing AMI meters, staff said last month it made sense to seek funding for another major project, a new public works building, at the same time.

The current facility lacks heating and air conditioning and was never meant to be a long-term public works solution, according to staff.

As a result, officials agreed to seek \$3.8 million in funding. While the council hosted a public hearing on the

bond ordinance Monday, no citizens spoke. Natalie Saleh, the town's finance director, reiterated that while the funding will be available in May, the first payment won't be due until October. Going forward, payments will be due in April and October each year.

The council went on to unanimously approve the ordinance. Tyndall said Tuesday the funding would allow the town to move forward with town key projects.

"The bond issuance will allow our electric department to move from reading meters by hand to being able to read all of the meters in town with a couple clicks of a button," Tyndall said.

"This is going to save at least two

days of staff time from having to go out and manually read the meters. Additionally, the software and the handheld meter reading devices have all failed due to age, and we cannot replace them."

He added that the public works facility would give the municipality a place for staff to work and also a place to store and maintain equipment and vehicles.

"Unfortunately, the current home of public works was never really meant to be a permanent structure," Tyndall said.

"Also, the shop space that we have at public works currently does not allow us to be able to service all of the town vehicles internally.

"So there's additional cost each year for outsourcing some of the servicing and maintenance that we could be handling internally if we had the space."

Land Trust sets date for annual native plant sale

(March 14, 2024) The Lower Shore Land Trust's 17th Annual Native Plant Sale is officially underway.

A wide selection of carefully curated native plants, trees and shrubs is available for purchase at lowershorelandtrust.org. Limited time only, inventory sells quickly.

Plant pickup will be 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., May 3, and 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., May 4, at the land trust office at 100 River St. in Snow Hill.

Every native plant, tree or shrub bought goes to help the land trust create or preserve more pollinator habitat for bees, birds, butterflies and bats.

For more information visit lowershorelandtrust.org or contact the Land Trust office at 443-234-5587 or info@lowershorelandtrust.org.

Route 589 crosswalk removed

Continued from Page 6
identified. Commissioner Eric Fiori asked about the Assateague Road/Route 611 intersection.

"Unofficially, I know they are close to completing the study and ... I believe they are going to recommend a signal there," he said.

Baker said a roundabout had been considered but the idea had been abandoned because of the number of trailers and campers that traveled the

road there, as well as the number of left turns being made.

"I just want to make constituents and residents aware that is being worked on diligently, it's just a very complicated intersection," Fiori said.

The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the CTP letter.

Local officials are expected to meet with MDOT representatives during the annual Maryland Association of Counties conference in Ocean City this summer.

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Photo by Stephen Pryce Lea


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Sports betting revenues record big February jump

(March 14, 2024) While statewide casino revenues barely peaked over last year's totals for the month of February, sports betting totals soared much higher.

According to a news release from Maryland Lottery and Gaming, the state's 12 mobile and 13 retail sports books — including Ocean Downs — reported a handle of nearly \$442.56 million and over \$4.2 million in contributions to state for the month.

The handle was up 30.4% compared to February 2023, while the contributions increased by 50.5%. Sports wagering contributions go to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund, which supports public education programs.

Sports wagering data is tracked and reported based on the state's fiscal year, which runs from July 1 through June 30. During the first eight months of Fiscal Year 2024 (July 2023 through February 2024), sports wagering has contributed more than \$37 million to the state.

A detailed summary of the recent monthly results for Maryland's 13 retail and 12 mobile sportsbooks, including handle, hold percentage, prizes paid, promotional play, taxable win, and contribution to the state, along with a summary of statewide handle and hold by sport is available to download at mdgaming.com.

Maryland casino receipts up, but Downs takes dip

(March 14, 2024) While Maryland's six casinos collectively reported revenue increases for both slot machines and table games for the month of February compared to last year, Ocean Downs' totals were down.

According to a news release from Maryland Lottery and Gaming, the local casino reported a decrease of \$481,856, or 7%, from February 2023. Last month, the overall state total was down, with Ocean Downs reporting a 13 percent decrease in revenue from January 2023.

This month, though, three of the other state casinos — MGM National Harbor, Live! Casino and Hotel and Hollywood Casino — reported increases in revenue, which bumped the state's collective total up to more than \$159.2 million, which came out to over \$2.1 million, or 1.4%, more than last February.

The release said casino gaming contributions to the state last month totaled nearly \$67.8 million, an increase of \$871,716, or 1.3%, compared to February 2023.

Contributions to the Education Trust Fund were nearly \$49 million, an increase of \$246,715, or 0.5%.

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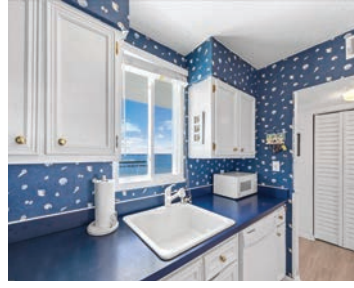
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Sales tax expansion 'bad for all businesses,' locals deem

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(March 14, 2024) Lawmakers in Annapolis are considering a new plan to generate revenue by decreasing the Maryland sales tax from 6% to 5% but extending the fee to include additional services.

The amendment, also known as Sales and Use Tax-Rate Reduction and Services, would tax services not currently affected by traditional sales tax, such as advertising, landscaping, accounting, dry cleaning, funeral, and media streaming. The House Ways and Means Committee heard the bill on March 11.

Proponents of the legislation argue that it would generate roughly \$3 billion in revenue sources for state priorities, such as the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, the costly education policy that aims to enrich student learning by increasing school system funding by \$3.8 billion each year over the next ten years, and the Transportation Trust Fund.

"I wanted to get an option on the table that one bill would ... heavily reduce the Blueprint's funding obligation and come up with a real source for that," Majority Leader David Moon (D-District 20), the bill's sponsor, said in an interview on WBAL.

The current writing of the legislation

excludes childcare, grantmaking and religious organizations but defines taxable services as "any activity engaged in for a buyer for consideration." This includes telephone answering services, credit reporting, pay-per-view television, security systems, and the "fabrication, printing, or production of tangible personal property or a digital product by special order," among others.

Critics of the bill worry that it would disproportionately affect small establishments.

"This is essentially an indirect citizen tax because everyone uses services," Worcester County Chamber of Commerce in Ocean Pines President Kerrie Bunting said. "It is bad for all businesses and consumers."

Despite promises of increased revenue, Bunting said more important is the impact the legislation would have on small businesses and consumers.

"If this proves anything, we need to pay attention to what happens at the state level," Bunting said. "People think it has nothing to do with them, but it does. The more we are engaged in the legislative process, the more our voices are heard. If you do not pay attention, you cannot complain."

Dozens of business owners and hesi-
See CHAMBER Page 13

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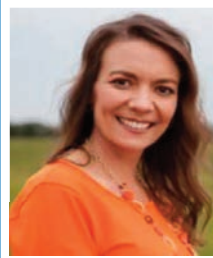
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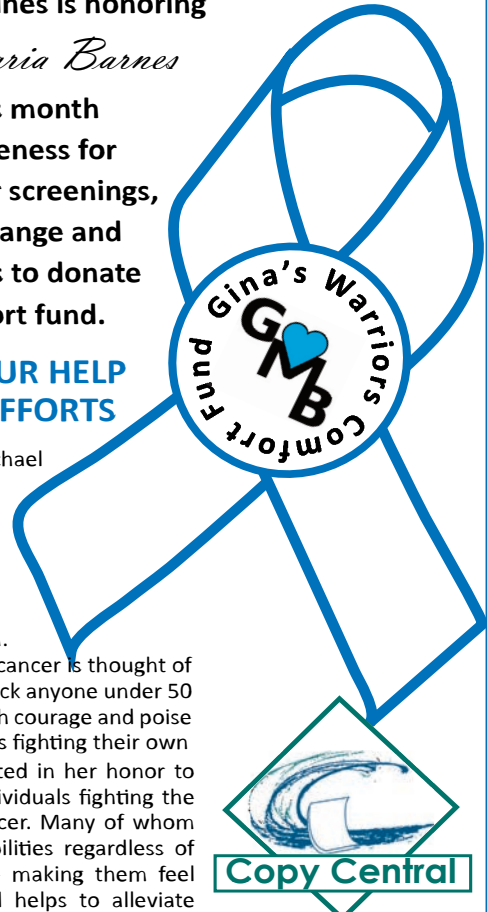


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Municipalities make annual grant requests

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) The Town of Ocean City is seeking an increase in its funding from Worcester County in the coming fiscal year.

Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan said the town was seeking an increase in its unrestricted grant from the county as well as continued support of funding EMS service in West Ocean City. The resort is also asking the county to share the cost of purchasing a digital x-ray system for the Ocean City Bomb Squad.

"We believe all the requests are reasonable and important," Meehan said.

Representatives of each of the county's municipalities and Ocean Pines presented their annual grant requests to the Worcester County Commissioners last week. Meehan told the commissioners the resort was asking for a \$198,428 increase in its unrestricted grant.

"What we're asking for is a 7.4% in-

crease," he said. "This will actually cover the CPI increases that have occurred over the last two years. We also think that probably this would be a good way to benchmark increases of this grant in the future. We're hoping that would be considered."

Meehan thanked the commissioners for working with the town to develop a formula to support funding West Ocean City EMS service. He asked the county to apply the formula again in the coming budget year, as providing EMS service to the West Ocean City area cost \$823,794 over and above grants received and revenues collected.

"The calls for service in West Ocean City are now 22% of our total EMS calls," Meehan said.

He said the town's final request was that the county share the cost of a new \$65,000 digital x-ray system for the Ocean City Bomb Squad. According to Meehan the squad provides services to

Ocean City and Worcester County and so both jurisdictions supported it in the past.

"Maybe there's more ways we could share costs that would benefit both of us," Meehan said.

The commissioners last week also heard grant requests from Ocean Pines, Snow Hill, Berlin and Pocomoke. Pocomoke Mayor Todd Nock presented a request for an unrestricted grant of \$540,750 while Snow Hill Mayor Michael Pruitt asked for an unrestricted grant of \$500,000.

The Town of Berlin also submitted a request for an unrestricted grant of \$500,000, which would represent a

7.5% increase over what the town received during the last fiscal year.

"We are requesting an increase this year with the assessable base growing for the county and town," Tyndall said.

He added that the town was also asking for \$10,000 to assist with quarterly promotional videos for the downtown business district. He said there were 270 businesses in town and during monthly merchant meetings those businesses had asked for increased marketing efforts.

Tyndall went on to present a request for a reimbursement related to road and sidewalk improvements made to Seahawk Road in the amount of \$16,000.

Road resurfacing projects in county to affect traffic flow

(March 14, 2024) Crews with the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration are working on two resurfacing projects in Worcester County.

A news release from State Highway Administration said both projects are set to be finished by the beginning of May, weather permitting.

Crews will work on about 4 miles of Route 366 (Stockton Road) between Route 13 Business (Ocean Highway) and Route 703 (Klej Grange Road) near Snow Hill beginning on Monday, March 18. The work, which includes milling and paving, should be finished by May 1. Drivers can expect single-lane closures 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, during construction.

Crews have also begun resurfacing nearly 1 mile of Route 378 (Baltimore Avenue) between North Division and 15th streets in Ocean City.

The work began Monday and includes milling (removing the top layer of asphalt), paving and restriping Balti-

more Avenue. Crews are slated to work 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 7 a.m. to noon on Fridays. The project includes single-lane closures guided by a flagging operation.

The highway administration's contractor for both projects, Allan Myers, Inc. of Dover, Delaware, will use arrow boards, cones, and flaggers to guide motorists through both work zones. Drivers should expect traffic impacts and delays during work hours on each road.

The release said state officials understand that roadwork will inconvenience travelers, but the work is necessary to maintain the transportation system. Motorists should pay close attention and slow down while passing through the work zones. Motorcyclists are urged to be aware of uneven pavement surfaces.

For a list of all major State Highway Administration projects, visit the Project Portal or the homepage at roads.maryland.gov. For a look at real-time traffic conditions, visit md511.maryland.gov.

Chamber: 'Indirect citizen tax'

Continued from Page 12

tant customers have rallied in Annapolis to oppose the proposed law. Restaurant owner Greg Brown, for instance, maintained that Maryland's issue was with its spending, not its revenue.

Republican lawmakers are especially critical of the legislation, particularly its inclusion of taxable funeral services. Many argue that these services should not be considered for revenue generation.

"There are two things certain: taxes and death. Now, they're going to get money out of my pocket when they put me in the ground," Del. Robert Long (R-6) said at the hearing.

Moon relented many services should be reconsidered and that the suggested law should be open to modifications.

House Bill 1515 is a carryover from House Bill 1628, which was presented during the 2020 legislative session but failed to pass. The previous act also proposed lowering the sales tax from 6% to 5% and expanding it to everyday services, like legal, realtor, auto and home improvement.

At the time, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce wrote a letter to the House Ways and Means Committee requesting an unfavorable report. The chamber argued extending sales tax to services is "discriminatory against small and fledgling businesses."

The letter states, "Small businesses rely on outside services (legal, account-

ing, etc.) while larger companies can utilize in-house expertise for these newly taxable services at no additional cost. As a result, small and start-up businesses will incur additional costs to operate in the state."

The chamber worried the legislation would increase the potential for pyramiding taxes. If goods and services are taxed more than once, it would lead to higher consumer costs, putting state businesses at "competitive disadvantage relative to other states."

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US Wind wants to build pier at West Ocean City harbor

By **Bethany Hooper**
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) The Maryland Department of the Environment will hold a public hearing this month on an application from US Wind to build a concrete pier off Harbor Road.

As part of its plans to construct an operations and maintenance facility in West Ocean City, US Wind has applied to the Maryland Department of the Environment for permission to construct a 625-foot long by 32-foot-wide concrete pier at its project location, listed as 12929 and 12933 Harbor Road. A public hearing on the company's application will be held from 5:30-8 p.m., March 25, at Wor-Wic Community College's Fulton-Owen Hall.

"US Wind is advancing permits for various aspects of the project, consistent with what has been included in our Construction and Operations Plan and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement issued by BOEM last October," Ben Cooper, US Wind's director of marine affairs, said. "This permit hearing concerns the pier and bulkhead of a planned operations and maintenance facility required by the state to be located in the Ocean City region. The pier, as many locals know, was built 45 years ago and is in desperate need of improvement. This permit seeks to make those improvements. US Wind has been engaging with the state and local fishermen on our project plans and will continue to do so throughout the process."

As proposed, an operations and maintenance facility would serve as the primary location for planning and coordinating wind turbine and offshore substation maintenance operations for US Wind's projects off the coast of Ocean City. According to the company, the facility will feature an onshore office, marine coordination center and warehouse space, as well as quayside and berthing areas for four or more crew transfer vessels.

"In order to support US Wind's offshore wind projects, an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility will need

to be established relatively close to where the turbines are located offshore," a fact sheet from US Wind reads. "The Ocean City, Maryland region is perfectly situated for this facility given its proximity to US Wind's planned offshore wind projects and the availability of commercial waterfront space. The Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) recognized these important factors when it mandated that US Wind establish its O&M facility in the Ocean City region."

Two property owners in the West Ocean City commercial harbor — Martin Holdings LLC and James and April Reese — have approached US Wind about the potential sale of their properties, the company said. Combining the two properties would satisfy the Maryland PSC's requirement to locate an operations and maintenance facility in the Ocean City region, US Wind said.

To moor its crew transfer vessels at the proposed site, US Wind has planned upgrades to the existing pier structure. The company's application calls for a concrete pier with associated wave break and timber fenders and 435 feet of replacement bulkhead.

"The purpose of the project is to improve navigable access," the application reads.

In the meantime, several community members and groups, including Protect Our Coast - Delmarva, have objected to the developer's plans. In a change.org petition, the organization called for an immediate halt of the development of offshore wind projects until their impacts on marine life, property values and the economy could be further investigated. As of last week, the petition had more than 13,000 signatures.

The Maryland Department of the Environment reports that written comments on US Wind's application will be accepted until April 9. Those seeking more information are asked to contact R. Miles Simmons at robertm.simmons@maryland.gov or at 410-627-4826.



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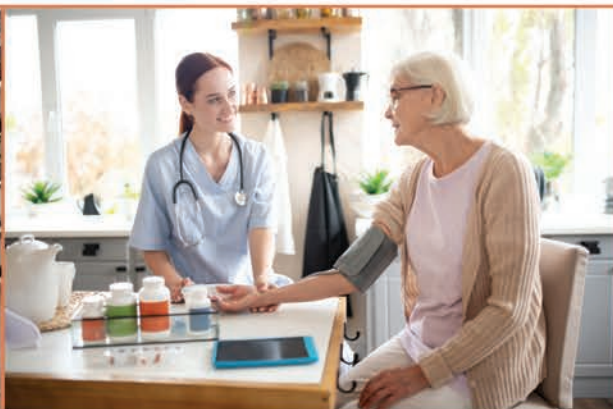

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Sides await court decision on Knupp appeal

By **Bethany Hooper**
Associate Editor

(March 14, 2024) A decision to either affirm or reverse a lower court's dismissal of charges against Tyler Mailloux in the hit-and-run of 14-year-old Gavin Knupp rests with the state appellate court following oral arguments on March 1.

The Appellate Court of Maryland heard arguments from both the prosecution and defense in the case involving Mailloux, 23, of Berlin, charged last year with hitting and killing Knupp.

Last April, 17 traffic charges – including failure to immediately stop at the scene of an accident involving bodily injury and failure to immediately stop a vehicle at the scene of an accident involving death – were filed against Mailloux in the death of Knupp, who was struck and killed by a motorist in a black Mercedes while crossing Greys Corner Road on July 11, 2022. Knupp was returning to a vehicle driven by his older sister and died from injuries sustained in the collision. Mailloux allegedly fled the scene and did not return, according to charges filed.

During a motions hearing in Worcester County Circuit Court in August, Mailloux's attorney argued the district court had "exclusive and original jurisdiction"

and that the judge should either dismiss the case or transfer it to district court. The Worcester County State's Attorney's Office, however, argued state statute provided exceptions allowing the case to be tried in circuit court, including that the penalty for such charges exceeded three years. Following the hearing, Judge Brett Wilson granted the defense's motion to dismiss the case, and the matter was immediately appealed.

Since that time, both the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Public Defender, Mailloux's legal counsel, have filed briefs with the Appellate Court of Maryland.

During the March 1 hearing, Assistant Attorney General Zoe White asked the appellate court to reverse the circuit court's decision, arguing that relevant statutes gave both the district and circuit courts concurrent jurisdiction over all charges filed in the case.

"This case arises out of a truly tragic situation involving the hit-and-run death of a 14-year-old boy in Worcester County," she said. "This case, in terms of the legal issue, however, the state would submit, presents a straightforward analysis of the statutes relevant to jurisdiction."

During her presentation to the court,

White said the circuit court erred in its interpretation of state statute. She said the first eight counts against Mailloux – four felonies and four misdemeanors – fell within the concurrent jurisdiction provision.

"There's two bases on which the circuit court had concurrent jurisdiction here," she argued. "And it's very clear under 4-302(f) that once the state's attorney for Worcester County exercised her discretion to bring the charges in the circuit court, that the district court was divested of jurisdiction over the remaining nine counts as well, and exclusive jurisdiction at that point over all 17 counts of the information vested exclusively in the circuit court."

Assistant Public Defender Celia Davis asked the appellate court to uphold the circuit court's decision in the matter. She noted that charges should have first been filed in district court.

"The plain language of Section 4-301 is the original enabling statute for the district court of Maryland, and it sets forth exactly what cases should originate in that court," she said. "And it sets forth in part A a general category of traffic and boating offenses, and in part B it enumerates 25 offenses, including the offenses charged in this case."

Davis acknowledged that while there were exceptions where the case could be tried in circuit court, the district court had "starting point jurisdiction." She said that took precedence over the provision that allowed for concurrent jurisdiction.

"I would urge this court to give plain meaning to the term 'exclusive,' meaning limited or dedicated, and 'original,' meaning that's the court that has the power to decide the case first. That's what those words mean ...," she said. "The term exclusive original jurisdiction does not define where the case must be tried, it defines where the case starts ... In fact, the state has not brought us any examples of cases with these particular charges that started in the circuit court. They always start in the district court."

In her rebuttal, White disputed Davis' argument and reiterated the state's attorney had discretion in bringing the charges in circuit court.

"Unless the court has any specific questions for me, I would submit both my briefs and ask this court to reverse the judgment of the circuit court," she said.

With oral arguments concluded, both parties now await an opinion from the Appellate Court of Maryland.

County gets \$150K for summer academies

By **Tara Fischer**
Staff Writer

(March 14, 2024) Worcester County Public Schools was awarded \$150,000 from the Donnie Williams Foundation amid concerns that five northern schools would not be able to host summer academy programs this year as spending is scaled back.

The funds will be used primarily for teacher salaries and a small amount for instructional materials and transportation for the 2024 summer programs at Showell Elementary, Ocean City Elementary, Berlin Intermediate, Stephen Decatur Middle, and Stephen Decatur High.

WCPS received the Maintenance of Effort funding formula from the Worcester County Commissioners last spring, which provided the system with the most minimal amount of money allowed by state law. The decision forced the county to eliminate locally funded

after school and summer program options from the five northern schools. However, with the recent funding award and other outside resources, officials are hoping to reinstate the programs.

"At the time, we promised the Board of Education that we would pursue every avenue to secure funding to restore these critical programs," Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor said in a news release provided by Coordinator of Public Relations and Special Programs Carrie Sterrs. "We have restored afterschool programs at these schools utilizing grant funds. We are very grateful to the Donnie Williams Foundation for its help as we restore our summer academies at these schools."

WCPS Coordinator of Instruction Tamara Mills said the local operating budget traditionally supported the northern schools' summer academies, as their regular-school-year population

did not meet the 50% economically disadvantaged threshold to qualify for additional support. However, they were able to apply for the Donnie Williams grant this year.

The Donnie Williams Foundation, founded by Maryland native Donnie Williams, provides funds to educational and youth programs in St. Mary's, Wicomico and Worcester counties.

The local summer programs offers services for special education students and keep children learning during a season when they would typically be removed from an academic environment.

"Summer academy keeps learning regression from happening," Mills said. "It prevents the summer slide."

The academies also provide a consistent schedule for students who need it the most, as getting out of a routine can negatively impact behavior and foster emotional learning opportunities.

"The program is not just for students who have a hard time academically but also for those who struggle socially," Mills said. "There are plenty of opportunities for enrichment in the summer."

Mills has observed considerable support from the community. At a Feb. 20 WCPS Board of Education meeting, Showell Elementary School mother and Parent Teacher Association member Lauren Falotico reiterated the importance of the programs.

"My youngest attended summer academy last summer, and it was truly a transformational experience for her,"

she said. "Summer academy is vital for education. It creates well-adjusted students for the upcoming school year. It provides a structured environment and prevents academic slides. With summer academy, students can continue their education, services, and growth."

With COVID-19 relief money in previous years, the alternative sessions could accommodate nearly 1,000 students county-wide. However, as the school system recalibrates to decreased resources, officials plan to service 700 to 850 kids.

Mills said the five schools' programs are estimated to cost \$377,000 with the scaled-back funding. The Donnie Williams award will contribute \$150,000. Another \$20,000 from the Maryland State Department of Education-approved reallocation of the Prekindergarten Expansion grant is also intended for the summer academies.

The schools will request the remaining \$207,000 from the Worcester County Commissioners. Mills hopes that, through discussions and community advocacy, the body will see the benefit the summer programs provide.

"We are grateful to the Donnie Williams Foundation," Mills said. "They are a wonderful partner, and their foundation does much good in the community. We hope the commissioners will see we are trying to be fiscally responsible and the academic and emotional value we offer to Worcester County students."

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CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NURSING HOME VISIT

Brownies and Daisies from Berlin Girl Scout Troop 365 spent time with elderly residents at the Berlin Nursing Home last Saturday. The girls chatted, served cookies, did puzzles and painted with the seniors.

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Snapshots

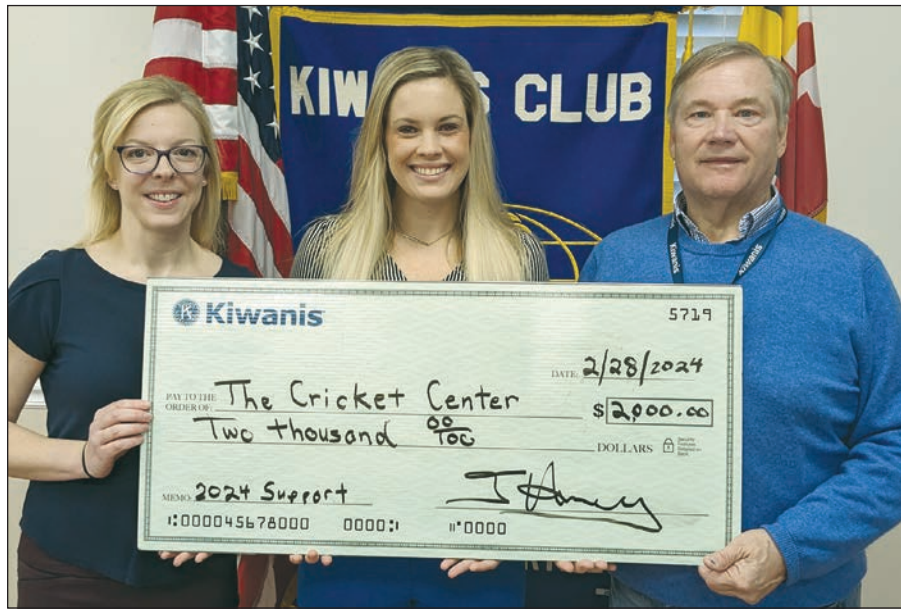


PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

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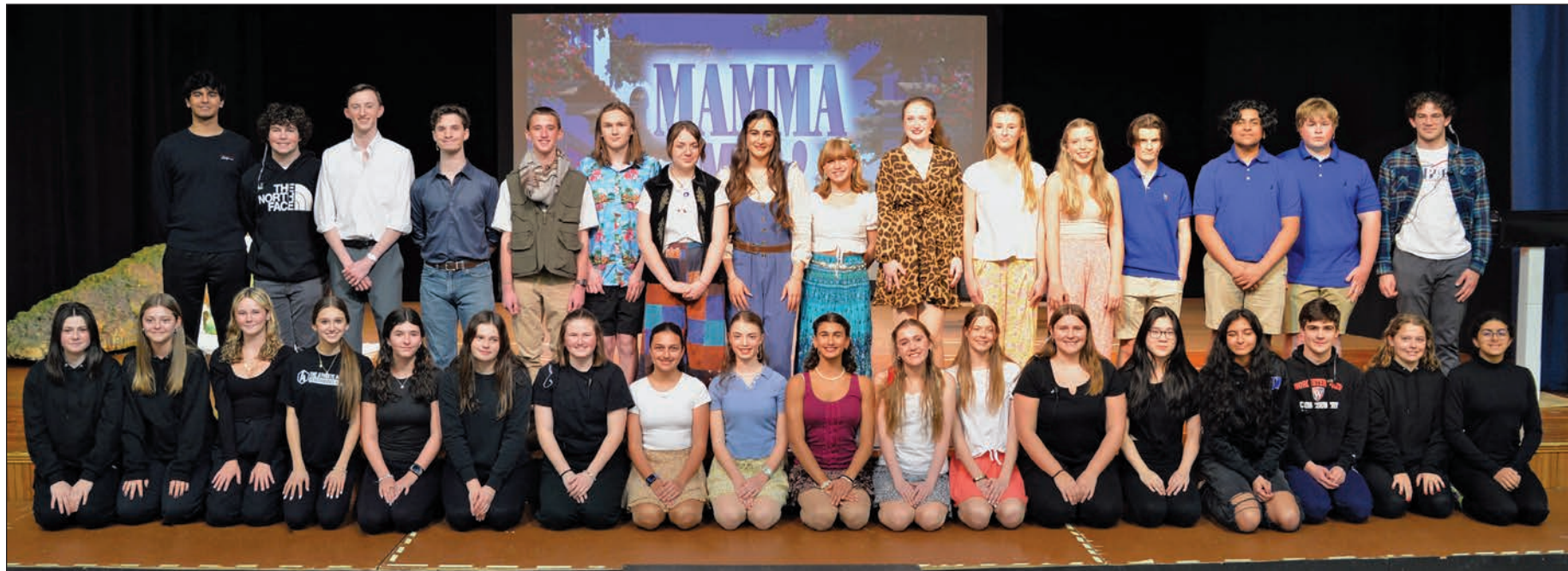
From left, Cricket Center Family Advocate Jessica Burke, Executive Director Lauren Cooper and Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Bob Wolfing pose together with a \$2,000 check club members recently presented to the local child advocacy organization.



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY-BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB

ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Members of the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club recognized the winners of the organization's essay contest at a meeting in March. Pictured, from left, are Optimist member and essay contest chair Cheryl Brown with essay winners Abby Douglas and Brooke Berquist. Douglas received a check for \$250 for her third place winning entry and Berquist received a check for \$500 for her first place win.



PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

WPS PRESENTS 'MAMMA MIA!'

The entire cast and crew of "Mamma Mia!" at Worcester Prep pose together after a performance last month.



From left, Worcester Prep students Isabella Spangenberg, Sara Freih and Natalie Chadwell play Rosie, Donna and Tanya, with support from background dancers, during a performance of "Dancing Queen" at the Mamma Mia! show.



Worcester Prep students Sara Freih, playing the role of Donna, and Jackson Fernley, playing Harry, reminisce about their time spent together in their youth during a scene from "Mamma Mia!"

Snapshots



PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

WPS GALA FUNDRAISER

Parents, alumni, teachers and friends of Worcester Preparatory School gathered for a good time and great cause at this year's '80s themed gala held on March 1, at Seacrets in Ocean City. The event was a fundraiser to help pay for future projects and improvements to the campus, classrooms and athletic fields. (Above) From left, WPS Director of Development Amy Tingle, middle school teacher Laura Holmes, Head of Middle School Megan Wallace, Head of School John McDonald and Director of Enrollment and Finance Betsy Hornung pose together at the start of the gala.



Brenda Moore and Madelyn Beebe step onto the dance floor with Beth Sharpley, of gala gold sponsor Coastline Chemical, Inc., and her daughters Sarah Sharpley and Katie Moreland.



Kenny Diu, and his wife, Sonia, ham it up in the gala photo booth.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS CERTIFICATES

From left, Worcester County Garden Club representative Joanne Kirby poses with Worcester Prep Lower School students Hristina Gjon, Aaralyn Lillquist, Tobi Blaska, Head of School John McDonald, student Nicole Sebastian, and Lower School Art Teacher Cathy Roman after presenting the students with participation certificates for entering into the National Garden Club's annual Smokey the Bear and Woodsy Owl Youth Poster Contest.



CLASS SINGS

Members of Worcester Prep's second grade class sings sweet songs to visitors during the annual Lower School Valentine's Program on Feb. 16.

PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL



PHOTO COURTESY KIM ABPLANALP

Royal terns and a chick are pictured on Reedy Island with laughing gulls in the background.

Organizations partner to restore bird nesting areas

Partnership's early focus on Reedy Island this spring will raise existing beach

(March 14, 2024) Members of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Coastal Bays Program and Audubon Mid-Atlantic are teaming up to restore bird nesting islands, with efforts beginning this spring at Reedy Island in Ocean City.

According to a Maryland Coastal Bays news release, Reedy Island, off the coast near Macky's Bayside Bar & Grille on 53rd Street, has been a nesting area for colonial nesting birds in the coastal bays for decades. Of late, it is the only nesting island in Maryland for laughing gulls and royal terns, a state-listed endangered bird species.

The release said the island has been rapidly eroding. Currently, there is just a small ring of vegetation around an ever-expanding tidal pond in the center. Unfortunately, most of the islands historically used by colonial nesting birds in the coastal bays have either eroded away or are now too small to support the birds.

Island loss is a phenomenon that is occurring all along the Atlantic

Coast in response to sea level rise, increased storminess, and development. Birds such as royal terns, common terns, and black skimmers lay their eggs on bare sand and use islands since they lack mammalian predators — foxes, raccoons, dogs, cats and humans. Due to significant island loss, the release said the breeding populations of the bird species are dramatically declining and are nearly eliminated from coastal Maryland.

This year is the first phase of a larger Reedy Island restoration project designed to restore marsh and bird habitats. Restoration is starting this spring with enhancement of the beach nesting habitat with crushed clam shell to raise the beach above storm driven high tides so the birds can successfully nest and raise their young.

According to the release, future work at Reedy Island will ultimately result in a nature-based restoration that will provide protection for nearby waterfront residences and businesses, as well as the tidal marshes that lie to the east of the island.

Plans are also underway for more
See REEDY Page 23

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Friday 2-4pm	4709 Coastal Hwy. #357, Ocean City	2 BR/2BA	Condo	\$414,000	Nancye Vermillion/Keller Williams Realty Delmarva North		
Friday 3-5pm	25 Coastal Drive, Berlin	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$419,900	Sandie Mattes/Keller Williams Realty		
Friday 3-5pm	14 136th Street #207, Ocean City	1BR/2BA	Condo	\$310,000	Kim Heaney/BHHS PenFed Realty		
Friday 3-5pm	12101 Assawoman Dr. #106, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$659,950	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate		
Friday 3-5pm	7 Windswept Dr., Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Single Family	\$339,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty		
Sat & Sun 10am-12:30pm	9 127th Street #204, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$440,900	Tina Dorsey/Coastal Life Realty		
Saturday 10:30am-12:30pm	107 Convention Center Dr. Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$469,900	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 10am-Noon	1207 Edgewater Ave., #104B, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Townhome	\$599,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty		
Saturday 11am-2pm	12327 Vista Way, Lighthouse Sound	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$1,375,000	Sandy Dougan/BHHS PenFed Realty		
Saturday 11am-1pm	13700 Coastal Hwy., #402, Ocean City	3BR/3BA	Condo	\$789,000	Kim Bounds/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Sunday 11am-1pm	2 80th Street #202, Ocean City	1BR/1.5BA	Condo	\$309,000	Kim Bounds/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Sunday 11am-1pm	13 131st Street #105, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$479,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Sunday 11am-2pm	12353 Meadow Drive, Berlin	4BR/2BA	Single Family	\$999,900	Rob & Anne-Marie Bouse/Re/Max Advantage Realty		
Saturday 2-4pm	25 Coastal Drive, Berlin	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$419,900	Di'mond Lockwood/Keller Williams Realty		
Sunday 10am-2pm	12355 Hidden Bay Drive, Berlin	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$899,900	Jennifer Kukul/Nikki Rose/Keller Williams Realty		



Library at Snow Hill Middle awarded \$10K for project

School will use funding to help better accommodate students with disabilities

(March 14, 2024) Snow Hill Middle School's library has been awarded \$10,000 to help with a new project.

According to a news release from Worcester County Public Schools. The library was selected as one of 310 nationwide to participate in the second round of Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities.

The American Library Association initiative provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help better serve people with disabilities.

The \$10,000 grant will help the library with Snow Hill's Quiet Corners, Bright Minds: Designing Library Spaces for Neurodivergent Learners project.

"We are honored to receive this competitive award, which is a testament to our commitment to meeting the needs of all of our learners," SHMS Principal Matthew Record said in the release. "We are grateful for this opportunity and eager to

make a positive impact in our Snow Hill community."

As part of the grant, SHMS Library Media Specialist Beau Williams will take an online course on exceptional learners. The school will then host a conversation with families about neurodiversity and use the funds to transform the school's library to provide sensory items for neurodivergent learners.

School officials plan to buy reading nooks, which will provide quiet spaces for students to read, work, or collect themselves. Light covers will be acquired to adjust the overly bright lighting. The project will also include a Lego wall and kits, sensory kits and beanbag and pea-pod-style seating.

This grant will not only provide a safe and accommodating environment for neurodivergent learners but also foster a more inclusive and understanding community, the release said.

"By creating a library space that addresses the sensory needs of students, we are taking a step towards breaking down barriers and ensuring that all students feel valued and supported in their educational journey," Williams said.

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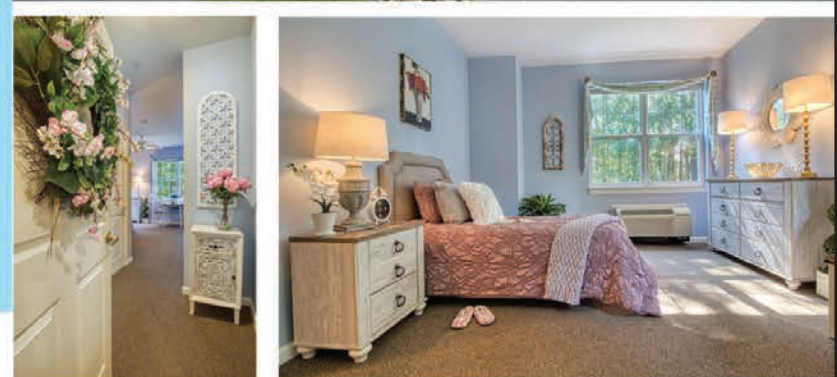
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Opinion

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

County grant formula should be tied to CPI

Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan has a point, when he says the Worcester County Commissioners should tie their annual grants to the towns to the Consumer Price Index.

Not only would all the towns and the Ocean Pines Association benefit from this more logical grant structure, the annual “beg-a-thon,” as these bended-knee appeals for money have been called, would become a much cleaner process.

As it is, representatives of the municipalities of Ocean City, Berlin, Snow Hill and Pocomoke, along with the property owners association that runs Ocean Pines, must go before the commissioners this time of year and ask, ever so politely, for what are known as unrestricted grants.

The “unrestricted” means the grant recipients can spend the money however they want, which is appropriate because these communities are really asking for the return of a sliver of the tax revenue their property owners paid to the county.

Considering that the amount of money taxpayers send to the county (and their own governments) seldom recedes, there’s no good reason why that rising tide of income to the county shouldn’t float all boats.

The best way to do that, as Meehan said, is by creating a formula that incorporates base amounts, the Consumer Price Index and increases, if any, in a district’s contribution to the county.

As it is, mayors, council members and managers must do their best to guess what they are likely to receive and go before the commissioners with their packets of justifications for why they should receive more.

That’s what is happening this year, as each entity has requested more than received last year, while hoping the commissioners will see things their way and make a more or less subjective call in their favor.

It’s time to do away with these productions and presentations and issue these unrestricted grants based on math instead of opinions of what’s fair and what isn’t.

Then, if a town feels it must have more, that would be the time to take the beg-a-thon approach.

Letters

What is hidden agenda?

Editor,

As a community member and education advocate, I have been attending County Commissioner meetings and Board of Education meetings. What I see happening is very disturbing.

The Board of Education has worked diligently to share with the County Commissioners the budget information they requested. However, the commissioners wanting the school system to totally rewrite their budget in a new form that does not meet the state requirements for school budgeting is totally unreasonable. In addition, it seems like the funding cuts a Maintenance of Effort budget necessitated were punishment not needed. The commissioners might want to remember when they do this, they are not punishing the adults but the students of Worcester County. This fight appears to be continuing this year with more cuts threatened by the commissioners. Is this good for our students? Is this good for our community? No.

Then we come to what our law enforcement community is doing to try to undermine community confidence in the schools. The Board of Education has been working with law-enforcement to address safety concerns over the past year. Why then did the sheriff and the state’s attorney publicly share suspect data on school safety? This release of specific incidents seems inappropriate since we are talking about juveniles. Our students are children and all of them deserve to be supported to meet success not to be treated like criminals.

What is the real agenda of the commissioners, the sheriff, and the state’s attorney? Our schools have had

an excellent reputation with student success for decades. Why are county officials now trying to undermine this success?

*Joan Roache
Ocean City
(The writer is a Team Leader for the Strong Schools Worcester County group.)*

Teacher addresses school safety

Editor,

I’ve spent my entire teaching career at Stephen Decatur Middle School. This is year 22. Never have I ever feared for my safety. I have had three of my four kiddos in my building. Never have I ever feared for their safety. My husband now works in my building as a substitute. Never have I ever feared for his safety. When I walk through our halls, I do not see criminals; I see students and colleagues. We are a family. We are Decatur. I have always felt proud to be a member of such an amazing and top performing school. I have always been proud to be a Worcester County teacher.

Amazing things happen in our schools each day. And one of the things that makes our county so special is that our schools are so deeply interconnected with and supported by our communities. When we say “We are Worcester” we mean the collective we. It takes all of us to make a difference in the lives of our students. We value the strong connection between schools, families, and communities.

What is the benefit of a sheriff painting our students as criminals? What is the benefit of creating divisiveness between a community and the schools that serve it? What is the benefit of cherry picking data to perpetuate a

narrative that is overwhelmingly incorrect? There is no benefit. What is the benefit of county commissioners refusing to fully fund our schools? There is no benefit.

Our students, teachers, leaders, schools, and communities cannot be turned into pawns in a game that has so much at stake. We must come together. We must put our students first in every way. School safety is important; I do not know a single person in education who would say it isn’t. Do some students make bad choices? Yes. But does that make them criminals? No. Does that mean our Worcester schools are overrun by violence? No.

We serve young people whose frontal lobes are still developing, so we can expect all the ups and downs that go along with the natural brain development that occurs into their young adult years. Kids can be mean, so we teach and model kindness. Kids can be impulsive & break rules (and yes, sometimes it results in a fight), so we discipline out of care for all students and to teach right from wrong. Kids can struggle with mental health, so we put support systems in place. We believe in neuroplasticity and perpetual learning. We believe in conscious discipline and trauma-informed practices. We believe in teaching the whole child. And, we believe that parents, communities, and schools must work together to support our learners. We cannot afford for divisiveness to distract us from the important work we must do together. We are Worcester. We are Worcester Strong.

*Jaimie Ridgely, Ed.D.
Berlin
(The writer is 2023-2024 Worcester County Teacher of the Year.)*

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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We invite you to share your opinion, 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.

Easter Magic celebration eyes Pines Farmers Market

Array of holiday and spring offerings available at this month's spring showcase

(March 14, 2024) The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market's annual Easter Magic celebration, featuring baked goods, early spring produce and blooming spring flowers, is set to return this month.

Market Manager David Bean said in a news release that the event will showcase the abundance of local bakeries at the marketplace.

"Shoppers should check with their favorite market bakeries for menu options and ordering deadlines," he said.

John DelVecchio of DelVecchio's Bakery will have Easter egg-clairs, traditional Easter breads, hot cross buns, and Easter scones, along with his usual offerings of cookies, cupcakes and pies.

Belinda White of Pies Etcetera will once again offer handmade chocolate-dipped peanut butter Easter eggs. White will make many dozens of these seasonal treats for market shoppers, but special orders are suggested as supplies go quickly.

Bean said in the release that people with special dietary concerns can visit Vivian's House, which offers vegan, gluten free and other special diet options for market shoppers.

"Vivian encourages customers to reach out with suggestions and requests for modified baked goods that meet their dietary concerns," he said. "Many of her regular offerings have

come from these special requests from her customers."

Maureen Meushaw, the owner of Pocket Farm, will bring farm fresh eggs from her flock of pasture-raised laying hens.

"Meushaw will be busy this spring raising new baby peeps that will soon be joining her other hens laying eggs for her new Ocean Pines market customers," Bean said.

Among the new merchants, Micalene Dorrak of Fika Coffee will offer several varieties of roasted coffee beans for shoppers. Bean said Dorrak is extremely knowledgeable about her product and the roasting process and enjoys answering questions from her customers.

Salt Marsh Dry Goods is another new arrival to the market.

"Owner Michelle Kemp creates reusable products for the kitchen and home," Bean said. "For those looking to replace the paper options for cooking and cleaning, Salt Marsh Dry Goods has sustainable options. Their home-sewn sustainable items include a reusable replacement for paper towels, napkins, baby wipes, makeup removers, coasters, trivets, and crocheted dish cleaners."

See PINES Page 25

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OC Reedy Island work prioritized

Continued from Page 20 island restorations in the coastal bays.

"If we do not act quickly, disappearance of small islands in the coastal bays that were formerly used by breeding terns and skimmers is a crisis that will lead to extirpation of these iconic birds in the bays behind Ocean City," Dave Brinker, a regional ecologist with Maryland DNR's Wildlife and Heritage Service, said in the release.

Brinker has been monitoring birds in the coastal bays for almost 40 years.

"Restoring the micro beach at Reedy Island and ultimately the entire island is an important first big step in retaining breeding terns, and possibly skimmers, in the Coastal Bays," he said.

For more information contact Roman Jesien at rjesien@mdcoastalbays.org.

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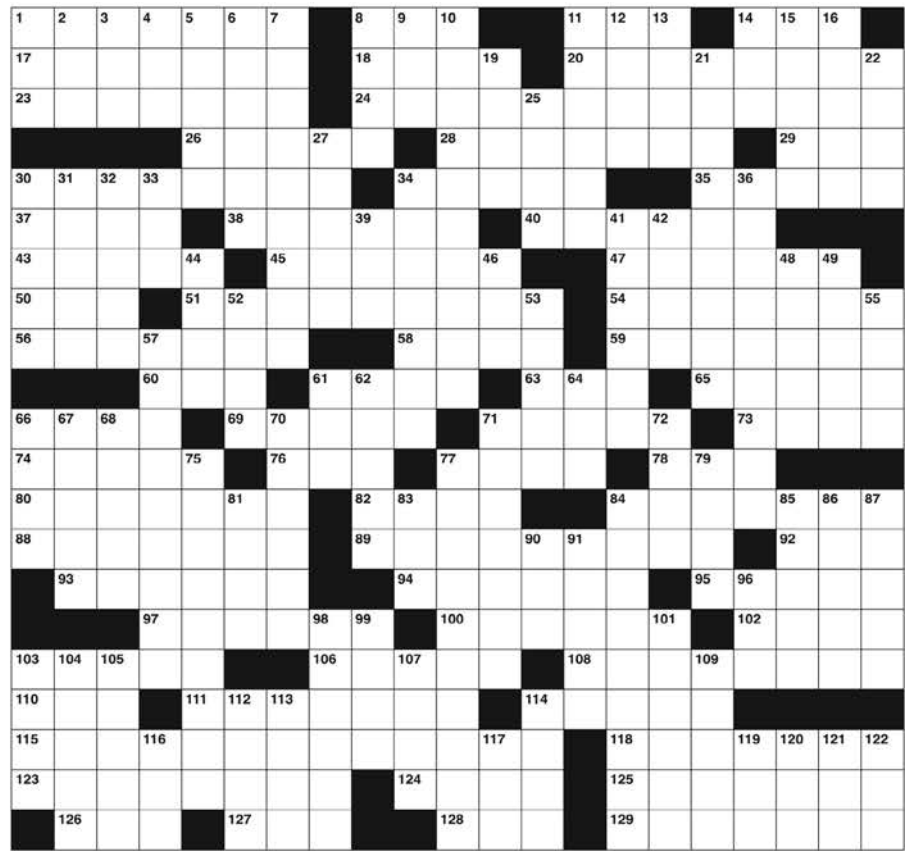
Puzzles

COUNTDOWN

BY HOANG-KIM VU / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Hoang-Kim Vu, of Washington, D.C., works in global public health. This is his 10th crossword for The Times — fitting, given the theme! — and his first Sunday. He wanted a theme that made full use of the larger grid, which resulted in this ambitious and impressive interlock. As a born-and-bred New Jerseyan, he hopes solvers will excuse 34-Down, with which he's "probably more comfortable" than most.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Loosefitting garment
 - 8 Things packed for a sleepover, informally
 - 11 Cavs, on a scoreboard
 - 14 Effects seen on FX, perhaps
 - 17 Nation on the Red Sea
 - 18 Helmsman on "Star Trek"
 - 20 High times for the petroleum industry
 - 23 X, but not Y
 - 24 It might help you keep up with old classmates
 - 26 Big-eyed baby
 - 28 Excerpted passage
 - 29 China's Sun ___-sen
 - 30 Carrier of goods by rail
 - 34 Player of 45s
 - 35 Haim of "Licorice Pizza"
 - 37 Iconic role for Carrie Fisher
 - 38 Certain porter
 - 40 "Right you are!"
 - 43 Contest
 - 45 Some Kiwis
 - 47 Stop on a publicity tour
 - 50 When repeated, gung-ho
 - 51 Dish often topped with marinara sauce
 - 54 Dorm décor, often
- DOWN**
- 1 -
 - 2 ___TV (network for "Impractical Jokers")
 - 3 Lower, as lights
 - 4 Hwy.
 - 5 Coding headache
 - 6 Naval engagement
 - 7 One taking interest in your education?
 - 8 H.S. exam
 - 9 7/
 - 103 Tree with "eyes" on its bark
 - 106 They can be tapped out
 - 108 Concern at the end of a space journey
 - 110 X
 - 111 Ambitious sort
 - 114 ___ Cherry, 1989 Grammy nominee for Best New Artist
 - 115 "Take it easy once in a while!"
 - 118 Sonny and Fredo, for two
 - 123 They're all pulling in the same direction
 - 124 Keep it in mind!
 - 125 Classy
 - 126 Chinese-dish eponym
 - 127 End of days?
 - 128 You might take them out for a quick spin, informally
 - 129 Rages
- ACROSS**
- 56 Rave
 - 58 Trivial
 - 59 ___ Paz, 1990 Literature Nobelist
 - 60 The "e" of i.e.
 - 61 Chosen name of five popes
 - 63 ___ Equis
 - 65 Prepare (oneself)
 - 66 Fundamentals
 - 69 Alternatives to Pumas
 - 71 Break for a bit
 - 73 Ctrl-Z command
 - 74 Does some fieldwork
 - 76 ___ Rose of Guns N' Roses
 - 77 Standings column
 - 78 Leb. neighbor
 - 80 French desserts whose name translates as "small ovens"
 - 82 Flair
 - 84 Thor, e.g.
 - 88 Makeup of some sleeves
 - 89 TV chef who wrote "Semi-Homemade Cooking"
 - 92 ___ Sremmurd (hip-hop duo)
 - 93 White Russian ingredient
 - 94 Playwright Eugene
 - 95 Michelangelo masterpiece
 - 97 Camelot figure
 - 100 It can be written in scripts known as naskh and ruq'ah
 - 102 Require
- DOWN**
- 10 Heaps at publishing houses
 - 11 Edward Jenner used it when developing the world's first successful vaccine
 - 12 Sigmatism, by another name
 - 13 The blonde in "Legally Blonde"
 - 14 What might unfold at camp
 - 15 Exclamation on April Fools' Day
 - 16 Words of clarification
 - 19 "Yeah ... pass"
 - 21 Checks for bugs
 - 22 Mlle., in Madrid
 - 25 -
 - 27 Wrap up by
 - 30 Distress signal
 - 31 Put on the air again
 - 32 -
 - 33 Letter after sigma
 - 34 Borough of New Jersey noted for its indoor shopping malls
 - 36 Landed on a licorice space in Candy Land, say
 - 39 Male swan
 - 41 Put side by side
 - 42 Relative of a gator
 - 44 Their eggs are dark green
 - 46 Camera spec
 - 48 -
 - 49 Brought before a jury
 - 52 This, in Spanish
 - 53 Malibu, e.g.
 - 55 One way to go



- 57 "This guy? We're together"
- 61 -
- 62 Accounts
- 64 Greenlights
- 66 Schedule slot filler: Abbr.
- 67 Grim
- 68 Terra ___
- 70 One doing the lord's work?
- 71 Birch bark and pine cones, e.g.
- 72 -
- 75 Missing work?
- 77 Exchange words?
- 79 Trickle (through)
- 81 -
- 83 Language spoken in Luang Prabang
- 84 Government bonds?
- 85 Welcome
- 86 Consumer
- 87 Set ... or word said before set
- 90 Estuary
- 91 "Three Tall Women" playwright
- 96 Overnight site
- 98 Cold feet and cold shoulder, for two
- 99 Emperor before the Year of the Four Emperors
- 101 Louisiana cooking style
- 103 "Flick of the Switch" band
- 104 Curt
- 105 Aches (for)
- 107 Classic soda brand
- 109 -
- 112 ___-Ball
- 113 Education orgs.
- 114 Hush-hush pacts, in brief
- 116 -
- 117 Good name, informally
- 119 Some smartphones
- 120 Something bent or lent
- 121 -
- 122 Norm: Abbr.

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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 47

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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



Pines market continues to expand

Continued from Page 23

For shoppers looking for unique Easter basket ideas, Dandy Treats owner Michelle Miller takes candies, snack foods, fruits and vegetables, and freeze dries them for a totally new taste experience.

“Everyone is talking about the unique products found at this green market stand,” Bean said. “Those Easter marshmallow peeps we all remember as a kid turn into something new and delightful after Miller freeze dries them. It’s easy to spend a lot of time at this market business discovering the many goodies to take along home.”

Snyder’s Produce and Beautiful Things returns to the marketplace on March 23, with spring bedding plants and potted Easter flowers. They will also be at the Easter Magic event.

“Owner Debbie Snyder brings a bountiful selection of patio planters, and she will custom plant any containers that shoppers bring in,” Bean said.

Brandon Brady of Stag Run Farm has been busy growing pansies and other bedding plants over the winter. Brady is known for his hanging baskets with flowering plants and greens.

Floral artisan and gardener Terry Jordan of Longridge Gardens will also bring fresh-cut spring floral

arrangements to the market.

“On market day, you don’t find many market baskets without Jordans blooms sticking above the baskets rim,” Bean said. “An amazing variety of daffodils from Jordan’s homestead gardens are complimented by early spring blooming flowers from her greenhouse. Jordan also harvests flowering twigs, like forsythia and pussy willow, forcing their blooms long before the natural spring blooms are found in the landscape.”

For fresh, local produce options, D. J. David Greengrocer will offer spring staples such as asparagus, spinach, fennel, scallions and watercress.

Co-owners David Joseph Deacon (D.J.) and Bean have been greeting shoppers at the Ocean Pines market for the past 13 years. Their regular market stand carries the finest fruits, vegetables, local honey, eggs, dried fruits and nuts.

Last year, more than 150 merchants, along with dozens of community partners, participated at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market. Bean said in the release said that nearly all those businesses will return this year.

“We are seeing tremendous growth in the number of new businesses,” he said. “We know our shoppers are always looking for the new,

unique, and different products for their market basket. Throughout the year, our market team seeks out merchants from near and far to present the most remarkable shopping experience for shoppers each Saturday day, year-round.”

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market is open 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays in White Horse Park, next to the Ocean Pines Administration Building and police department.

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Potted spring flowers are pictured at the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market.



Belong at Temple Bat Yam

A Reform Jewish Congregation

JOIN US FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES
FRIDAYS

ONEG AT 6:15PM & SERVICE AT 7PM

Questions? Reach us from 9am-2pm, Tuesday-Friday
at **410-641-4311** or **TempleBatYam97@aol.com**
11036 Worcester Hwy., Berlin, MD 21811
TempleBatYam-oc.org

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Calendar

Thurs., March 14

FINANCIAL LITERACY: EMPLOYEE & RETIREMENT SAVINGS WITH MD SAVES

Berlin 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=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&utm-aff=escb>

'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

STORYTIME: PI DAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Create your own pie and learn all about Pi Day. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Join in for a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FAIRY LANTERNS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. Create decorative and lighted mason jars. Limit 12. Registration required: 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

MONTHLY MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Come celebrate Women's History Month and Pi Day with this movie about Julia Child. Free event. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

THURSDAY CRAFTERNOON: SPRING DOOR HANGINGS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Create door hangings to welcome spring. All materials provided. Register: 410-641-0650 or www.worcesterlibrary.org.

BEACH SINGLE 55 PLUS MEET AND GREET

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

ZUMBA

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5-6 p.m. Join licensed Zumba instructor

Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required for each class: 410-524-1818. www.worcesterlibrary.org

TEEN STEAM

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 5 p.m. Create, explore and express yourself while developing your own STEAM skills. From origami to coding. For ages 11 years and older. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

Fri., March 15

'IRISH' YOU LUCK SCAVENGER HUNT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 9 a.m.-5 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

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

TAXATION BOOTCAMP: SAVVY ROTH CONVERSION STRATEGIES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Learn ways to enhance your tax-free portfolio, including Roth IRA rules, the appropriate time to accelerate tax payments and ways to optimize your strategy. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'CIRCE' BY MADELINE MILLER

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

FRIED FLOUNDER DINNER

Bowen UM Church Hall, 8423 Newark Road, Newark, 4:30 p.m. Fried flounder dinner with green beans, Mac & cheese, cornbread, dessert and beverage. Carry-outs available. Cost is \$10.

Sat., March 16

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

45th Street & Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12 p.m. Parade begins at 60th Street and proceeds south along Coastal Highway to the 45th Street judging stand and into the parking lot where the Irish Festival takes place. www.delmarvairish.org

Continued on Page 27



PHOTO COURTESY TEMPLE BAT YAM

Participants in Temple Bat Yam's Mitzvah Day car wash are shown at Buckingham Presbyterian Church. The event raised social awareness and over \$600 for Worcester Goes Purple.

Temple Bat Yam puts focus on community connections

(March 14, 2024) Members of Temple Bat Yam in Berlin have for years boasted a ongoing commitment to interfaith engagement and community service, fostering connections that have strengthened the bonds within the local community.

According to a news release, the journey began 2 1/2 years ago when Rabbi Arthur Rutberg was installed as the spiritual leader of the temple. Invitations were extended to clergy in the surrounding area, resulting in overwhelming support and participation in the installation ceremony. From there, the Interfaith Friendship Association emerged, now boasting about 16 members from diverse religious backgrounds.

In response to the Oct. 7, attack on Israel, Temple Bat Yam galvanized the entire community into action. Local churches were invited to join in a prayer service, demonstrating unity and solidarity. The community rallied together, contributing over \$1,200, which was promptly donated to support Israel. The Windmill Winery contributed another \$1,500. A Play for Israel event held in a Delaware church also saw success, collecting over \$10,000 from players and merchants.

The outpouring of support during the challenging times truly encapsulates the warmth and compassion of the community.

The release said Temple Bat Yam's commitment to interfaith engagement extends beyond crisis response, encompassing a range of initiatives that bring together members of vari-

ous faiths and backgrounds.

The initiatives include Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer services, ice cream socials at the community church, Chamber Music By the Sea with community-wide invitations, and participation in events such as Christmas dinners, food and clothing drives, collections for Toys for Tots, Mitzvah Days, teddy bears collected for hospice patients, letters of condolence to fallen soldiers, and the Hal Glick Gala, partnered with Atlantic General Hospital, where proceeds are directed to charities chosen by honorees.

Temple Bat Yam also hosted a Menorah lighting event on the 8th day of Chanukah at the Inn Berlin, attracting hundreds of attendees, both Jews and Christians. The success of the night paved the way for future celebrations, with the next Menorah lighting scheduled for the seventh day of Chanukah, coinciding with New Year's Eve at 5 p.m.

Temple Bat Yam extends an invitation to the community church to join in the Purim celebration at 7 p.m., March 22, to further solidifying the spirit of cooperation and shared celebration.

The release said Temple Bat Yam remains committed to building bridges between communities, fostering understanding, and creating a strong, united, and supportive environment for all.

For more information on the temple's initiatives or upcoming events, contact President, Candy Gusst at fgusst@aol.com.

Calendar

Continued from Page 26

WALK WITH A DOC

South Gate Pond, Ocean Pines, 9-10 a.m. AGHRx RediScripts pharmacist Karan Bealla will discuss pharmacy services. Following the discussion, Bealla will lead the group for a walk around the park's trail. Alyce Marzola, 410-641-9268

DRIVE THRU CHURCH LUNCHEON

Powellville Methodist Church, 35606 Mount Hermon Road, Pittsville, 10 a.m. Featuring oyster fritter sandwiches, homemade chicken salad, homemade soups including lima beans and corn, peas and dumplings and vegetable beef. Bake sale items available. 410-835-8796, 443-880-8804

CRAFTY SATURDAY: ST. PATRICK'S DAY STORYTIME AND CRAFT

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Join in for a celebration of all things Irish. All ages. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

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

Sun., March 17

ANNUAL MEN'S DAY

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, 10 a.m. The guest preacher is Pastor David Thorpe of New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church in Salisbury. All are welcome. 410-641-0270

UNSTOPPABLE JOY KIDS CARNIVAL FUNDRAISER

Carousel Oceanfront Hotel & Condos, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12-3 p.m. Featuring carnival games, performances, live DJ, face painting, art raffles, Mermaid Tasha, Hoola Guru, and creative movement with Staci Alexander. Cost is \$25 per family of 4 and \$5 for each child.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., March 18

OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF WORCESTER COUNTY MEETING AND PROGRAM

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10 a.m. Social time begins at 9:30 a.m. "Women's Rights: Past,

Present and Future" a presentation by DWC members in honor of Women's History Month. www.dwcmd.org

STORY TIME: SPRINGTIME

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

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION: 'BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR' BY RICHARD WRIGHT

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. The group is reading from Book 5 of the Great Conversations Anthology. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

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

THE SIMON & GARFUNKEL STORY

Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Huge projection photos, film footage and a full live band performing their hits. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/46115640/the-simon-garfunkel-story-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-cent>.

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.

Tues., March 19

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy. Bring a laptop, tablet or papers containing family information. Registration requested: 410-208-4014. www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME: 'NURSERY RHYMES'

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

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

SAFE BOATING COURSE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 6-9 p.m. Takes place March 19, 20 and 21. Cost is

\$20 for all three evenings. Register: Barry Cohen, 410-935-4807, CGAUXOC@gmail.com.

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

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 20

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

EASTERN SHORE SEWISTS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Promoting the needle arts through sewing education, activities and textile crafts. All skill levels. 410-641-0650,

www.worcesterlibrary.org

BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Singing songs and playing. For ages 0-2 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BACKGAMMON CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Drop in for a game of Backgammon. Beginners welcome. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

John H. "Jack" Burbage, Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center, 9707 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 1-2 p.m. For survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Women Supporting Women, 410-548-7880

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3-4 p.m. For stroke survivors, family and friends. 410-641-4765, bglime@atlanticgeneral.org

BOOK SWAP

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. Bring in a book and trade it with another to keep. For ages 6-11 years. 410-641-0650, 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. barbicroos@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.kiwanisofopoc.org

ONGOING EVENTS

SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, all day, March 18-28. Stop by to grab a scavenger hunt sheet and search the library for reading rabis. Finish the hunt to reveal a secret message. For ages 0-5 years and 6-11 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TEEN STEAM STATION

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., during March. Each hands-on activity will focus on art, math, science, engineering or technology. 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

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



HELP WANTED

Seeking Housekeeper F/T,
YR. Seaside Condominiums,
135th St. Apply in person.
410-250-2262

HELP WANTED

Smal Engine Mechanic
Year-round.
Competitive Wages.
443-754-1047

HELP WANTED

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.

HELP WANTED

Currently looking for two part-time **Pool Attendants.** Seasonal May 24 through Sept. 2. Shift Monday through Sunday, 10am to 4pm and 4-10pm. Duties include enforcing the pool rules as posted and checking pool bands. Send resume to **Kristin.moore@atlantisocmd.com**

HELP WANTED

Thunderbird Beach Motel. Now hiring all shifts and positions. Competitive pay. **Apply in person starting March 26. 32nd St. Baltimore Ave., Monday through Friday from 9am-3pm.**

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

HELP WANTED

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**

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

Classifieds 410-723-6397

TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER

The Town of Snow Hill is accepting applications for the position of Code Compliance Officer. Responsibilities include: enforcement of various Town codes; inspections; issuance of permits; processing of complaints and staffing of various committees. Preferred candidate is IRC Certified and has familiarity with IBC, IEBC, Energy Code, ADA, and other applicable codes; has good organizational skills, excellent communication skills and is available to attend night meetings.

Salary commensurate with experience. This is a full-time position with Town benefits, health insurance and Maryland State Retirement.

To request an application form, send resume with salary requirements to: csullivan@snowhillmd.com or Town of Snow Hill, Carol Sullivan, P.O. Box 348, Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

EXECUTIVE POSITION AVAILABLE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND Executive Administrator

The Town of Snow Hill seeks a qualified candidate for its Executive Administrator position.

PAY RATE: Hourly, TBD commensurate with qualifications/experience. Full-time, health insurance, retirement, vacation, sick, personal and holidays.

JOB SUMMARY: Provides direct and indirect support to Town Manager, Mayor & Council in management of Town Hall office and various departments. Human resources, insurance management, administration. Visit www.snowhillmd.gov for Job Description and Employment Application.

TO APPLY: Email letter of interest & resumé with references to Town Manager Rick Pollitt at townmanager@snowhillmd.com by **FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024.**

POSITION AVAILABLE TOWN OF SNOW HILL CITY OF POCOMOKE GRANT WRITER/ADMINISTRATOR CIRCUIT-RIDER STAFF PERSON

The Town of Snow Hill and City of Pocomoke City are the joint beneficiaries of a grant from the State of Maryland, Department of Housing & Community Development Circuit Rider Program to fund and hire a joint circuit-rider staff person. The position is a 40-hour per week obligation, half in Town of Snow Hill and half in Pocomoke City. Both locations report directly to the Town Manager. The Snow Hill position will include assisting the Executive Administrator to include attending meetings and taking and transcribing meeting minutes, posting and monitoring Facebook, posting to website and other clerical duties. The Pocomoke City involves extensive work in grant research, application and administration in addition to other duties as assigned. Preferably applicants should have experience with grant writing and grant management, and clerical duties.

Please submit a letter of interest/resume, with application to Carol Sullivan, Executive Administrator, P. O. Box 348, Snow Hill, MD 21863.

"Town of Snow Hill and Pocomoke City are Equal Opportunity Employers"

TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND Clerk I Position Opening

The Town of Snow Hill seeks a qualified candidate for its Clerk 1 position.

PAY RATE: Hourly, TBD commensurate with qualifications/experience. Full-time, health insurance, retirement, vacation, sick, personal and holidays.

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

TO APPLY: Email letter of interest & resumé to Rick Pollitt at townmanager@snowhillmd.com by **March 15, 2024.**



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Come join our Team for our 100th Year!

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FULL TIME LOAN OFFICER Ocean City, MD

Farmers Bank of Willards has a **Full Time Loan Officer position** available in **Ocean City, MD.** Looking for professional and driven individuals with commercial and consumer lending experience. Strong business development skills are a must.

Please send resume to:
Kris.derickson@fbwbank.com

"Equal Employment Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer"

NOW HIRING SPECIALTY PACKAGING & E-COMMERCE ASSOCIATE

FULL TIME Monday - Friday
NO NIGHTS OR WEEKENDS

Individuals will be responsible for large scale packaging of gift chocolates/custom products and processing e-commerce and phone orders. All candidates must be at least 18 years of age, with the ability to lift at least 30 pounds and stand for an 8-hour shift. Strong attention to detail a must!



PLEASE APPLY
IN PERSON

Tuesday - Friday
11am to 3 pm

Corporate Office
5301 Coastal Highway
Ocean City MD 21842



Currently Hiring Manpower For: Carpenter | Laborer | Painters Stucco & EIFS Mechanics Concrete Work

- o Experience preferred.
- o Tools, transportation & valid driver's license are a plus.
- o Excellent pay and a competitive benefits package available.

Please Apply Online:

<https://www.allstatesconst.com/delmarva-renovations-careers>
Or Contact Our Office at 410-352-9800

Classified Deadline is Monday @ 5pm ~ 410-723-6397



SEASONAL POSITIONS

- Dockhand/Fuel Dock Attendants
- General Clerical
- Boat Yard Attendant
- Maintenance

Apply online:
DelawareStateJobs.com

Chairside DENTAL ASS'T.

Experience Preferred
Ocean View, DE

Email Resume:
molarbiz@yahoo.com



- Convenient
- Quick
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- Days, Nights & Weekends

HELP WANTED

Now Hiring Year-Round GM Position

Great starting salary, paid vacation. Must have restaurant experience.

Apply in person at The Greene Turtle West OC on Route 611.

HELP WANTED

Office Administration for Condo Assn. Duties include answering phones, dealing with owner inquiries and other duties as assigned. Quickbooks experience pref. Mon., Wed.-Fri. from 8am to 4pm. Send resume to kristin.moore@atlantisocmd.com



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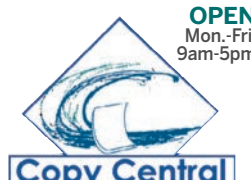
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