



Pines will sell itself at expo of amenities

Season kickoff event hopes to generate memberships

By **Tara Fischer**
Staff Writer

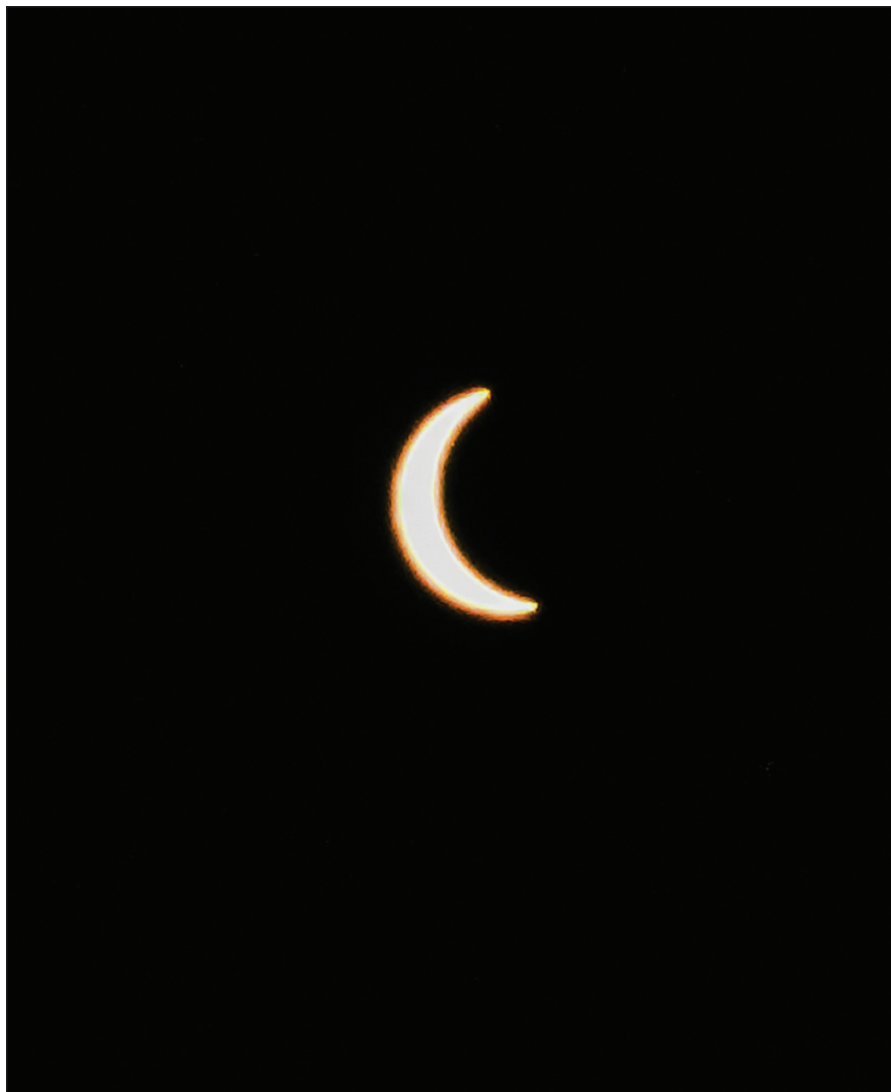
(April 11, 2024) Ocean Pines clubs, amenities and businesses will have the chance to gain new membership as they gear up to welcome residents to the first-ever Season Kickoff Expo on April 20 at White Horse Park.

The event will feature representatives from the community's amenities and clubs. Ocean Pines homeowners can browse the booths, receive information on organizations like Maryland Coastal Bays or the Delmarva Chorus and sign up for golf club and racquet center memberships.

"People are looking for new things to do as we come out of winter," Communications Committee Chair Linda Yurche said.

The Aquatics Advisory Committee conceived the event. In the fall of 2022, the team was brainstorming how to attract more members to the pools, the group's chair, Gary Miller, said.

"This was when COVID was still
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MOON SHADOW

A photographer captured Monday's eclipse with a shutter of 1/8000, using a 2000 neutral density filter with a fixed aperture f2.8.

No tax boost main goal in Berlin budget

Constant rate proposed after fiscal adjustments

By **Charlene Sharpe**
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) Berlin officials made it clear this week they are not planning to increase the tax rate.

After introducing a tax rate of \$0.8375 per \$100 of assessed valuation on Monday through first reading ordinance, Mayor Zack Tyndall instructed staff to plan on adjusting the rate to the current rate of \$0.8275 before the public hearing April 22. He said adjustments had been made by the council during last week's budget work session to address the majority of the projected fiscal year 2025 shortfall.

"I think the public hearing should reflect the discussion from the general fund work session so it should be .8275 per \$100 of assessed value," Tyndall said.

In a lengthy budget work session last Tuesday, elected officials reviewed a proposed \$13.5 million budget. Though the discussion started with a \$161,000 shortfall, ad-
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'Bridge' grant funds may not involve bridge over highway

Mayor, council say money to be used to find way to improve safety, access

By **Charlene Sharpe**
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) Talk of the proposed pedestrian bridge over Route 113 highlighted a strategic plan work session in Berlin this week.

Upon hearing that there was some concern within the community regarding plans for a pedestrian bridge over Route 113, Mayor Zack Tyndall stressed that the \$1.2 million in grant funding the town received this spring would be used to improve accessibility.

"It's really to reconnect communities," he said. "Is that a better crosswalk, is that better signaling... It's

how do we overcome that. The bridge is the golden goose if we can get it but it's not the end all be all. There are other options that are available."

In March, Senators Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin announced Berlin would be receiving \$1.2 million for "Bridging the Highway that Divides Berlin" project. An announcement from their offices said that the funding would be used to plan and design a bicycle and pedestrian-friendly bridge over Route 113, remedying longstanding lack of safe access to schools, jobs and recreation for town residents.

During this week's strategic plan work session, Councilwoman Shaneka Nichols brought up the proposed bridge and said she felt it could be tied to the "One Berlin" goal iden-
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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The intersection of Bay Street and Route 113 is pictured last summer after the state conducted a paving and restriping project.

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TARA FISCHER/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Association, in conjunction with Maryland Coastal Bays Program, received two design bids to address erosion at the South Gate Pond shoreline, which is pictured.

Ocean Pines officials will review pond restoration bids

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 11, 2024) The Ocean Pines Association is one step closer to combatting erosion around the South Gate Pond as they recently received two bids for the design of the restoration project.

According to Joe Reynolds, the on-line Ocean Pines Forum moderator, the Annapolis-based Underwood and Associates provided a design bid of \$50,358.56. Vista Design, Inc., out of Showell, bid \$53,070.

The companies were asked to submit a price tag with their design plan for the landscape surrounding the pond, which will address water quality, erosion, aesthetics, and fishing access. OPA General Manager John Viola said the association will make their final decision with the help of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program. The selected business will also handle the construction of the project.

Financial support for the initiative will come exclusively from grant money, Viola maintained. The association has already received \$150,000 in funding from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The project's total cost is still unknown, but the company OPA chooses will first draft a design plan, which will inform the overall price.

Viola said the need for such a project at the pond was discovered roughly a year ago. To combat the erosion, vegetation, including grass and flowers, will be planted around the perimeter of the waterway. The entire project is expected to cover 4,600 feet of shoreline. The first phase will focus on the area that faces Racetrack Road, where the soil has

been identified as particularly troublesome.

"We initially saw this as doing some plantings to help stem erosion along certain parts of the South Gate Pond," Viola said in February. "After further review by our team and a site visit by Maryland Coastal Bays Program officials, we think there's an opportunity for a larger project to help address erosion issues, improve water quality, and beautify the entire area while also preserving fishing space and protecting local wildlife, like the fish and turtles that live in the pond. This will also create a nice backdrop for the Veterans Memorial events."

The general manager said that both bidders addressed the bulk of the project's needs and that they would make their decision based on follow-up and the value of OPA.

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OP seeks amenities memberships at expo

Continued from Page 1

around, and people had not been going out as much," he noted. "We were trying to figure out how to get people to know what is available with our pools."

This process revealed to the committee that aquatics was not the only activity having difficulty attracting new participants. Despite new residents moving into the community, the golf course and the racquet center also struggled with a membership plateau. As the kickoff's planning continued, Miller said that they discovered new citizens and some long-time homeowners were unaware of the many clubs in the neighborhood.

The initiative soon became a platform to display all that Ocean Pines offers. The showcased amenities will include the Ocean Pines Golf Club, aquatics, the Ocean Pines Beach Club, marina and water sports, the Artisan Gift Shop, the Racquet Sports Center, and recreation and parks.

Assateague Coastal Trust, Berlin Optimists, the Women's Club of Ocean Pines, Ravens Roost 44, Delmarva Cat Connection, and the Worcester County Humane Society are a few of the clubs expected to attend. These organizations can provide details on their work and solicit new members. The complete list can be found on the event's official website. According to Yurche, more than 80 exhibitors are slated to appear.

The golf club is also offering special deals available only on Sunday, April 21, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Golfers will have free access to the driving range, tips and tricks from the pros, and no greens fees.

"We wanted to focus on all that Ocean Pines has to offer for its residents and friends and people

coming to look and buy here," Miller said.

The Season Kickoff Expo will feature live entertainment and activities. The Ocean Pines Library is bringing its bookmobile, and Chesapeake Martial Arts and the square-dancing club, the Pine Steppers, are performing demonstrations. Additionally, attendees can listen to live music from local groups and receive free health screenings. Coastal Hospice will also have a table to provide information on the types of care their facility and staff provide.

"The event will be interactive and fun," Yurche said.

Miller maintained that the day will be an excellent way for small businesses to gain exposure. Residents can scope out backyard companies they were unaware of, like Capricho Books, Ocean Elements Salt Spa, OC Bayhopper, Pure Family Fitness, and String and Petals.

"It would be up to the OPA Board of Directors, but I would love to see it become an annual thing," Yurche expressed. "It's the perfect time of year to get people excited about the season, and hundreds of new people are moving into Ocean Pines every year. It's a great way to get them involved in the community."

Miller said that business sponsors are covering the costs of the entire event. These include Realtor Donna Frankowski of ERA Martin Associates, Tidal Health, Coastal Bath Company, Atlantic General Hospital, Taylor Bank, Matt Ortt Companies, Derrick Elzey of State Farm, and in-kind support from Red Sun Custom Apparel, Shore Things, and Copy Central.

The event is free admission. However, food and drinks will be available for purchase from trucks hosted by Hoopers Crab House, Get Baked, That



TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines amenities, clubs, and businesses gear up to welcome residents at the community's first-ever Season Kickoff Expo. Organization representatives will be available to provide general and sign-up information for citizens looking to get more involved in the neighborhood.

Kitchen, Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines/ Ocean City, Sweet Addiction Baked Goods, and Kona Ice.

"I hope residents come out and smile at their neighbors and feel good about a new season here in Ocean Pines," Yurche said. "...I hope people will come out and feel good about living in the community."

The Ocean Pines Season Kickoff Expo is scheduled for Saturday, April 20, from 3 to 7 p.m. at White Horse Park. Pending inclement weather, a rain date of April 27 has been set.

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Grant will cover access studies

Continued from Page 1

tified in the strategic plan.

She hoped the bridge would be named for Tymeir Bowen, the teenager that was struck by a car and killed while crossing Route 113. She said having his family be the first ones to cross the bridge would be pivotal for the town.

"We will help erase that negativity tenfold," she said.

She added that she'd like the bridge to be tied in to the strategic planning process so that community members could share their thoughts on it during next week's community input session.

"I'd like this to be a talking piece for next week so that when the community is present Monday and Wednesday they can voice their concerns," Nichols said. "I'm hearing today that a few people, there may be some concern."

Tyndall stressed that the point of the grant was to give the town the money to plan and gather community input regarding the bridge. Nichols maintained the some community discussion was needed.

"It's been brought to the table to us as a 'Ta-da! Look at what you've received,'" she said. "As a larger body we're looking at it as the positive, the benefits of having this. I think we should also welcome the sentiment."

Councilman Steve Green said he'd also heard not everyone supported a pedestrian overpass.

"I think it's also maybe the lack of clarity on what exactly is being studied here," he said.

Tyndall said it was important the public didn't get too far ahead of the process. He said the grant was to study ways to improve access for residents in the area of Route 113.

"Part of that is bringing in folks that can help have and guide that conversation. I really don't want that to be misconstrued anywhere," he said.

According to the town's news release, the "pedestrian and bicycle bridge" over Route 113, as well as other sidewalk and street crossing improvements, are meant to better connect both sides of the Town of Berlin, which is currently split by the roadway.

Tax increase not seen as needed

Continued from Page 1

justments were made to eliminate the projected deficit. Tyndall noted revenue had not been identified, however, to cover the additional funding request made by the Berlin Fire Company for fire and EMS.

"We will consider that during our next work session which is next Monday," he said. "We have asked the fire company and EMS to provide some supplemental information."

Tyndall said while the town had advertised for a potential one-cent increase, there was now no need for the tax hike notion to move forward at this time.

"This is just a draft ordinance, it is not written in stone," Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said.

Finance Director Natalie Saleh expressed concern, however, since the



Council members Jay Knerr and Shaneka Nichols are pictured during Monday's budget discussion in council chambers at Town Hall.

CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

town already advertised the higher rate and was required to advertise multiple times before the public hearing on April 22. She said the rate should be adjusted during the public hearing.

Tyndall disagreed and said he'd like to see the advertising adjusted to the public would know the actual tax

rate being considered. Councilman Steve Green said the town could likely adjust the advertisement and have it run in the newspaper twice before April 22, thereby satisfying the advertising requirement. Saleh said she'd check with state officials to ensure the rate could be changed prior to the public hearing.

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Feedback sought on draft of strategic plan

Two listening sessions for residents planned at pair of sites on April 15 and 17

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) Citizens will have the chance to weigh in on the town's draft strategic plan at two sessions next week.

The Berlin Town Council on Monday met with representatives from Salisbury University's BEACON (Business Economic and Community Outreach Network) during a work session Monday to review the third phase of the municipality's strategic planning process. Following the council review, BEACON is set to meet with community members April 15 and April 17.

"We really appreciate the work you



CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Representatives of Salisbury University's BEACON group presented during a work session on Monday a draft of the town's strategic plan, which would cover fiscal years 2025 through 2028.

and your team are doing," Mayor Zack Tyndall said.

Last August, town officials hired BEACON to develop a strategic plan

to replace the most recent one, which was done in 2016. The document is meant to guide municipal spending for the next few years. Following a community survey last fall and public input sessions in January, BEACON's John Hickman and Jessica Iacona this week presented a draft of the plan itself. Hickman went over the various driving strategies and accompanying action steps that have been identified as town priorities following community discussions.

"Driving strategy 1 is to foster a community where all are welcome and valued," he said.

Action steps associated with that strategy, for example, include rotating the locations of town meetings, enhancing the involvement of community organizations and creating a "One Berlin" campaign. Other driving strategies discussed this week included focusing on public safety needs, improving infrastructure, retaining a small-town feel, improving neighborhood connectivity and improving recreation facilities.

Council members adjusted some of the timelines associated with certain action steps and weighed in on the wording used throughout the

plan. Councilman Dean Burrell asked that references to east and west Berlin be eliminated.

"Each time we use east and west Berlin we drive a spike dividing our town," he said. "If we're going to move past this ... we're going to have to stop thinking about Berlin as an east and a west. If we could not use that term throughout I think it would serve us better."

While he acknowledged that the references were used to relay important goals, such as connectivity and improving accessibility, he said those topics could be conveyed with references to particular neighborhoods. His peers agreed.

After working in the council's recommended changes this week, Hickman and his team are scheduled to present the plan to the public April 15 and April 17 at community involvement sessions. BEACON will then share that input with elected officials.

Town leaders encourage residents to attend either community session, the first of which is set for Monday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Berlin library. The second session is set for Wednesday, April 17, at 6 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Update on milling, patching and paving projects in Pines

(April 11, 2024) Contractors are milling and patching on several streets in Ocean Pines, with paving work to follow through the month of April.

In an update last week, Asphalt Maintenance LLC of Salisbury officials said they plan to finish prep work this week and start paving April 15, weather permitting.

Affected streets are:

- Battersea Road
- Canal Road

- Deerfield Court
- Driftwood Lane
- Moonraker Road
- St. Martins Lane
- Waters Edge Court
- Warf Court

Public Works Director Eddie Wells said in a news release that flaggers will help direct traffic, and plans are to always keep one lane open on each street.

For roadwork updates, visit ocean-pines.org.

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Private lane name change under review in South Point

Commissioners table request to allow for code questions to be answered

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) County officials delayed renaming a private road in South Point in an effort to get more information.

The Worcester County Commissioners this week agreed to table the decision regarding the naming of a private lane in the South Point area. While staff presented potential names, the commissioners said they understood residents' desire not to change their addresses. They asked staff to review potential alternatives.

"Let's not make a decision today so that we can accommodate what the property owners would like as well," Commissioner Chip Bertino said.

According to staff, an unnamed private lane in South Point was brought to their attention last fall following a fire at one of the handful of residences on the lane. Fire crews had trouble locating the house, as it is currently addressed off South Point Road even though it's on a private lane. While staff presented a few potential road names, three residents of the lane approached the commissioners to say they objected to the change.

"This lane has been there since

1971," resident Giovanni David said.

He said the fire department had trouble finding the house that had the fire because its mailbox didn't have proper numbering. He said if the homes on the lane had clearly visible numbers on their mailboxes the county wouldn't need to name the lane.

Commissioner Jim Bunting said the lane should have been named properly years ago but acknowledged the hardship the residents would face in changing their addresses. Commissioners Eric Fiori and Joe Mitrecic agreed they didn't want to make the residents change their addresses.

When asked for his input, Fire Marshal Matt Owens said he felt the addition of clear numbering at each house would help during an emergency situation. While Fiori made a motion to leave the lane unnamed and have the residents number their houses, staff pointed out the county's code requires private lanes with more than three houses to be named.

"This doesn't seem any different than any other private lane that would get a name," said Roscoe Leslie, the county attorney.

Bertino said he was uncomfortable approving something that didn't meet county code but acknowledged the commissioners' desire to work with residents. At his suggestion, Fiori agreed to table his motion to give staff time to review the situation.

"We have opportunity to vet other options to accommodate what the commissioners would like to do, what the property owners would like to do, and still meet county code, even if it means adjusting county code if in fact we decide to go that way," Bertino said.

Worcester arts council seeking entries for May

(April 11, 2024) The Worcester County Arts Council is inviting artists to participate in juried art competition "Seasons," culminating with an exhibit to be presented in May and June at the organization's gallery in Berlin.

All entries will be juried in and judged for the competition and will be accepted from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 23-25, at the gallery located at 6 Jefferson St.

Open to artists from all backgrounds, mediums, and locations, participants are encouraged to submit their artwork and share their unique visions of the seasons.

Detailed guidelines for the competition and entry form are available on the Arts Council's website at worcestercountyartscouncil.org

Winners will be announced and monetary awards presented during a public reception, set 4-6 p.m., May 10.

The exhibit will be on display May 1 through June 30.

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Fire department continues capital fundraising efforts

Bingo event set for April 18 at casino to raise money for South Station in Pines

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 11, 2024) The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department continues to hold fundraising initiatives for fire equipment and an improved South Station facility.

The OPVFD will host its second annual bingo fundraiser at Ocean Downs Casino on Thursday, April 18. Doors will open at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$35 if purchased in advance and \$45 at the door, pending availability. According to the department's president, Joe Enste, as of April 9, 30 of 216 entrance passes remained.

Enste said that the community, along with the firefighters, has made the fundraiser possible.

"The administration members of the OPVFD have been working hard for several months to secure the venue, rent the necessary equipment, and network with local businesses to sponsor the cash prizes and secure general donations," Enste said.

In addition to monetary awards, participants will also have the chance

to win silent auction raffle items.

Proceeds from the night will go toward the OPVFD's Apparatus Replacement Fund and EMS units. The group has even more fundraisers scheduled this year to further financial support.

The Queen of Hearts raffle is on week six. Players can purchase an available spot on the electronic board for \$5, and a random number generator will select a purchaser from the weekly sales list. Participants must choose the Queen of Hearts to win the prize, which is 60% of the jackpot. Ticket sales close at 4:30 p.m. each Tuesday, and the drawings are livestreamed via Facebook on the same day at 5:30 p.m.

OPVFD will once again host its vehicle drawing. Enste said that this year, they are selling 2,500 tickets for \$100 each. The drawing will occur when all are bought or the last week of December, whichever comes first.

The team is partnering with Pittsville Ford/ Preston Automotive Group to raffle off a 2024 Ford F-150 5.0L V8 4x4 SuperCrew STX. As of 2024, OPVFD will "cover all expenses associated with winning the vehicle," including taxes and fees, Enste said.

Additionally, the department is scheduled to attend Ocean Pine's Sea-



TARA FISCHER/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department gears up to host fundraising events, like their annual cash bingo, to garner financial support for fire equipment and an updated South Station facility.

son Kickoff Expo on April 20 and will bring a fire truck for the community to explore. They will also be selling raffle tickets and recruiting new members.

The department is in the process of securing funding for an updated South Station. The president said they had received a few grants and bonds for the project, thanks to support from Senator Mary Beth Carozza (R-38) and Del. Wayne Hartman (R-38C). Residents are welcome to donate di-

rectly to the OPVFD as well. Values of \$1000, \$5000, and anything from \$10000 and up will be recognized on plaques in the finalized facility.

"We have an amazing community that we serve and are so very thankful for the support we receive," Enste said. "Whether it is donations to our annual fund drive, participation in our raffles, or simply dropping off treats to the department, we are lucky to serve in such a giving community."

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Sports complex operators reviewed

Officials also considering sites, set goal to break ground sometime in 2026

By Bethany Hooper
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) The Town of Ocean City is reviewing proposals from companies interested in operating a planned sports complex.

As the resort continues to seek funding through the legislature and land for a proposed sports complex, City Manager Terry McGean said this week the Town of Ocean City has received four proposals – submitted by Laurel Hill Sports, Kemper Sports, The Sports Facilities Company and Eastern Sports Management/Ripken Baseball – for an operations consultant that would manage the facility. The announcement comes months after the Mayor and Council, at the recommendation of the Ocean City Sports Complex Task Force, voted to seek proposals from facility operators.

“We have received four proposals for an operations consultant, and they are under review,” he said.

Mayor Rick Meehan said earlier this year bringing a professional operator on board during the planning phase of the project will allow the town to begin marketing the sports complex and soliciting sponsors so that there would be no operating deficit once the facility is developed. As part of the planning phase, the town is also seeking funds to support site assessment and design work.

“At this time there is \$250,000 in the state capital bond request,” McGean said this week. “This could change as things progress near the end of the session. The goal is to have enough funding to get us through site evaluation and preliminary design and costs estimates so we have good documentation to request full con-

struction costs during the 2025 legislative session.”

In January, the Mayor and Council voted to spend up to \$500,000 on site assessment and design work for the sports complex project, with funds to be reimbursed from a future bond issuance. While the work is projected at roughly \$1 million, the town planned to fund half the cost and seek the remainder from the state.

According to officials, the idea is to have funding available once a property is identified to keep the project moving forward. With two other sports complex facilities currently proposed in Maryland, Del. Wayne Hartman (R-38) expressed concern the town will be in competition for state dollars.

“It is important to raise awareness of these other two complexes and evaluate their impact,” he told the OC Today-Dispatch last week. “There are only so many sports teams and places these groups can visit. Adding more choices will have a detrimental impact on Ocean City.”

Assuming the Town of Ocean City receives state funding for construction, McGean said the goal is to break ground in mid to late 2026.

“A lot has to happen between now and then to make that goal,” he said.

For years, resort council members have expressed their desires to develop a sports complex somewhere near Ocean City. And in 2019, the town commissioned the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) and its consultant, Crossroads, to conduct a market and economic analysis for a proposed sports complex in the Ocean City area.

When the pandemic hit, however, MSA officials were tasked with revising the study and producing a site-specific assessment of a 95-acre site next to Stephen Decatur High School.

While the county initially took the lead on the project, the Worcester

County Commissioners in 2022 voted to terminate its contract for the purchase of the property and to end any county involvement in the development of a complex. Since that time, resort officials have agreed to take on the project and form a task force to address community concerns relating to the project’s location and scope.

With nearly 30 members at the table last fall, the task force kicked off its first meeting with a presentation from MSA and Crossroads, as well as from Sports Facilities Companies, a national firm specializing in sports facilities management. By the end of the meeting, the task force agreed a proposed complex should include both indoor and outdoor facilities but that more information was needed on the funding mechanism.

In December, the group reconvened to discuss funding options. In addition to its recommendations to the Mayor and Council, the task force also agreed to seek a 1% room tax increase from the Maryland General Assembly, with a portion of that additional revenue to be dedicated to debt service associated with the construction of the sports complex. Following its open session in December, the task force entered into a closed session to discuss property acquisition.



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Support sought for annual Worcester GOLD fundraiser

(April 11, 2024) Local nonprofit Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity) is seeking golfers, sponsors, and donors for the upcoming ninth installment of the GOLD on the Green Charity Golf Tournament presented by The Grand Hotel.

The tournament is set for June 12, on the Newport Bay Course at Ocean City Golf Club. Beginning with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., it will feature golfers playing 18 holes on a water-

front course, with food, beverages, side games, prizes, and giveaways offered.

Teams that register before May 1 will save \$100 with the Early Birdie Price. Sponsors will receive exposure at the event and in all print and digital marketing media.

Supporters can find more information by visiting GOLD’s website at WorcesterGOLD.org or contacting the organization at contact@worcestergold.org or 443-235-6525.

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Commission backs slaughterhouse change

5-1 vote supports text amendment for existing livestock operation

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) County officials are expected to consider a text amendment that would allow farm-based slaughterhouses in the agricultural district following a favorable recommendation by the planning commission.

The Worcester County Planning Commission voted 5-1 last week to support a text amendment that would allow a slaughterhouse as a special exception use in the A-1 agricultural district provided it's on the farm where the livestock are raised. The amendment was submitted on behalf of Bob Ewell, who already operates a roadside stand off Route 113 and Croppers Island Road selling his farm-raised beef.

"It's a way for Mr. Ewell, who is

growing this cattle, to be able to slaughter his own cattle on his own property," said Mark Cropper, Ewell's attorney.

Cropper told the commission last Thursday that Ewell had been raising cattle on Croppers Island Road for decades. While he sells his beef at the roadside stand he built, Cropper said he had to transport it out of state to have it butchered. He said they came up with the text amendment so that Ewell wouldn't have to ship the cattle to have them butchered.

According to county staff, the slaughtering of livestock is currently only allowed as a special exception use in the industrial district. As drafted, the text amendment would permit the slaughtering of livestock raised on the farm property where the activity is to occur. It would not allow the slaughter of live-

stock from other farms.

Cropper said in Ewell's case, the butchering would be done in a facility no larger than 600 square feet that would be built at the farm, a significant distance from any neighboring homes.

"I think what everybody needs to understand is, for the purposes of slaughtering a cow, the cow walks in the back door, they shut the back door. Steaks come out the other end," Cropper said. "You don't see it. You don't hear it. You don't smell it. You don't even know it's happening. Everything is completely enclosed."

He added that even if the commissioners approved the text amendment, Ewell would still have to go to the Worcester County Board of Zoning Appeals for special exception approval.

'It's a way for Mr. Ewell, who is growing this cattle, to be able to slaughter his own cattle on his own property.'
Attorney Mark Cropper

"This would be enabling legislation that would give him this opportunity," Cropper said.

While citizens in attendance were not given the chance to comment on the proposed amendment since the public hearing on the issue will come at a meeting of the Worcester County Commissioners, Jerry Barbierri, chair of the commission, acknowledged that some of Ewell's neighbors objected to the proposal. Issues they raised included water quality and quiet enjoyment of the neighborhood.

Commission member Mary Knight said she'd visited the site and thought it was far enough away from any homes that it wouldn't have a negative impact. Commission member Kathy Drew pointed out that with his agricultural land, Ewell was permitted a variety of farm uses, some of which would be more impactful to neighbors than butchering cattle.

"Hogs smell a lot worse than chickens or cattle," she said.

Backup generator needed for county jail

Officials support renting equipment while repairs made to existing one

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) County officials agreed to rent a temporary generator for the jail while plans for the replacement of the facility's backup generator are explored.

The Worcester County Commissioners this month voted unanimously to have staff rent a generator to serve the jail while options to re-

place the disabled backup generator are explored. Commissioners said the temporary generator would ensure the jail had backup power in the event of an emergency.

"It's a necessary thing for the jail," Warden Tim Mulligan said.

Mulligan asked the commissioners this week to approve having Fidelity Power Systems rebuild the disabled generator for about \$39,000. He said the backup generator was critical for the jail because when power failed it supplied power to the new section of the jail and also powered the fire pump.

"In the event of a fire it would activate the sprinkler system," he said. "We have local water there that would, if the sprinkler was activated water would flow through, but the generator supplies additional pressure to that."

When asked what happened to the generator, Mulligan said a clanking noise was noted in December. In February, crews dismantled the generator to determine the problem and deemed it in need of a rebuild.

While various companies were contacted for quotes, staff said Fidelity was the only one that offered a price for a rebuild rather than a replacement, which would exceed \$84,000.

Commissioner Eric Fiori said a catastrophic failure like this one

brought up a lot of questions.

"From reading the preliminary maintenance reports it sounds like this engine severely overheated and it could have been completely prevented," he said. "Allowing the same company to rebuild the engine that was negligent on allowing it to overheat sounds counterproductive."

He said he wanted the county to look at more options. Commissioner Joe Mitrecic didn't disagree but said in the meantime the county should get a temporary generator.

"The booster pump needs to be in operation," he said.

The commissioners voted unanimously to rent a generator for the jail while staff explore other long-term options.



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Berlin set to host 'first-time' tribute to vinyl on April 20

New event will highlight Record Store Day with a retro block party in street

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) Berlin will celebrate vinyl this month with its first ever Record Store Day.

Berlin Arts and Entertainment District in partnership with Sound Storm Records, is set to host "Vintage and Vinyl in Berlin" to celebrate Record Store Day, showcasing not only vinyl records but also vintage clothing, books and more. The event takes place Saturday, April 20, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and will transform Pitts Street into a haven for enthusiasts of all things retro and musical.

"We are thrilled to invite everyone to join us for this first-time celebration of music, culture, and nostalgia," said Ivy Wells, the town's director of economic and community development. "Record Store Day is not just an event; it's a testament to the enduring allure of vinyl."

According to Wells, attendees can

expect a curated selection of vintage clothing and items from vendors lining Pitts Street. For music lovers, Sound Storm Records, Pitts Street Treasures, Viking Tree, Outten Delights, and Uptown Emporium will showcase an extensive array of both new and used vinyl records. Adding to the festive ambiance, live music will be offered by Journos and friends.

Brandon Zlatniski of Sound Storm Records is thrilled other businesses will be partnering with his to celebrate the staying power of vinyl.

"We're doing a block party," he said. "It just shows the beauty of connecting everybody through music. We're all looking forward to it."

To mark the occasion, his Broad Street store will have exclusive Record Store Day releases as well as a 15% off sale for general merchandise.

"Go out and support your local record store," he said.

For more information on Record Store Day, visit the Vintage and Vinyl in Berlin event page on Facebook. Attendees are encouraged to park at Stephen Decatur Park.

A poster for Berlin's first-ever Record Store Day advertises the event, which is set 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 20, downtown. SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester County accepting application for easements

State foundation reviewing interested landowners with at least 50 acres

(April 11, 2024) Landowners interested in permanent preservation may be eligible for the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation program or the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program permanent easement program.

For consideration for participation in 2025, applications must be submitted to Worcester County Environmental Programs by May 3.

On behalf of foundation, a news release said Worcester County is accepting applications from interested landowners who wish to participate in the program through the voluntary sale of an agricultural easement. Eligible properties must be at least 50 acres in size (unless contiguous to an existing foundation easement or other applicant) and meet a minimum soils requirement.

An agricultural easement is a voluntary permanent agreement that runs with the land. Development of land encumbered by the easement is strictly limited, but agricultural and natural resource uses and activities are allowed, including crop production, timber harvest and hunting.

"To date, over 10,000 acres in Worcester County are permanently pro-

tected from development with a voluntary MALPF easement," WCEP Natural Resources Planner V Katherine Munson said in the release.

The permanent easement program is available to landowners who are currently enrolled in a program contract.

"The purchased easement would require the CREP practice to remain in place in perpetuity," Munson said. "Timber harvest would be allowed."

Worcester County landowners interested in selling an easement, or learning about other land conservation options may contact Munson at 410-632-1220, ext. 1302.

New date, familiar site for SD prom

City, school able to secure convention center for Decatur once date moved

By **Bethany Hooper**
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) The Ocean City convention center will host Stephen Decatur High School's prom after all, with a new date of May 11.

Stephen Decatur High School announced last week to parents this year's 2024 prom will continue to be held at its traditional location – the Roland E. Powell Convention Center – but on a different date than what was initially planned. The announcement comes more than a week after a "Prom on Main" concept failed to receive the support of the Berlin Town Council.

"It hasn't come without some difficulty, but we are happy to announce that we have a wonderful venue for the Prom," a post from the Stephen Decatur High School Facebook page reads. "While the date has changed, the venue will continue to be the Roland E. Powell Convention Center. Thank you to our entire community for your support throughout this process."

In February, prom organizers learned from convention center staff

that the facility could not host the event on its April 27 date, as another group had already been booked. In the weeks that followed, Greenwood began working with Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall on a plan to hold prom on Main Street.

However, when the concept was presented to the town council last week, several business owners came forward with their concerns that the closure of Main Street would hurt business on a spring Saturday. They also shared their frustrations that the business community had not been included in the planning.

The topic of prom was also brought before the Ocean City Mayor and Council in a meeting Monday. During public comments, resident George Leukel questioned why the convention center "gave away" the April 27 date to another group.

"The April 27 date was never held," City Manager Terry McGean responded. "They did not ask for that date. At the end of prom last year, they were not sure which date they wanted. We told them to make sure you get up with us well in advance. That did not happen. By the time they got up with us, which was in February, that date had been booked."

Kim Mueller, director of sales for the convention center, said staff reached out to the school last May re-

garding potential scheduling conflicts on the spring 2024 convention center calendar.

When they didn't hear back about newly proposed dates, staff assumed an alternate location had been found.

"While the situation is unfortunate, we are committed to helping the school find a prom venue for 2024," she said in a statement last week. "Decatur pride runs thick through our Town, as many employees are alumni and/or have children who have graduated, will graduate, or currently attend the school – myself included. As a Town, we are working with the school to ensure 2024 is a memorable prom for students at SDHS. An exciting announcement for a new prom location will be coming soon."

This year, the Stephen Decatur High School prom will be held May 11, from 6-10:30 p.m. at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center.

The prom will not be the only school event held in Ocean City this spring.

The Mayor and Council on Monday voted unanimously to approve a consent agenda, which included a private event request to hold the Class of 2024 graduation parade on the Boardwalk. The event returns Wednesday, May 22.

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Photo by Stephen Pryce Lea

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County approves new roof project after demo changes

Officials believe best use of funds to remove entire structure for \$4.9 million

By **Charlene Sharpe**
Associate Editor

(April 11, 2024) The Worcester County Commissioners this week approved plans for a roof replacement at Snow Hill Middle School/Cedar Chapel Special School.

The commissioners voted unanimously on Tuesday to approve updated roof replacement plans presented by the Worcester County Board of Education. The plans have been updated to include demolition of the old roof so it's not left in place under the new roof.

Last month, Superintendent Lou Taylor approached the commissioners seeking approval of a \$3.7 million roof replacement project.

He said the school system had received bids for the project and wanted to proceed through the Garland/DBS turnkey project delivery method. Worcester County Public Schools would purchase the roof material directly from Garland, resulting in savings through an elimination of

contractor overhead and elimination of sales tax on the materials purchased, according to Taylor. The commissioners, however, questioned the fact that the old roof wasn't being demolished.

"You'll lose the new roof quicker that way," Commissioner Joe Mitre-cic, a builder, said at the time.

As a result of the commissioners' comments, school system administration went back to the Worcester County Board of Education. The school board on March 19 approved a base bid of \$4.9 million for demolition of the existing roof and construction of the new roof. The commissioners went on to approve the \$4.9 million roof replacement unanimously this Tuesday.

According to the school system, the higher price tag means there will be about a \$875,641 deficit from the cost estimate in the capital improvement program. To cover that deficit, some of the funding allocated for rooftop HVAC units at Pocomoke Elementary School will be used. The school system has also contacted the Interagency Commission on School Construction for an additional \$472,000 in state funding.



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Snapshots



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY-BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

Members of the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club welcomed five new members at their March dinner meeting. Pictured, from left, are Rob Bates, Joe Hicks, Amanda Koontz, membership chair Roger Pacella, Barbara Griswold and Eddie Fooks.



PHOTOS COURTESY ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY

CHALK WORK

Students in the Berlin Intermediate School After School Art Club, an outreach program of the Art League of Ocean City led by teacher Joanne Guilfoil, recently created Easter-themed mandalas using chalk. (Above) Audrey Rhoads poses with her artwork and the chalk she used to create it.



CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

The Town of Berlin recognized April as Autism Awareness Month at a recent council meeting. Mayor Zack Tyndall read a proclamation about acceptance, inclusion and tolerance, and recognized attendees connected to the Autistic Children's Support Group of Worcester County, including Melissa Esham and Pam, Carson, an eighth grader at Stephen Decatur Middle School, and Steve Green, a town councilman.



PHOTO COURTESY OC LIONS

CAMP DONATION

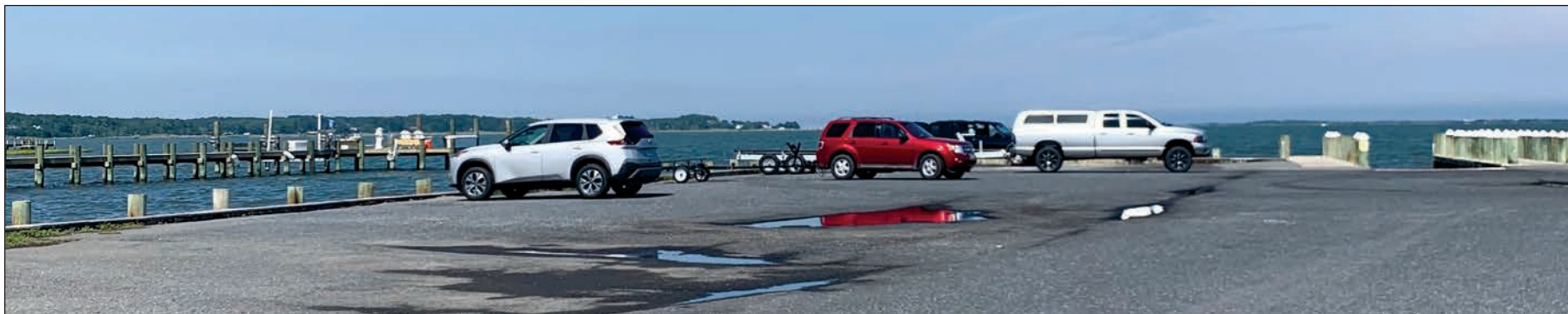
Pictured, from left, are OC Lions President Greg Cathell and Past President John Topher donating \$500 to the Lions' Camp Merrick, a campground on 320 acres in Charles County that offers programs promoting the education, creative expression, and social growth of special needs youth.



TEACHER AWARD

Ocean Pines resident Lillia Khmarskaia, a science teacher at James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury, was named a recipient of the Maitland P. Simmons National Science Teachers Association award for new teachers. The award is given to new science teachers who show promise and a commitment to the field of science education. Lillia, among other recognitions, was also a nominee for JMB 2024 Teacher of the Year.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The South Point Boat Ramp off Route 611 is pictured.

South Point boat ramp once again open to public

(April 11, 2024) The county boat ramp and parking lot at South Point off Route 611 in Berlin are once again open to the public.

The boat ramp was closed for roughly two months, while Worcester County Recreation and Parks contractors replaced the bulkheads. A project to overlay the parking lot is tentatively planned for this summer.

Funding for the projects has been provided through Waterway Improvement Grants from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Worcester County.

For more information about the project, contact Worcester County Parks Superintendent Jacob Stephens at 410-632-2144.

New location, dates for county fair

Worcester County Rec. and Parks taking over managing of annual August event

(April 11, 2024) Now under the management of Worcester County Recreation and Parks, this year's Worcester County Fair will take place Aug. 9-11 at John Walter Smith Park at 6022 Public Landing Road in Snow Hill, adjacent to the Worcester County Recreation Center.

"With decades of experience in event management, WCRP professionals are thrilled to lead this year's fair, which promises to include a vibrant revival of community activities to attract families and individuals of all ages," Brianna Dix, the county's tourism and economic development advertising and destination marketing specialist said in a news release. "With a diverse lineup of performances, demonstrations, and activities spanning all three days, we're urging residents and visitors alike to save the date and to join us for the festivities."

Fair hours will be 4-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 9; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10; and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 11.

The kids' area will feature crafts, inflatable jump houses, and carnival games provided by the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department. The main stage will host live entertainment, including a kickoff performance by Jimmy Charles on Friday evening, and performances by Eric Tobiassen and the Homeschool Dropouts.

Attendees are encouraged to explore the fairgrounds, including the indoor exhibits by the Maryland 4H Extension office, which will be housed at the Worcester County Recreation Center.

"Our office encourages visitors to also explore other family friendly events, such as the Blessing of the Combines in Snow Hill on Saturday, August 3, and the Great Pocomoke Fair in Pocomoke City from August 9-11," Dix said.

Parks staff invite farm families and

children to participate in the fair's livestock events or 4H craft categories. The entry forms will soon be available to the public, with increases in all premium costs. Stay updated by checking the Worcester County Fair Facebook page or the website at worcestercountyfair.org.

The Worcester County Fair is accepting applications for craft vendors, food vendors and business sponsors. Apply online at worcestercountyfair.org.

For more information about the fair, contact Event Coordinator/Parks Superintendent Jacob Stephens at jstephens@co.worcester.md.us or 410-632-2144 ext. 2521.

Ocean Downs revenue down \$520,000 in March 2024

(April 11, 2024) While Maryland's six casinos combined to reach the state's fifth-best single-month revenue total to date last month, Ocean Downs still saw a decrease in money made from slots and table games compared to March of 2023.

According to a news release from Maryland Lottery and Gaming, the casinos together reported more than \$178.13 million in revenue, an over \$1.6 million, or 0.9% increase. The local casino, though, was reportedly down \$520,000, or 6.5%, for the month with a total more than \$7.5 million in revenue.

Statewide, the release said casino gaming contributions to the state equaled nearly \$76.5 million, an increase of more than \$1.9 million com-

pared to last year.

Contributions to the Education Trust Fund from gambling revenues in March were over \$55.1 million, an increase of 1.8%.

Along with Ocean Downs, Maryland casinos MGM National Harbor in Prince George's County, Live! Casino & Hotel in Anne Arundel County, Horseshoe Casino Baltimore in Baltimore City, Hollywood Casino Perryville in Cecil County, and Rocky Gap Casino Resort in Allegany County all offer slot machines and table games.

The release said Rocky Gap and Horseshoe also reported decreases this month compared to last March, while the other three reported increases.

Hardwire secures \$27M contracts

Pocomoke company will use funds to create high-tech ballistic shields for FBI

(April 11, 2024) Pocomoke City-based Hardwire LLC, a local leading provider of advanced ballistic protection solutions, announced recent contract awards totaling \$27 million from the FBI for the provision of high-quality ballistic shields.

The contracts began Feb. 1 and April 1.

According to a news release, the contracts are a significant milestone for Hardwire as they underscore the company's commitment to delivering state-of-the-art protective equipment. The shields, known for their exceptional durability and reliability, are essential tools for law enforcement personnel facing high-risk situations. Under the terms of the contracts, Hardwire and Bethel will supply both pistol-rated and rifle-rated shields.

The shield technology represents an advancement in law enforcement technology known as the Turning Block, an armor method which effec-

tively flips the bullet using its own rotational energy and causing it to land sideways in the back of the shield. The result is a shield with never-before-seen multi-hit protection against clips of armor piercing automatic gunfire with rounds stopping in the shield as close as a half-inch apart.

Hardwire has introduced the Triclops, a periscope system which

'We are honored to deliver safety and security to the FBI through scientific innovation.'

George Tunis,
CEO of Hardwire LLC

offers visual acuity while providing full protection for officers' heads. The Triclops is lighter than a ballistic window and allows users to peek around corners or over fences without exposing themselves to gunfire. It enables precise aiming of weapons through an optically perfect reflection of the officer's sights, regardless of type, and works seamlessly with night vision goggles. The Triclops accommodates right or left-handed users and

is electronic-free, ensuring 100% reliability without the need for batteries, boot-up, or latency.

The release said Hardwire's ballistic shields are renowned for their lightweight construction, superior ballistic performance, and ergonomic design, making them indispensable tools for law enforcement officers operating in dynamic environments.

The release said the designs enhance law enforcement effectiveness by minimizing the risk of injury to law enforcement officers while ensuring maximum protection.

"The clean sweep of the FBI awards is evidence that we listen to our customers and our engineers innovate based on their requirements," George Tunis, CEO of Hardwire LLC, said in the release. "Putting ourselves into our customers' shoes is how we make superior products that perform in the mission. We are honored to deliver safety and security to the FBI through scientific innovation."

For more information about Hardwire and its innovative ballistic protection solutions, visit hardwirellc.com.



PHOTO COURTESY ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY
Directors of the film "Gianna" accept a Best of the Fest award during the Ocean City Film Fest at the beginning of March.

Art League of OC announces film festival winners

(April 11, 2024) The Art League of Ocean City, producers of the annual Ocean City Film Festival, recently announced the winners of the eighth installment of the event, held March 7-10 at venues across the resort.

The Audience Choice first place winner was "The Echoes We See," directed by Andrés Mejia of Halethorpe. The film is about school lockdowns and their effect on students.

The second place Audience Choice winner was "The Dogmatics," a feature film about the 1980s rock band, directed by Rudy Childs of Rockland, Massachusetts.

The Audience Choice third place winner was "Ray of Sunshine," a Maryland-made film directed by Tyler Jennings and Jon Kemmerer, about abused siblings who rebel.

The fourth place winner was "Father's Day: A Kirk Franklin Story," about the popular gospel singer, directed by Josh Chamberlain of Berlin.

The fifth place winner is "Gull," a film from the 2023 Ocean City Film Challenge, directed by Brian Hooks.

The Women's Commission of Worcester County awarded Adria Branson of Valley Lee, and her film "Shark Week," with a special Best Film by a Female Director Award.

The Best of the Fest awards went to the following:

"Chasing Justice" by Drew Petri-moulx of Washington, D.C., about prison abuse.

"Dreaming of..." by Adrián De Jesús of Alexandria, Virginia, about a loved one's death.

"Salted Earth" by Ben Hemmings of Ottawa, Canada, about sea level rise and encroaching salt.

"Of One's Own" by Jack Calvin Girdod of Westminster, about speed dating in the LGBTQ community.

"Personalized Futures" by Max Delfino of Chicago, about algorithms deciding the future.

"Gianna" by Brooke Linsalata, a See FILM Page 7



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PHOTOS COURTESY ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY

(Above) Tyler Jennings, left, the director of the film "Ray of Sunshine" accepts the third place Audience Choice award. (Left) The director and star of the film, "The Echoes We See," accepts the first place Audience Choice award.

Film festival held last month

Continued from Page 16
Maryland-made film about a young tomboy.

"Encore Learning, 20 Years and Growing" by Sheri Ratick Stroud and Rich West of Falls Church, Virginia, about learning later in life.

"First You, Then I" by Ashleigh Coffelt of Los Angeles, about a toxic relationship.

"Reminder" by Akin Bagcilar of Is-

tanbul, Turkey, about cleaning up after ourselves.

"A Life at Sea" by Elisa Mand and Bente Rohde of Kiel, Germany, about crabbersmen.

The film festival is an annual production of the nonprofit Art League of Ocean City. More information about the festival and upcoming opportunities is available at OCMD-FilmFestival.com.

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Opinion

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

Make no assumptions about Rt. 113 bridge

The only bridge that will be built with the million-dollar grant to the Town of Berlin to solve the problem of access from one side of Route 113 to the other is the bridge to hope — hope that something will be done to show there is a genuine interest in connecting two communities that have been divided by the highway for generations.

As was reported in the Bayside Gazette in March when the U.S. Department of Transportation's \$1.2 million award was announced, "The town will also use the funding to identify necessary sidewalk and crossing improvements in the area and potential connections to existing and proposed bike and pedestrian facilities." That covers a great deal of territory.

Ostensibly, the grant is intended to help cover the cost of planning and designing a pedestrian-cycling bridge over the highway, but the divide between that and actual construction is just as wide as that broad backbone of blacktop that bisects the town.

The price tag for such a structure would be in the neighborhood of several million dollars — obtaining a more exact estimate is one of the study's purposes — and getting that kind of money for the town would be challenging to say the least.

That's why town officials cautioned members of the public this week not to get ahead of themselves in discussing the possibilities, or assuming that something will be built sooner rather than later.

This isn't to say that erecting a walkway and bike path over the highway wouldn't go a long way toward building a more unified sense of community, but the first order of business is to use this grant to determine what is possible.

The mayor and council seem sincere in their pursuit of answers, but until this planning and design stage delivers conclusions, which would include how to pay for whatever project it recommends, the prudent approach would be not to assume anything.

Letters

Planning commission should support comprehensive plan

Editor,

I attended the April 4 planning commission meeting in Snow Hill because a text amendment was being introduced to allow farm-based slaughterhouses to be used in A-1 zoned land, 400 feet from residential homes (Text Amendment ZS 1-201 (c)(34) - Farm-based Slaughterhouses in the A-1 Agricultural District).

I live in a residential community that will be directly affected by this text amendment. I had never attended a planning committee meeting so I did not know what to expect. I witnessed two members state that they grew up as "farm girls" so they saw no reason to not vote favorably for this text amendment. Another member stated she just had a problem with the name "slaughterhouse" in which giggles erupted from other members of the planning board. Geez, I am here fighting for my community, quality of life, health, and environment and this committee is "giggling!"

One member said our neighborhood should be thankful a hog or chicken farm wasn't coming into our community because they really smell. Three members stated they received our neighborhood letters affirming how having a slaughterhouse in our community would negatively affect our quality of life, our health, and our environment but they did not see our perspective at all. They had no facts to back their statements just that they had driven up and down our street prior to the meeting. The text amendment unanimously passed as a favorable recommendation and will now move on to the next step in the approval process.

I left the meeting feeling frustrated, perplexed, and anxious thinking maybe I misunderstood the purpose of this planning commission. I looked up the purpose of the planning commission on the Worcester County Government website and it states the "Planning Commission reviews draft development guidelines and development standards such as the Scenic Transportation Corridor for US Route 50 and US Route 113, and the Commercial Design Guidelines. Also, the Planning Commission plays an active role in the updates to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code."

Well, what is the Comprehensive Plan? "The Comprehensive Plan provides a framework for jurisdictions to protect and enhance their community character and natural and cultural heritage, preserve environmental resources, and foster economic development by planning for their long-term land use, transportation, housing, water resources, and other public infrastructure needs and identify the actions the County will need to take to meet these needs and achieve the planning goals that relate to them."

The Planning Commission stipulated the following from the meeting I attended: The name "slaughterhouse" was troublesome "giggle, giggle," driving up and down a neighborhood street is research, members who grew up as "farm girls" assume everyone else in the county should share in their "farm girl" perspective, and be glad something worse isn't going to happen to your neighborhood because it very well can.

I am not seeing how this is supporting the comprehensive plan of Worcester County. I have seen high school debate teams take on subjects more seriously than this planning committee. There are close to 40 farms in Worcester County that qualify, under this text amendment, for on-farm slaughtering (400 feet from residential housing).

This is a subject that requires serious questions and inquiries on effects on the community, the environment, etc., especially when placing slaughterhouses 400 feet from residential housing and neighborhoods. This is a place we want to call home. My husband and I wanted to retire with sand between our toes. It looks like we can either trade our sandals in for farm boots or get the heck out of Worcester County, which is exactly what we are going to be doing!

*Pamela Paulson
Newark*

Tireless efforts of educators lauded by county residents

Editor,

I used to believe that the role of an educator was solely to "educate," but I now realize how mistaken I was.

I had the chance this past Friday to schedule an appointment with Ms. Jenifer Hoffman Rayne at PHS. It was my first time visiting that school, and I must say, it is a truly beautiful school!

I always knew my wife, Belinda at CCSS, was proud of her school. However, Ms. Rayne's pride in her school is just as strong. She was absolutely glowing as she talked about the staff and students. The positive energy radiating from her description of the school, staff and students was amazing, and the same positive energy could be felt from the students as they left for the day.

Ms. Rayne requested that I walk out front with her while the students were being dismissed. I thought it would be a good opportunity to observe what law enforcement was referring to - the negative aspects and all the labels that have been used to describe our WorCO kids in recent months during BOE meetings and press conferences.

However, I did not witness any of that.

As the kids left school, especially those boarding the buses, it was evident that they were happy it was Friday, and they were leaving. Who wouldn't be? Almost every student leaving made eye contact with Ms.

Continued on Page 19

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Letters

Continued from Page 18

Rayne, and many of them responded in kind when she wished them a great weekend.

So....What did I see?

I saw love and respect from these kids who have been unfairly stereotyped. It broke my heart when Ms. Rayne mentioned that these kids had asked her, "Why do some people label us as criminals?" That's awful! No student should ever have to have that thought run through their mind. Never!

I observed kids who took pride in their school. I witnessed kids who displayed respect for their school environment. I saw kids who expressed gratitude for the efforts of their teachers and administrators. I observed kids who had established strong relationships built on trust and confidence with the adults who were educating them. Additionally, I noticed that some kids seemed to have a more positive experience at school than they may have outside or at home.

This experience opened my eyes to things I never knew existed or that kids were capable of. Maybe some of us have forgotten what being a kid is all about. Maybe those people making decisions have forgotten also. Perhaps it's time for all the adults to visit some schools.

This led me to ponder why adults cannot demonstrate the same level of respect? Why do some of us feel the

need to tear each other apart during meetings? What happened to civility? What happened to adults understanding the distinction between "Perspective and Perception?" There is a significant difference between the two, and these kids seem to grasp it. So why can't the adults in positions of decision-making comprehend it?

I hope to be invited to other schools to witness what is happening there. I am genuinely interested in understanding the experiences you all go through daily. I am aware that my perspective will only provide a snapshot, but I am still eager to see everything. I am there to challenge the generalizations that have been made about these kids. I am also interested in helping wherever I can.

I acknowledge that you all have a challenging job. Kids will always be kids. As you read this, you may recall your own experiences at that age. While some kids may require more guidance to make sound decisions, and I am confident that those of you reading this will ensure it happens... they're all still kids. Good kids. Just like we were at one time.

I don't want to write a lengthy novel, so I will conclude here. If you have made it this far, thank you. Thank you to each one of you who work tirelessly to educate and care for the school population in WorCO. It is a demanding job because you wear so many different hats.

Something I have learned over the many years of being involved in my community that I want to share. It is important for you reading this that the opinions of the vocal minority do not represent the rest of us. I can assure you that the majority of parents, grandparents, citizens, and taxpayers are in support of you. I will also do everything in my power to not only help you, but to protect your profession as well.

Please always keep this in mind.

*Thom Gulyas
South Point*

Offshore wind revisions questioned after hearing

Editor,

Forgive me if I seem angry, but I am.

I am angry at the lies coming from US Wind and the State of Maryland.

I am angry that US Wind and the Natural Resources Planner of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) apparently think we are a bunch of uneducated hicks who can be pandered to like children.

I am angry that US Wind suddenly and without notice revised its plans for its operations and maintenance facility at our harbor by reducing the number of crew transfer ships and reducing the size of the pier extension, among other things. The good folks who attended the March 25 public

hearing at Wor Wic Community College (What? There was no place in Ocean City or West Ocean City that could accommodate?) were not aware of the changed plans until the meeting commenced, and therefore their comments were outdated. Nice, US Wind, very nice.

I am really angry that US Wind and the MDE think we are so gullible that we won't ask the obvious question - if they are reducing the number of ships used to transfer crews to the wind farm to service and repair the turbines, have they also reduced the number of turbines they plan to erect? And keep in mind that the wind farm we're discussing is just one of at least four that are planned for off the coast of Maryland and Delaware.

I am also angry that the "public" notice by US Wind and the MDE of the "public" hearing was, apparently, only published in the "Worcester County Times," which has the poorest circulation of any of the newspapers in Worcester County. Seriously? You think they didn't know that?

On second thought, I am not asking for forgiveness for my anger - I am telling those who read this to get angry, too. You need to understand that these plans will destroy our harbor and the commercial fishing and recreational boating businesses, and eventually, Ocean City itself.

*Carol Frazier
Ocean Pines*

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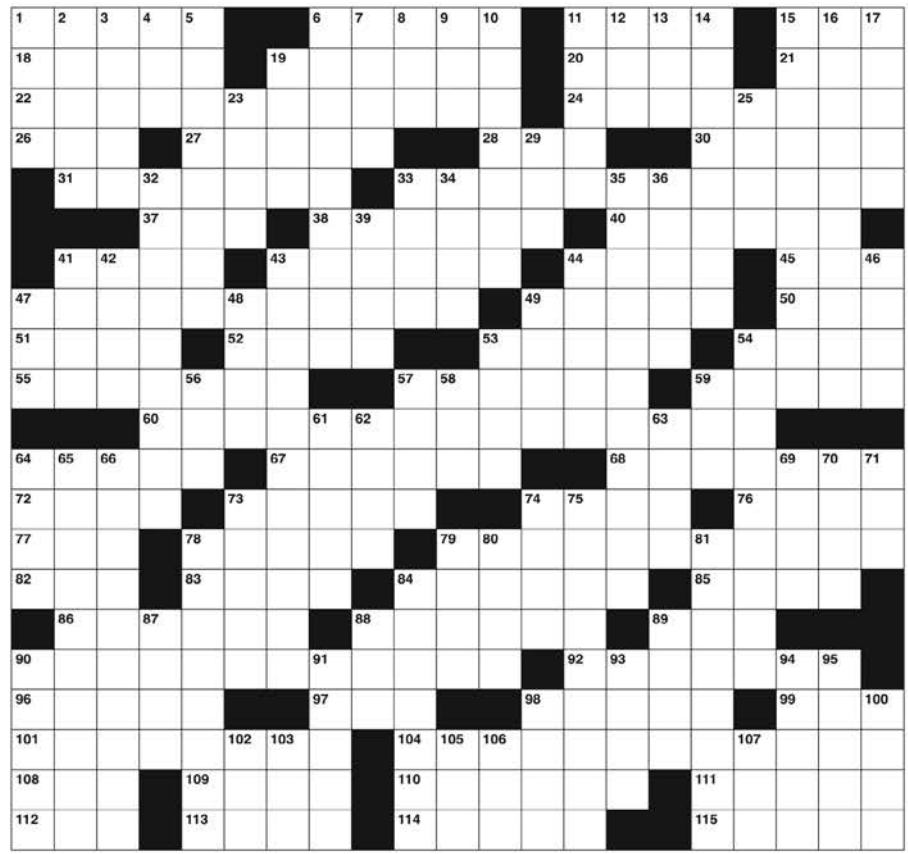
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Puzzles

URNS OF PHRASE BY SPENCER LEACH / EDITED BY JOEL FAGLIANO

Spencer Leach is a third-year mechanical-engineering student at Virginia Tech. Their engineering background influences how they generate themes — for this puzzle, they used a custom bit of Python code to compare a list of homonyms against common phrases. Spencer is currently in the midst of a summer-internship search and hopes any would-be employers enjoy this puzzle!

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Let me repeat ..."
 - 6 Musical speeds
 - 11 When repeated, a cry of approval
 - 15 Like many creatures in modern sci-fi movies, for short
 - 18 Light wood
 - 19 Cross figure
 - 20 New Jersey's Sea ___ City
 - 21 Spot for a shot
 - 22 Spook some creatures in an aquarium's touch tank?
 - 24 Fiery matches?
 - 26 Band with the 1994 hit "What's the Frequency, Kenneth?"
 - 27 Some vocal solos
 - 28 In the style of
 - 30 "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" playwright Edward
 - 31 Bad material for a silk purse, proverbially
 - 33 Deliver a blow to Dracula?
 - 37 With "the," a sudden flip from attraction to disgust, in modern parlance
 - 38 Brand whose stock price increased 50 percent in the first six months of 2020
 - 40 Blooms named for their shape
 - 41 Set of selections
 - 43 "You sure?"
 - 44 Before-
- DOWN**
- 45 No. calculated from letters
 - 47 References a Vatican Library source?
 - 49 Went down a slippery slope
 - 50 ___ Palmas, Canary Islands
 - 51 Kind of history
 - 52 About, on a memo
 - 53 Certain Ivy Leaguer
 - 54 Support
 - 55 "Forget it!"
 - 57 Welcomes at the door
 - 59 Tender spots
 - 60 Referees a Tennessee football game poorly?
 - 64 Common pet fish
 - 67 Superlative held by the Atacama Desert
 - 68 "Barry" or "Ballers"
 - 72 Stadium sounds
 - 73 Plain
 - 74 Cap's place
 - 76 It might be a stretch
 - 77 Suffix with Manhattan or meteor
 - 78 Fortitude
 - 79 Write an ode to a caffeinated soda?
 - 82 Airport abbr.
 - 83 Addresses online
 - 84 Sound unit found in many Asian languages
 - 85 Nip and tuck, so to speak
 - 86 Like some teas
 - 88 Kind of edition with bonus tracks, perhaps
 - 89 Stadium cheer
 - 90 Start preparing borscht?
 - 92 Fully commit
 - 96 Court cry
 - 97 Garnet is its birthstone: Abbr.
 - 98 Sculpting stuff
 - 99 Super ___ (GameCube predecessor)
 - 101 "Bather in the Woods" painter
 - 104 Make smash burgers?
 - 108 Pretty cool stuff
 - 109 Burn a little
 - 110 Decides that one will
 - 111 Major artery
 - 112 ___ cha beef (Chinese dish)
 - 113 Jumped over, as a checkers piece
 - 114 Michelangelo work whose name translates to "compassion"
 - 115 Suddenly think of
- ACROSS**
- 10 Comment from someone exiting the mall on Black Friday
 - 11 Pedal-operated instrument
 - 12 That, in Toledo
 - 13 Umbrella term for boys or goth girls
 - 14 Struck out
 - 15 Stealthy criminal
 - 16 City feature that's been found to improve mental health
 - 17 "None for me, thanks"
 - 19 Kind of seeds in a healthful smoothie
 - 23 Foolslog
 - 25 Balm ingredient
 - 29 ___ Luthor, nemesis of Superman
 - 32 Vintage restaurant items?
 - 33 Spoil, with "on"
 - 34 Git
 - 35 "Just a little longer!"
 - 36 Lauder of cosmetics
 - 39 Do some light work on?
 - 41 Barcelona museum subject
 - 42 H's on some college houses
 - 43 "The Lorax" setting
 - 44 Actress Cravalho who voiced Moana
 - 46 Doesn't just assume
 - 47 Swindle
 - 48 Wedding-cake layer
 - 49 Survive
 - 53 Chuck, slangily
 - 54 Final phase of a video game, perhaps
 - 56 Big name in records
 - 57 [Actually, don't change that]
 - 58 Sounds of doubt
 - 59 ___-Caps (candy)
 - 61 Birds known for their loud, complex songs
 - 62 Royal title
 - 63 Assist in a crime
 - 64 Goey pairing with fig jam
 - 65 Economic-justice catchphrase
 - 66 Its water is nearly 10 times saltier than ocean water
 - 69 Animal product
 - 70 Foreboding sign
 - 71 "Impressive!"
 - 73 Who cries, "You get a car, you get a car!" in a viral meme
 - 74 Toy brand for a budding engineer, maybe
 - 75 "I don't like that," in Spanish
 - 78 Take away
 - 79 Police captain on "Brooklyn Nine-Nine"
 - 80 Burden
 - 81 Enthusiastic agreement
 - 84 Genre for many a boy band
 - 87 GPS suggestions: Abbr.
 - 88 Part of the D.O.J.
 - 89 It's a four-letter word, aptly
 - 90 Neighbors of the Navajos
 - 91 One-named singer born in Reykjavik
 - 93 What Ove's name was changed to for the American film adaptation of "A Man Called Ove"
 - 94 Like neon
 - 95 "Groovy!"
 - 98 Sibilant summons
 - 100 "South Park" boy
 - 102 Density symbol, in engineering
 - 103 1990s Indian prime minister
 - 105 Sch. in N.Y.
 - 106 Quebec's Festival d'___
 - 107 "You're accusing me?!"
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



- 59 ___-Caps (candy)
- 61 Birds known for their loud, complex songs
- 62 Royal title
- 63 Assist in a crime
- 64 Goey pairing with fig jam
- 65 Economic-justice catchphrase
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HARD - 43

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.

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

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

PROB	BUSES	AGASP	PEDI
DOVE	AMUST	JELLO	ONES
FUELS	SPECULATION	ION	OPAL
STRIPES	APEX	PILLAGE	
EAT	SPOT	WILSEASSES	
HOLD	SWATER	GIL	SIRS
ELO	MONO	HOLLA	LEADS
WISPS	GOES	ALLIN	ASNER
EVEL	FUDGES	FACTS	OTTO
DETAILS	GAPS	ISUZU	
RONCO	YON	HUT	PERMS
TEAMO	AMIS	PENCAPS	
MENS	TAKES	ORDERS	ESAU
GREED	DONT	STARE	TSARS
MAUVE	DORIS	APBS	LEI
RICH	NON	SETS	SATEASE
HEAD	CANON	RICO	SON
ONLEAVE	FONZ	IQRANGE	
VONN	EXCHANGES	NUMBERS	
ELEC	TUPAC	IMAGE	LEAP
RATE	OSAGE	TAXES	EDDY

Art league welcomes new photographers

Ocean Pines residents to showcase photos in OC art center's Studio B

(April 11, 2024) The Art League of Ocean recently welcomed photographers Susan Koster and Brandon Martin to Studio B at the Ocean City Center for the Arts. Both are residents of Ocean Pines.

Koster has studied photography for more than 20 years, working professionally as a photojournalist for local and national newspapers, magazines, marketing and advertising agencies. She became an award-winning outdoor photographer after college and specializes in the techniques of macrophotography, tilt shift, abstract, and long exposures.

Martin is an award-winning, self-

taught artist who has studied photography for more than 25 years, getting his start in Poland at age 13. Since then, he has traveled the world, photographing Europe, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas. Martin pursues the crafts of long exposure photography, abstract photography, and impressionistic photography to create unique art pieces. He is also a watercolor painter and a skilled woodworker.

"Our shared love for photography, the outdoors, and travel, led us to collaboration," Martin said in a news release. "Having the opportunity to transfer the beauty of the seas and the skies and the ethereal feel of the beach onto various mediums and print and to create one-of-a-kind art for others to enjoy is our passion. Whether we are working together

oceanside or in the heart of nature mountainside, we live for the medium and hope that you see it shine through in our award-winning collections of fine art."

Studio B and the Ocean City Cen-

ter for the Arts at 502 94th St. bay-side, are open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends with free admission. More information is available at OCart.org or by calling 410-524-9433.



New Art League of Ocean City photographers Susan Koster and Brandon Martin, both of Ocean Pines, pose with their cameras.

PHOTO COURTESY ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY

Blood Bank soliciting help from donors amid shortage

(April 11, 2024) Blood Bank of Delmarva officials have announced a blood emergency following a period of low donor turnout due to holidays and school breaks.

According to a news release, there was a two- to three-day supply of type O negative, as well as a critical shortage of platelets this week. However all donation types are needed.

Type O negative is the universal blood type and represents only 6% of the U.S. population. It is most often used in trauma situations, allowing for immediate transfusions during emergencies. The current low supply of O negative blood is critical and donations from these donors are especially needed.

The blood bank is also still recovering from a nearly 50% decrease of youth and first-time blood donors since 2019, and working to rebuild donations from that population. At one time, youth donations repre-

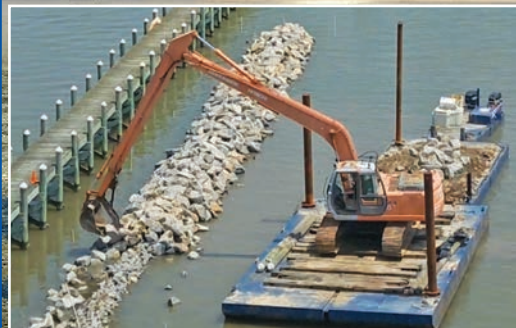
sented 25% of the blood supply, but now only contribute 10% of the country's donations.

"We are asking our community to respond during this blood emergency so that we are able to meet the needs of patients in the hospitals we serve," Steve Corse, the executive director at Blood Bank of Delmarva, said in the release. "We are calling on eligible donors to make an immediate blood or platelet donation, and it is our hope that we'll see first time and youth donors answer our call for help."

Blood donors can give every 56 days, and platelet donors can give twice per month. The Food and Drug Administration recently lifted several blood donor eligibility restrictions. To view current eligibility guidelines, visit delmarvablood.org or call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8.

To make an appointment, donors can call 1-888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit delmarvablood.org.

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FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A Blood Bank of Delmarva van sits parked in January in front of the Ocean City convention center during its annual community blood drive.



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Calendar

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

Thurs., April 11

ARBOR DAY MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING CEREMONY

Pintail Park, Ocean Pines, 10:30 a.m. The ceremony is conducted in memory of those who have passed the previous year. The event includes poetry and declaration readings, live music and a bell rung for each person memorialized.

STORYTIME: 'ALL MY STRIPES'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. What makes Zane the zebra so special? Come find out and create your own zebra. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

THURSDAY CRAFTERNOON: SPRING TABLE DECORATIONS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Make spring table decorations using ordinary household items. All materials provided. Register: 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org.

ZUMBA

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5 p.m. Join Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required: 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

FREE VIRTUAL POETRY READING

Held via Zoom, 7 p.m. Reading by Aricka Foreman, the author of "Dream with a Glass Chamber" and "Salt Body Shimmer." www.worwic.edu.

BEACH SINGLE 55 PLUS MEET AND GREET

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

Fri., April 12

FAIRY TALE STEM

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join in for fairy tale themed STEM challenges. For ages 6-11 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes and finger plays. For

ages 0-2 years and their caregivers. 410-641-0650, 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

SCHOOL'S OUT TEEN HANGOUT

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Play video games, make crafts and compete in trivia. For teens and their families. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'THE TRUTH OF YOU' BY IAIN S. THOMAS

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

CHAIR YOGA

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 3 p.m. Nicole Young, certified yoga instructor, helps participants stretch in a safe and low impact manner. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. Platters: one crab cake sandwich, \$14; two crab cake sandwiches, \$24. Platters come with green beans, baked potato and Cole slaw. A single crab cake sandwich costs \$10. Baked goods. Carryout or eat in.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT BINGO NIGHT

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 6-8 p.m. All family and friends welcome. Parents are requested to play the games with their children. Non-cash prizes awarded. Admission fee is \$2 per player. Food and drinks welcome. Ice cream will be sold.

Sat., April 13

SPRING INDOOR/OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET

Ocean Pines Community Center and White Horse Park, 235 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m.-noon. Featuring vendors selling gently used clothing, household items, collectibles and more. Held rain or shine. Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks, 410-641-7052

OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 a.m. The speaker will be Scott Lenox host of local television program "Hooked on OC." Also, fishing regs. update and all

things fishing. All are welcome. Jack Barnes, 410-641-7662

CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Vendors include homemade jewelry, hand painted bibles, crocheted items, wood burning art, clay art, seashell crafts, sea glass, flowers and more. Food and baked goods available. Held inside.

CRAFTY SATURDAY: SPRING TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Featuring flower, ladybug and caterpillar crafts. All ages. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

DINE IN LUNCH

Powellville Volunteer Fire Co, 5085 Powellville Road, Pittsville, 10:30 a.m. Menu includes oyster fritter sandwiches, chicken salad, peas & dumplings soup, vegetable beef soup, beans & corn, dumplings, hot dogs and desserts. Carryout available.

BISHOP INSTALLS MOTHER SUZ AS PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3 Church St., Berlin, 11 a.m. Bishop to install Mother Suz as St. Paul's Episcopal Berlin's Priest-In-Charge. There will be a reception following the service.

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., April 14

ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. Cost is \$12 and includes spaghetti, salad, bread, drink and dessert. Children under 5 years eat free. Proceeds benefit Rolling Stones Youth Group. Christina Wilson, 302-519-2993

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., April 15

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

STORY TIME: RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY!

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: 'A STILL MOMENT' BY EUDORA WELTY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Group meets twice a month to discuss selections from the Great Books Foundation. They are 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

DINOSAUR WORLD LIVE

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 6 p.m. Large scale dinosaur puppets brought to life with design, electronics, theatrical presentation. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/62160868/dinosaur-world-live-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

BRIDGE

Mondays - Ocean City 50plus Center, 104 41st Street, Ocean City, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Reserve a spot: Tish, 410-804-3971. www.Worcoa.org/oceancity

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

Tues., April 16

PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Featuring a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 0-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson

Calendar

on genealogy research followed by Q&A. Bring a laptop, tablet or papers containing family information, if you can. Registration requested: 410-208-4014.

STORY TIME: 'BIRDS'

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and finger plays. 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

THE ART OF STORYTELLING

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 6-8 p.m. An evening of reading and commentary by writers Stephanie Fowler, Gwen Lehman and singer/songwriter Bryan Russo. Free and open to the public. Wine and light refreshments served. 410-524-9433.

BEACH HEROES-OC

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

Tuesdays - Experienced dancers and others interested in watching or learning more are welcome, 7-9:30 p.m. No part-

ner 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., April 17

PRODUCERS UNVEILED 2024

Lavender Fields at Warrington Manor LLC, 18864 Cool Spring Road, Milton, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Celebrate Delmarva agriculture with lunch, learning, and lavender. Registration is free, but please RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/producers-unveiled-tickets-771870594727?aff=oddtcreator>. 202-212-9608

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. For artisans of all skill levels. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Have fun making music, 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 strategy. All skill levels 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

PLANTABLE POTS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. These pots are a perfect way to get your seeds started and celebrate Earth Day. Plant seeds for Johnny Jump-Ups and make decorative ladybugs. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ADULT CRAFT: DRINKING GLASS PAINTING

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. BYO drinking glass to paint. Limit 30. First come first served. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TRIVIA WITH JIM MECKLEY: MOVIES, STARS AND MUSIC

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 3 p.m. Test your star-studded knowledge with this trivia contest. Prizes awarded and refreshments provided. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

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

OCEAN CITY RESTAURANT WEEK

Participating restaurants are given the freedom to offer whatever best fits for their restaurant at this time. Several will offer fixed-price menu options others may offer great deals. Reservations are recommended. <https://oceancityrestaurantweek.com>

TEEN STEAM STATION

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., during April. Create jewelry using binary code, construct a flying glider, design your own city out of recycled material and more. Challenges change each week. For ages 11 years and older. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OCEAN CITY-BERLIN ROTARY CLUB

Don's Seafood and Chop House, South Gate, Ocean Pines, 6 p.m., on the first and third Wednesday of each month. ocerlinrotary@gmail.com

2024 JUST WALK CHALLENGE

Get the most miles of physical activity between Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 and be crowned the Just Walk Worcester Champion of 2024. Sign-up for Just Walk Worcester and report your monthly miles: <https://justwalkworcester.org/>. 410-632-1100, Ext. 1110

OCEAN CITY CHAPTER OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY

Meets every month (except July and August) at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Membership is open to individuals of Italian descent and their spouses. www.sonsofitalyocancity.com



OPEN HOUSES

April 11 - 18



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday 9:30-11:30am	13 131st Street #105 Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$479,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	36937 Creekhaven Dr., Selbyville, DE	4BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$759,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 2:30-4:30pm	1 66th Street Unit 101, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Single Family	\$499,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	616 Salt Spray Rd., #4, Ocean City	2BR/1.5BA	Townhouse	\$299,900	Billy Barr/Keller Williams Realty of Delmarva
Sunday 11am-1pm	616 Salt Spray Rd., #4, Ocean City	2BR/1.5BA	Townhouse	\$299,900	Billy Barr/Keller Williams Realty of Delmarva
Saturday Noon-2pm	735 Bradley Road #206, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$459,900	Ann Holtz/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	4 Hidden Cove Way #2F, Ocean City	2BR/BA	Condo	\$559,900	Ann Holtz/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	13908 Wight Street #101, Ocean City	3 BR/2BA	Condo	\$979,900	Dinah Kappus/Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.
Saturday 1-3pm	3 Barnacle Court, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$384,900	Cindy Crockett/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday 11am-1pm	404 Yawl Drive, Montego Bay, OC	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$359,900	Kimberly Mcguigan/Shore Results Realty
Sunday 11am-1pm	404 Yawl Drive, Montego Bay, OC	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$359,900	Kimberly Mcguigan/Shore Results Realty

Next Coastal Association Of Realtors Real Estate Guide Springfest Weekend May 3rd. For Details, Contact Renée Kelly 667.288.1233 Renee@OceanCityToday.net

Presented free as a courtesy to Licensed REALTORS® who are regular Ocean City Today & Bayside Gazette Advertisers. For all other REALTORS®, there is a weekly charge of \$10 per listing.



Classified

MARKETPLACE

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

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



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

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

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

Thunderbird Beach Motel.
Now hiring Night Auditor & Front Desk Clerk.
Competitive pay.
Apply in person. 32nd St., Baltimore Ave.
Monday through Friday from 9am-3pm.

HELP WANTED

PGN Crab House
29th St. & Coastal Hwy.
Now Hiring for
• Waitstaff • Kitchen Help
Apply within in person after 11:00 am.

Cleaners - Vacation rentals needed for OC and Pines. Experience preferred but not required. OC Purifiers.
Call or text 443-397-1189 or email Karen@ocpurifiers.com.

HELP WANTED

Taylor Marine Center (West Ocean City) 11850 Ocean Gateway, 21842, 410-213-1391. **Boat Yard Assistant**, Full-Time, Year Round Position, Excellent Benefits, **Health Insurance**, 401K, Five-Day Work Week, **Tuesday-Saturday, 8:30-5:00**. Duties: Boat movement, bottom painting, cleaning boats, yard maintenance, etc. Punctuality, Self-Motivation, Orderliness required along with valid driver's license. Compensation hourly dependent on experience.
Apply in Person, Call or Email andy@taylormarinecenter.com

HELP WANTED

AUTOMOTIVE - MARINE
Auto Parts / Marine Parts with huge Retail department, is now hiring for: Parts Associates (will train). Locations in: Ocean Pines, Clarksville & Long Neck. Great Pay & Benefits.
Call: 302-344-9769.

Fire Alarm Technician - Entry Level

Immediate opening
Good driving record.
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To apply contact us at jobs@firepro-md.com or call 410-213-1880
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An Innovative Approach to Property Maintenance

WE OFFER: Full-Time, Monday - Friday, competitive pay, great benefits, paid holidays and vacation.

- OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR -

EXP. REQUIRED: Customer Service, MS Word & Excel, & knowledge of basic office procedures. Bi-lingual & strong math skills are a plus.

- FIELD MANAGER -

Customer Service, MS Word and Excel, Outlook, and marketing skills. Bi-lingual & Strong Math Skills are a plus.

email resume to

Gherker@comcast.net & Gherker@herkerinc.com

FT INSIDE SALES & OFFICE ASSISTANT

REQUIREMENTS

Strong Customer Service background
Extremely detail-oriented & organized
Microsoft Office proficient • Deadline-oriented
Ability to multi-task

RESPONSIBILITIES

Build & maintain a customer base for Classifieds & more
Keep the office running smoothly
Assist in putting together a quality, local staple

E-mail resume with OFFICE ASSISTANT in the subject line to:

AdSales@coastalpoint.com

Coastal Point



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

Crew Wanted:

The SeaBoard is seeking a captain and a deck hand for summer '24. Both positions require ability to lift 40 pounds and climb ladders. Preferred candidates are computer literate and mechanically inclined with boating experience.

Send email to info@theseaboard.com



SEASONAL POSITIONS

- General Clerical
- Fuel Dock Attendant
- Ramp Attendant
- Boat Yard Attendant
 - Domestic
 - Maintenance

Apply online: DelawareStateJobs.com

Help Wanted - Cook

with 2-3 Years experience required. Honest, dependable, reliable. Flexible schedule - Full or Part-time. Weekly pay checks. Friendly work environment. Serious inquires only.

Open daily 12:00 p.m.
American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Avenue, Ocean City, MD

Now Hiring Summer 2024 Positions for Sun Outdoors Ocean City!

Looking for bartenders, cashiers, cooks, housekeepers, activities attendants, front desk agents, security, and maintenance!

Starting at \$15/hour and up!

Call 410-213-0097 or email careers@eoshospitality.com to inquire.



Worcester Prep is seeking qualified candidates for the positions of

Upper School **MATH TEACHER**

Upper School **ENGLISH TEACHER**

For more information, please scan the code or visit our website.



worcesterprep.org/about/employment

Worcester Prep is a fully-accredited Pre-k through grade 12 independent school located in Berlin, MD.



A Maryland University of National Distinction

Salisbury University is accepting applications for the following positions:

Housekeepers (Day & Evening)

Housekeeper Supervisor I

Housekeeper Lead

To be considered an applicant for these positions, you must apply online via Salisbury University's Online Employment Application System. Go to <http://www.salisbury.edu/HR/careers/>. See the FAQs of the Online Employment Application System for more information.

SU is an EEO employer and is strongly committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty, staff and student body.



Worcester Prep is seeking qualified candidates for the position of **Director of Development**

The Director of Development is responsible for all aspects of development and fundraising including the annual fund, planned giving, capital campaigns, grant writing, and fundraising events. This individual will cultivate major donors, oversee the donor databases, create development-related publications, and will work closely with the Development Coordinator and Development Committee of the Board of Trustees. This position will also work to strengthen donor relations and implement the school's strategic plan.

For more information, please scan the code or visit our website. worcesterprep.org/about/employment
Worcester Prep is a fully-accredited Pre-k through grade 12 independent school located in Berlin, MD.



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- Days, Nights & Weekends

HELP WANTED

AUTOMOTIVE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Busy Tire & Service Centers Now hiring for:
- Service Associates (will train)
- Exp. Technicians
Locations in: Ocean Pines, Clarksville & Long Neck.
Great Pay & Benefits.
Call: 302-344-9846

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.

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

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted Full-Time Maintenance Person for a small community in the Berlin area. General maintenance knowledge needed. Good pay and benefits. **Call 410-641-5102.** Large equipment experience helpful.

SEEKING WORK

Seeking Work: Small and Large Jobs. 44 years experience in construction. Patch work, landscaping, painting, etc. **Call/leave a message, 443-754-7709.**

RENTALS

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

Summer Seasonal Memorial Day to Labor Day. Single family home. 2BR, 2BA. \$22,000 + utilities. Cleaning once a month and lawn care will be included.
Contact Karen 443-880-5727

Condo For Rent. 2BR/1BA, unfurnished condo. You pay utilities, electric, water, etc. Central heat and air, washer/dryer, on water. Includes boat slip 15" bayside. YR \$1800 + deposit.
Text only 410-845-8331.

Seasonal Weekly Rental (ONLY). Single family home, Berlin, 4BR, 3BA, \$625/per night. **Call 484-319-7188** for details.

OFF SEASON RENTALS

Utilities Included
CONTACT US AT burgundyinn@gmail.com 410-289-8581

Holiday REAL ESTATE, INC.

Yearly & Seasonal Rentals
We Welcome Pets
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410-524-7700
www.holidayoc.com

RENTALS

Fully Furnished Townhouse, 4BR/2BA, Living Room, Dining Room. Water, Electric and Cable not included. \$2100/month. Located at 438 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, MD 21811. **410-456-0272** Yearly lease. One month security deposit and one month rent upfront.

ROOMMATES

Seeking Room For Rent or Live with Roommate, 57, male, moving from Baltimore, looking to live in OP/Berlin, starting June. **Please call Phil, 443-388-2868**

MISC./OTHER

Worthless and broken, No reason to keep what's left, Those clouds, this heart, me.

Whipped, ripped, lost, Let the wind have us.

COMMERCIAL

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

1 Office/Retail Space available in West Ocean City. Approximately 1656 sq. ft. **Call 443-497-4200**

Commercial Space For Rent West OC 2500 sq. feet. **rental@ocsandyfeetretreat.com or 910-448-1693**

DONATIONS

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

Classifieds 410-723-6397

www.baysideoc.com
www.oceancitytoday.com

ESTATE SALES

Estate Tag Sale April 27 & 28, 9:00am-4:00pm, 12619 Old Bridge Road, West Ocean City. Furniture, appliances, vintage, collectibles, housewares, holiday, yard and garden, cottage furnishings and fishing gear. **Cash only.**

GRAND MILLENNIAL SALE ESTATE SOLD

3327 Main St. Exmore, VA 23350 Sat. April 20 & 27, 2024 8:30am - 3:30pm

2 MARBLE Fireplaces, mantels & frames, Garden Pedestals & lady busts, 26 mosaics, 2 ammonite bath sinks, 2 Sheryl Wagner marble shell sinks in crates, 4'x8' marble slab, 2 marble tall door surrounds, slate & wrought iron table w/glass top, 4 bar-height chairs, 4 pc. mosaic seating set, garden umbrella, 2 Dutch Tall Case Clocks circa 1750,1780

French Carved Armoire, bed and night table, c1895 Entire Sets of Unused Sample Home Furniture, Bedroom, living room, Dining room set, lamps, twin bed, baby crib, 2 five section bookcases, Antique door hardware, Antique wood doors,

Old wooden store counter, rugs, dishwasher, books pictures, paintings, frames, End tables, loveseat, triple dresser, chandelier, games, plush toys CRAFTS SUPPLIES

Floral & greenery. Create your own crafts/wreaths and decorations with new craft supplies **Air fryer, small appliances, RC airplanes, EV charger** dozens of new 8' fluorescent bulbs, All new in boxes

Cash & Carry & Layaway. Bring truck and blankets 757-678-2658

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BUDGET MOVERS

443-664-5797

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Full Packing Service

Piano Movers - Full Service

www.facebook.com/OCBudgetMovers

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Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-855-407-6870

VEHICLES WANTED

DONATE YOUR CAR/TRUCK/RV - Lutheran Mission Society of MD Compassion Place ministries help local families with food, clothing, counseling. Tax deductible. MVA licensed #W1044. 410-228-8437 www.CompassionPlace.org

MISC. FOR SALE

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 855-977-5719



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