



CHARLENE SHARPE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HORSEPLAY

Residents and visitors strolling through town heard the clip clop of hooves down Main Street last Saturday as Berlin offered free carriage rides for Mother's Day weekend.

Council sticks with pride flag flying in June

Criticism met by response from community members

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) Berlin will once again celebrate June as Pride Month.

Mayor Zack Tyndall confirmed this week that the town would again be flying the pride flag and issuing a proclamation in honor of Pride Month. The news came after a trio of comments on the topic at Monday's council meeting.

"I implore you to protect us and wave the pride flag proudly," resident Betsy Love said.

Last year Town Hall flew the pride flag and the progressive pride flag. The pride flag is the most well-known of the LGBT flags. Its six colors are symbolic: red equals life, orange symbolizes healing, yellow stands for sunlight, green for nature, indigo for serenity and violet represents the spirit of the LGBTQ people. The progressive pride flag adds the transgender and people of color who are members of the LGBT community as

See PRIDE Page 3

Five seek seats on OPA board

Directors issue statement after being called corrupt in post on Facebook

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(May 16, 2024) Five Ocean Pines residents have thrown their hats in the ring for the two seats in the Ocean Pines Association 2024 Board of Directors election. Incumbents Director Jeff Heavner and President Rick Farr are among the campaigners.

Joining the sitting members in the board race are Jerry Murphy, who declared his candidacy last Friday, and Amy Peck and Sherrie Clifford, who both filed on Wednesday, May 8. The contestants took to social media

to announce their plans to run.

Farr revealed his campaign for reelection on the Ocean Pines — Get Involved Facebook page.

"I humbly ask for your vote for reelection to the Board of Directors in Ocean Pines," he wrote. "As one local media source reported, 'The Board of Directors, with Rick Farr as president, presides over one of the most prosperous and successful periods in the history of Ocean Pines.' I appreciate our incredible residents of Ocean Pines and look forward to continuing my service to our community."

Heavner's wife, Anne Warner Heavner, urged voters, writing on Facebook's Ocean Pines — Get Involved, that "... Jeff is not selfish with

his time. He volunteers to rehabilitate rescued horses and support the growth of Ocean Pines. He has no personal agenda either; he just has a passion for making things better. Jeff is asking for your vote for his 2024 reelection. Experience and proven leadership to get the job done."

Murphy, who campaigned last year but did not obtain a seat on the board, took to the same Facebook page to say, "I would love to serve the community that has been an integral part of my life for 50-plus years," he said.

Clifford and Peck announced their campaigns on the Ocean Pines ROC Facebook page.

A day later, on May 9, the directors
See DIRECTORS Page 4

Shelton-Leslie, McComas win

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(May 16, 2024) As the election polls closed Tuesday, Dorothy Shelton Leslie and Elena McComas were declared the two Board of Education District Five candidates to advance to the November General Election.

According to the State Board of Elections website, Leslie garnered the most in the Ocean Pines district, 631 out of 1,428, or 44.19%. Incumbent McComas received 561, or 39.29% of the ballots. John Huber procured 16.53% and will not be moving on to the general election.

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Pride flag will fly in Berlin through June, mayor says

Continued from Page 1 well.

At the close of Monday's council meeting, Salt Water Media's Patty Gregorio expressed concerns about comments that had been made during the town's recent strategic planning input process, which was led by BEACON. One comment called Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) policies divisive while another expressed disappointment with the "current mayor and his DEI agenda, hanging pride flags and claiming there is violence toward that group, none of which I've ever seen or heard of." Gregorio said she was the one who'd asked the mayor last year about putting the pride flag on town hall. She said the ensuing flag raising ceremony was heartwarming. She and her wife had funded the pride flags displayed on Town Hall.

"Honestly I was thrilled," Gregorio said. "The proclamation has been displayed proudly in our office ever since."

Gregorio said most people were supportive but there had been some negative comments on social media. She said that there were threats of violence, "on a daily basis."

"I was verbally accosted in a public restroom ... To submit that comment to BEACON is just ignorant," Gregorio said.

Stephanie Fowler, Gregorio's wife, said she'd been thrilled when the town displayed the pride flag last year because it was celebratory.

"The pride flag is not just for us. It's also for the mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers and aunts and uncles and cousins and friends and teachers of people in the LGBTQ community because when they see it they know their loved one is welcomed and safe," Fowler said.

She said she'd heard the concept of prohibiting special flags discussed in Berlin through unofficial channels.

"Honestly I think such a policy would be too restrictive and quite frankly boring..." she said, adding that could prohibit other flags like the POW flag. "To see the pride flag flown on town hall means that we are all represented in Berlin. That we are all welcome and accepted and safe and I believe that is a powerful and beautiful message to send to citizens and visitors alike."

Tyndall said his office had enter-

tained various flag and display requests in recent years. The town changed the color of certain lights for autism awareness and veteran service, and had displayed the Stephen Decatur High School flag as well as the pride flag. He said typically if there was a monetary cost the person requesting the flag or display was asked to cover that.

"There's been no town outflow of funds to be able to do those things," he said, adding that the requests were granted on a discretionary basis. "We do understand that what makes us all unique and what makes this such a great place to live ... we're all a little bit different. We all can still come together around certain fun things."

Councilwoman Shaneka Nichols said she was sorry to see any ill will brought toward anyone in the community. Councilman Steve Green said there had been dozens of comments related to the strategic plan and that some "hit some of us the wrong way as well." He referenced the recently approved strategic plan's goal of creating "One Berlin."

"They are comments and opinions nonetheless," he said. "We are a community of differences. I'm glad 'One Berlin' is the mantra that has stuck."



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Patty Gregorio, Lima the Bean, Councilman Jack Orris, Stephanie Fowler, Andrew Heller, Mayor Zack Tyndall, Councilman Steve Green, Ivy Wells, Ryan Nellans, and Allison Early celebrate the first Pride Day in Berlin in June 2023.



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Health screenings to be held May 21 in the Pines

(May 16, 2024) On May 21, local residents can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening.

The event will be held at the Ocean Pines Community Center throughout the day.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work to

create personalized packages based on age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit lifeline-screening.com. Pre-registration is required.

Screenings include checks for the level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health; HDL and LDL cholesterol levels; diabetes risk; and kidney and thyroid function.

Town's strategic plan earns final approval from council

Guiding document will help decision-making into FY28

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) The Town of Berlin once again has a current strategic plan following approval by elected officials this week.

On Monday, the Berlin Town Council voted 4-0 to approve the final draft of its fiscal year 2025-2028 strategic plan. Mayor Zack Tyndall thanked Salisbury University's Business, Economic and Community Outreach Network (BEACON) representatives for their efforts in putting it together.

"We said we wanted this before we passed a budget," Tyndall said. "Now we have it."

The town contracted with BEACON last year to conduct a three-phase strategic planning process. The purpose of the plan is to look at the town's strengths and weaknesses as well as its opportunities. The document should help guide municipal spending.

The plan's mission statement talks about how the community envisions a town where heritage, culture, resilience, friendliness and well-being serve as guiding principles fostering a vibrant and inclusive community. There are six driving strategies, with ensuing action steps, that are meant to help the town fulfil its mission.

BEACON's John Hickman told the council this week that the plan's concept of "One Berlin" really got a lot of support throughout the process. The other big takeaway was the community's concern with affordability. In response to feedback received from the public in recent weeks, Hickman asked if the town wanted to add its

support for infill development somewhere in the plan. The council agreed.

Councilman Steve Green said he'd attended three of the four community input sessions and had been impressed overall with the thorough process.

"I think you all did a nice job of incorporating concerns that were expressed," he said. "I'm very at peace with the document. My question is who is going to hold us accountable. I want to know how we are going to build in accountability for ourselves."

Green said the Town of Ocean City, for example, linked most agenda items to sections of its strategic plan to show a correlation between the government action at hand and the connection to the guiding document.

Tyndall said the town would send digital copies of the plan to its committees and boards. He said a copy could also be left in the council chambers and the document would be available on the town's website.

Councilman Jack Orris said the plan could be tied to various actions in the staff reports that typically accompany action items on the agenda. Councilwoman Shaneka Nichols said she wanted to make sure the plan was reviewed relatively frequently.

Hickman suggested town officials review the plan periodically together.

"You sit down and say how are we doing," he said. "One of the other steps, as you go through... for some items you may look for a champion either among yourselves as council people, there may be certain action steps you have a particular passion for. So you may be the champion."

He added that the town could edit the plan as needed.

"Things change," he said.

Directors denounce online post

Continued from Page 1

met in a closed session, and on the following day released a statement regarding some of the comments posted

"...the Board is aware that Facebook commentary published on the 'Ocean Pines ROC' Facebook page and elsewhere has either implicitly or explicitly accused sitting OPA board members, without basis, of engaging in corruption, fraud, 'film-flam,' and kickbacks," the statement said.

Candidates Clifford and Peck frequently share their opinions of the board on that Facebook page.

The statement calls these comments "baseless smearing of volunteer Board members ... false and potentially defamatory... and serves no constructive purpose, does not advance healthy public discourse or de-

bate, discourages participation in governance by qualified and talented volunteers who might consider running for the Board, and cultivates an unpleasant and counter-productive atmosphere and dynamic within our community."

The statement was signed by President Rick Farr, Vice President Stuart Lakernick, Treasurer Monica Rakowski, and Directors Elaine Brady, John Latham, and Jeff Heavner. Director Steve Jacobs' signature was missing.

For OPA homeowners intending to vote in the upcoming election, the eligibility deadline is Tuesday, July 2. The last day to cast ballots is Tuesday, Aug. 6, by 4 p.m., and the outcome will be announced on Thursday, Aug. 8. The candidate forum has yet to be scheduled.

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AT OUTLETS OCEAN CITY

Berlin installs new speed camera

Citations will start May 28 at Flower Street location

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) A new speed camera on Flower Street will go live later this month.

Crews finished installing a speed camera on Flower Street near St. Paul United Methodist Church in early May. Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing said citations would start being issued Tuesday, May 28.

"We're just trying to keep the public safe," Downing said. "I think this is one of the ways we can do it."

The Town of Berlin started working with RedSpeed, a company that works with municipalities to provide automated traffic enforcement initiatives, last year. Speed studies conducted throughout town led Downing to recommend working with RedSpeed to have cameras added to Flower Street and Seahawk Road. While there were other suggestions, Downing said at the time those didn't have the numbers to merit cameras. In order to receive a ticket through the automated system, motorists have to be going at least 12 mph over the speed limit.

Downing said this week crews installed the speed camera as well as associated signage in early May. While

citations are not yet being issued, Downing did run the camera for three days to test it.

"It averaged 65 violations a day," Downing said, stressing that violations were just those vehicles that were going more than 12 mph over the speed limit.

The camera is expected to go live May 28. Downing said that between now and then his department will be working to let the public know.

"This is our opportunity to get in front of it," he said.

Those who live on Flower Street are eager to see if the camera will lead to less speeding. Downing said that while the dump and the schools in the area had kept Flower Street busy for years, the addition of Oceans East and the Willows had increased traffic even more.

"The neighbors want it to be live because of all the traffic," he said. "Technology is something that assists with manpower. We can't be everywhere at the same time."

Berlin Councilwoman Shaneka Nichols, who lives on Flower Street, is excited to see more speed enforcement in the neighborhood.

"Having the traffic camera operational on Flower Street is a great idea and excites me because there are countless speeders that travel Flower

Street throughout the day," she said. "Some are residents of the neighborhood and others are passing through, many traveling between the schools. Many people tend to overlook the fact that the speed limit is 25. The residents on this street visit one another by foot, children and families walk through the neighborhood all throughout the day. It worries me that these careless drivers could be the cause for a terrible accident due to their reckless behavior."

Downing said there are plans to add another speed camera to the end of Flower Street closest to Stephen Decatur Middle School as well as to add one on Seahawk Road near the high school.

"After that we'll look at other locations," he said.

Downing said that even with the camera in place, officers would still be patrolling Flower Street to monitor speeding.

"We will be able to give the traditional tickets also," Downing said, pointing out that those came with potential points on licenses and higher fines.

According to RedSpeed's presentation to town officials last year, the camera citations will come with \$40 fines that will be split between the town (\$26) and the company (\$14).



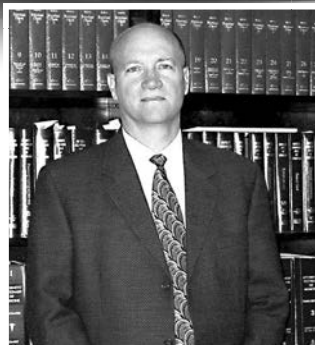
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The speed camera on Flower Street are pictured this week.

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Charter boat to run from Pines to festivals

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(May 16, 2024) OC Liquid Limo is offering Ocean Pines residents a convenient and relaxing ride to Oceans Calling and Country Calling festivals by way of their Liquid Tiki this fall.

OC Liquid Limo runs its Liquid Tiki, a charter boat that fits 18 persons and is complete with a restroom, bar, sound system, and LED lights, from the middle of May to the middle of October, weather dependent.

Owner Ron Croker said their regular operations consist mainly of bachelorette, bachelor, and birthday parties. Rides are an hour and a half around Ocean City and Assateague. This year, the company will offer an alternative 35-to-45-minute route to the anticipated music festivals. The Liquid Tiki will pick up festivalgoers from the Ocean Pines Yacht Club and drop them off at Olde Town Marina, two blocks from the concert entrance.

Oceans Calling is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 27, to Sunday, Sept. 29. The headliners include Blink-182, The Killers, and the Dave Matthews Band. Country Calling, set for Saturday, Oct. 4, and Sunday, Oct. 5, will feature Jelly Roll, Tyler Childers, Eric Church, and Lainey Wilson.

"After talking with some folks, it seems like getting to the festival is

more of the issue," Croker said. "Everyone is trying to get there at the same time. We thought we could relieve some of that pressure by coming by way of water."

The water taxi service offers four one-way rides each day of the events. Trips, each with 18 available seats,

are scheduled for 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m., and 1:30 p.m.

"A lot of thought went into those time frames," Croker said. "Some folks want to get into Ocean City early and grab breakfast. Some might want to get there later and wait for everyone else, so we have options."

The service costs \$40. Alcohol will be available for purchase from the fully stocked bar, and bloody marys and mimosas have been added to the menu for the earlier shuttles.

The owner said the idea was conceived from the company's great re- See TRIPS Page 8

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Schedule Subject to Change

Berlin commission proposes Cleanup event date change

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) The Berlin Parks Commission will adjust the date of Berlin Cleanup Day in 2025 in an effort to boost participation.

After seeing a drop in volunteers on April 20 for this year's Berlin Cleanup Day, the commission agreed last week to push the event a week earlier next spring. Commission members are hopeful the earlier date will lead to less conflicts with other events and will encourage more participation.

"I think that makes sense," commission member Patricia Dufendach said. "Earlier is better."

In a recap of spring events, the commission last week discussed the April 20 cleanup. While in years past volunteers have cleaned up and added plantings to multiple parks, this year there weren't enough volunteers to tackle all the potential projects.

"The feedback we received throughout town was that volunteer numbers were down significantly this year," said Kate Daub, the town's special projects administrator. "We're inclined to believe the reason for that is the later we go into the spring season

the more events are going on."

Events that occurred the same day as this year's cleanup included Berlin Record Store Day and the Ocean Pines Expo. Daub said that while there weren't a ton of volunteers, there was a good group at Stephen Decatur Park that focused on cleaning up the garden at the park's entrance.

"That was all we were able to tackle this year," Daub said. "In years past we've done cleanup throughout the park."

She said she'd talked to other town staff and they supported moving the event next year a week earlier. It would be April 12 in 2025. Take Pride in Berlin Week would run from April 6-12 with the cleanup on the 12th.

Daub told the commission another calendar change she was proposing for next year included the elimination of the spring Just Walk event held in cooperation with the Worcester County Health Department. She said this spring's walking event had been canceled because it was the same day as the Maryland's Coast Bike Festival and the Berlin Jazz and Blues, Wine and Brews event.

"We feared we would not have had a turnout worth moving forward with the event," Daub said.

She added that the health department recommended putting the town's focus on the fall Glow Walk event instead, as that was increasingly well attended. The commission agreed to both proposed changes for 2025.

Trips available from yacht club

Continued from Page 7
relationship with the Ocean Pines Association and the desire to give back to the community. He also hopes the service will provide a stress-free prelude to the crowds.

"We want to get people to the festivals in style," Croker said. "...It'll be a nice way to take a relaxing cruise before getting into the mix."

Croker maintained that the shuttle's charm is the crew's commitment to each party. He said memories are made that day, and they like to make each event feel special.

Reservations can be made online at the OC Liquid Limo's official website or by calling 410-430-2120.

"It is a wonderful experience to be out on the water," Croker said. "It has such a wonderful effect on you. By offering this, we're saying, 'Look, you can take an Uber down to the concerts, or you can take the boat and grab a bloody mary and watch the world go by.'"



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BINGO FUNDRAISER

The Lower Eastern Shore Sierra Club Group recently held a bingo fundraiser at the Sterling Tavern, in Berlin. Pictured, are Judy Davis and Gail Jankowski enjoying the games.

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County to form new Buckingham committee

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) The Worcester County Commissioners have agreed to form a work group to determine how best to move forward with plans for a new Buckingham Elementary School.

The commissioners voted unanimously May 7 to have a work group that will include three commissioners work with the school system to move the project forward. Plans for construction of a new Buckingham came to a halt when it was determined there was no state funding for the

project as it stands now.

“I think we need to work with the board of education to figure out which options we’re going to move forward with,” Commissioner Chip Bertino said. “Buckingham needs to be rebuilt. A lot of people, including the commissioners, are anticipating

getting that done sooner than later.”

In April, representatives of the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) outlined four possibilities for a new Buckingham Elementary School. The state has not provided funding for the standalone school Worcester County Public Schools shared plans for last year. Instead, IAC officials said the state would provide funding in four scenarios— combining Buckingham and Berlin Intermediate School, replacing both Buckingham and BIS back to back, moving sixth grade to Stephen Decatur Middle School and replacing Buckingham as a pre-k through fifth-grade school or moving sixth grade to the middle school and converting Buckingham, Showell and Ocean City elementary schools back into pre-k through fifth grade facilities. Those options could result in \$30-\$37 million in state funding.

Bertino said this week he felt the commissioners needed to work with the school system to figure out how to move forward now.

“I think we need to work with the board of education to determine which option presented to us, or maybe some other option, would be of interest,” Bertino said.

He suggested forming a work group to include three commissioners. The other commissioners agreed and decided the group would include Commissioner Ted Elder, Commissioner Eric Fiori and Commissioner Diana Purnell.

Worcester County Public Schools provided a statement when contacted after the meeting.

“The Board of Education is already in the process of creating a work group to advance the new Buckingham Elementary project, which is of course inclusive of the commissioner body,” the statement reads. “This is slated to be discussed at the upcoming board meeting on May 21. We look forward to the collaboration with county officials to move this important capital project forward for the Buckingham community.”

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Commissioners agree to buy new generator for county jail

Shortage pushes staff to recommend larger unit

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) County officials agreed to buy a new generator to provide backup power to the Worcester County Jail.

The Worcester County Commissioners voted unanimously May 7 to move forward with purchasing a new generator for the jail. While staff still need to determine installation costs associated with the new generator, they said they wanted to go ahead and purchase it while it was in stock.

“Without this in place ... this is a serious situation without backup power,” Commissioner Joe Mitrecic said.

Last month, staff advised the commissioners that the generator at the jail had failed and was in need of repair or replacement. Commissioners agreed to buy a new one but told staff to look at renting on in the meantime. Staff returned to the commissioners last week saying they hadn’t rented one because of the \$6,000 a month price tag but had found some options in stock for the county to purchase a new generator. Procurement Officer Nicholas Rice reported that the county could purchase a 275kw diesel generator but that there would be a 35 week wait. He said Elite Power had a 350kw diesel generator in stock but that the county would need a tank and would need an electrical engineer

to review installation.

“It certainly wouldn’t hurt to have a bigger diesel generator than necessary,” Mitrecic said.

Commissioner Eric Fiori thanked staff for all the research they’d done regarding generators.

“I know this was a lot,” he said. “I don’t think either one of us realized the generator shortage throughout the United States that we have right now.”

Commissioner Ted Elder asked if the electrical engineering was included in the price. Staff said it was not.

“I think we need to look this over as to what the actual cost would be,” Elder said.

Mitrecic said there was going to be a cost regardless, as the county was buying a new generator. He said he didn’t want to wait 35 weeks to get the exact size generator the county previously had, which likely wasn’t sufficient for its needs anyway.

“This gets a much needed generator in place,” he said.

Fiori agreed and said the wait on the smaller generator would probably be more than 35 weeks in actuality.

“Nationwide everyone’s looking for these generators,” he said. “If they have one in stock I suggest we grab it and worry about upgrades after the fact. The original 275kw wasn’t the power that we needed.”

The commissioners voted unanimously to purchase the 350kw generator.

County eyes bid process for Pocomoke library project

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) Plans for a new Pocomoke library continue to move forward.

In an update last week, county staff said an \$8.1 million project was expected to go to bid this fall.

“Let’s get it done,” Commissioner Chip Bertino said.

Worcester County Library officials have been working for years on plans for a new Pocomoke library. With last month’s news that the state was providing \$3.99 million toward construction, the project is moving ahead.

Procurement Officer Nicholas Rice told the commissioners last week that the \$3.99 million did require a 100% match from the county. He said the county had that funding available. The latest cost estimates from Whiting Turner and Keller put the project price tag at \$8,140,030. Rice said that included \$400,000 to \$500,000

in value engineering. He added, however, that he thought there was another \$100,000 that could be value engineered down.

“The project right now is planned to go to bid in August or September,” he said. “That’s when we would come before the commissioners with actual construction numbers.”

The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the library update.

The new Pocomoke library will be a 12,365-square foot building on the current site. The library is described as being open and airy and will include gallery space, community space and reading areas.

The design will allow for multipurpose meeting space that will be able to be open for the community when the library area of the building is closed. The site plan also features a children’s porch as well as rain gardens.

The goal is for the new facility to be open in late 2025 or early 2026.

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Commissioners recognize May as foster care month

Terry and Alison Tinker foster parents of the year

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) The Worcester County Commissioners recognized May as National Foster Care Month with a proclamation last week.

Commissioner Diana Purnell last week presented a proclamation for National Foster Care Month to Roberta Baldwin, director of the department of social services, and members of her team. Purnell highlighted the partnerships that exists between Baldwin's department and members of the community to help families dealing with crisis situations.

"These ladies do a fantastic job in this county for our kids," Purnell said. "We need to always be thankful for you."

Baldwin thanked the commissioners and noted that she'd been in social work for 34 years.

"It is much harder now than it was when I was a young social worker," she said. "It's more challenging. The issues that our families and communities are facing are more challenging. The struggles are real and harder to over-



The Worcester County Commissioners present members of the Department of Social Services with a proclamation recognizing May as National Foster Care Month.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

come."

Currently, Worcester County has six foster families. There are more children than that in foster care.

"So we really need the support of everyone," she said. "We have to come together to make this work. It can't just be the department of social services trying to do it alone. I appreciate your support and I hope I can send the message that together we certainly can accomplish this."

The commissioners on Tuesday also recognized Terry and Alison Tinker as the 2024 Worcester County Foster Parents of the Year. The Tinkers have spent more than 30 years providing foster care to children in need. Alison

Tinker said they decided to become foster parents because she was a stay-at-home mother for her children.

"You make one sandwich you make three sandwiches, you know what I mean," she said.

She added that her children had enjoyed it as well.

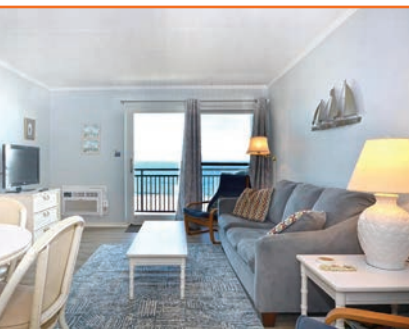
"It's very rewarding," she said. "It's a worthwhile thing to do."

For information on how to become a foster parent, contact the Worcester County Department of Social Services at 410-677-6849.

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Casino revenues down statewide

(May 16, 2024) Revenue from slot machines and table across the state, including at Ocean Downs, for the month of April is down from last year, according to the most recent reports from Maryland Lottery and Gaming.

A news release from the state organization said Maryland's six casinos combined to generate more than \$163.15 million this April, a decrease of nearly \$11.6 million or 6.6%, com-

pared to last year.

At Ocean Downs, revenues for the month came out to a little more than \$7.32 million, which was a decrease of more than \$600,000, or 7.6%.

Casino gaming contributions to the state this April totaled nearly \$69.8 million, a decrease of \$2.577 million, or 3.6%.

Contributions to the Education Trust Fund were over \$50.35 million, a decrease of \$2.267 million, or

4.3%.

Besides Ocean Downs, Maryland's six privately owned casinos that offer both slot machines and table games are MGM National Harbor in Prince George's County; Live! Casino & Hotel in Anne Arundel County; Horseshoe Casino Baltimore in Baltimore City; Hollywood Casino Perryville in Cecil County; and Rocky Gap Casino Resort in Allegany County.

April sportsbook revenues go up by nearly 50% in '24

(May 16, 2024) Maryland's sports wagering market generated the fourth-best single-month total during April this year with more than \$5.68 million in contributions to the state from a total handle of \$486.3-plus million.

Sports wagering contributions go to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund, which supports public education programs.

The contribution for last month represented a 47.1% increase from the \$3.8 million figure in April 2023. The total handle was an increase of 48% compared to the \$328.4 million total in last year..

Sports wagering data is tracked and reported based on the State of Maryland's fiscal year, which runs from July 1 through June 30. During the first 10 months of Fiscal Year 2024 (July 2023 through April 2024), sports wagering has contributed nearly \$47.6 million to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund.

The results come from Maryland's 13 retail sportsbooks, including one at Ocean Downs, and 11 mobile sportsbooks that operated during the month.

Cedar Chapel teacher recognized

(May 16, 2024) The Maryland Art Education Association and Worcester County Public Schools is recognizing the Outstanding (Career) Art Educators for the 2023-24 school year.

A news release from the school system said the honorees showed excellence in their profession, provided quality art education to our students, and exemplified the definition of a creator and innovator. The teachers work with students within the classroom, outside of the classroom, help increase public awareness of the arts, participate in professional development and help advance their professions.

The release said Worcester County

officials were proud to recognize Cedar Chapel Special School's MaryBeth Lampman as an outstanding educator.

She currently teaches art and music to children ages 3 through 21. The release said she is constantly learning and growing in her profession, as this spring she attended the 2024 National Art Education Association's art conference virtually, and as a member of the Worcester County Teacher's Association, attended its state conference.

For more than two decades, Lampman has been teaching students with special needs. She has a calling for helping students and sharing her artistic creativity. She brings compassion,

kindness, and a personalized instructional approach to each student. Her commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive classroom environment has significantly enhanced students' learning experiences.

She is currently working with Cedar Chapel and Snow Hill Middle School on the United Sound program and was a past recipient of the Very Special Arts Kennedy Center grant for arts. She has recently received a Worcester County Arts Council grant to provide arts activities at "The Art of Autism," an event sponsored by the Autistic Children's Support Group of Worcester County, on June 8, at Windmill Creek.

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Craft club gives Wolnik title of May crafter of the month

Pines resident known for her table runners and American Girl doll sweaters

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(May 16, 2024) The Ocean Pines Pine'eer Craft Club, a group dedicated to creating handmade goods since 1974, has named treasurer and longtime member Jane Wolnik the May crafter of the month.

The artisan, initially a Quilters by the Sea member, joined the group in 2011 and stepped into the role of treasurer in 2013. She creates an array of gear for the club's shop, specifically table runners, which remain a top seller. Wolnik also knits

18-inch American Girl Doll sweaters.

"I find quilting and knitting very relaxing," she said. The Pine'eer Craft Club member maintains that she spends an average of three hours a day perfecting her creations.

The Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop is not-for-profit. According to a press release issued by Ocean Pines Association's Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Josh Davis, since the club's inception, it has donated nearly \$185,000 back to the community.

As the treasurer, Wolnik said their profits go toward the police department and public works, among other initiatives.

"Considering all our members and the various income sources, we depend upon accuracy," she said. "The more careful we are with our pennies, the more we have to give back to the community each year. I like playing my part in that process."

Wolnik moved to Ocean Pines in 2004. The crafter is originally from Wisconsin but moved to Maryland when her husband was stationed at Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County from 1963 until retirement.

In addition to the Ocean Pines club, the resident volunteers with the Atlantic General Hospital Thrift Shop and participates in other community activities, including chair yoga.

To browse Wolnik's crafts, The Pine'eer Artisan Gift Shop at White Horse Park is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., excluding holidays.

This year marks the club's 50th anniversary. The group is always looking for new crafters; meetings are open to interested participants. For more information, shop managers Debbie Jiwa and Barbara Herzog can be reached by email at opcrafterclub@aol.com.

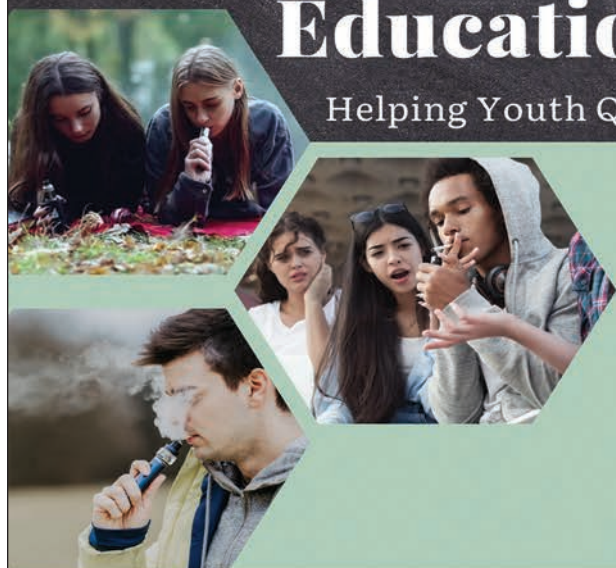


The Pine'eer Craft Club has honored Jane Wolnik with the crafter of the month title for May.
TARA FISCHER/
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Bottle house discovered in West Ocean City

Structure made of wine and liquor bottles found on old drive-in property

By Charlene Sharpe
Associate Editor

(May 16, 2024) A West Ocean City property owner was surprised last week to find a house on what he thought was unimproved property.

Keith Coffin, who owns the old Shore Drive-In theater property on Route 50, took to social media upon finding a house built out of liquor and wine bottles on the overgrown property.

"I was amazed," he said. "This thing is sturdy. It had a front door, it had windows."

Several years ago, when Coffin bought the old drive-in property he encountered a homeless man there when he went to do some engineering work. Coffin told the man, who said his name was Lee, that he was welcome to stay there as long as the site was kept clean.

"I guess when I was so receptive he told his friends," Coffin said.

With more and more people on the property, however, trash became a problem and Coffin last week had police respond to the site to ask those camped there to move on. After visiting the property, the officer who'd responded called Coffin.

"He said, 'do you realize there's a house out here,'" Coffin recalled. "I said 'no, it's unimproved property.' He said 'no it's a house and it's made out of whiskey and wine bottles. It's the damndest thing.'"

Coffin visited the property to see for himself and was shocked by the workmanship and effort that had been put into the structure, which indeed is made of bottles cemented together in orderly rows.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A house made of liquor and wine bottles was discovered at the old Shore Drive-In property in West Ocean City.

"I've never seen anything like it," he said.

He added that there were probably 100,000 more unused bottles lined up near the tiny house. And while crews have been on the property all

week cleaning the site, Coffin said he would try to leave the structure if he could. He was moved by a poem one of his friends shared on Facebook about the man's creation.

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Poem highlights unique find on former homeless camp

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 A testament to creativity and resourceful minds,
 A sanctuary hidden, where adventure unwinds.*

*Within those bottle walls, stories were told,
 Of daring escapades and treasures untold,
 Imagination ran wild, dreams took flight,
 In that fort, a haven, where everything felt right.*

*The windows, once fragile, now guarded with care,
 A cart of metal, repurposed to withstand the air,
 Broken and worn, but sturdy and strong,
 Protecting the fort, where memories belong.*

*As the sun set and the moon took its place,
 The fort in the woods held its own grace,
 A humble abode, built with love and care,
 A testament to friendship, a bond to share.*

*Above, a weathered tarp, patched and torn,
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*So let's raise a glass to that fort so divine,
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 In a fort built with love, where dreams can weather."*



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Worcester County students named to Wor-Wic dean's list

(May 16, 2024) A total 482 Wor-Wic Community College students have been recognized for superior performance on the dean's list for the fall term.

Students who maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher while taking six or more credit hours during the fall term made the list.

The Worcester County students are as follows:

Berlin: Robert Baker, Caitlin Balassone, Lexi Berrie, Abigail Blankenship, Josh Blume, Lauren Bodolus, Shyniece Bratten, Kaitlyn Brittingham, Riley Calloway, Serena Camilleri, Julian Chambers, Katelyn Davis, Antonio Di Meo, Kimberly Duffy, Duncan Ely, George Eppard-Annis, Carter Fannin, Georgia Firor, Ella Gaddis, Chloe Ginman, Josh Glaub, Mason Glover, Hailey Golczynski, Ramona Gray, Jackson Halverson, Maddy Hamm, Chakirah Henry, Charletta Henry, Abigail Hernandez, Deliyah Holland, Alexis Hudson, Sarah Hyatt, Anamelina Juarez, Dylan Jung, Aiden Kane, Nathaniel Karvoski, Zach Ketterman, Rylie Kirby, Lexi Kliphouse, Tetiana Kovalyuk, Lindsey Laughlin, Jessica Lee, Laura Lewis, Takia Long, Colin Martin, Chloe Mason, Josselyne Maza-Chavez, Samantha McManus, Lauren Melnick, Olivia Olafsson, Dane Olsen, Josie Palmer, Shane Parks, Jake Parsons, Jonathan Pinkham, Katherine Rimel, Anthony Rozaieski, Jonathan Ruddo, Michael Sellers Jr., Hailey Smith, Jeff Spurrier, Taylor Takacs, Lauren Ward, Ashur Whitlow, Courtney Williams and Riley Wilson

Bishopville: Ryan Bontempo, Brad Boyer, Autumn Drew, Cole Espy, Ulyssa Jacobs, Mary Soghomonian and Lilly Zalewski

Girdletree: Kellyann Belka and Sienna Widmyer

Newark: Charlie Combs, Rebecka Keller, Briggs Pugner and Derrick Simpson

Ocean City: Jazmine Abu-Zaid, Elizaveta Adaeva, Dimitri Anthony, Lorelei Auker, Skylar Cook, Madelyn Dill, Michael Edwards, Kathleen Ewing, Dylan Gipe, Logan Gordy, Chelsea Hale, Tony Handle, Layla Hargrove, Alexandria Harkness, April Knudson, Jennifer Lilley, Jack Lowe, Tiffany McClain, Jake McElfish, William Melgar, Jeremy Mitchell, Willa Novelli, Maisam Omar, Timothy Passarello, Abbi Pytlewski, Peter Redding, Kayla Rocco, Jordanne Rochester, Braden Sisson, Casey Springman, Tina Walas, Kaitlin White and Katherine Witowski

Pocomoke City: Susan Bamento, Haylee Bashor, Brooke Benton, Bradley Bloomfield, Raymond Chen, Gavin Dennis, Kyle Gillespie, Susan James, Josh Lankford, Zach Outten, Winter Rennick, Wynter Roberson, John Sigrist, Ava Skorobatsch, Sherita Taylor, Elizabeth Tull, Ashley Varghese and Christopher Villarreal

Snow Hill: Sean Alvarado II, Maddy Baumann, Krystal Beall, Lawrence Bonneville, Hayden Dinger-Tedder, Sloane Gould, Alexis Harper, Chloe Harper, Magnolia Harris-Blackburn, Logan Hurney, Emily Manning, David Mason, Kernighan Mitchell, Jasmyne Price, Sadie Todd, Lauren Tolbert and Eleya Weaver

Stockton: Samantha Eichhorn and Will Richardson

Whaleyville: Elizabeth Buppert and Sarah Burke

Shore Luau tickets on sale now

(May 16, 2024) Tickets are on sale for the Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services annual fundraiser to benefit children and families of Worcester County.

The event, the Shine on the Shore Luau, has the same theme as last year and is set from 5-8 p.m., June 13, at Sunset Grille in West Ocean City, with a rain date of June 20.

Admission tickets are \$35 and include a light fare buffet, a drink voucher for a Hawaiian-inspired drink created by Teasers bar, live entertainment, games, and more. Tickets are available online, by phone, or in person at 124 N. Main St., Suite C., in Berlin.

All proceeds from the event go directly to the support of youth and family programs with a direct impact to the lives of Worcester County's most vulnerable residents. Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services pro-

grams engage youth in health, structured social activities and provide both youth and adults with the skills they need to grow and thrive in a healthy, therapeutic way.

Donations support the youth enrichment programs, including Berlin Youth Club and free summer camp, and Worcester Connects mentor/mentee programs. A portion of donations also help provide therapeutic services and mental health therapy to families who are unable to make payments due to financial hardships.

Individuals who want to support the fundraiser as a late-term sponsor or donor are encouraged to contact the office directly at 410-641-4598. To learn more, or buy tickets, visit the event website at bit.ly/shineluau24. The site offers tickets, answers frequently asked questions, offers directions, and more.

WPS names 22 finalists in young authors contest

Student representatives place in most divisions

(May 16, 2024) The Eastern Shore Literacy Association recently announced that 22 Worcester Preparatory School students earned finalist status in the Young Authors Contest for poetry or short story.

According to a news release, Contest Chair Brian Cook said there were over 300 entries from 19 area schools, both public and private. Each finalist finished in the top three of their respective category/grade levels.

The WPS winners are as follows:

Grade 1, Short Story – third place Nicole Sebastian

Grade 2, Short Story – second place Ryder Whitlock

Grade 3, Short Story – third place tie Dev Pillai

Grade 4, Short Story – second place tie Anya Murukutla

Grade 5, Short Story – first place Sloane Smith, second place Tejal Pillai and third place Serena Jaoude

Grade 6, Poetry – second place Lea Jaoude and third place Alessia Ziman

Grade 6, Short Story – first place Lea Jaoude and second place tie Claire Cooper

Grade 7, Short Story – first place Juliet Webster

Grade 8, Poetry – second place tie Ellie Phillips

Grade 8, Short Story – second place tie Hayden Wagner

Grade 9, Poetry – third place tie Emma Nordstrom

Grade 9, Short Story – first place Sydney Parker and third place Mia Jaoude

Grade 10, Poetry – first place Marina Farlow

Grade 10, Short Story – first place Jude Damouni, second place Catherine Cullen and third place Jamie Nguyen

Grade 11, Short Story – first place Lydia Schwartz and second place Will Wells



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Worcester Prep's 2024 Eastern Shore Literacy Association Short Story Contest were recently announced. Pictured, front row from left, are Head of School Dr. John McDonald with student winners Nicole Sebastian, Ryder Whitlock, Dev Pillai and Anya Murukutla; second row, Sloane Smith, Tejal Pillai, Serena Jaoude, Lea Jaoude, Alessia Ziman and Juliet Webster; third row, Ellie Phillips, Hayden Wagner, Emma Nordstrom, Sydney Parker and Mia Jaoude; and back row, Marina Farlow, Jude Damouni, Catherine Cullen, Jamie Nguyen, Lydia Schwartz and Will Wells. Student winner Claire Cooper is not pictured.

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Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway wins national contest

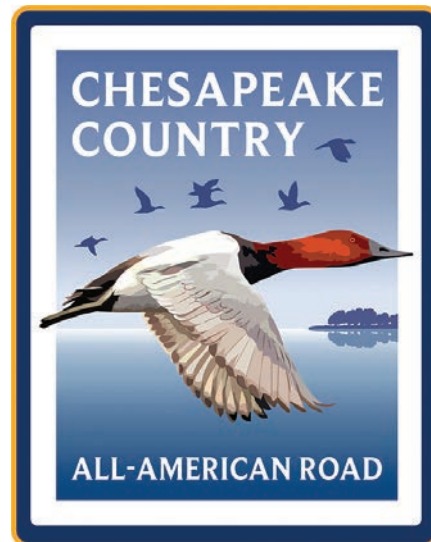
(May 16, 2024) Maryland's Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway has been voted the winner of Scenic America's first-ever Byways Madness contest.

The Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway stretches 419 miles from Chesapeake City to Crisfield on country roads along the bay's edge and is part of the Great Chesapeake Bay Loop. This scenic byway is one of many in Maryland.

According to a news release, America's scenic byways faced off against each other playoff-style, with the competition structured similar to college basketball's annual March Madness. The Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway beat out some pretty big names and destinations, including Big Sur Coast Highway and the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway, which took second and third, respectively.

Chesapeake Country All American Road joins 55 others throughout the nation that claim the All-American Road title. The designation means the byway has features that do not exist elsewhere in the United States and are unique and important enough to be tourist destinations. The program was established by Congress in 1991 to preserve and protect the nation's scenic, but often less-traveled, roads and promote tourism and economic development.

"The inclusion of the Chesapeake Country All-American Road in the National Scenic Byways network will open new doors for federal funding that can help Maryland communities preserve, showcase and monetize their historic, cultural, natural, recreational and tourism resources," Sen. Ben Cardin said in the release. "The Chesapeake Country All-American Road weaves together some of the very best historic and natural landscapes that Maryland has to offer, and its recognition by the National Scenic Byways program helps secure its status as a treasured resource that will flourish into the future."



SUBMITTED IMAGE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Maryland's Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway won the first-ever Byways Madness contest.

Scenic byways are an economic engine for small towns and gateway communities across the country. A healthy national byways program drives economic growth through tourism, commerce, and travel revenue, and investment in infrastructure and transportation improvements.

Scenic America, the sponsor of the contest, has a vision for five areas of focus, including preserving and enhancing community character, honoring parks and open space, celebrating America's scenic byways, underground utility infrastructure, and promoting beautiful highways.

The Chesapeake Country All-American Road Alliance, a nine-county effort with a Maryland Office of Tourism partnership, has completed a byway-wide interpretive plan. The group also unveiled the new logo last fall, which travelers will see throughout the byway.

To learn more about the Chesapeake Country All-American Road, visit Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway Receives Elite All-American Road Status | VisitMaryland.org.

Safe Boating Class June 4-6

(May 16, 2024) The Ocean City Coast Guard Auxiliary is hosting a Maryland Safe Boating Course from 6-9 p.m., June 4-6, at the Ocean Pines Library.

The course is for both beginners and veteran boaters who want to refresh their skills. Certified instructors from the Ocean City Coast Guard Auxiliary are hosting the comprehensive class. All the required material is covered, along with information on local waters and nautical navigation.

The Maryland Boating Safety Education Act requires that anyone born after July 1, 1972, must possess a Maryland Basic Boating Safety Cer-

tificate to operate a boat in the state. Those who attend the class, and pass the test will receive a Maryland Boating Certificate, which is NASBLA approved and valid in all states.

The \$20 fee covers the cost of the course and materials.

Checks should be made payable to: USGCAUX 12-05 and mailed to: USGCAUX 12-05, P.O. Box 1682, Berlin, MD 21811

Payment via PayPal is also accepted.

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



Photos of artwork in the Worcester County Arts Council's "Seasons" exhibit are pictured on display at the gallery in Berlin. PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

'Seasons' on display at arts council gallery

(May 16, 2024) The Worcester County Arts Council will be showcasing "Seasons," an exhibit featuring all media entries submitted by emerging and established artists for a juried art competition, throughout the months of May and June.

Artwork for the competition will be reviewed and judged by local artist and Salisbury University art professor, Jinchul Kim.

The exhibit showcases 31 entries as the interpretation of "Seasons" displayed through various creative visions of 22 participating artists.

An opening reception was held May 10, with winners announced during the event. The exhibit will be on display through June 30.

Along with the featured exhibit, artwork presented by 30 members of our Artists Co-Op Gallery is on display and

available for purchase.

For more information about the featured exhibit and Worcester County Arts Council's programs and services,

visit worcestercountyartscouncil.org, or go to the Arts Council Gallery at 6 Jefferson St. in Berlin, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday.

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Beach to Bay Heritage Area offering grants

Funding could help with heritage tourism initiatives, events and other offerings

(May 9, 2024) Beach to Bay Heritage Area officials have announced guidelines and criteria for the organization's Fiscal Year 2025 mini-grant program.

Made possible through financial support from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, the mini grants assist local heritage-related nonprofit sites and organizations with new programs, activities, products, events partnerships, exhibits, tours, events, and other initiatives that are consistent with regional goals and activities outlined in the Heritage Area Strategic Plan.

Maximum mini-grant awards are capped at \$5,000. Visit the Mini Grants page at Mini Grants-Beaches-BaysWaterWays.org for the application, guidelines and more.

Mini-grant proposals that include collaborative partnerships and enhance preservation, the stewardship of historical, cultural, and/or natural resources and economic development through heritage tourism are encouraged.

Examples of eligible projects include new heritage tours, maps, interpretive brochures and other heritage-related publications; educational public programs, exhibits, and/or events; and heritage tourism-related website development. Oral history projects are also eligible.

Heritage tourism-related programs for K-12 students, home-schooled students, and/or after-school educational programs, and educational seminars, workshops, and conferences that encourage or enhance preservation, revitalization, and interpretation of



Rackliffe House Colonial Festival, which was awarded a Beach to Bay Heritage Area mini grant last year, is pictured at the Rackliffe House in the fall of 2023.

the area's natural, cultural and historic resources are also eligible.

Beach to Bay Heritage Area officials encourages proposals that are consistent with regional thematic heritage-tourism related initiatives and those that include new technology, foster environmentally-friendly and sustainable practices at heritage sites, foster accessibility for visitors with disabilities, and/or create new heritage-related programming in the arts.

Generally, grants will be made as one-time awards, not for ongoing projects or annual activities. Other types of projects not specifically stated may also be eligible and should be discussed with the heritage area director.

Applicants are encouraged to contact Lisa Challenger; info@beaches-bayswaterways.org, to discuss potential grant projects before they begin filing out their applications. Applications are due (submitted via e-mail) no later than Friday, May 31.



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

Pictured, from left, are "Seasons" juried art competition honorable mention winner Jiyeong Yun; exhibit judge Jinchul Kim; third-place winner Jason Giusti; Anna Mullis, executive director of the Worcester County Arts Council; first-place winner Gail Stern; and honorable mention winner Isabel. Second-place winner Kathy Gibson and honorable mention winner Ellen Lawler are not pictured.

Art contest winners announced

(May 16, 2024) The Worcester County Arts Council recently announced winners in the juried art competition, "Seasons."

Entries in the competition are on display in the exhibit at the arts council's gallery in Berlin. The show features 32 pieces of artwork submitted by 22 established and emerging artists with work in all media. Entries were judged by artist and Salisbury University art Professor Jinchul Kim.

The awards are as follows:

First Place — "Dune Fence" (pastel) by Gail Stern

Second Place — "Apple Harvest" (mixed media) by Kathy Gibson

Third Place — "Scion" (blown glass) by Jason Giusti

Honorable Mention awards — "Glen's Wharf" (oil) by Isabel Morris, "Winter Watch" (watercolor) by Ellen Lawler, and "Sound of Moon III" (mixed media) by Jiyeong Yun

The exhibit will be on display through June 30 and the artwork is available for purchase.

The gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday.

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Historic model engine set for display at Cruisin' Berlin

(May 16, 2024) Just a few miles away from the festivities of Cruisin' Ocean City this weekend, the Town of Berlin is holding its own annual classic car event on Saturday, where the fire department's 1924 Mack Model AB Chain Drive engine will be on display.

The Berlin Chamber of Commerce this week announced that the historic truck will be prominently featured at during the Cruisin' Berlin car event.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the fire department's acquisition of the engine, adding significance to this special occasion for both the department and community.

Attendees can expect to marvel at photos of the engine, buy exclusive commemorative T-shirts, challenge

coins, and more at the event. The Berlin Fire Department's Old Mack Committee will be present to engage visitors with historic information and answer questions about the engine.

Berlin Cruisin' will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, May 18, in downtown Berlin. Bring your family and engage with classic car enthusiasts, while spending a day in Berlin browsing through the array of shops and dining at local restaurants.

For more details about the Cruisin' car event, reach out to Tanja Giles at 443-523-6766 and visit berlinchamber.org/events/cruisin/.

For inquiries concerning the Berlin Fire Department's Old Mack Committee, contact bfc@berlinfire.com and visit berlinfire.com/page/history.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Fire Department's 1924 Mack Model AB Chain Drive engine is pictured. The historic engine will be on display Saturday during Cruisin' Berlin.

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Snapshots



PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

AUTISM AWARENESS DAY BENEFIT

On April 12, Worcester Preparatory School celebrated Autism Awareness Day by dressing in blue. The Upper School Surf Club also collected donations to support the Surfers Healing Foundation, which works to enrich the lives of people living with autism by exposing them to surfing at camps around the world, including in Ocean City in August. [Above] Fifth graders Darius Jones, Jad Salem, Luca DiFebo, Mason Gerner, Jamil Salem, Evan Kaufman and Colton Duffie are all smiles while supporting the cause.



Third graders Kamden White, Grace Hornung and Margot Hidell show their support by dressing in blue.



Middle school students and faculty stand in support of autism awareness. Pictured, from left, are Soren Poulson, Liam McAllister, Claire Cooper, Zac McGovern, Anna French, Head of Middle School Megan Wallace, CJ Labin, Mara McCalanahan, Gracie Holloway and middle school teacher Laura Holmes.



Seventh graders Addyson Wisniewski, Abby Ferguson and Ava Holland were excited to wear blue for the cause.



Fourth grade girls were all dressed in blue to show their support. Pictured, from left, are Leah Tunnell, Anya Murukutla, Abigail Kratzer and Isabella Labin.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

BELIEVE IN TOMORROW DONATION

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City recently donated \$2,000 to Believe In Tomorrow to be used for programs that help critically ill children and their families with housing. Pictured, from left, are Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation Program Advancement Associate Amanda Kooztz, Program Manager Mary Decker Brown and Kiwanis Club President Bob Wolfing, with the donation. Kooztz and Decker Brown both work at the Children's House by the Sea in Ocean City, which is part of Believe In Tomorrow.

Snapshots



PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTIONS

As part of the Worcester Preparatory April Honor Society Inductions, six students were inducted to the Worcester Prep chapter of the International Thespian Society, and 18 students were inducted to the National Art Honor Society on April 17. The National Art Honor Society recognizes students who have shown outstanding ability in art, character and service. [Above] National Art Honor Society WPS inductees are pictured. Front row, from left, are students Angeline Todorov, Lindsay Bruner, Maggie McCabe, Moorea Phillips, Leby Becker and current member Natasha Richter. Second row, from left, are students Vanessa Hall, Madilyn Nechay, Jayden Scopp, Sydney Tingle and Esi Mehilli. Third row, from left, are Middle/Upper School Art teacher George Zaiser, and students William Mumford, Briar Parsons and Sara Friehe. Back row, from left, are students Dylan McGovern, Adam Hafez and Hunter Simons, current member Mason Williams, and student Luke Hopkins.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

GUEST SPEAKER

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City President Bob Wolfiging and local attorney Michael B. Mathers pose together for a photo during a recent club meeting. Mathers was the guest speaker at the meeting and hosted a question and answer session about legal matters.



The International Thespian Society is the Educational Theatre Association's student honorary organization recognizing high school student achievement in theater. [Above] The International Thespian Society WPS inductees are pictured. Front row, from left, are students Abby Ament, Briar Parsons and Sydney Tingle. Back row, from left, are Upper School Dance/Drama Director Paulette DeRosa-Matrona, students William Mumford, Jackson Fernley and Will Wells, and WPS Middle/Upper School Music Director Christopher Buzby.



WINNERS

The Ocean City Lions sponsor a Peace Poster contest each year at Berlin Intermediate School. The contest is an outreach program sponsored by Lions Clubs across the country and gives young people the opportunity to share their vision of peace. Pictured, from left, are contest winners Beckett Bailey and Karen Miranda-Martinez.

PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY LIONS CLUB



BEACH ADOPTED

A second grade class at Showell Elementary School recently adopted a beach through the Ocean City Surf Club's Adopt Your Beach program and teamed up with 11-time World Champion professional surfer Kelly Slater to publish a book on keeping the beaches clean. Pictured, from left, are OC Surf Club President Tommy Vach, Adopt Your Beach mascot "Gill," and book creator and Showell Elementary second grade teacher Mackenzie Keyser. Pictured kneeling are the students who wrote and illustrated the book.

PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY SURF CLUB

Opinion

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

Worcester's politics have many layers

Anyone who thinks describing Worcester County politics is a piece of cake has another thing coming, judging from events of this week. On one hand, county voters can be more conservative than those in Maryland's other districts, while town policies often go in the opposite direction.

On Monday, for instance, the Town of Berlin rejected criticisms of its practice of flying the LGBT pride flag through June by pointing out that its approach to town affairs is to embrace all aspects of the community. Officials noted that the town is a community of differences that they want to wrap in a "One Berlin" theme.

In other words, town officials acknowledge that if the town is a diamond, it sparkles because of the interplay between its individual facets, each of which should be recognized for its contribution to the whole.

At the same time that Berlin is leaving a light on for everyone, county voters went much more conservative than the rest of the state in the Republican primary for the U.S. Senate. Although former Gov. Larry Hogan carried the county over Robin Ficker, it wasn't by that much.

Hogan, who built a reputation as a moderate pragmatist governor, tried to appeal to the right with a tough stance on border security, but Ficker took more of a flamethrower approach. He also made it clear that he stands solidly with Donald Trump, while Hogan has disagreed with or criticized Trump numerous times.

So, despite Hogan capturing 68% of the state's Republican voters to just 24% for Ficker, Worcester's Republicans gave Hogan 49% of their votes — 2,635 — to a little more than 44% — 2,391 for Ficker. That qualifies as a squeaker as compared to the rest of the state.

Worcester County, like the other counties on the Eastern Shore, is viewed as politically conservative, but there's much more to it than that. Throw in the unique politics of small towns such as Berlin, and it turns out that this county's politics are like a cake, alright, a Smith Island cake with many, many layers.



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

BINGO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean City-Ocean Pines recently held a Bingo Night at the Sterling Tavern in Berlin. It was a big success raising funds for the club's youth programs, including scholarships to be awarded to local graduating senior students. The workers who hosted the event are pictured.

Letter

False claims need to stop from county

(The following was sent as an open letter to the Worcester County Commissioners and local citizens.)
Editor,

A year ago, the County Commissioners asked that the School Board submit a more detailed accounting of their expenditures. At the time, that sounded like a reasonable request. Over past months, that request has become an unreasonable obsession, with endless requests for receipts and school accounting ledgers.

After receiving nearly 150 emailed and spoken comments from the parents, teachers, and community members who know our schools best, Mrs. Abbott ended a public meeting by proving that an infinite search for the school district's "misuse" of tax money will never satisfy her. Why? Because she simply does not know how schools work.

I have already publicly corrected one of Mrs. Abbott's false claims. In her latest attack, she cited a list of purchases that she found outrageous. For example, a fire pit. If Mrs. Abbott knew about the body of research related to the need to help families feel welcomed by

the school and to help them become invested in their children's academic success, she would have no reason to object to an item purchased to enhance a school-community social event. Even if that experience cost the county a couple hundred dollars. But it didn't.

Schools do not use budget line items for extracurricular activities. Money from fundraisers or ticket sales is used for items purchased from Amazon or Walmart. School officials had already explained this to the Commission in a previous meeting. Schools do not use budget line items for field trips. Students who attend those trips get parental permission and pay their way, and those who cannot pay are accommodated through an approved school fund. How do I know this? Even though it is not my job to question school expenditures, I asked for information from knowledgeable sources. Even though it is her job to do so, Mrs. Abbott did not.

So Mrs. Abbott, please stop wasting our tax-payer dollars on your many hours of trying to find that one nefarious needle that will bring down the haystack of the school budget. However, if you continue on your fool's errand of reading figures

without checking the facts behind them, I will gladly continue to check them for you. And will gladly continue to call you out publicly.

While Mrs. Abbott may have scored political points with her followers, she fooled no one who understands education. I hope she has not fooled the other Commissioners as they finalize their decisions on how to balance the County budget requests with projected revenue. If the schools must take a legitimate, fair share of budget cuts, so be it. But to deny any portion of the latest budget request as a punishment for "misuse" of taxpayers' money would simply show Commissioners who don't want facts, don't care what the families among their electorate want, and just don't want to support our public school teachers and students. It is an embarrassment that Worcester County — the richest per capita county in the State — is only one of two jurisdictions in Maryland to give no more than Maintenance of Effort to their schools last year. It's time to for some of our County Commissioners to start leading and stop acting like political hacks.

*Dr. Nancy Michelson
Berlin*

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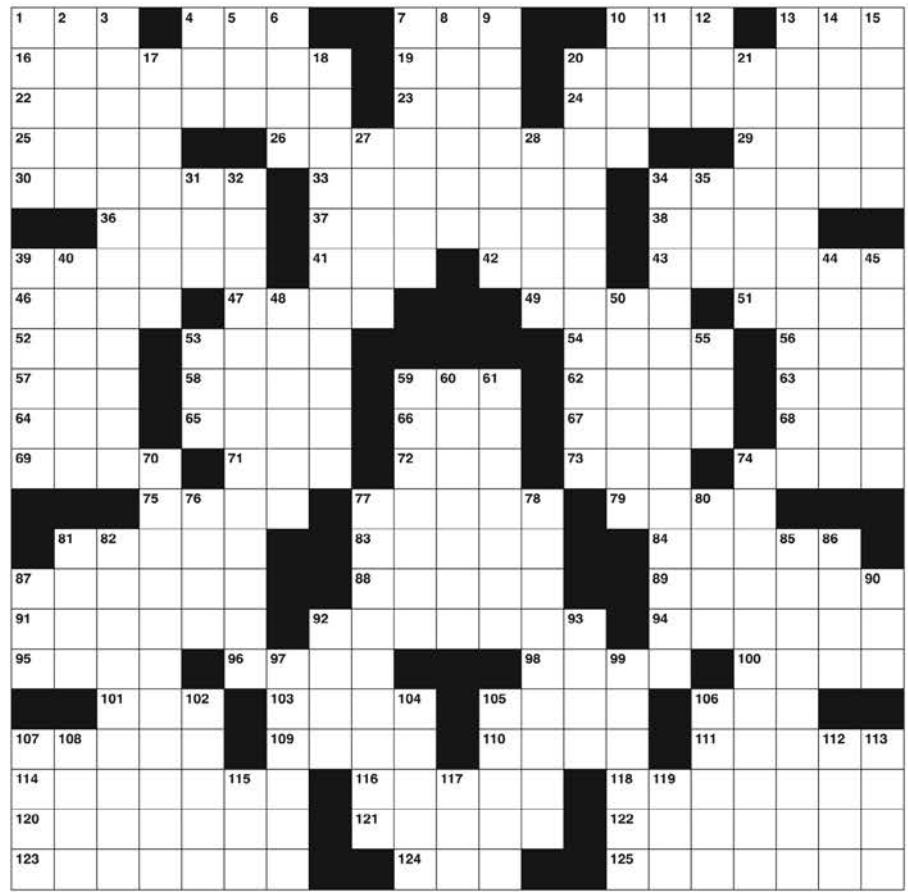
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Puzzles

FROM THE ASTRONAUT'S LOGBOOK BY DANIEL BODILY / EDITED BY JOEL FAGLIANO

Daniel Bodily, of Woodbury, Minn., is a robotics research engineer. His crosswords often include a visual element, as seen in the middle of the grid here. A self-described "left-brained person," he notes that crosswords are "the closest I'll come to being an artist myself."

- ACROSS**
- 1 Language suffix
 - 4 "Do or do not. There is no ___" (6-Down quote)
 - 7 Call me!
 - 10 Sources of vitamin C, for short
 - 13 Enroll, with "in"
 - 16 Bit of well-wishing on a hot day
 - 19 Sixth word in the Gettysburg Address
 - 20 "Fine by me"
 - 22 1962 Beatles hit
 - 23 London's ___ Gardens
 - 24 Wavering vocal effects
 - 25 Friends, to Hercule Poirot
 - 26 Quaker in the woods
 - 29 Spoils
 - 30 Nurse, by another name
 - 33 Best of the best
 - 34 Like some clouds and kittens
 - 36 Francisco with frescoes
 - 37 "Sounds to me like ..."
 - 38 Former senator Trent
 - 39 Quaint double contraction
 - 41 She's a believer
 - 42 C.S.U. or U.S.C.: Abbr.
 - 43 Like some wonders
 - 46 They're used to catch bugs
 - 47 Steam-engine sound
 - 49 Juno : Roman :: ___ : Greek
- DOWN**
- 1 Religion in which zakat is practiced
 - 2 Leaf pore
 - 3 *Woo-hoo! The engines are firing, all systems are go, and we are feeling good!*
 - 4 Channel with "Silent Sunday Nights" programming
 - 5 Orange sushi topper
 - 6 See 4-Across
- 51 Company aptly hidden in "Japanese games"
 - 52 Coconut extraction
 - 53 Cop's catch
 - 54 Zoom button
 - 56 Beach ___
 - 57 Playtex product
 - 58 Vegas casino with a musical name
 - 59 Lea low?
 - 62 "Aye, aye, captain!"
 - 63 Where a spill might end up
 - 64 Freudian constructs
 - 65 ___ golf
 - 66 Mo. when the Titanic sank
 - 67 Dominates, slangily
 - 68 "One card left!"
 - 69 Kids ... or, informally, a snack for kids
 - 71 "Born" in France
 - 72 Gymnast Suni
 - 73 Keep reminding, say
 - 74 Temple official
 - 75 Empty nester's lack?
 - 77 Domain's partner in math
 - 79 "Seize the day" of today
 - 81 Risk a ticket
 - 83 Kind of number system in which 7 is the highest digit
 - 84 Terrarium animals
 - 87 Setting
 - 88 "We will, we will ROCK YOU!" e.g.
 - 89 Make malleable using heat
 - 91 Pirate-ship features
 - 92 Shoe secured with a click
 - 94 Things checked at baggage checks
 - 95 Crash before dinner?
 - 96 Rummikub piece
 - 98 Close
 - 100 Greenlit
 - 101 "___ modus in rebus" ("Moderation in all things")
 - 103 Creatures mummified in ancient Egypt
 - 105 Close to closed
 - 106 Go steady with
 - 107 Green trattoria topping
 - 109 Ventriiloquist Shirley Dinsdale was the first person to win one (1949)
 - 110 Indian flatbread
 - 111 One getting fired after a strike?
 - 114 Really, really big
 - 116 Cause to blush
 - 118 Cause to jump
 - 120 "M-m-m-my ___" (1970s song lyric)
 - 121 He placed a call to Armstrong and Aldrin minutes after their landing
 - 122 Basis for some civil cases
 - 123 Replacement of a computer part without powering down
 - 124 Novelist Deighton
 - 125 Olympic tracks?
- 7 Where a batter goes for a Bundt?
 - 8 Tommy Lee Jones's role in "Men in Black"
 - 9 Farfalle shapes
 - 10 Dust Bowl-era migrant
 - 11 Quick left, say
 - 12 The Euphrates bisects it: Abbr.
 - 13 *And just like that, sky and clouds are behind us!*
 - 14 Mathematician's creation
 - 15 Snappish
 - 17 "I'll have it on your desk tomorrow"
 - 18 *Oops, zoned out for a sec. Houston, can you retransmit our coordinates?*
 - 20 *Thrilled to report that we've made it to lunar orbit!*
 - 21 General acknowledgments?
 - 27 D.C. V.I.P.
 - 28 Former labor secretary Robert
 - 31 Writer Rand
 - 32 *Our lunar rover is collecting samples at long last. It's been sitting in storage for months!*
 - 34 *Moving in zero-G is just blissful!*
 - 35 Chaney of horror
 - 39 Cheap and trivial
 - 40 Oddball
 - 44 Exotic pet
 - 45 Feminine-hygiene product
 - 48 "Bearded" blooms
 - 50 Where to walk the walk?
 - 53 Feminine-hygiene product



- 55 The Monstars in "Space Jam," e.g., for short
- 59 Last book of the Old Testament
- 60 It's run up, then rung up
- 61 Green trattoria topping
- 70 *Ouch! Drifted too far and bonked my head on that darn window ... but wow, would you look at the view!*
- 74 *Re-entry time — let's make sure we do this simply and practically!*
- 76 Be nerdy, with "out"
- 77 Who's on a mission in today's puzzle?
- 78 Musician who sang about a 77-Down
- 80 Let borrow
- 81 Storage facility
- 82 Window, e.g.
- 85 Hot pot
- 86 Like some advice
- 87 Stat that doesn't apply to E.V.s
- 90 Microdosing drug
- 92 Insult
- 93 Part of an udder
- 97 Large white sheet
- 99 Label for Whitney Houston
- 102 So far
- 104 Strong-willed daughter on "Downton Abbey"
- 105 Burning bridges, e.g.
- 106 Really hurt
- 107 Swanky
- 108 Bouncer in an alleyway?
- 112 Go silent, with "up"
- 113 Chops
- 115 ___ mood
- 117 Chopper
- 119 Unit often used exaggeratively

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© Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 38

Fill in the blank spaces in the grid so that every vertical column, every horizontal row and every 3 by 3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, without repeating any. There is really only one solution to each puzzle.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW MEMBER SWORN IN

First State Detachment of the Marine Corps League Commandant Al Soto is pictured swearing in new member and former Marine Robert Just at a recent meeting. Just, of Clarksville, Delaware, joined the Marines in 1967 and was discharged honorably in March 1973. He was a radio engineer and operator and served more than a year in Vietnam.



Photo by Brent Baker

Join Us As Thousands of Spring Blooms Emerge Throughout the Garden

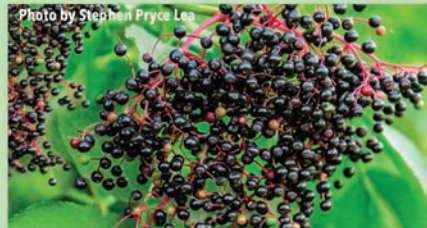


Photo by Stephen Pryce Lea



Photo by Stephen Pryce Lea

Edible Plants Identification Class

Thursday, May 23rd | 11:30 - 12:30
Register Online | Free Classes + Admission

Summer Planter Demonstration

Thursday, May 30th | 11:30 - 12:30
Register Online | Free Classes + Admission



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30220 Piney Neck Road | Dagsboro, DE 19939

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May 16 - 23



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
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
Sunday 10-11:30am	13905 Lighthouse Avenue, Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$899,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday Noon-2pm	36937 Creekhaven Dr., Selbyville, DE	4BR/2.5 BA	Single Family	\$759,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 2:30-4pm	304 S. Heron Gull Court	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$1,399,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday Noon-2pm	103 Mumfords Landing Road, Ocean Pines	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$659,900	Sandy Dougan/BHHS PenFed Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	15 Breezeway Lane, Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Condo	\$429,999	Debbie Bennington/BHHS PenFed Realty
Saturday & Sunday 10am-1pm	11000 Coastal Hwy., Capri #1703, OC	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$539,900	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 1:30-3:30pm	14 68th St., Sea Lodge # 203, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$439,900	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 1-3pm	353 Schooner Lane, Decatur Farm, Berlin	3BR/2BA	Townhome	\$318,900	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate, Inc
Saturday 11am-1pm	9 90th Street #204, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$625,000	Ann Holtz/Coldwell Banker Realty

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Calendar

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

Thurs., May 16

CRUISIN' OCEAN CITY

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Also in the Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot. Featuring more than 3,000 hot rods, customs, classics and trucks. Entertainment, boardwalk parades and more. <https://specialeventpro.com/cruisin-ocean-city>

JAY LENO

Ocean City Performing Arts Center - Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Featuring Jay Leno, stand-up comedian and host of "Jay Leno's Garage" and "You Bet Your Life." Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/36845820/jay-leno-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

CPAP MASK FITTING

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

STORYTIME: 'IT'S OK: BEING KIND TO YOURSELF WHEN THINGS FEEL HARD'

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Discover how powerful it can be to move past a strong emotion and give ourselves some kindness. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014

TECH TALKS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. The group will break down tech topics into bite-sized lessons for all. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

VIDEO GAME TRIVIA

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

LEGO STAMPING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4 p.m. Get ready to create some unique art using LEGOs and ink. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014

ZUMBA

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

ROMANCE BOOK CLUB: 'BEATING HEART BABY' BY LIO MIN

The Buzzed Word, 11805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6 p.m. Join the Ocean City Library and The Buzzed Word for an afternoon of Queer Romance and wine. 410-524-1818

MEET THE AUTHOR, DIANA MCDONOUGH

The Landing Bar and Grille, 20301 Charlotte Blvd., Millsboro, 6-8 p.m. Tickets \$25. Meet

the author and enjoy dinner with Diana McDonough, author of the Stuck in the Onesies Series. The \$25 ticket includes dinner, soft drinks, and gratuity (alcohol available for purchase). Books sold. 973-534-1436

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

Fri., May 17

CRUISIN' OCEAN CITY

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Also in the Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot. Featuring more than 3,000 hot rods, customs, classics and trucks. Entertainment, boardwalk parades and more. <https://specialeventpro.com/cruisin-ocean-city>

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

BOOK SIGNING FOR 'THE MAKING OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST BILL FISHING TOURNAMENT' WITH JIM MOTSKO

Ocean City Life-Saving Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet Jim Motsko, and co-author Joanne Guilfoil, and learn about the history of the White Marlin Open. Free admission for the book signing. 410-289-4991, emma@ocmuseum.org, www.ocmuseum.org

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'LIGHT YEARS FROM HOME' BY MIKE CHEN

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Berlin Library circulation desk. 410-641-0650

Sat., May 18

CRUISIN' OCEAN CITY

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Also in the Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot. Featuring more than 3,000 hot rods, customs, classics and trucks. Entertainment, boardwalk parades and more. <https://specialeventpro.com/cruisin-ocean-city>

BBQ CHICKEN

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, 11 a.m. Cost is \$15 for 1/2 BBQ Chicken Platter with two sides, roll and drink or \$12 for 1/2 BBQ chicken with roll and drink. Proceeds benefit St. Paul United Methodist Church Men's Ministry.

WALK WITH A DOC

South Gate Pond, Ocean Pines, 9-10 a.m. An AGH representative will give a brief discussion, then will lead the group for a walk around the park's trail. First 10 to arrive, re-

ceive \$10 Walmart gift cards. Alyce Marzola, 410-641-9268

PREAKNESS STAKES

Elks Lodge #2645, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., Ocean City. Queen of Hearts drawing at 6:30 p.m. DJs JR & Marie from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Happy Hour until 6 p.m. Chili cheese dogs or sauerkraut dogs with fries and lite fare. Dinner offered from 4-7 p.m. Light fare includes wings, pizza, burgers, hot dogs, shrimp, fries and onion rings. 410-250-2645, <https://www.elks.org/lodges/home.cfm?LodgeNumber=2645>

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

CRAFTY SATURDAY: DINOSAUR STORYTIME AND CRAFT

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Explore the world of dinosaurs. All ages. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY, FOR MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN

Holy Trinity Cathedral (Anglican), 11021 Worcester Highway, Berlin, 1-3 p.m. The Clothing Ministry will be giving away the clothes that they have collected. 410-641-4882

ORIGINALS ONLY

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., Ocean City, 6-8 p.m. Live performances featuring original acts by local up-and-coming musicians. A donation of \$5 is suggested. 410-524-9433, megan@artleagueofoceancity.org, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

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

Sun., May 19

CRUISIN' OCEAN CITY

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Also in the Ocean City Inlet Parking Lot. Featuring more than 3,000 hot rods, customs, classics and trucks. Entertainment, boardwalk parades and more. <https://specialeventpro.com/cruisin-ocean-city>

SPECIAL NEEDS DAY AT TRIMPER RIDES

Trimper Rides of Ocean City, 700 S. Atlantic Ave., 1-5 p.m. Trimper Rides is teaming up with the Autistic Children's Support Group of Worcester County. Interested groups contact marketing@trimperrides.com for a special code and discount ride passes. 410-289-8617

BAW DAY AT OCEAN PINES

White Horse Park, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Boat rides, hands-on activities, live animals, exploration

stations, environmental exhibitors, native plant giveaway, live music and food and drink vendors. Free admission. mdcoastalbays.org

CHURCH CONCERT

Saint Matthews by the-Sea United Methodist Church, 1000 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, 8:30 a.m. Eternal Vision Ministries performances 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Full concert at 6 p.m.

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/farmersmarket/>

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., May 20

VOLUNTEER FAIR

Ocean Pines Community Center - Assateague Room, 235 Ocean Parkway, 10 a.m.-noon. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Learn about rewarding volunteer opportunities in the area. Many local organizations represented including Assateague Coastal Trust, AGH Auxiliary, Cricket Center and more.

STORY TIME: ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE

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

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION: POETRY OF YOUR CHOICE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Bring a poem to share. The group meets twice a month to discuss selections from the Great Books Foundation. 410-208-4014

LEGO MASTERS STEM

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m. Create a lego ship that can float on water. Drop in and design. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014

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

OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

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

Calendar

weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and living a healthy lifestyle. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

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

Tues., May 21

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

STORY TIME: 'SEASHORE'
 Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and finger plays. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650

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

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP
 Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research, followed by a Q&A.

Bring a laptop, tablet or papers containing family information, if you can. Registration requested: 410-208-4014.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wed., May 22

MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL 2: CRUISING THROUGH 'THE CHANGE'®
 Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Sequel to "Menopause The Musical®" Tickets cost \$55-\$75. Tickets at center website. 410-289-2800

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

EASTERN SHORE SEWISTS
 Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Promoting the needle arts through sewing education, activities and textile crafts. For artisans of all skill levels. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STRANDED AT SEA: OC BAY HOPPER PROGRAM
 OC Bay Hopper, 11703 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12:30-2 p.m. Uncover the details of three 1880 shipwrecks. Costs \$50 per person. Half of the proceeds will be donated to OC Life-Saving Station Museum. https://book.ocbayhopper.com/Experience, 410-289-4991

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
 Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 3-4:30 p.m. The goal of the support group is to provide participants with hope for the future. Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org

SWAP MEET
 Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 4 p.m. Bring unwanted books, toys, puzzles or games to exchange for other to keep. For ages 6 years and older. 410-641-0650

PAINT & SIP
 Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$27 and includes wine and crackers. Register: 410-641-7052.

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.

Inaugural Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation

Pickleball Tournament

Presented By: 

Saturday July 13, 2024

Start time 8:00 am / Skill Levels 2.5-3.5

Entry Fee includes: breakfast, snacks, lunch, beverages and prizes!

\$45 + \$25 per bracket

Ocean Pines Racquet Center
 11443 Manklin Creek Rd
 Ocean Pines, MD 21811

Tournament Directors:
 Todd Phillips: tournamenttodd@gmail.com
 Jamie Lowe: tournaments@sportsoffice365.com

More Information: BelieveInTomorrow.org/Pickleball

Proceeds to benefit Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation - Beach Respite Housing Program. Your contributions help critically ill children & their families through their medical crisis by bringing them to the beach & making a positive, meaningful difference in their lives. Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

 **Believe In Tomorrow Children's Foundation**

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HELP WANTED

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Apply: Qualified candidates can submit a confidential Town of Berlin application, a resume, and three professional references to the Town's Human Resources Director at kjensen@berlinmd.gov. Applications can be found under the employment section of our website at <https://berlinmd.gov/employment/> or you can call 410-641-2770 and arrange to pick one up at 10 William Street Berlin, MD 21811. EOE/M/F/W/D.

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