



MAY 9, 2024

BERLIN • NORTH WORCESTER COUNTY • OCEAN PINES

FREE

## 'Education' signs don't pass OPA muster

Worcester United says requests for permission apparently denied, despite having received no word

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 9, 2024) As educators and parents worry that Worcester County Public Schools will receive minimum funding for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Ocean Pines Association has asked residents to remove yard signs expressing support for the academic system, despite members of the advocacy group Worcester United requesting approval.

Brittany Tignor, a Stephen Decatur High School librarian and a Worcester United leadership team member, submitted an application to the OPA seeking permission to display "I Support Public Education" signs on com-

munity properties.

According to the Ocean Pines resident, while Worcester United initially thought the signs would be approved, association officials have seemingly denied their request, as homeowners have been asked to remove the posters from their yards. A formal disallowance was never provided to Tignor or the advocacy group.

"There was no official communication," the SDHS librarian said. "I understand that Ocean Pines does not want to have tons of signs, but I have a problem with how they approve and deny them. The system is not transparent ... They are picking and choosing what signs get to stay and which signs don't. It's frustrating that there has been no official denial, yet people are getting violation letters."

The "yard-sale" size declarations state the  
See SIGN Page 5



TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Signs like the one above dot hundreds of yards in the county, but some on Ocean Pines residential properties have been ordered removed.



STEVE GREEN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

### COLOR RUN FOR FUN

Stephen Decatur Middle School hosted its spring Family Night last Thursday for current seventh and eighth graders and their loved ones. A highlight of this year's event was a free color run for Autism acceptance. Volunteer teachers and students tossed colored powder on students and family members as they made their way around the track.

## Businesses win grants in contest

Science Nerds, Iron Skillet Coffee, Mandala Pies get major financial awards

By Charlene Sharpe  
Associate Editor

(May 9, 2024) A trio of Berlin businesses will be able to grow after winning grants through the Shore Hatchery business competition.

The Town of Berlin announced last week that three local businesses, The Science Nerds, Iron Skillet Coffee and Mandala Pies, received grants through The Perdue School of Business Philip E. and Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation Shore Hatchery Mid-Atlantic business competition.

"I am thrilled for these local Berlin businesses," said Ivy Wells, the town's economic and community development director. "These grants help them to continue their success here in Berlin and inspire others to

See BUSINESS Page 6

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# Merchants offer late shopping hours on Fridays

## Sip and Shop features free tastings in some stores

**By Charlene Sharpe**  
Associate Editor  
(May 9, 2024) Merchants are aiming to better serve local shoppers with new extended hours on Fridays.

Berlin Sip and Shop is now being held Fridays in Berlin during the months of May and June. Participating shops will be open from 5-8 p.m. on Friday evenings and will be offering free tastings of local spirits.

“The community has reached out to us asking for businesses to stay open later,” said Ivy Wells, the town’s economic and community development director. “Friday nights have been busy. We might as well make an incentive for people to come.”

In an effort to better serve local customers and at the same time increase sales, the majority of downtown shops will be staying open late on Friday evenings in May and June for Berlin Sip and Shop. There will be live music and a variety of local spirits, including drinks from Jun and Juice, the Buzz Meadery, Forgotten 50, Berlin Beer Co. and Burley Oak Brewing.

Ryan Nellans, executive director of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce, believes the campaign will benefit residents who work until 5 p.m.—and have been unable to shop in local stores that may have closed before they could get there—as well as merchants, who should see more business.

“Downtown businesses are making strides in correcting Berlin’s ages old habit of rolling up the sidewalk at 5 o’clock. The Sip and Shop helps businesses, residents and visitors alike to shake up their own routines and breathe a little more life into our beautiful Main Street,” Nellans said.

Merchants are excited about the opportunity to enjoy Friday evenings chatting with patrons over a drink. Deb Passwaters of British Rose said her shop would be doing giveaways as well. She’s looking forward to Sip and Shop.

“It brings people out,” Passwaters said. “It’s fun. Maybe it’ll bring more people to town.”

Participating businesses include British Rose, East & Main Shore Supply, Patty Jeans Boutique, Blazer, Pitts Street Treasures, Uptown Emporium, The Merry Haven, Outtens Delights, Life’s Simple Pleasures, Una Bella Salute, Beach Gypsy, Love Your Mama, Sisters, Eastern Woodland/Bleached Butterfly, Bruder Hill, Viking Tree Trading Company and multiple dining options.



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SUBMITTED IMAGE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Marketing materials, like the above, have been used in recent weeks by the Town of Berlin to promote later evening business hours and free tastings at local stores.

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# Pines rec preps for busy summer

Next week's Paint Night kicks off slate of events, including weekly concerts

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 9, 2024) As the temperature heats up and the school year winds down, the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department gears up to host community events and activities for children and adults this summer.

On Wednesday, May 15, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks will welcome kids aged 5 to 17 for a paint night at the neighborhood's community center. The event is \$22 a person, and all materials and instructions will be given. Pre-registration is required for interested residents.

On Saturday, May 18, Ocean Pines kids can participate in a canvas tote decorating class. The event is for children four to ten, and supplies will be provided. Admission is \$8 for residents and \$10 for non-residents, and registration is required, as space is limited. Spots can be reserved by calling 410-641-7052.

The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department also hosts Brian

Stoehr's Beach Bodyboarding lessons for boys and girls seven to fifteen. The sessions, which will take place on 36th Street in Ocean City, are scheduled on Tuesdays throughout the summer, including July 16, July 30, Aug. 13, and Aug. 27.

Professional bodyboarder Brian Stoehr, a two-time United States National Professional Tour winner, will provide instructions.

"Our coaches are experienced and trained wave riders who teach basic and advanced skills," The Ocean Pines website says. "Instructors will share important information on surf awareness, valuable safety tips in the water, equipment information, and most importantly, how to read the waves to get the most thrilling rides."

The cost of these lessons is \$75 for Ocean Pines residents and \$80 for non-residents and will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants are to bring their body board.

For adults looking for summertime activities, the annual Concerts in the Park kicks off on June 20. Every Thursday until Aug. 22, various bands will perform at White Horse Park from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. While concessions will be for sale, attendees can bring their alcohol. The event is free.

Residents should expect sets from musicians like On the Edge, Riptide Band, Uptown Band, Club Phred, Colossal Fossil Sauce, The Swingtime Dolls, Breath of Fresh Air, Dusty Vinyl, and Whiskey Graves.

Adults will also have their own opportunity to participate in craft nights this summer. On Wednesday, May 22, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks is hosting a paint and sip event for \$27 a person. Wine and crackers will be provided, and pre-registration is encouraged. Reservations can be made at 410-641-7052. Similar events will also be held throughout June.

The community's activity group is sponsoring a Kayaking 101 class. Located at the Swim and Racquet Center, individuals 16 and over can take lessons from American Canoe Association Kayak Instructor Laura Scharle. Interested participants can register for the Tuesday, May 21, 9:30 a.m. session or the Thursday, May 23, 6 p.m. class.

Registration is \$65 a person. Attendees must bring their kayaks and will learn how to get in and out of the vessel, as well as water safety tips and basic strokes.

Additional upcoming events can be found on the official Ocean Pines website.

## Work group eyed to organize OP historical items

(May 2, 2024) Board member Elaine Brady, at an OPA Board meeting on Saturday, brought up a discussion topic on establishing a work group to collect, properly preserve and organize historical items related to the history of Ocean Pines, along with determining how to best showcase them.

"The 50th Anniversary Committee received many documents and pictures from individuals who helped shape our community," Brady said. "There was some discussion at that time of creating a way to display them. However, other than repurposing a few message boards surrounding the Administration parking lot for a handful of items, the rest has been sitting in storage."

"It's time we should start looking at ways to organize and showcase those items. Additionally, we should collect our more recent documents and pictures in order for future generations to not only learn the history of the beginnings of Ocean Pines, but how the community has evolved over the years before the inherent knowledge and documents are lost," she added.

For more information or to inquire about joining the work group, email Brady at [ebrady@oceanpines.org](mailto:ebrady@oceanpines.org).

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# Sign rules enforcement mixed

Continued from Page 1  
property owner's support for a fully funded Worcester County Public Schools budget, among other initiatives.

Based on property values, Worcester is annually one of the wealthiest counties in Maryland, meaning the system relies heavily on county financial assistance rather than state help.

Some Worcester County Commissioners are considering what's called a "Maintenance of Effort" formula, the lowest amount of funding permitted by law, as they did last year.

School personnel and parents are worried that activities will be cut if the system receives the same level of funding in the year ahead as it did last year. Ocean City Elementary School, Showell Elementary School, Berlin Intermediate School, Stephen Decatur Middle School, and SDHS were at risk of slashing their summer academies earlier this year due to financial concerns and an economically disadvantaged threshold rule that previously disqualified them from grant aid.

However, the northern schools were awarded \$150,000 from the Donnie Williams Foundation in March to save their extended academic services.

While the political efforts continue, concerns have been heard about Ocean Pines has been employing selective enforcement regarding the education signs, as signs for political candidates are in yards throughout the community.

Ocean Pines argued that the signs' content was not the cause of their denial but rather the association's by-laws and regulations.

"Signs need prior approval from the Architectural Review Committee if they do not fall under the allowable signs as listed in the guidelines," OPA Senior Executive Office Manager Linda Martin said of the banners.

The 'I Support Public Education' signs do not meet any allowable category for signs, so a homeowner requested a blanket approval for all lots in Ocean Pines to keep the signs at the last ARC Meeting. While the ARC turned the request down, individual lots can apply for a variance to have these signs placed on their property. To date, Compliance, Permit, and Inspections have not received any such request for these signs or any sign."

The "I Support Public Education" signs are part of a larger initiative to secure full monetary support for the schools. On April 14, the activist group Worcester United hosted a rally on the Ocean City Boardwalk where parents, teachers, school personnel, and concerned community members marched for the cause.

"Our big goal right now is to ensure the budget gets funded," the Worcester United member said. "Without a solid funding source, our

schools will be unable to do what we need them to."

Tignor said that SDHS teacher Mary Hathaway and parents Tom Simon and Brian Robertson assembled Worcester United as a Facebook group in November 2023. The organization was inspired following a board of education meeting when "there was a lot of hate-filled comments toward students."

"Worcester United is dedicated to supporting public education," the group's mission statement reads. "Through advocacy and collaborative efforts, we strive to break down systemic barriers, fostering an inclusive environment that empowers every learner. Our vision is a society where all students, regardless of background, can access a quality education, creating a foundation for a more just and prosperous future."

In addition to the budget, the organization's goals include supporting Worcester County Board of Education candidates who best align with its purpose. Tignor emphasized the need to elect a representative who listens to educators and parents and is open to a variety of perspectives. The group currently has 1,168 members on Facebook.

"We like to say that we want our schools to be funded, safe, and inclusive," Tignor said.

# Groups partner on efforts to collect for summer camps

## Nonprofits will provide scholarships to about 100 students in need of help

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 9, 2024) Ocean Pines Get Involved and Worcester County GOLD are partnering to collect summer camp materials for local underprivileged children attending these out-of-school programs on scholarships.

According to donation organizer Esther Diller, the school-age children will attend camps like YMCA Pocomoke, Berlin Activities Depot, Worcester County Recreation and Parks, Worcester County Pop Warner, and the 4 Steps Therapeutic Riding Program. This year, Worcester County GOLD, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to providing financial assistance to low-income Worcester County residents, will grant summer camp scholarships to approximately 100 kids.

Worcester County GOLD's 2023 impact report noted that in one year alone, the group provided \$332,000 in total assistance, served 1,015 households, and gave \$31,000 in scholarships for childhood summer activities.

Donation organizers are requesting

towels, sunglasses, sunscreen, sandals, swimwear, cinch bags, socks, hats, T-shirts, water bottles, plastic or reusable, and bug spray for this year's drive. OPA Director of Public Relations and Marketing Josh Davis maintained that only new and unused items will be accepted. Contributions can be dropped in the donation box in the Ocean Pines Administration Building lobby, 239 Ocean Parkway.

Diller said that this is the second year Ocean Pines Get Involved is collaborating with Worcester County GOLD to give camp adventures for underprivileged Worcester County children.

"It provides local kids with a summer experience that they would otherwise not be able to do, and it also helps working parents get their children involved in a safe activity," Diller said.

Diller emphasized that the Ocean Pines Get Involved group has worked on several donation drives for the last few years with the nonprofit. In addition to the summer camp program, the organization is requesting new and unused clothing for children and adults. The donations can be made directly to Worcester County GOLD at 201 River Street in Snow Hill.



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# Business innovation earns awards

Continued from Page 1  
enter the Shore Hatchery competi-  
tion next year."

The Shore Hatchery is a thirteen-  
year \$2.9 million initiative that began  
in 2013. The program assists entre-  
preneurs in creating new businesses  
and jobs in the region. The goal of the  
Shore Hatchery is to reward individ-  
uals for their entrepreneurial efforts  
in the creation and growth of busi-  
nesses with the potential of positively  
impacting regional employment  
within three years.

The Science Nerds, which started  
as a way to give kids access to science  
projects during the pandemic, re-  
ceived \$37,000 in this year's compe-  
tition. Founders Lindsey MacWha  
and Jenn Corron want to continue to  
promote the wonder of science  
through hands-on activities. They're

already in 17 counties in Maryland  
and are hoping the business will con-  
tinue to grow.

"We're blessed it blossomed as  
quickly as it did," Corron said.

She said they were one of 43 busi-  
nesses that applied for Shore Hatchery  
funding. The Sci-  
ence Nerds were  
one of 15 proposals  
that were selected  
to make one-  
minute pitches to a panel of judges.

"We had high hopes," Corron said.  
"It went well."

Nevertheless, they were shocked to  
win and to get more than the \$35,000  
they requested. Going forward, they'll  
be working with a business advisor  
through Salisbury University and will  
use the money to hire employees so  
that the business can expand.

**'We had high hopes. It went well.'**  
Founder Jenn Corron

"We're super excited to spread our  
love of science," Corron said.

Iron Skillet Coffee, known for its  
bright orange display at the Berlin  
Farmers Market, won \$5,000 in the  
Shore Hatchery competition. Founder  
Jeff Smith prides himself on craft cof-  
fee batches

roasted in a cast  
iron pot. He en-  
tered the compe-  
tition because he's

been wanting to build a roaster.

"The process was very Shark Tank-  
esque," Smith said. "We had to sub-  
mit a business plan then we had one  
minute in front of the judges to pitch  
the idea."

Smith was excited to be one of the  
six grant recipients from this year's  
competition. He said the \$5,000 he  
won will help him build a roaster.

"It's going to partly automate the  
process and increase yield," he said.

Berlin's other Shore Hatchery win-  
ner was Mandala Pies. The artisan  
baking company, which was founded  
by veteran Caitlin LaComb after she  
became a stay-at-home mom, re-  
ceived \$5,000. LaComb said the  
funding would help the bakery re-  
place a refrigerator as well as expand  
marketing. She hopes to get the bak-  
ery's van wrapped and purchase new  
banners for farmers markets.

# Berlin Electric utility recognized for reliability

Association evaluates data  
for outages and restoration




(May 9, 2024) American Munici-  
pal Power, Inc. (AMP) recently con-  
gratulated the Berlin Electric Utility  
Department for receiving a Diamond  
Level Excellence in Safety Award and  
earning a Certificate of Excellence in  
Reliability during the American Pub-  
lic Power Association's (APPA) 2024  
Engineering & Operations Technical  
Conference, which took place April 7-  
10 in New Orleans.

"We are pleased so many AMP  
Members and AMP staff are recog-  
nized for their commitment to  
safety," Jolene Thompson, AMP  
President/CEO said in a news re-  
lease. "Utilities that receive an APPA  
Safety Award demonstrate that the  
health and safety of their employees  
is a core value. Congratulations to our  
Member communities and to AMP  
staff for recognition of their steadfast  
efforts to maintain safe operations."

Recognized for safety practices  
(demonstrated by having the lowest  
safety incident rate within its group),  
determined by worker-hours of expo-  
sure, the Berlin Electric Utility De-  
partment was awarded Diamond  
Level in Group B (15,000 to 29,999  
worker-hours of exposure).

According to APPA, more than 160  
utilities from across the country en-  
tered the annual Safety Awards. En-  
trants were placed in categories  
according to their number of worker-  
hours and ranked based on the most  
incident-free records and overall  
state of their safety programs and cul-  
ture during 2023. The incidence rate,  
used to judge entries, is based on the  
number of work-related reportable  
injuries or illnesses and the number  
of worker-hours during 2023, as de-  
fined by the Occupational Safety and  
Health Administration.

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CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Though the approval came after the fact, the Berlin Historic District Commission had no issues with residential improvements made at this home at 17 S. Main St.

# Commission OKs shingles, windows, post-completion

Homeowner unaware improvements needed town historic board's approval

**By Charlene Sharpe**  
Associate Editor  
(May 9, 2024) The Berlin Historic District Commission approved improvements to a home on Main Street last week.

The commission last Wednesday voted 5-0 to approve new shingles, a gutter and windows for the historic home at 17 S. Main St. While homeowner Reggie Mariner already replaced the shingles, not realizing he needed commission approval, the group said they looked fine and gave him permission to move forward with a gutter and some windows.

"You've done a nice job," commission member Mary Moore said.

Mariner approached the board last week seeking after-the-fact approval of new shingles for his house. He said he'd replaced the shingles with ones that looked exactly the same and he hadn't realized he needed approval from the commission. In addition, he outlined plans to install windows as his budget allows as well as a gutter to protect the roof.

"The upper roof drips on the front porch and shortens the life of the shingles," he said.

Mariner said he planned to use a six-inch half round gutter with the

clip system so it would look historic. As far as windows, Mariner said he planned to replace them as he could afford, maybe in groups of three.

"I'm assuming you've been okay allowing a clad window?" he asked.

Nornie Bunting, chair of the commission, said the group just wanted to see a sample of the window first.

"We like to see it," Moore agreed. "There's such a variance."

The commission agreed to approve the changes as long as Mariner brought in a sample of the window when he was ready to replace them. In addition, the commission last week approved a new window sign for Sheppard Realty.

At the close of the meeting, Moore asked her peers to take a look at the white trim she'd noticed on the former PNC Bank building at 1 S. Main St. She said she didn't like the look of it but wanted to see what the rest of the commission thought.

"It's a shame for a beautiful building to have that window," she said. "It looks like white magic marker that's gone around it."

She said the commission was tasked with making sure buildings within the district suited the town.

"We're here to make sure Main Street and anywhere in the district is really doing the very best for Berlin," she said.

Bunting agreed that was the commission's purpose and members agreed to take a look at the building.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Attendees to a previous year's Bay Day get an upclose look at one of the animals on exhibit.

# Annual Bay Day event slated May 19 at White Horse Park

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 9, 2024) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program is back for the fifth annual Bay Day, an effort dedicated to educating the community and improving the waterways of

Ocean Pines, at White Horse Park on Sunday, May 19. The event is free and kicks off at 10 a.m.

According to Maryland Coastal Bays Program Educational Coordinator Liz Wist, Bay Day is a collaborative endeavor between MCBP and the Ocean Pines Association. The event is for “community members to learn... and interact with the amazing organizations working to protect our Coastal Bays watershed.”

The initiative was conceived five years ago as an educational event concentrated on environmental efforts to enhance the St. Martin River, which forms the northern boundary of Ocean Pines.

Attendees will be welcomed with boat tours, food trucks, music, and live animal exhibits. Community members can partake in informational hands-on activities focused on imparting environmental knowledge and tips and tricks they can consciously implement in daily life. Wist said there will be experiences for all ages, and the goal is to create a space for learning, engagement, and interaction.

There will also be community science opportunities and information on how residents can participate in partnering organizations and their missions. Wist hopes Bay Day will teach individuals to “become stewards of the local environment.”

Over 30 conservation partners will be present on May 19, including the Phillips Wharf Fish Mobile, Ocean Pines Anglers, UMES 4-H STEM, Chincoteague Bay Field Station, Assateague Coastal Trust, and Protectors of the St. Martin River.

“Our conservation partners are the highlight of this day,” West said. “Our missions all intersect in some way, but we all have unique goals and val-

See BAY Page 10



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TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

### FARMERS MARKET

Several crafts vendors are among the dozens of weekly staples offered during the Ocean Pines Farmers Market on Saturdays.

## Bay Day offers kids activities

Continued from Page 8  
ues that make each exhibitor table different and equally engaging. All our exhibitors are tasked with creating a hands-on activity to captivate attendees and inspire learning.”

According to the Ocean Pines website, Bay Day will feature a recycling station where residents can drop off alkaline batteries, old phones, and more. Go Green OC will also collect compost.

Wist said planning for the event begins eight months before the festival each year. Since May is a busy month, save the dates are sent to partners and vendors as early as possible. Material ordering, new activity arrangements, and meetings kick off in the months leading up to the designated day.

“Each year, we learn to work to improve, adjust, and add in new ele-

ments, which is all due to feedback that we gain from our community at or following the event,” the educational coordinator said.

MCBP, which “works to enhance the ecological resiliency of the Coastal Bays, the watersheds, and their communities through conservation and public engagement,” has two ongoing Ocean Pines projects.

The Jenkins Point Restoration for Resilience initiative is gearing up to develop and implement an approved design to restore a fragmented peninsula on the western shore of the Isle of Wight Bay. Wist said the goal is to improve climate resiliency for residential and recreational infrastructure in the community. Project leaders hope the work will also enhance the habitat for shore wildlife.

MCBP is also focused on revamping the South Gate Pond shoreline. To create “natural-based resiliency, enhanced shoreline, nearshore and buffer habitat, and stormwater management to improve water quality,” Wist said that 4,600 linear feet of pond shoreline will be restored.

Bay Day will welcome residents from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a day of environmental education on May 19.

“This festival is free to attend and is truly for everyone,” Wist maintained. “There is something for every age and interest.”



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# WCPS honored for sixth year for music education program

(May 9, 2024) Worcester County Public Schools has been honored for the sixth consecutive year with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its commitment to music education.

Now in its 25th year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

To qualify for the designation, WCPS staff answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instructional time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. Responses were verified by school officials and reviewed by officials with The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

“Music Education is integral to a well-rounded education for all students,” WCPS Fine and Performing Arts Coordinator Tamara Mills said in a news release. “Years of research have proven that students who regularly participate in music demonstrate enhanced cognitive skills, improved academic achievement, and advanced social and emotional

development.” The release said research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music. After two years of music education, researchers found that participants showed more substantial improvements in how the brain processes speech and reading scores than their less-involved peers, and that students who are involved in music are not only more likely to graduate high school but also to attend college. Everyday listening skills are also stronger in musically trained children than in those without music training.

Significantly, the release said listening skills are closely tied to the ability to perceive speech in a noisy background, pay attention, and keep sounds in memory. Later in life, individuals who took music lessons as children show stronger neural processing of sound. Young adults and even older adults who have not played an instrument for up to 50 years show enhanced neural processing compared to their peers.

Social benefits also include conflict resolution, teamwork skills, and how to give and receive constructive criticism.



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# Solar on farmland working through state process

By Charlene Sharpe  
Associate Editor

(May 9, 2024) Plans for a community solar project in Snow Hill are moving through the approval process.

The Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) this week hosted a virtual public hearing on a plan by Chaberton Snow Solar LLC to build a 4.0 megawatt community solar generating facility on Timmons Road in Snow Hill. The hearing was the first of several related to the community solar facility.

“All comments I receive will be considered when I issue my decision,” Chief Public Utility Law Judge Chuck McLean said.

McLean opened a virtual hearing Tuesday evening regarding the Snow Hill solar project, which is planned to occupy about 30 acers of a 103-acre agricultural parcel on Timmons Road. While no members of the public commented during the brief hearing, McLean said comments were still welcome, as there would be another hearing in August and an evidentiary hearing in September.

“The purpose of this evening’s hearing is to provide the public an overview of the project as well as the opportunity to comment and make me as well as the parties aware of any issues or concerns they may have,” McLean said.

Lauren Barchi, community engagement manager with Chaberton Energy, said the project, for which local outreach was conducted last summer, was expected to benefit the area.

“This community solar project will benefit the local community in many ways, including tax revenue to the state and county and an average of \$150 annual savings for subscribers to the project,” she said. “There will also be an immediate environmental benefit consistent with Maryland’s renewable energy and sustainability goals including replacing nonrenewable sources of energy and planting pollinator habituate that can increase farming production in the local area and support bee and insect populations.”

She said that in general, commu-



Approximately 30 acres of this 103-acre farm in Snow Hill has been proposed to be used as a solar generating facility, which would be operated by Chaberton Snow Solar LLC.

nity solar projects benefited the local grid by making it more resilient. As far as the specifics of the Timmons Road project, she said there would be landscape screening around the site as well as a seven-foot high perimeter fence. She added that while there were some wetlands and an unnamed tributary in the area, the solar infrastructure had been strategically located so as not to hurt them.

“The development area was carefully selected to avoid negative impacts to these environmental features,” she said.

McLean said an in-person public hearing would be held on the project sometime during the week of Aug. 19. Written comments on the project can be sent electronically through the Public Service Commission’s online portal or by mail. Comments sent by mail should reference case number 9714 and be addressed to: Jamie Bergin, Chief Clerk, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202.

While the project is making its way through the state approval process, the Worcester County Commissioners last fall voted 4-3 not to approve it. Although the state through the PSC has the ultimate authority regarding the solar installation, the county’s denial of the project could play a negative role in approval of the project. As a result, attorney Mark Cropper has filed an administrative appeal of that decision in Worcester County Circuit Court and oral arguments are scheduled for May 23.

During last year’s meeting, Commissioners Joe Mitrecic, Caryn Abbott and Diana Purnell supported the project. Commissioners Chip Bertino, Jim Bunting, Eric Fiori and Ted Elder were in opposition. Town staff supported the project as did the county’s planning commission.

Back in November, property owner Charles Waite III thought that after years of research and with a solar farm already operating on Timmons Road, he’d found the perfect way to ensure the independence of the family farm while supporting local energy needs.

“As a fourth-generation owner of my farm and a former elected officer for the State of Maine for two three-year terms, it is important to note that the decision

to work with Chaberton Energy was one made after exhaustive and careful consideration,” Waite said. “The decision was made through the lens of both a property owner and that of an elected representative ... This was a straightforward application with unanimous support from the appointed planning board and technical review committee meetings recommending approval.”

Waite was hopeful in November the commissioners would reconsider the rejection, which did not take place.

“The 4-3 commissioners’ denial appears to ignore the existing precedent regarding a solar application I can see from my front porch,” Waite said.

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# School board candidates provide insights

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 9, 2024) The three District 5 candidates vying for a spot on the Worcester County Board of Education provided insight into their platforms at a public forum at the Ocean Pines Library on April 30. The Worcester County Republican Central Committee hosted the event.

Incumbent Elena McComas faces Dorothy Shelton-Leslie, a 40-plus-year educator, and John Huber, who has 30 years of experience as a teacher and administrator.

In her opening remarks, McComas said that besides her seven years on the board, her bio includes a diploma from Wicomico High School, a bachelor's degree in science education from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a master's in molecular biology from Johns Hopkins.

The educator, who worked in Montgomery County, Maryland, and California before coming to Worcester, spent 25 years as a biology teacher across all levels, particularly high school. She hopes to continue her efforts on the board of education to ensure parents are involved in their children's instruction, "maintain the outstanding school system," keep small class sizes, raise teacher salaries, and "do what is best for our



Elena McComas, Dorothy Shelton-Leslie, and John Huber expressed their platforms, positions, and policies at an open forum on April 30 at the Ocean Pines Public Library as they vie for a spot on the Worcester County Board of Education.

kids."

Huber has 15 years of classroom experience in Maryland's k-12 schools and 15 years as an administrator. "It is a lack of discernment regarding school safety, the lack of knowledge of policies, and the lack of direction that prioritizes student achievement and sound strategic planning that propel me to run," he said. "We need educators on the board. Not politicians."

Shelton-Leslie has two master's degrees, one in administration and the other in reading. She has taught grades k-6 and is a former adjunct professor at the University of

Delaware. The candidate believes her experience in staff development and ability to empathize with teachers and principals will prepare her to serve Worcester County Public Schools effectively.

The contenders were first asked about the potential of a second year receiving the Maintenance of Effort funding formula from the Worcester County Commissioners and their recommendations to alleviate budget concerns.

MOE is the minimum amount of county funding to schools allowed by state law. Based on a property tax formula that places Worcester as the wealthiest county in Maryland, most of the system's financial support comes from the local government, which intends to provide less money than the board believes is necessary to deliver educational excellence.

Huber emphasized the disconnect between the commissioners and the board, ensuring everyone wants a fully funded budget. However, the candidate argued that there needs to be a stronger sense of prioritization. Small class sizes, he said, while excellent, come with an expensive price tag.

Shelton-Leslie expressed similar sentiments. "There is a long discussion about what kind of money we need versus what kind is available," she said. "...we only have 'X' amount of dollars that we need to prioritize. We have been talking about raises for teachers, and we need this too, so the more economical we can be, the more likely we are to get money for teacher raises. I would like to see that discussion on both sides."

Shelton-Leslie also advocated for the zero-based budget. This is a financial plan-building process that begins at zero dollars. Each department starts with nothing, and money is added based on necessity.

McComas defended small class sizes as a priority and the reason the county has seen educational success. She also maintained that the board has complied with the commissioners' requests, such as a detailed 126-page budget and 300-plus pages of daily expenditures posted every month for transparency.

"We are trying very hard to find the money via grants," the incumbent said. "If we go to MOE this year, we will have to cut 90 positions, which

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# Early voting underway, primary on Tuesday

makes me ill. That will change our school's culture. I would ask that we look at different ways to reach the middle on this one."

The candidates were also asked about the impact of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, a costly educational plan, on Worcester's future budgets.

Shelton-Leslie explained that the Blueprint prioritizes human and material student resources for academic success. "We are going to get some [monetary] help with that, but some on the board say that is not enough," she said. "It's never enough."

Huber said that while he was initially not an advocate for the Blueprint, it is here to stay and must be worked with. Because the educational plan is expensive and Worcester's funding may be limited, he recommends the school system champion the fact that it is one of the best-performing counties in the state to encourage additional support.

McComas also recognized the strain the Blueprint is expected to put on the system. She notes that 94% of the budget goes toward salaries and maintenance and only 6% toward supplies and materials.

"We are looking at a situation where we either go with smaller class sizes or combine Pocomoke High School and Snow Hill High School

and try to give those students the same opportunities we can give the students at Stephen Decatur High School," the school board member said. "This is a horrific idea. This will destroy communities. Pocomoke deserves its high school. Snow Hill deserves its high school. But that costs money. We are not sure where it goes from here."

The forum touched on staff payment, particularly teachers, as Worcester County has the lowest starting salary in the state. All three candidates expressed their desire to provide for educators. Huber acknowledged that even an increase to \$60,000 is not enough, but he supports all methods possible to improve compensation.

Shelton-Leslie suggested that increasing class sizes will save money and can thus raise teacher salaries.

"I have done a lot of research on small classes, and a lot says that in terms of solutions for instruction and discipline... small class sizes are costly, and it is not one of the first choices most school improvement personnel would make," she said.

McComas reiterated that she hopes to raise funds for initiatives like increased staff salaries via grants, saying they are writing them "left and right."

The health curriculum and the appropriateness of certain books and

materials were discussed. According to McComas, the human sexuality curriculum is state-mandated. While Maryland allows this instruction to begin in third grade, Worcester has opted to wait until fifth grade, and parents can withdraw their children from specific lessons.

While Shelton-Leslie maintained that school library books must be suitable for their age range, McComas acknowledged that younger parents and educators see the value in these materials despite the sexual content in some high school novels. She said that she recognizes the importance of alternating perspectives.

Regarding school safety, McComas noted that referral incidents have dropped 25% since implementing the Memorandum of Understanding.

Shelton-Leslie declared that "discipline is the core of safety," and Huber encouraged actionable consequences.

The candidates also expressed displeasure at the rift between the sheriff's office and the board. While Shelton-Leslie pushed for an open conversation between both parties, McComas recognized that the school system views discipline through an educational law lens, meaning first offenses are dealt with within the walls of a learning environment. Law enforcement uses a more criminal ap-

proach. However, she said that she is hopeful the tension is ending.

Shelton-Leslie's closing statement reiterated her commitment to college and career readiness, early childhood programs, parental rights, and equipping teachers for success.

Huber said he intends to make himself easily accessible via an online forum, and, if elected, schedule monthly meetings with guardians. He also expressed the board's need for a leader "focused on procedure and not rhetoric."

To round out the forum, McComas ended on a positive note.

"Worcester County is one of the most outstanding school systems I have ever seen," she said. "We have amazing programs, our smaller class sizes help underachieving students, and the teacher support is unreal. Our schools are truly fortunate. We have challenges, but we are truly blessed. We are Worcester."

Early voting for the primary election began Thursday, May 2 and runs through May 9, 7 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center. The primary election will be held May 14, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., at polling sites throughout the county. The top two finishers in the school board election will move on to the general election on Nov. 5.



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Among new additions to the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum this year is the entrance area, converted into a family sitting room.

# Berlin museum launches season

**By Charlene Sharpe**  
Associate Editor

(May 9, 2024) The Calvin B. Taylor House Museum is kicking off the season with a new exhibit.

The museum, located on Main Street in Berlin, opened May 1. For the first time in more than two decades, the small front room historically depicted as an office from the 1800s is now shown how it was likely truly used — as a family sitting room.

“People are interested in the day-to-day living of the period,” said Melissa Reid, president of the museum. “We knew we wanted to be more historically accurate and created a snapshot that shows how people lived at that time.”

The museum, built in 1832 as a home for Isaac Covington and his family, was later inhabited by Robert J.

Henry, who was instrumental in bringing the railroad to Berlin, and in the early 20th century served as the home of Calvin B. Taylor, an educator, lawyer and founder of the Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company. The federal style house was saved from demolition in 1981 and is now a museum of local history. The majority of it is filled with period pieces while one wing features displays of local memorabilia.

Reid said museum volunteers tried to refresh exhibits and displays periodically to maintain local interest in the facility. As part of that process, architectural plans and a historic inventory of the house was reviewed. Museum officials realized the space they’d been using as Covington’s home office had no entrance from the hallway but rather double doors opening into the dining room.

“Houses at that time had formal visiting spaces and informal family spaces,” Reid said. “This little room was probably a family sitting room.”

As such, it also would have served as a staging area for formal meals, as it was next to the dining room and the kitchen in those days was in a separate building behind the house. With that in mind, the office display has been dismantled and the room has been reinterpreted as a sitting room would have been but with the addition of some faux dessert trays. The desserts, created by Joyce White of the Hammond Harwood House, were previously used for the museum’s holiday events and feature sweets that would have been served in the 1800s.

“We decided it was time to be more authentic with the representation of

See NEW Page 17

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JULY-AUGUST 2024

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### ESSAY CONTEST SUCCESS

Worcester Prep fourth graders Brooke Arnold, left, and Charlize Damouni, right, are pictured with fourth grade teacher Kim Jankowski at the Ladies Auxiliary American Legion of Berlin awards ceremony after placing in this year's Americanism Essay Contest.

## New exhibit offered at museum

Continued from Page 16  
the space,” Reid said.

The changes were made over the winter and were unveiled when the museum opened May 1. Reid is hopeful the new display will encourage locals to come back and check out the museum again and also inspire new visitors to stop by.

“Telling the stories of Berlin is our main goal,” she said. “We want people to come back more than once.”

The museum is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. While the season has run from May to October in years past, Reid is hopeful that eventually the museum will be able to afford to stay open from March until Dec. 31 to provide more opportunities for the public to visit.

“Our volunteers have spent numerous hours collecting historical information from Berlin and the surrounding areas to make all the exhibits and the museum experience authentic and as factual based as can be,” said Jack Orris, a museum board member. “Everyone in our area should make the museum an annual visit to see what’s new and maybe even learn a new Berlin tidbit.”

Board member Cate Nellans agreed.

She enjoys seeing the pieces of the past that depict the history of Berlin.

“Everyone, whether a longtime local, or visitor to the town for a day, should visit,” Nellans said. “Beyond it being a great example of the architecture of the mid-1800s, our curators have taken great pains to amass a collection of stories, photos and memorabilia that speaks to the resilience of our community over the last century and then some.”

# Visit Delaware Botanic Gardens

Photo by Stephen Pryce Lea

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
Pictured, from left, are General Levin Winder Chapter member Pat Arata, Snow Hill High School Cadet SSgt Skylar Murphy, and General Levin Winder Chapter member Carol Wanzer.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE  
General Levin Winder Chapter member Carol Wanzer and Stephen Decatur High School Cadet Milagros Mil-Castro are pictured.

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Md. Ann. Code Health Gen. §24-305 and Md. Ann. Code Health Gen. §24-30

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Md. Ann. Code Comm. Law §11-5A-02

Visit [www.NotobaccoSalesToMinors.com](http://www.NotobaccoSalesToMinors.com) for the most up-to-date information.



## Worcester County Health Department

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Laws and penalties are subject to change.



## DAR recognizes local high school cadet students

(May 9, 2024) The General Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution recently presented awards to local high school students involved in cadet programs.

According to a news release, the group presented DAR Bronze JROTC Medals to Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Amber Jester from Pocomoke High School, and Cadet SSgt. Skylar Murphy from Snow Hill High School. Recipients of the award are either junior or senior students in a secondary school JROTC program who have demonstrated qualities of dependability and good character, adherence to military discipline, leadership ability, and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of ROTC training.

Chapter members also presented a Silver DAR Outstanding Cadet Medal to Cadet Milagros Mil-Castro from Stephen Decatur High School.

The medal is awarded to a student for participation in a non-ROTC, mil-

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pictured, from left, are General Levin Winder Chapter member Pat Arata, Pocomoke High School Cadet 2nd Lt. Amber Jester, and General Levin Winder Chapter member Carol Wanzer.

# Leadership medals awarded

itary-affiliated cadet program funded by a school or privately and honors a cadet who has distinguished himself or herself through outstanding leadership, honor, service, courage and patriotism.

A DAR Youth Leadership Medal was also presented to Cadet Bentton Culp from Stephen Decatur High School.

The medal is awarded to a student who fulfills the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership and patriotism.

The DAR is a women’s service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America’s future through better education. For more information, visit [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org).



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

General Levin Winder Chapter member Carol Wanzer and Stephen Decatur High School Cadet Bentton Culp are pictured,

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# JAZZ, BLUES, WINE AND BREWS



## WEEKEND JAMS IN BERLIN

Pictured are some scenes from last Saturday's Berlin Jazz, Blues, Wine and Brews event, which was hosted along Main Street by the Berlin Chamber of Commerce.

STEVE GREEN AND CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE





# Snapshots



## CLEANUP EFFORTS

Worcester County Libraries recently teamed up with the Ocean City Surf Club, Assateague Coastal Trust, OC Beach Heroes, Maryland Coastal Bays, OC Surfrider Foundation and the OC Green Team for a beach and community clean up in North Ocean City. Pictured are members and volunteers from the organization during the event.

PHOTO COURTESY OC SURF CLUB

## MEMBER WELCOMED

Roger Pacella, the membership chairman for the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club, welcomes new member Margie Givarz at the group's April dinner meeting.

PHOTO COURTESY  
OCEAN CITY-BERLIN  
OPTIMIST CLUB



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

## INDUCTION HELD

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City recently inducted Jug Brown, pictured center, into the club. Posing with Brown during the induction ceremony are his sister, Kiwanian and sponsor Terri Ulman, and his brother-in-law, Kiwanian and co-sponsor Jim Ulman.

## WINNING ESSAY

Emily Knight, second place winner in the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club essay contest, read her essay to the club at their April 2 meeting. She is pictured accepting her winning check from Club President Christina Dolomount-Brown.

PHOTO COURTESY  
OCEAN CITY-BERLIN  
OPTIMIST CLUB



## LEADER DOG CHECK

Ocean City Lions' President Greg Cathell, left, presents a \$1,000 donation for the Lions' Club Leader Dog Program to Jesse Bollinger and his guide dog Burley. Since 1939, the leader dog program has trained and provided guide dogs for the blind at no cost.

PHOTO COURTESY  
OCEAN CITY LIONS



# Opinion

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

## Not all political signs equal under HOA law

Something is off about the Ocean Pines Association’s response to the “I Support Education” signs dotting the yards of residents there, and it isn’t just issuing notices of violation to some people and not to others.

The violation cited in these notices refers to the Architectural Review Committee guidelines that require individuals who wish to post a yard sign to apply for and receive written permission from the ARC.

That’s an interesting situation for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is that this particular sign occupies a legal gray area in homeowners association law.

Without question, it is a political sign, given its ties to the movement pushing the county commissioners to approve a fully funded budget for the public school system. As such, it is more difficult to regulate per the Maryland Homeowners Association Act, which says HOAs cannot restrict or prohibit the display of candidate signs or signs regarding referendum questions if they are on private property.

Except — “I support public education” doesn’t fall into either of these categories, making it more political commentary than a call to voters for direct action. Neither the HOA act nor the ARC guidelines contain a provision for signs of this nature. Consequently, the committee can require property owners to obtain permits.

The other question, however, is whether it should. Most people would agree that “I Support Education” is as tasteful and innocuous as any yard sign could be. It is hardly shouting “Death To Tyrants” or “So-and-so Is a Schmuck!” and yet either someone complained to the ARC or a member of the ARC itself caused action to be taken.

Either way, the hither and thither application of the ARC guideline in this instance suggests that the committee’s heart wasn’t in it, and that it would have preferred to let the thing play out.

The irony in this business, however, is that the ARC’s action brought even more attention to the signs and the reason they were posted in the first place.

## Letters

### Remove personal beliefs from funding

Editor,

(The following was addressed to the Worcester County Commissioners.)

First, I’d like to congratulate the commissioners in favor of last year’s MOE vote for starting a grassroots movement right here in our beautiful county.

Your votes have galvanized a large group of Worcester County voters under a great cause. We span across party, and district lines to come together for one mission. A mission that includes seeking a fully-funded Board of Education budget, a school system that is the priority to the Commissioners, and a sense of partnership between the Commissioners and the Board of Education.

Our school system is what it is because your forefathers in those seats stood on their business and knew the importance of a fully-funded school system budget.

Our family moved here six short years ago. We made this choice rather than sending our children to private schools in a neighboring county. We specifically chose Worcester County - squarely on the shoulders of the reputation above. Thankfully they are doing their very best with the MOE that they can and are upholding the reputation despite that - thank you to the Teachers, and Administrators.

I implore you to look past and get over your own personal, political, and dogmatic beliefs and fund the budget. We know that some of you are not fans of public schools and would prefer a voucher system - but that’s not what the people want - I hope you’ve come to realize this.

I also implore you to “Build The Bear” and come in where the state will not, and fund the Buckingham Elementary school that the Berlin neighborhoods de-

serve.

Good day to you all.

*Tony Weeg  
Berlin*

### Sports complex process concerning

Editor,

For the record, I am not opposed to a Sports Complex. However, I am opposed to the use of public funds to build, operate and subsidize one. In Economic Analysis for a Proposed New Outdoor Sports Field Complex in Worcester County, Maryland issued in August, 2017 by Crossroads Consulting Services, it indicates that such facilities require an approximate 25% annual subsidy. They also wrote, in part, “...some tournament promoters/producers expressed a concern regarding the potential of oversaturation of the Mid-Atlantic market, particularly as the competitive supply of facilities continues to change.” The Worcester County Commissioners were wise to reject the concept.

Fast forward to 2019, and the Mayor & City Council (M&CC) of Ocean City order their own study. In Market And Economic Analysis for an Indoor Fieldhouse And Outdoor Field Complex in Ocean City, Maryland, completed in January, 2020, it states, in part, “...the supply of comparable facilities is continuing to increase both regionally and nationally.” And, “The growing supply of similar outdoor sports facilities in the region needs to be closely monitored to avoid market saturation.”

Within the 2020 study, I found numerous red flags that are cause for concern about the feasibility of such a project. For example, from 2014 to 2018, frequent participation rates have declined in every outdoor sport listed including soccer, baseball, softball, touch football, tackle football, flag football and lacrosse. Note, this occurred pre-Covid. The study states, in part, “Given the

limited nature of this study as it relates to the proposed outdoor field complex, this update does not include case studies of comparable outdoor sports complexes.” It begs the question, why was this study limited in nature?

The 2020 study also reveals that from 2014 to 2018, with one exception, frequent participation rates have declined in every indoor sport listed including basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, martial arts and wrestling. Only cheerleading showed an increase during this five-year period. Again, this occurred pre-Covid. Perhaps, the most troubling statement in the 2020 study is the following, “The analysis performed was limited in nature and, as such, Crossroads Consulting Services LLC does not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the information presented in this report.”

After the M&CC spent \$49,000 for this report, they should have scrapped the idea.

Apparently not satisfied with the first study, what does the M&CC do? They ordered a second study and paid an additional \$49,000 for Market And Economic Analysis Update For A Proposed New Sports Complex In Berlin, Maryland, issued in November, 2022. Red flags continue in the Town’s second study. For example, it states, “In addition to the previously profiled facilities in the region, there is a significant supply of both indoor and outdoor sports-tourism focused facilities throughout the broader U.S. that is continuously growing. Some of these facilities would also compete with the proposed sports complex for certain event activities such as National competitions.” Some sport participation rates reportedly showed some gains between 2019 and 2021, However the 2022 study states, “With the exception

Continued on Page 23

BAYSIDE



GAZETTE

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# Digital production courses offered at WTHS

Innovation grant for \$500K allowing tech teachers to create new local program

(April 18, 2024) Worcester County Public Schools has been awarded a \$500,000 Career and Technical Education Innovation grant to create a new Digital Music and Video Production program at Worcester Technical High School.

According to a news release, Under the technical school's existing Interactive Media Production visual

art pathway, the new program is designed to equip students with marketable skills, including digital music theory, recording techniques, sound design, multi-camera and script-based editing, audio mixing, motion tracking and stabilization, and more. The curriculum will provide real-world experiences, opportunities for partnerships with Salisbury University, and opportunities for youth apprenticeships with local businesses. The program also aligns with the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

Students will learn the tools and

techniques used by field professionals. The grant will fund program supplies and materials, professional-grade equipment and software as well as contracted services to create a state-of-the-art creative classroom and recording studio.

"We are incredibly grateful to MSDE for this support of the arts and careers in the arts," WCPS Fine and Performing Arts Coordinator Tamara Mills said in the release. "Digital Music and Video production are valuable skills that can benefit students in many aspects of their lives. Whether

they pursue a career in the arts or not, this program will foster creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration."

Brian Phillips, WCPS career and technology education coordinator, added that the grant will allow staff to provide interested students with "cutting edge digital arts education that aligns with the demands of the modern music and video industry."

Students interested in the new pathway can speak with their high school counselors now about scheduling and program availability for the 2024-25 school year.

## Letters

Continued from Page 22

of basketball, core participation in every team sport analyzed was down or flat in 2020, and despite some recovery in 2021, many remained significantly below pre-pandemic levels. The 2-year change in core participation from 2019 to 2021 for baseball, cheerleading, gymnastics, lacrosse, indoor soccer, slow-pitch softball, and wrestling all reflect double-digit decreases."

A 2020 similar study by the same consultants for St. Mary's County, Maryland revealed that eleven profiled city or county owned sports fa-

cilities all showed an operating deficit. The 2022 Ocean City study was void of any revenue/expense data regarding profiled sports facilities.

The 2022 study further states, "Several indoor and outdoor sports facilities have either expanded or been constructed since January 2020 adding to the significant supply of competitive facilities profiled in the previous study." The 2022 study adds "Based on the market research conducted to date, the proposed sports complex would likely operate at a deficit, which is not unlike other sim-

ilar facilities." This second study repeats a familiar theme and states, "The analysis performed was limited in nature and, as such, Crossroads Consulting Services LLC does not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the information presented in this report."

The Mayor & City Council are about to embark on a Sports Complex that is estimated to cost nearly \$167,000,000. Approximately 24% of the cost is to be bonded by the M&CC, with the balance to come from the State of Maryland presumably through state bonds or grants.

The M&CC seem to forget that state debt is an obligation on local taxpayers as well.

As of this writing, there is no guarantee that the State will fund their portion. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that the Worcester County Commissioners will vote unanimously to increase the room tax to 6%, which the M&CC has their eye on to help subsidize the Sports Complex.

Why is fiscal responsibility so lacking in local government?

Vincent dePaul Gisriel Jr.  
Ocean City



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Friday Noon-3pm	12346 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	3BR/2BA	Single Family	starting at \$239,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Friday Noon-3pm	12346 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/1BA	Single Family	starting at \$179,900	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Saturday 10am-Noon	13905 Lighthouse Avenue, Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$899,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 12:30-2:30pm	36937 Creekhaven Dr., Selbyville, DE	4BR/2.5 BA	Single Family	\$759,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 3-5pm	304 S. Heron Gull Court	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$1,399,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	103 Mumfords Landing Road, Ocean Pines	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$659,900	Sandy Dougan/BHHS PenFed Realty
Saturday 10am-Noon	38307 Amaganst Lane, Ocean View, DE	4BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$415,000	Vera Sainz/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	13015 Atlantic Blvd, Montego Bay, OC	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$699,900	Bill Rothstein/Montego Bay Realty
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## Answers to last week's puzzles

1	7	2	9	8	6	5	3	4
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# Shore Clinic rebrands as new HealthPort

(May 9, 2024) The Lower Shore Clinic has rebranded with a new name and identity to become HealthPort.

The brand change reflects the non-profit organization's mission to deliver multifaceted primary care, mental health, and substance use treatment to clients throughout the region. HealthPort operates a health center outside Berlin in Newark and provides mobile services to Worcester County residents.



D. Cavathas

CEO Dimitrios Cavathas said in a news release that the HealthPort name centers on the word "port" – a haven for calm and hope.

"Our new brand draws from the sensation of arriving at a port – a place that feels peaceful and well," he said. "It leans into the spirit of optimism we offer to our clients who, in many cases, are seeking trust in their health care decisions, safe harbor and direction in their lives."

HealthPort partnered with Baltimore-based TBC and Delmarva's We Are Limitless studios to execute the rebranding. TBC helped to develop the organization's name, logo and website, while We Are Limitless is incorporating the new brand identity in exterior artwork at the health centers throughout the Eastern Shore.

Founded in 1979, HealthPort delivers health care services to more than 2,000 people in five counties. Cavathas said in the release that the name change will be seamless for HealthPort clients. He believes it will increase awareness of the organization's care and services while increasing visibility in the community.

As a participating health care provider in Medicaid, Medicare and most major health care insurance plans, HealthPort is recognized by the United States Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic. The organization is nationally recognized by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in eight categories of services.

"Clients typically come to us through referrals by health care institutions, community health providers, health insurance plans, employers and families" Cavathas said. "We offer care to all residents of Delmarva who seek services. No one is turned away for inability to pay."

HealthPort employs a team of more than 176 physicians, nurse practitioners, counselors, therapists, administrators and other staff members in Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset, Caroline, Dorchester and Talbot counties.

Primary care, including physicals, diagnosis of acute and chronic illnesses, and health education promotion and

maintenance, is available at HealthPort's medical center open Monday through Thursday at 505 E. Main St. in Salisbury. Appointments are encouraged but walk-ins are accepted. An independent pharmacy fills prescription medication requests to clients onsite at the facility for convenience and provides in-person pharmacist education and support for medications.

HealthPort's outpatient mental health and addiction services, available seven days a week, are based at the medical center campus as well. Staff provides individual counseling, group therapy, case management, psychotherapy, neurofeedback, and medication assisted treatment.

Group rehabilitation programs serve people with various disorders at five county-based locations, two in Salisbury (one for seniors), and one in each in Somerset (Princess Anne), Worcester (Newark), and Dorchester (Cambridge) counties.

HealthPort is also expanding to a third Salisbury location. Teaming with Delmarva-based Davis, Bowen & Friedel architects, the final phase of planning a \$3.2-million facility at the corner of East Main and Ward streets is underway. This facility will be home to mental health counseling, weekend and evening trauma treatment, and healthy living practices such as yoga classes in a state-of-the-art studio. Construction is expected to begin within the year.

HealthPort also offers safe and affordable rehabilitation and supported housing at 60 residential properties across three counties. Both supervised and unsupervised beds are available to assist individuals with maintaining the highest level of independence possible.

Mobile services are offered by HealthPort to residents throughout the Eastern Shore who are having difficulty accessing care through traditional office-based services. Assertive Community Treatment teams provide outreach by visiting homes, workplaces and other appropriate locations chosen by clients. The teams can assist clients with psychiatric services, employment, rehabilitation, nursing care, peer support, housing, and substance abuse counseling. Telehealth options for both primary care and outpatient mental health counseling are also available to clients.

Other HealthPort programs include residential crisis services in a community-based setting available year-round, 24-hours a day; a healthy foods program to increase member access to fresh produce and nutrition and cooking education; specialized young adult mental health services for ages 19 to 29; and vocational services.

For more information and to make an appointment, contact HealthPort at 410-341-3420, email [referral@healthport.org](mailto:referral@healthport.org) or visit [HealthPort.org](http://HealthPort.org).

**CRUISIN' Ocean City**

[www.CRUISINOCEANCITY.com](http://www.CRUISINOCEANCITY.com)

Featuring Over 3,000 Rods, Customs, Classics and Muscle Cars  
Plus Indoor Car Corral, Swap Meet, Live Music,  
Artwork Contender Showcase, Vendors and More!

**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual**  
**MAY 16 - 17 - 18 - 19**  
Thursday-Friday-Saturday 9am-5pm  
Inlet Parking Lot &  
Ocean City Convention Center (OCCC)  
  
Sunday 9am-3pm  
Inlet Parking Lot

**HAPPY DAYS**

Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of HAPPY DAYS with Anson Williams & Donny Most  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday

**The Bugs Buggy**

Legendary Designer & Builder  
**Chuck Miller**  
*Signature*

Check Out THE RED BARON & BUGS BUGGY  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Meet **CHUCK MILLER**  
Friday 11-4  
Saturday 11-4

**JAY LENO**

May 16, 2024  
Show Time 7pm

Additional Ticket Required  
Ocean City Performing Arts Center

GENERAL ADMISSION

\$15/Day  
Thurs, Fri & Sat

\$10  
Sunday

\$40  
Four-Day Pass

Children Under 14  
Free with Paid Adult

SPONSORS:

Schedule Subject to Change



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., May 9

**15TH ANNUAL OC JEEP WEEK**  
Hugh T. Cropper Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City. Beach crawls, sand course, show and shine, Jeep Jam and more. Free admission to shop vendors in the Inlet Parking Lot. Schedules and register to participate: [www.ocmdjeepweek.com](http://www.ocmdjeepweek.com). [jeep-weekoc@gmail.com](mailto:jeep-weekoc@gmail.com)

**STORYTIME: MOTHER'S DAY**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate the special ladies in our lives and create a heart-warming craft. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**ZUMBA**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5-6 p.m. Join Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of movement. These classes uplift and improve mood. Registration required for each class. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

**INTRO TO PLATFORM CLINIC**  
Ocean Pines Racquet Center, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, 6 p.m. Takes place May 9 and 11. Free clinic. All abilities welcome and paddle provided. Register: [oppaddle2020@gmail.com](mailto:oppaddle2020@gmail.com). 410-641-7052

**BEACH SINGLE 55 PLUS MEET AND GREET**  
*Thursdays* - Nick's Kitchen + Bar, 14410 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, 4-6 p.m. 215-385-4993, [BeachSingles.org](http://BeachSingles.org)

## Fri., May 10

**15TH ANNUAL OC JEEP WEEK**  
Hugh T. Cropper Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City. Beach crawls, sand course, show and shine, Jeep Jam and more. Free admission to shop vendors in the Inlet Parking Lot. Schedules and register to participate: [www.ocmdjeepweek.com](http://www.ocmdjeepweek.com). [jeep-weekoc@gmail.com](mailto:jeep-weekoc@gmail.com)

**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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**MAHJONG CLUB**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. A fun morning of playing tile Mahjong. Feel free to bring your own tile set. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**BOOK DISCUSSION: 'SEA OF TRANQUILITY' BY EMILY ST. JOHN MANDEL**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the library's circulation desk. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER**  
Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. One-crab cake platter cost is \$14. Two-crab cake platter is \$24. Platters include green beans, baked potato and Cole slaw. Crab cake sandwich is \$10. Eat in or carry out. Bake sale table available.

## Sat., May 11

**15TH ANNUAL OC JEEP WEEK**  
Hugh T. Cropper Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City. Beach crawls, sand course, show and shine, Jeep Jam and more. Free admission to shop vendors in the Inlet Parking Lot. Schedules and register to participate: [www.ocmdjeepweek.com](http://www.ocmdjeepweek.com). [jeep-weekoc@gmail.com](mailto:jeep-weekoc@gmail.com)

**DANCE ALLEY PRESENTS 'SWEET TREAT BOULEVARD'**  
Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. Shows at noon and 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/41275489/dance-alley-presents-sweet-treat-boulevard-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

**FURNACE FAIRIES & GNOMES CELEBRATION**  
Furnace Town Historic Site (Nassawango Iron Furnace), 3816 Old Furnace Road, Snow Hill, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. A magical day filled with whimsical crafts, fairy and gnome-themed activities and enchanting entertainment for the entire family. [www.furnacetown.org/events](http://www.furnacetown.org/events)

**CRAFTY SATURDAY: MOTHER'S DAY**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Create something special for a loved one in your life. All ages. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET & BREAKFAST**  
Bethany United Methodist Church,

8648 Stephen Decatur Highway, Berlin, 8 a.m.-noon. Breakfast sandwiches, baked goods, yard sale, gift and craft items for sale. Vendors, to make a reservation, contact 443-614-2261 and [fcbumc21811@gmail.com](mailto:fcbumc21811@gmail.com).

**OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:30 a.m. The speaker, on Boater Safety, will be licensed 100GT Captain and experienced marine inspector Tommy Ottenwaelder, principle owner of Guardian Marine Services. All are welcome.

**FLOWER TRANSFER ART (TATAKI ZOME)**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 12 p.m. Sue Bromm teaches this Japanese technique for printing on fabric or paper. If you have flowers you want to use, bring them and a small hammer. Registration required: 410-208-4014.

**MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH**  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 1-3 p.m. Good food and fellowship while supporting the church. Reservations: 410-524-7474 by May 5. Requested donation is \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids aged 5-12 years and free to those 4 years and younger.

**OCEAN PINES SPRING BIKE RIDE**  
The Clubhouse Bar & Grille - Ocean Pines Golf Club, 100 Clubhouse Drive, 3-6 p.m. Featuring 7-mile and 14-mile options. Happy hour social following. All riders get one free drink ticket. Free event. Pre-registration: 410-641-7052. For those 12 years and older. Helmets required. 703-955-0745

**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., May 12

**15TH ANNUAL OC JEEP WEEK**  
Hugh T. Cropper Inlet Parking Lot, 809 S. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City. Beach crawls, sand course, show and shine, Jeep Jam and more. Free admission to shop vendors in the Inlet Parking Lot. Schedules and register to participate: [www.ocmdjeepweek.com](http://www.ocmdjeepweek.com). [jeep-weekoc@gmail.com](mailto:jeep-weekoc@gmail.com)

**'MOM'OSA PAINT & BRUNCH**  
Residence Inn Ocean City, 300 Seabay Lane, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$60 for adults 21 years and older and \$50 for those 20 years and younger. Register: <https://canvas.artleagueofoceancity.org/classes/1629>. 410-524-9433,

[megan@artleagueofoceancity.org](mailto:megan@artleagueofoceancity.org)

**BERLIN FARMERS MARKET**  
*Sundays through Sept. 8* - Pitts Street, Commerce Street and Main Street, Berlin, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Featuring more than 35 farmers, food cultivators, bakers, distillers, seafood, meat, eggs and more. <https://berlinmainstreet.com/farmers-market/>

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

## Mon., May 13

**STORY TIME: TRANSPORTATION**  
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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

**TRUE CRIME BOOK CLUB: 'AMERICAN FIRE' BY MONICA HESSE**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Join in for an afternoon of true crime. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**MONTHLY MOVIE MATINEE**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Catch a recent movie you might have intended to see in the theaters. Free event. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**T.O.P.S. OF BERLIN - GROUP #169**  
Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and living a healthy lifestyle. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

**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](http://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.



# Calendar

**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., May 14

**MUSIC AND MOVEMENT**  
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Clap, sing and move to the beat. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**SHIPWRECK AUTHOR TALK**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Michael Dougherty discusses his book, "The Wreck of the Faithful Steward on Delaware's False Cape." An objective retelling of the loss of the Faithful Steward. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**SCHOOL'S OUT TEEN HANGOUT**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Join in to play video games, make crafts and compete in trivia. For teens and their families. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

**GROWING UP WILD: BIRD BEAK BUFFET**  
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. Learn about the special functions of bird beaks through a variety of activities. For ages 6-11 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**ARTIST TALK WITH JENNIFER CARTER**  
Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort, 9110 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 5-7 p.m. View Jennifer's exhibit of paintings and photography and hear her speak about her process, artworld and inspiration. Free and open to the public. 410-524-9433, [megan@artleagueofoceancity.org](mailto:megan@artleagueofoceancity.org)

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

**ATLANTIC COAST SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING**  
American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 7 p.m. This month's speaker will be Lynette Catha, Director of the International Game Fishing Tournament Observers. Open to the public.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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](http://www.htcanglican.org/activities).

## Wed., May 15

**BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP**  
Takes place the third and fourth Wednesdays of each month. For surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatric Center, 410-641-9568

**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](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

**COAST HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR**  
Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill,



**GARDEN CLUB SPEAKER**  
Matthew Harhai, pictured, now in his fifth year running Goat Tree Plum Farm, was the guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Worcester County Garden Club. His presentation on foraging and farming for the future highlighted the benefits mushrooms provide to humans and ecosystems. PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY GARDEN CLUB

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Atlantic General representatives will be on-site to provide blood pressure screenings. Alyce Marzola, 410-641-9268, [amarzola@atlantic-general.org](mailto:amarzola@atlantic-general.org)

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

**BACKGAMMON CLUB**  
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Drop in for this game of strategy that dates back 5,000 years to Mesopotamia and Persia. All skill levels welcome. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

**STROKE SUPPORT GROUP**  
Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3-4 p.m. For stroke survivors, family and friends. 410-641-4765, [bglime@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:bglime@atlanticgeneral.org)

**KIDS PAINT NIGHT**  
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$22 per person. All materials and instruction provided. For ages 5-17 years.

Pre-registration required: 410-641-7052.

**MAKE AND LEARN: CYANOTYPES**  
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 5:30 p.m. Learn about John Herschel and his invention of the cyanotype, photo paper that turns blue when exposed to light. Supplies included. Bring specific shapes wanted. Registration required: 410-641-0650.

**KIWANIS CLUB MEETING**  
*Wednesdays* - Ocean Pines Community Center, Assateague Room, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Third Wednesday meetings are offsite and will be updated monthly on the website and Facebook. Guests are welcome. [www.kiwanisofopoc.org](http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org)

## ONGOING EVENTS

**KIWANIS FOOD DRIVE FOR DIAKONIA**  
During the month of May, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City will be collecting non-expired, non-perishable goods. Vehicles will be stationed in the Ocean Pines Community Center parking lot ever Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to noon to accept donations.

**BALTIMORE ORIOLES VS. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES BUS TRIP**  
Bus trip to Camden Yards on June 16. Pick up at Ocean Pines Community Center at 8:30 a.m. Game time at 1:35 p.m. Tickets cost \$120 per person and includes transportation, a seat in the picnic perch, (section 284) and all-you-can-eat Picnic Perch food. Tickets: 410-641-7052.



# 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](http://oceancitytoday.com) & [baysideoc.com](http://baysideoc.com)



### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED



### FULL-TIME PERSONAL BANKER

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

Please email resume to  
[kris.derickson@fbwband.com](mailto:kris.derickson@fbwband.com)

"Equal Employment Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer"



- Line Cooks • Hostess
- Bussers • Food Runners
- Servers

**302-539-2607**

Apply In Person. Fenwick Island

### Worcester Preparatory School

Worcester Prep is seeking qualified candidates for the positions of

Upper School  
**MATH TEACHER**

Upper School

**SCIENCE TEACHER**

Director of

**DEVELOPMENT**

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

[worcestereprep.org/about/employment](http://worcestereprep.org/about/employment)

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



PUT **COLOR** IN YOUR **CLASSIFIEDS!**  
CALL 410-723-6397

### Cleaners Wanted for Ocean City, MD

If you are a conscientious individual or team looking for great pay and minimal hours on summer Saturdays in OC, then we are the cleaning company for you. Exp. Preferred. Cell phone and vehicle required.  
**443-880-0525**

**Help Wanted:** FT, Seasonal, Front Desk, Housekeeping, Laundry. Walk in to fill out application. **Safari Hotel, 13th Street and Boardwalk.**  
**410-289-6411**

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



Ocean Aviation  
Flight Academy  
seeks  
**Office Assistant**

Growing Flight Academy with campuses in Berlin, Maryland and Georgetown, Delaware seeks Exceptional Candidate to join our team. Professional Friendly office environment. **F/T.** Weekend availability is a plus. Year Around Position. Responsible for student interaction, dispatch and check in of flights, filing, retail sales and keeping our offices neat and clean. Must be customer oriented and be proficient in data entry and have good computer skills. Previous office or educational experience necessary.

Please forward resume to [mfreed@flyoceanaviation.com](mailto:mfreed@flyoceanaviation.com)

We prefer initial contact be through e-mail only. Qualified applicants will be contacted for in person interviews.



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

## NOW HIRING IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

Retail Team Member Factory Worker  
Merchandise Kitchen Help  
Merchandising Helper Delivery Assistant

**APPLY IN PERSON**  
**Tuesday - Friday 10am to 3pm**  
**CORPORATE OFFICE**  
**5301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City MD**

**SPECIAL EVENT SECURITY**  
- Staff needed for events in Ocean City. Seasonal FT/PT help also. Please call **443-513-4198**.

### Seasonal Positions Available:

Pool Attendants, Building Security and Custodian.  
Apply in person, by email [Pyramidapply2@gmail.com](mailto:Pyramidapply2@gmail.com) or call **410-524-4479**.



**HIRING: Line Cooks, Sous Chefs, A/V Techs, Painters, Maintenance Staff, Plumber, Security, Office Staff, Food Runners, Cashiers, Carpenters and more**

Apply in person or online at [seacrets.com](http://seacrets.com)



**NOW HIRING!!**

**Production Crew**  
for our WOC kitchen facility  
Up to \$20/hr.

Apply online at:  
[www.delmarvadd.com](http://www.delmarvadd.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**



**APPLY  
ONLINE**



### Building Attendant.

Full & Part Time. Day & Evening Shifts. Memorial thru Labor Day. Dependable, conscientious individual to monitor building, grounds, pool and parking.

Send resume to  
[Fred@paradiseoc.com](mailto:Fred@paradiseoc.com) or call **410-250-1111**.

**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](mailto:Karen@ocpurifiers.com).

### 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.

### EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER

FT/PT Work in Motel.  
Must Have Experience.  
•**GREAT PAY!**  
•**MONTHLY BONUSES!**  
CALL 410-289-9205



### SEASONAL POSITIONS

- General Clerical
- Ramp Attendant
- Custodial

Apply online:  
[DelawareStateJobs.com](http://DelawareStateJobs.com)

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