

# BAYSIDE GAZETTE



JUNE 20, 2024

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## Candidates hold forth at OP forum

Format gives contenders opportunity to question each other on stances

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) Ocean Pines Board of Directors candidates Sherrie Clifford, Jeff Heavner, Rick Farr, Amy Peck and Jerry Murphy addressed voters and each other at the Thursday, June 13 election forum.

Association President Farr and board member Heavner are seeking reelection, while Peck, who served on the governing board from 2021 to 2022, Clifford and Murphy are challenging the incumbents for the board's two available seats.

The forum began with opening statements from the competitors.

Clifford expressed her support for the community's current leadership. "As a proud homeowner for almost four years, I have had the privilege of witnessing the many successful developments produced by our general manager, John Viola, and his team," she said. "I am dedicated to supporting their continued success."

Outlining her priorities as a prospective director, Clifford said her list included upholding Ocean Pines' governing documents, partnering with the volunteer fire department, and "revitalizing committees through inclusive decision-making processes," among other concerns.

Clifford told the audience she has experience in contract negotiation, project and database management, and software development. She also said she believes her skills developed through building and maintaining team environments, advanced technology proficiencies, informed decision-making processes, and multi-level organizational collaboration have prepared her to be an effective member of the Ocean Pines

See OP BOARD Page 6

## Tub races fill Main in Berlin

Mother Nature provided a perfect evening for the Berlin Chamber of Commerce's 34th Annual Berlin Bathtub Races last Friday, as thousands of spectators converged under clear skies and mild temperatures on Main Street to see the team from Pohanka capture top honors. The crowd was among the largest ever to witness the event. See page 21 for more pictures.

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# Commissioners review 27-home community plans

## Proposed project located off Route 113 near park

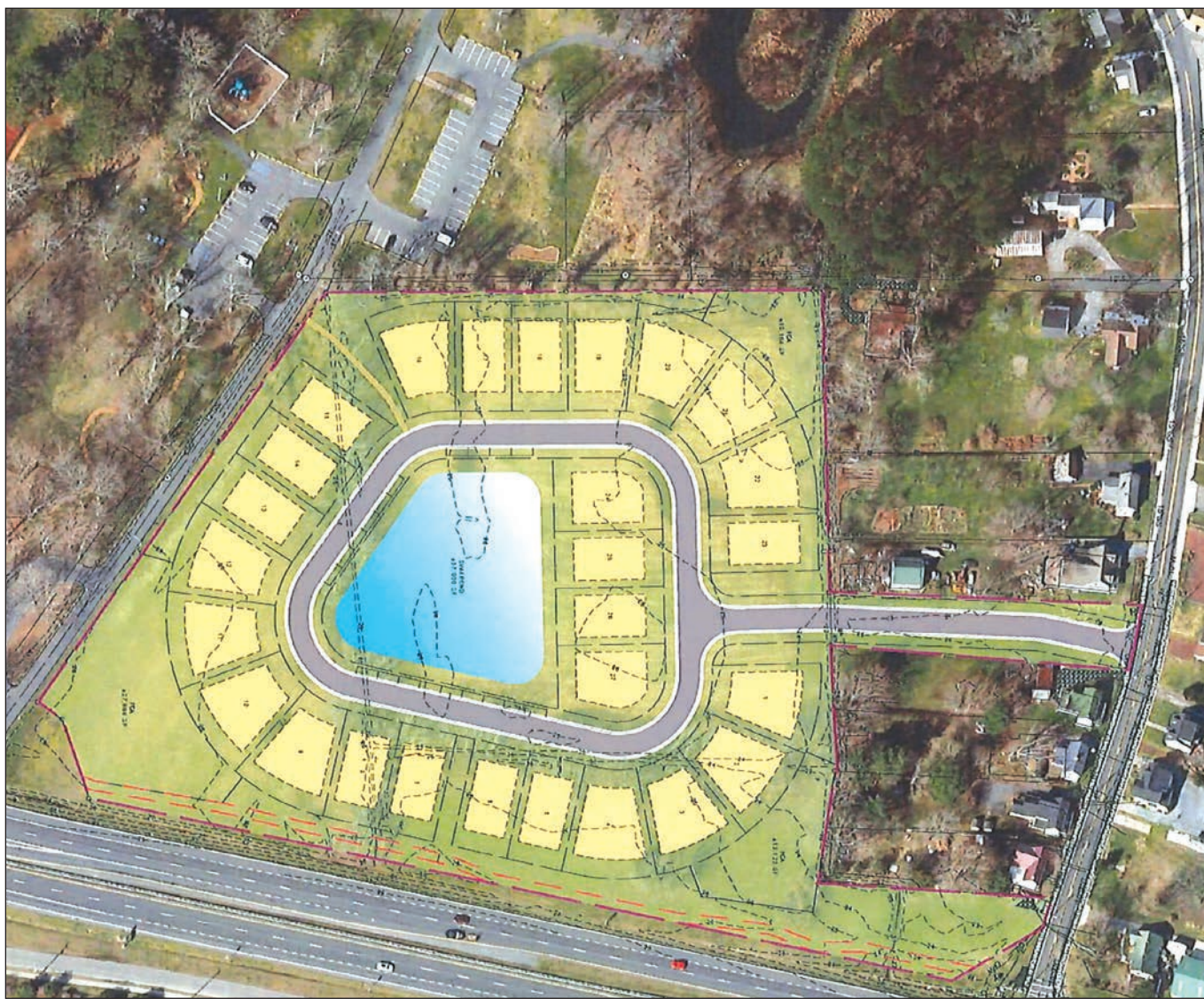
By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) At its Wednesday, June 12 meeting, the Berlin Planning Commission heard the concept plan for the proposed development of a new residential community in town.

Main Street Homes, an affiliate of Natelli Communities based in Gaithersburg, is spearheading the project. George, Miles, and Buhr of Salisbury are slated to handle the engineering aspect of the residential property creation.

The housing community is proposed between Tripoli and Bay streets along Route 113. Developers said the site was originally to include 33 units. However, due to stormwater and wetlands concerns, the proposal was amended to build 27 single-family detached lots. The concept plan includes a walking trail for the residents to access Stephen Decatur Park.

“For the pedestrian path, the trail that you have between the subdivision and the park, consider con-  
See PLANNERS Page 4



The proposed single-family home community is located off Route 113 in between Bay and Tripoli streets.

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# Pines police stepping up radar enforcement

By **Tara Fischer**  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) As summer heats up, Ocean Pines safety officials provided community updates, rules, and regulations during the Saturday, June 15, OPA Board of Directors meeting.

As the neighborhood's Fourth of July celebration planning continues, the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department President Joe Enste urged residents to leave the fireworks to the professionals.

"We have had firework mishaps before," he said. "With all the brush and how close our community is to one another, it can cause issues."

The firefighter also cautioned homeowners against improper bon-

fire and grill etiquette. Because properties are roughly a quarter acre and space between houses is limited, Enste reminded individuals to practice safety during these summer activities.

According to the OPVFD's website, which outlines the organization's fire pit regulations, a steady supply of water or a flame extinguisher must be nearby, an adult must always be present, and the burning of plastic, treated wood, grass, rubber, leavers, pallets, or household trash is prohibited.

The homeowner must notify the property's Compliance, Permits, and Inspections Department of the fire pit. The structure must be placed on a level, non-combustible surface, and

it may not be used in wind over 15 miles per hour. Additional safety rules can be found on the fire group's webpage.

Ocean Pines Police Chief Tim Robinson addressed OPA residents at the June 15 meeting. The officer said he has received phone calls, emails, and social media messages about speeding in the community.

The department has increased enforcement to address these concerns, and the chief is often running radar.

Robinson said that police have removed unnecessary road signs and are in the process of adding markings indicating potential safety hazards, like abrupt curves.

Additionally, the police chief urged residents to ensure their house num-

bers are identifiable to improve emergency response time.

"When seconds count, we need to get there," he said. "Make sure that your house number is conspicuously displayed where it can easily be seen."

Amid July 4 festivities, the department reminded Ocean Pines citizens that traffic patterns on Cathell Road and Ocean Parkway will be different, as the streets will be closed at various times for safety. The police department and OPA will communicate these decisions as the event draws closer.

"We're hoping for a fun evening on July 4," Robinson said. "You'll see me and probably almost my entire team out there that night."

# Planners oppose short moratorium concept

Continued from Page 3

structing that as a 10-foot wide shared use path complying with federal regulation for pedestrians and bicycles," Planning and Zoning consultant Rick Baldwin suggested.

The project outline specifies that the development requires 54 parking spaces, but around 73 will be provided. Engineers maintain there will be driveways, and while it is not guaranteed, the hope is also to include garages. According to the building setbacks portion of the concept plan, the minimum lot area is 6,000 square feet and the maximum building height is two and a half stories or 35 feet.

Since the project was presented as a concept plan for review, the commission did not take a vote on the development but offered feedback to the developers.

Toward the end of the June 12

meeting, the commission discussed the possibility of imposing a moratorium for commercial and lower residential developments for an undetermined amount of time. Councilmember Steve Green suggested the pause at the meeting of the Major and Council on Monday, June 10. Green said he was hoping the planning commission would issue the council a recommendation for or against a short-term moratorium of three or six months. Green noted after watching numerous planning commission meetings the body appears to be struggling with directing applicants, such as Wawa and the Microtel hotel, on the best paths forward when the zoning permits the uses. Green noted the Wawa discussion reached the point the applicant was threatening to sue the town over the planning commission's continuous questioning of the

project.

With the comprehensive plan update underway as well as a process to create commercial design guidelines for applicants, Green said he would support a short "pause" to allow a planning director to be hired.

Former Planning Director Dave Engelhart passed away last month. In the meantime, Baldwin, a town resident who worked in planning for the city of Salisbury before retiring, has stepped in as a consultant while the town searches for someone to fill the role.

"That is how I initially described it," Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said of Baldwin's current position. "It was to make sure that property owners, developers, builders, and projects did not just stall. That they kept moving as best they could."

Members of the council seemed to

agree with Green when he broached the topic last week, agreeing a moratorium would give the town more time to find a new director and settle in without being overwhelmed with developmental projects. Bohlen maintained the town is actively reviewing applicants for the position.

At the June 12 planning commission meeting, Baldwin pushed back on the idea of an indefinite pause. Currently, project developers are required to submit proposals two weeks before the next meeting. The consultant recommended that the commission extend this timeline rather than proceed with a moratorium.

"I propose we move the submittal deadline back to 30 days so there is more of an opportunity to complete the packages in front of me," Baldwin said. "... I want to continue to move forward, but maybe at a pace that I'm not stepping on my shoelaces, and you all are not being asked to approve something you have not been given the appropriate support for."

The group agreed with the recommendation with the commission unanimously opposed to a moratorium.

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# OP board hopefuls state positions at forum

Continued from Page 1  
Board of Directors.

"I am a strong advocate for a board that listens to our homeowners and prioritizes communication and transparency," Clifford said. "This election is important and will determine if homeowners in the future are included or excluded in all aspects of our community. All homeowners should have an opportunity to serve and should not be excluded for their differences of opinion. I am confident that we can tackle the greatest challenges we currently face together."

In outlining his personal and professional background, Heavner said he is a native Marylander who grew up in Dundalk and spent his summers working at his parents' Boardwalk business in Ocean City.

He graduated from the Naval Academy and went to serve as an intelligence officer, a position that allowed him to be "entrusted with the highest level of information that this country holds." Heavner then spent 30 years at Exxon Mobil before retiring to the Eastern Shore.

"My wife and I do a lot in Ocean Pines," he said. "We garden at the community garden center, we bowl on an Ocean Pines league, I enjoy walking the Pines, and we spend a fair amount of time in volunteer serv-

ice."

Heavner assured voters that if he is re-elected he will remain committed to the community's growth. Among his priorities are negotiating a deal for the new South Side Fire Station, securing a multiyear contract with General Manager John Viola, while also engaging in succession planning for the day when Viola steps down, obtaining a long-term agreement with food and beverage provider Matt Ortt Companies, completing the Racquet Sports Center Clubhouse renovations, Compliance, Permit, and Inspections violation education, and a focus on secondary drainage.

"Those with an incredible vision created Ocean Pines," Heavner said. "... Its preservation and growth, however, requires leadership from our general manager and board of directors to plan and spend your money wisely. Fortunately, we have a very talented general manager and president of our board."

The governing body's current president, Farr, said, "This board has done outstanding service to the Ocean Pines community, which has delivered one of the most successful and prosperous times in its history. This has been a team effort with the collaboration and professionalism of



TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Attendees are pictured at the June 13 candidates forum listening to the views of current OPA Board candidates, with incumbent Jeff Heavner at the podium.

six other directors that Ocean Pines membership voted to serve, along with unwavering support and partnership with our general manager," he continued.

This success, Farr said, has included a positive year-to-date variance of over \$1.2 million, a reduction of yearly assessments "while ensuring that all our amenities are well funded," an increase in salaries and retirement contributions for Ocean Pines police officers, and a golf course operation revenue of over \$400,000 before depreciation.

Additionally, Farr reported that the new Yacht Club Tiki Bar, which opened on Memorial Day weekend, has generated record sales, and the community's amenity membership revenues are up more than \$100,000 over last year.

Farr served two decades in combat operations in the United States Air Force. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's in human resource management and currently serves as the chief human resource officer for Easton government. He has been an Ocean Pines homeowner since 1999 and is a Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation director.

Challenger Peck said that her decision to run comes from her passion for protecting the community's legacy.

"I am ready to start as a director on day one with institutional knowledge and experience," she said. "... Wanting the best has me here today. Homeowners deserve a choice, and I did not want an unopposed election because I believe effective governance includes a respectful, open discussion with multiple perspectives, ideas, and solutions. I see the value of committee expertise and listening to the homeowners."

Peck said she wishes to protect Ocean Pines from a 6-1 or 7-0 board majority "that blindly votes 'yes.'"

She hopes to prioritize improved

collaboration and restore the group's relationships with the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department and the advisory committees.

Murphy first came to Ocean Pines in the early 1970s, when he built houses with the Helicon Design Group. He then opened a McDonald's next to Stephen Decatur High School and another on 28th Street in Ocean City. On returning to Baltimore, he began a paper and packaging distribution company before becoming an Ocean Pines resident and a top Realtor for Long and Foster Real Estate.

He also serves on the board for a historic building across the bridge.

"Ocean Pines is a place I have seen for 50 years plus evolve into the great community it is today," he said. "I am here to expand on what is going on. We have seen tremendous progress in the last two or three years...I look forward to serving you."

Following the opening statements, the candidates randomly selected resident-submitted questions. Competitors were not given access to the inquiries beforehand.

Ocean Pines has approximately 8,500 properties and only two or three CPI (Compliance, Permits, Inspections) inspectors. Clifford was asked if she supports increasing the number of personnel who determine when violations have occurred.

"I am all for our enforcement of CPI and keeping our property values high," the candidate said. "... However, I know we have a Design Management Associates (DMA) reserve study coming up, and we need to make sure we have the proper funding in all areas, so we need to be careful where we spend and do it efficiently and effectively. Having 8,500 homes and only two people to support going around with the violations is low ... I would have to work on a study and figure out what we have and what is involved...but I think it's low...it's important to keep our home values high and beautiful."

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# Candidates debate unanimity

Regarding the claim the board often makes decisions contrary to the community's bylaws, Heavner countered that the governing body refers to these documents during decision-making.

"...I read all those documents thoroughly," he said. "I understand most of them very thoroughly. I constantly read our resolutions and our bylaws. Contrary to what my opponents say, that we don't have independent thinkers on the board, we all are independent thinkers."

"All of us try to abide by our rules and regulations," Heavner continued. "Most of the people on this board have a common vision ... A vision of exceptional safety, finances, value, and quality of life. How we get there is by investing in our amenities ... we strive for that every day. We may not be perfect, but we strive to abide by our bylaws. And if we don't, we can learn from it."

Farr assured voters that OPA has emergency reserve funds. In the case of a natural disaster, the community would first utilize insurance claims, but additional savings are available to help respond to unforeseen circumstances.

When asked how she would prepare for Ocean Pines Board of Directors meetings, Peck emphasized her support for posting agenda packets online in advance. The candidate also said she intends to ask questions, research, and use data in decision-making. These practices, she said, are necessary to sustain transparency.

Murphy was asked how he may increase the benefit to residents during upcoming contract negotiations for the Matt Ortt Companies. The current agreement, which provides for a half-million payout to the food and beverage service and a \$19 per property owner subsidy by the Ocean Pines property owners, is nearing expiration.

"Matt Ortt and his operations have been doing a fantastic job," Murphy said. "The Yacht Club used to never have any good food. Matt has put together an operation that attracts...I would like to see it continue. I don't think any homeowner would have an issue with a \$15 assessment to keep Matt on board...Ocean Pines is the benefactor of his operations."

In the forum's final round, candidates were allowed to ask their opponents questions.

Murphy asked Peck, who has spoken about her desire for a board with differing perspectives, what value diversity provides when the current governance is in unison.

"That is how you come up with the best decisions," Peck answered. "You have someone asking, 'Where is the

data? What is the return on investment? Why is this project costing so much per square foot?' We do not hear that from this board as a community. It is just hands up 'yes.' When coming to decisions, it should be a collaboration. As an independent thinker, I would be asking those questions."

Following an inquiry from Peck about OPA's relationship with the fire department, Farr said that the board is "currently in negotiations with the fire department as far as where we are going with a new building" and that the association's communication with the station has "increased immensely."

"Once a decision has been made, it will be brought to the community," the president said. "This is something the leadership of the fire department, the board, and the general manager are working through. It is happening as we speak."

Farr asked Clifford about her decision to welcome former Ocean Pines police officer Chris Tarr, who was ethically compromised for improper ammunition and firearm custody, onto her community podcast. The episode was released in September 2023.

"He had something to say, and we gave him the platform to say it," Clifford said, responding to her opponent's inquiry. "I value the police department and our fire department. I also believe in giving people a voice so their side of the story may be heard. We are open to communication..."

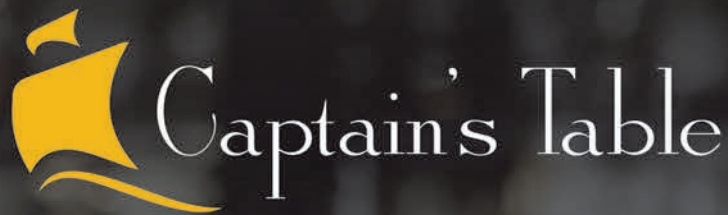
Candidates had the opportunity to address voters after the forum. Clifford emphasized her commitment to a board dedicated to integrity, transparency, and accountability.

She also argued that eliminating advisory committees is detrimental to the community. Notably, this statement comes after the racquet sports group was dissolved in April after mold allegations made from within that group were proven false.

"Ocean Pines is a wonderful place to live that should not be governed by a super majority that excludes those that speak or disagree," Clifford said, addressing the crowd. "Your voice and vote are important and can make a difference when electing board members. Ones that work for you, the homeowner."

Heavner emphasized the successes of the current governing group. "... Our amenities continue to be invested in ... our beautiful community," he said. "The board's responsible for protecting and enhancing this positive momentum. I believe I have demonstrated the abil-

See OP Page 8



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# Pines Elections Committee gets new leader in 6-1 vote

## OPA director expresses conflict of interest concerns about social media posts

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors voted 6-1 to appoint Steve Ransdell as the new chair of the Elections Committee amid the current position-holder Tom Piatti's departure from the community. Director Steve Jacobs opposed the motion.

Jacobs claimed Ransdell, a neighborhood resident who currently serves on the committee, is an active participant in a contentious Facebook group, which should disqualify him from stepping into the leadership role.

**'It is apparent to me that this is a potential conflict of interest between his own views and the need for us to hold an election ...'**  
Director Steve Jacobs

"The Facebook page holds itself out as being parody," Jacobs said. "... it passed parody several stops ago, and the content is much closer to being insulting, demeaning, and generally repulsive ... Ransdell, as it has been reported in the past by symbols or emojis, indicated that he liked a lot of these comments."

Jacobs maintains OPA Board of Directors election candidates Amy Peck and Sherrie Clifford are frequent targets for the inappropriate comments. The Facebook group in question was never named.

"It is apparent to me that this is a potential conflict of interest between his own views and the need for us to hold an election ... the fact of the matter is, we can do better," Jacobs continued.

Fellow members of the governing body pushed back on Jacobs' stance. Vice President Stuart Lakernick argued that Ransdell, who moderated

the Thursday, June 13 candidate forum, has proven his professionalism. He also noted that Piatti recommended the new chair.

"I will not let social media dictate to me or this board in what we do," Lakernick said.

Director Jeff Heavner echoed the vice president's sentiments. He maintained that everyone is entitled to their own opinion, as "we live in a free world."

Treasurer Monica Rakowski took it one step further. "Far too much credence is given to Facebook accounts," she said. "We have things in place with our election process that should

not allow any one individual to affect the outcome of it."

Jacobs consented everyone is allowed to voice their perspectives. However,

he said, as there was no disagreement that the social media page contains vile commentary, it points to the conflict of interest Ransdell's online presence presents for his role as the Elections Committee chairman.

Board President Rick Farr argued that any bias is a non-issue because the advisory group has laid out the voting and ballot deadlines before the appointment, and the election is to be outsourced to the Pittsburgh-based MK Election Services.

Elections Committee board liaison John Latham also endorsed the appointment. "I 100% support Steve as a chairman," he said.

OPA residents Cheryl Jacob and Patrick Lehnerd were also approved for their first elections committee term.

The next Ocean Pines Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 20, at 9 a.m. in the Clubhouse Meeting Room.

# OP candidates take questions

Continued from Page 8

ity to keep your trust as a director."

Farr reiterated the positive developments the current board has secured. The golf course is profitable, renovations for the racquet sports center building were approved, a local law firm with expertise in HOA regulations was hired, and the community remains financially sound.

"There has been talk and discussion about a 6-1 majority," the president said. "I will remind the candidates here that the Ocean Pines residents voted for this board..."

Peck maintained that a shakeup in board representation is needed to give homeowners greater trans-

parency.

"If this election had gone unopposed, the super board majority, where it appears decisions are being made via email and behind closed doors, without...discussion and respect for the committees, would continue ...," she argued.

Murphy, who ran for the board last year, said he is running to be a part of a successful team.

"I commit myself to transparency, integrity, commitment to our property owners and all the residents," the challenger said.

The ballot deadline for voters is Tuesday, Aug. 6, by 4 p.m. The results will be announced on Thursday,





SUBMITTED RENDERING/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Members of the Berlin Planning Commission reviewed conceptual plans, which are pictured, for a structure at the corner of Bay and Jefferson streets at their June 12 meeting.

# Buzz Meadery owners eye site development

**By Tara Fischer**  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) The Berlin Planning Commission heard concept site plans last week for a potential home for the Buzz Meadery and a new office building on South Main Street.

Business owners Brett and Megan Hines are proposing a permanent Buzz Meadery location. If the project is successful, the proposed building will be constructed between Jefferson and Gay streets on a triangular lot where a home once sat years ago. The private property has been used recently as a community gathering spot.

Megan Hines outlined her vision for the space for the planning commission.

“We are thinking of it as a home for the Buzz Meadery, as well as Jun and Juice,” she said. “The Jun and Juice on Pitt Street is very small, and we would like to expand our seating.”

The rough idea is that the establishment would open at 8 a.m. each day and close in the early evening hours.

The Buzz Meadery, classified as a winery and a brewery based on state and federal determinations, will handle production onsite.

“There is very little waste,” Megan Hines said, addressing commission concerns. “We just take honey and add it to water ... Production causes no noise. Residents would never notice.”

The site plans outline compromises that the builders must comply with when construction begins. According to Planning and Zoning Consultant Rick Baldwin, the sidewalks must meet the town’s standards.

“... sidewalks constructed in areas where no sidewalk exists or has existed previously shall be a minimum of five feet in width having a one-fourth-inch expansion joint between curb and sidewalk...,” the bylaws state.

Additionally, parking and loading spaces must be set back at a minimum of 25 feet from the street or lot line, and buildings must be set back at least 15 feet.

posed design is to “complement late 19th century, early 20th-century architecture of Berlin’s historic district to include a color pallet and materials consistent or complementary of buildings in Berlin’s historic district.”

The planning commission had no objections to the concept.

“I have not met anyone that has expressed opposition to the economic activity the Hines are presenting,” Baldwin said. “We are just trying to get to a building footprint that is sta-

ble so we may move forward.”

The business owners are hopeful that with consensus from the town’s historic district commission, the planning commission, and the board of appeals, the project will get off the ground.

The group also heard a concept review for a new office building at 513 South Main Street owned by Jennifer Lynch. According to project presenter Patrick Vorsteg, the plan is to add a detached building behind the current site, an accounting space, as offices.

A stormwater management facility would go behind the new structure.

Vorsteg said that developers must first conduct a soil analysis and a topography survey to build the stormwater management feature.

The commissioners approved the initiative and urged Vorsteg to inform them of potential landscaping at the site when he “got the general gist.”

The town’s planning commission is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, July 10, at 5:30 p.m.

 A colorful advertisement for a golf tournament. At the top, the Chesapeake Health Care logo features a sailboat and the text "Chesapeake HEALTH CARE". The main text reads "30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GOLF TOURNAMENT" in large, bold letters. Below this, it says "Presented by labcorp" with the Labcorp logo. The event date and location are "Friday, Aug. 30, 2024 | Ocean City Golf Club". A QR code is in the bottom right corner. At the bottom, it states "Proceeds benefit Chesapeake Health Care's Summer Therapeutic Program for Children" and "Register Now at www.CHCgolf.com!". The background includes illustrations of a golf bag, a trophy, and a golf cart on a green field.



# Pines amenities continuing their revenue-positive run

### Yacht Club Tiki Bar addition earns solid returns in terms of public approval, revenue

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 21, 2024) Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Viola and his team provided their monthly report on current community initiatives and assured homeowners that amenities remain profitable at the Saturday, June 15 meeting of the Board of Directors.

The Yacht Club Tiki Bar expansion was officially unveiled just before Memorial Day Weekend. Since its grand opening, Viola maintained that the additions have had a profitable impact on the community.

"I have been to the Tiki Bar on the aquatics and Yacht Club sides," he said. "It is enhanced ... the feedback is so positive. The original Tiki Bar needed a lot of renovations, more than I thought."

Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue updated residents about ongoings at the skateboard park. Donahue said the person who built the ramp is expected to provide an assessment in the coming months. The Public Works Department has scheduled repairs, particularly for structural cracks and a power wash is anticipated.

Unfortunately, despite skaters' requests for benches, the association has opted against seating installation. Donahue said that these types of accommodations have been continuously damaged and the community cannot justify wasting thousands of dollars on frequent replacements. Hidden cameras, often monitored by recreation and parks staff, have been positioned to deter vandalism.

Viola said the soft shoreline project to reduce erosion at the South Gate Pond is on schedule. The association is collaborating with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program on the project, and they have received a grant for \$150,000. Of the funds, \$50,000 has been allocated for site work.

The initiative addresses water quality, shoreline erosion, parking lot issues, pond edge wetlands, and fishing access.

"We are going to enhance the fishing experience," the general manager said.

Viola updated the community on maintenance efforts. Showers have been repaired at the Ocean Pines Beach Club, aquatics officials have

conducted daily safety inspections, and playground equipment at Bainbridge and Bridgewater parks is to be power washed to remove oxidation.

To beautify the neighborhood, Public Works has placed summer flowers throughout Ocean Pines and replaced the banners at the north and south entrances.

According to Viola, the marina has received the Clean Marina Award from the Department of Natural Resources. Additional merchandise has also been added, including fishing tackle, shirts, and retail items like snacks, ice cream, and beverages.

The OPA general manager noted that the marina's total fuel sales for May totaled \$79,041.

The golf course's maintenance is on track, including repairs to leaks in the old irrigation system. For 2024, the amenity has secured \$271,000 in profits, not including memberships.

"The golf course is the economic powerhouse driving this engine of Ocean Pines," Viola said.

Memberships for all amenities, sans tennis, have increased from last year.

Viola assured that the community "has a good product, and the numbers show it."

Director of Business Administration Linda Martin said that the racquet sports center has seen an uptick in pickleball and tennis players over the past month and that there have been several days where all the courts were in use.

The director reminded residents of the seventh annual Pink Ribbon Pickleball Round Robin on Friday, October 4. The entry fee is \$40 per person.

As for the aquatics department, Martin said that the lifeguards are fully staffed for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, and new flooring at the splash pad was installed at Swim and Racquet on June 4.

Board President Rick Farr provided a financial update.

"A few months ago, John Viola and I had an opportunity to go in front of the County Council, requesting funds for Ocean Pines," he said. "I am happy to report that the county has given us for our police department \$550,000. As for recreation, we have received \$20,000; for the fire department, we have received \$51,000. For our roads, we have received \$195,000."

The following OPA Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 20, at 9 a.m. in the Clubhouse Meeting Room.

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RELIABLE & LOCAL NEWS



# Virginia company awarded bulkhead replacement work

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) Ocean Pines Association General Manager John Viola and the Board of Directors approved spending for bulkhead replacement, two new police department vehicles and the historic task group.

For the upcoming bulkhead replacement initiative, the association received bids from Fisher Marine Construction of Chincoteague, Va. for \$900,000, Ben's Marine Construction of Berlin for \$1.2 million, and Ocean Pines Newport Bay Construction for \$1.15 million.

The OPA board unanimously approved hiring contractor Fisher Marine Construction for the 2024-2025 bulkhead replacements. According to the business's proposal, the company will "furnish labor and materials to construct new vinyl bulkhead as designed by Vista Engineers."

The board also unanimously approved the staff recommendation of \$88,000 for Hertrich Fleet Services for two Dodge Durango police cruisers. A total of \$132,400 will be spent to include the expenditures of radios, computers, emergency equipment, and lettering.

Director Jeff Heavner expressed his appreciation to Viola for the vehicle acquisition.

"I just want to say the modernization of our police force is awesome," he said.

Aside from capital requests, the board unanimously approved providing \$2,500 to the newly formed historic task group. The committee was created with support from director Elaine Brady so that the knowledge of Ocean Pines' past remains intact.

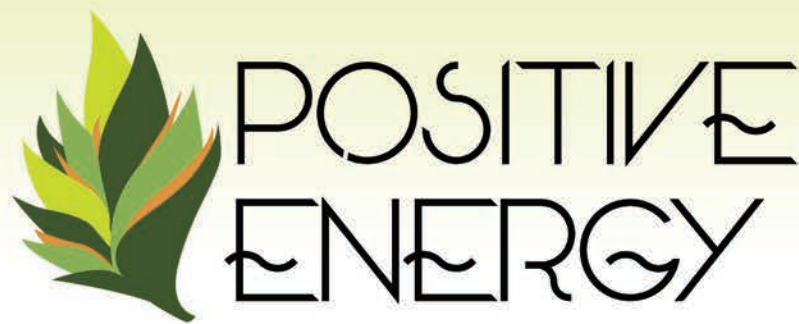
The funds will be used to print 200 copies of History of Ocean Pines, Maryland, a book written by the late Bud Rogner, which will be resold to residents for \$20 each.

The publication is expected to be a 5x7 spiraled edition of the community's history. According to Brady, the stories go up to 1998.

"[The book] has all of the early history," the director said. "We don't want to lose that. We want to get approval...Bud worked very hard to pull all that history and the facts together, so I would like to see that live on."

While the book was not copyrighted, the task group has reached out to Rogner's family for approval.

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# Second woman charged in child abuse probe

### Pines resident facing 15 counts for failure to report observed neglect of minor

**By Steve Green**  
Executive Editor

(June 20, 2024) A second arrest has been made as part of an ongoing child abuse investigation at a local day care.

A former employee of the Berlin Activities Depot, Catherine Deutsch, 32, of Ocean Pines, was arrested June 11 on 15 charges – 11 charges of failure to report child abuse/neglect and four charges of neglect of a minor.

Deutsch reportedly worked in the same infant classroom as Heather Ward, 40, of Berlin, who was indicted in late March by a county grand jury on 90 charges, including 10 felony

child abuse charges related to nine children under her supervision.

The charges were filed earlier this year after the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and Child Protective Services were informed last November an eight-month-old had been admitted to Atlantic General Hospital with a broken tibia.

"During the investigation, it was determined that the injured child was an attendee of the Berlin Education Station Childcare Center," a release from the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Bureau of Investigation read in March. "Video surveillance footage from the child's classroom revealed actions by an employee identified as Heather Ward that appeared to cause the injuries to the child. The video footage additionally revealed other

concerning interactions with several other children under her care."

In a statement issued in response to request for comment after Deutsch's arrest, Berlin Activities Depot owner/operator Carmella Solito continued to express her disgust over the events that allegedly transpired inside her facility. Solito has been blunt with her outrage over Ward's case and this week issued a similar comment about Deutsch's charges.

"I am outraged by the allegations against this former employee," the statement read. "Neglect of a minor and failing to report suspected child abuse are unacceptable and go against everything Berlin Activities Depot stands for. We have zero tolerance for any action that jeopardizes the safety and wellbeing of children

in our care. Protecting children must be our highest calling as childcare providers and as members of this community. I am devastated that an employee may have violated the sacred trust families place in us. We are committed to upholding the highest standards to ensure parents feel completely confident their children are in a safe, secure, and nurturing environment at all times."

Solito said her business remains committed to assisting police investigating the case, saying, "I commend the tireless efforts of law enforcement in investigating these disturbing allegations. We will continue to fully assist their ongoing investigation in any way we can."

An initial appearance for Deutsch in Worcester County Circuit Court is scheduled for July 3.

# Former SDHS teacher's charges dismissed

### Motion to reduce charges denied due to conflict with statute of limitations rules

**By Stewart Dobson**  
Editor

(June 20, 2024) A plea agreement

that would have ended the case of a former Stephen Decatur High School music teacher who admitted 33 years ago to having a sexual relationship with one of his students came to an altogether different end in Circuit Court in Snow Hill on Tuesday.

The case, which has been working

its way through the courts since last fall, was dismissed after a motion by Assistant State's Attorney Pamela Correa to reduce the charges against Ronald Davis, 64, was denied by Circuit Court Judge Beau Oglesby because of a conflict with the statute of limitations.

Davis, who left Worcester schools for a similar job in Somerset County after confessing to his supervisor late in the 1991-92 school year that he had an inappropriate relationship with a 17-year-old female student, was initially charged with felony child abuse.

In court on Tuesday, Correa told

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### TEACH A KID TO FISH

The skies were clear and the attendance was solid at last weekend's Teach A Kid To Fish Day, hosted by the Ocean Pines Anglers Club.

# Attorney expects charges to be refiled soon

the court Davis was prepared to plead guilty if the state could amend the charges to a misdemeanor violation of the state education law regarding school security and sex offenses.

Oglesby, noting that he had considered that possibility over the weekend, said he could not do for the prosecution and defense what they could not do themselves — lower the charges to a misdemeanor offense without triggering a conflict with the statute of limitations.

“You’re asking me to grant a motion to do something that can’t be done,” the judge said.

Oglesby said the state’s judicial proceedings code makes clear that misdemeanors must be prosecuted within a year of the offense having occurred, while this series of incidents took place more than 30 years ago. That circumstance rendered the motion unworkable, he said.

Although Correa, with the support of defense attorney John Phoebus, countered that the defendant would waive the protections the statute of limitations afforded him, Oglesby said the law was clear on its face and denied the motion.

A subsequent closed-door conference between the prosecution and defense produced no way around that decision, leading the state to dismiss the criminal indictment against Davis.

Phoebus said Tuesday that the state’s attorney’s office has said it intends to recharge Davis and will now have to decide whether to seek a grand jury indictment or to file its own formal charges via what’s known as a “criminal information.”

The circuitous route to the case’s dismissal reflects the indirect route that led it to the circuit court docket this year.

According to the charging docu-

ments, consensual sexual activity between the defendant and victim began when the latter was a high school senior and a student of Davis, even though both later admitted knowing it was wrong.

Davis eventually confessed his involvement in an inappropriate relationship to his supervisor, telling then-Vice Principal Lou Taylor, “He couldn’t live with himself” because of it, investigators reported.

Taylor relayed the substance of that conversation up the school system chain of command. Davis then resigned and took a similar job in the Somerset County school system, the charging documents reported.

The student-teacher affair led to victim to three rounds of therapy over the years because of depression and nightmares about Davis, she told investigators, until she realized that consensual or not, the relationship constituted abuse.

The charging documents state that she revealed the situation to an individual in the office of Child and Youth

Protection of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, which then alerted the Worcester County Sheriff’s office. Its investigation began last October.

Davis was formally charged with assault and child abuse by a person in a custodial role in November, with

the case placed on the circuit court docket in December.

The state’s attorney’s office could not comment on its plans or how it might proceed, because even though the case was dismissed, it is still technically pending.

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# Shift in health funding questioned again

Major change in local share formula would require \$6M more from Worcester Co.

**By Steve Green**  
Executive Editor

(June 20, 2024) Worcester County is continuing to push back on a state initiative to shift more health department funding to local governments.

Currently, the Worcester County Health Department receives \$5,015,910 in funding from the county. A shift in the local share match requirement for fiscal year 2025 will increase that to \$11,022,108. In a letter dated June 18 to Maryland Public Health Services Deputy Secretary Nilesh Kalyanaraman, County Commission President Chip Bertino called the 119% spike “a

financial hardship” for the county. The letter reads, “The significant increase compounds the financial burden for Worcester County, where officials had to eliminate a \$10,116,174 shortfall to balance the county’s FY25 budget. Reductions were made throughout the budget, with cuts in education and public safety, among other departments.”

Instead of passing on this major funding change, the county is asking the state to not enforce the increased funding burden this year. Worcester County Health Officer Becky Jones said the CORE funding match increases the county’s funding share of the department budget to 73%, which is the second highest percentage in the state behind Prince George’s County. The match is derived from property values.

“There is nothing in COMAR that binds any of us to this required match,” Jones told the commissioners at Tuesday’s meeting. “Just as a reminder, we are second highest in the state at 73%. We are not saying the counties shouldn’t contribute something, but this is a lot. We want it to be more reflective of our county and we don’t think second highest in the state is not reflective.”

In February before the commissioners, Jones expressed her dismay with property values driving the equation. “Is property value really the best representation of our county as a whole or are there other metrics that should be looked at to define and determine what each individual county should be responsible for their match?” she said. “These are questions we have posed to the state.”

During this week’s meeting, Bertino said, “There is no equation or formula that substantiates this increase that has been hoisted upon us by the state.”

Bertino’s letter to the state continues, “... The Worcester County Commissioners continue to advocate for a

review of the currently required CORE Funding match. It is our understanding that the SFY25 budget bill requires Maryland Department of Health and the Department of Budget and Management to submit a report to the budget committees on the CORE Public Health Services funding formula to include recommendations to adjust the Local Share Match calculation. We support this work and look forward to the committee’s findings. In the absence of a defined match formula, we request that the State hold Worcester County harmless of the proposed increase and grant a continuation of our agreed upon FY24 match. ...”

County Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young said the county is seeking an adjustment through Bertino’s letter because the burden on the county is significant. Young expects to know by November of the adjustment request.

After a motion by Commissioner Eric Fiori and a second by Ted Elder, the commissioners voted 6-0 to seek an adjustment with Joe Mitrecic absent.

## Agreement would provide naloxone for some inmates

MOU with county health department meets STOP Act of 2022 regulation

**By Steve Green**  
Executive Editor

(June 20, 2024) An agreement has been made to provide some county inmates with naloxone upon their release.

Before the Worcester County Commissioners this week was a request to create a Memorandum of Understanding between the county and the Worcester County Health Department allowing for the Worcester County Jail to be provided naloxone by the health department to disburse to “at-risk inmates” upon their release.

The commissioners unanimously approved (with Commissioner Joe Mitrecic absent) the matter without discussion at the June 18 meeting as part of its consent agenda. The request allows the county to meet the upcoming deadline outlined in the STOP Act of 2022 (Statewide Tar-

geted Overdose Response).

In his letter included in the county meeting packet, Worcester County Jail Warden Timothy Mulligan said, “The STOP Act of 2022 requires certain providers to offer naloxone to people at risk of witnessing or experiencing an overdose.”

The Maryland General Assembly approved the STOP Act of 2022. The fiscal and policy note of the bill read, “By June 30, 2024, a community services program that provides specified services, a State correctional facility, a local correctional facility, and the Division of Parole and Probation must likewise have a protocol to offer FDA-approved opioid overdose reversal drugs, free of charge, to individuals with an opioid use disorder (OUD) or who are at risk of experiencing a drug overdose when the individual receives services or is released from a facility (as appropriate). However, these entities may only provide the reversal drugs if MDH provides them with the specified drugs.”

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# Bruce Moore honored with memorial brick

## Long-time resort Realtor, Army veteran, remembered for his civic involvement

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) Friends and family honored Bruce Moore with a brick dedication and ceremony at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines on Tuesday.

Moore, who passed away in June 2023, was originally from Laurel, Delaware. After graduating from the University of Delaware, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and stationed throughout the country. During this time, Moore took courses at Clemson University and the University of Maryland.

Reverend George Patterson attended the June 18 ceremony to say a few words about the former Army captain who made a name for himself in Ocean City as a real estate broker. The pair met in 1992 when the faith leader was appointed to serve the Atlantic United Methodist Church and became one of his "dearest and most cherished friends."

"I remember his great love for his family," Patterson said. "... As I was reflecting on my favorite memory of Bruce, it was something he taught me. You grow up ... in an environment where we tell our parents and siblings ... that we love them. I had never been around anyone other than family who told me that they loved me. Bruce taught me to express my love for my friends as well. I thank God today for Bruce, for his light."

After retiring from the military, Moore dedicated his time to the community. Moore was a former Ocean City Paramedics Foundation president, a member of the Worcester Preparatory School Board of Trustees,

served on the boards for the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore and the Ambassadors for Beebe Healthcare and was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

Additionally, the military vet founded Moore, Warfield and Glick Realtors in 1981 with partners Hal Glick and Bob Warfield. He also served as president of the Ocean City Board of Realtors.

At the event, a brick was placed at the existing memorial in Moore's honor.

The Worcester County Veterans Memorial, which pays tribute to each branch of the armed forces, broke ground on Veterans Day in 2004. Since then, it has welcomed thousands of visitors yearly for the site's Memorial Day event as well as students for annual field trips.

"The bricks and pavers tell the story," Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said in the press release. "Anyone can purchase a brick for \$75, and it's inscribed with the name of someone who has served, or a paver for \$150, which allows four lines of information."



TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A memorial brick bearing the name of Bruce Moore, an Army veteran and long-time local Realtor, takes its place among the others at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines.

# Martin promoted to chief-of-staff

(June 20, 2024) Ocean Pines Association Senior Executive Office Manager Linda Martin has been promoted to director of business administration.

"In her new role, Linda will operate as the chief of staff for the GM office," Viola said in a news release. "Please join me in congratulating Linda and wishing her well in this new role."

Born and raised on the western shore of Maryland, Martin majored



Linda Martin

in accounting at Anne Arundel Community College and has held a variety of financial-related jobs in government, retail, medical and community-based organizations.

Martin moved to the Eastern Shore in 2006 and worked for the Public Works/CPI Department from 2006-17 as an office coordinator. Viola recruited Martin to return to Ocean Pines as the Public Works office manager in 2021, and she later transitioned to the general manager's office as the senior executive office manager.

In May, Martin obtained a degree in business administration from

Southern New Hampshire University and received the President's Award for maintaining a 4.0 grade point average.

"I would like to thank John Viola for all the opportunities that he has provided me since I returned to Ocean Pines almost four years ago," Martin said in the release. "He inspired me to return to school to obtain my degree, and I am very appreciative of his support."

Viola said by investing in the professional growth and development of its staff, OPA aims to continue providing results in customer service to the community.

"Recognizing our staff continues to be one of my favorite parts of the job," Viola said.



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# Volunteer group breaks ground on library projects

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(June 20, 2024) The Friends of the Ocean Pines Library, a volunteer group dedicated to supporting the media center, has broken ground on a new outdoor learning and presentation patio.

According to FOPL President Jim Meckley, the discussion for the initiative began approximately two years ago when dying trees at the back of the property were cut down. The volunteer leader and the Ocean Pines Library Manager, Harry Burkett, wanted to use the empty space for an inviting amenity. The thought flourished to create what will now be an outside learning space.

"There is a wall around the back where people can sit and then a presentation area at the front," Meckley explained. "The kids will use it more than anybody. Kids like to be outside. We will have concerts, lectures, and when we get a cover, it can be used even more. It will be used for a lot of different programs."

The president maintained that the project will be rolled out in three phases. The first part, the learning center, is being worked on now. Over the next two years, the volunteer group



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pictured, from left, are Jack Duffy, FOPL Treasurer; Vicki O'Mara, Worcester Co. Library Board trustee; Eileen Leonhart, FOPL member at large; Beverly Castner, FOPL vice president; Sharon Puser, FOPL member at large; Jim Meckley, FOPL president; Jackie Choate, FOPL recording secretary; Jennifer Ranck, Worcester County Library administrator; Mary Gernhardt, FOPL corresponding secretary; Carol Rose, Worcester County Library Foundation member; Harry Burkett, OP Library manager; and Donna Main, Worcester County Library Foundation member.

plans to add a cover for particularly stormy or hot days and finalize landscaping.

The patio cost \$53,000. However, Meckley said that fundraising efforts paid for the entire project.

The branch's annual book sale generated many of the proceeds. The FOPL president said the event sells roughly \$25,000 of books each year, which generates \$10,000 to \$13,000.

Books are priced at \$2.50 or less. There is also a "specials room" where signed and rare editions can be pur-

chased for anywhere from \$3 to \$400. This sale section is located across from the facility's main meeting room.

This year, the book sale is scheduled for Friday, July 26, Saturday, July 27, and Monday, July 29. Items not sold on the last day will be marked half-price.

"We are a very unique library," Meckley said. "We are the only one with a book sale of that massive amount."

The FOPL also sells donated books on Amazon. Since setting up the account in 2017, the group has garnered

\$80,000.

The Friends of the Ocean Pines Library are dedicated to supporting the branch. Volunteers help staff with shelving, inform patrons when books they put on hold have arrived, and perform other administrative tasks. Additionally, the group has secured an audio and visual sound system for the meeting room and purchased laptop-charging-supported tables.

"FOPL is entirely a volunteer group," the president said. "...It really is a helping hand for the library."

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PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Members of Worcester Preparatory School's Class of 2024 is pictured. A total of 37 seniors graduated on May 24.

# Worcester Prep School sees 37 graduate in Class of '24

Hall named valedictorian, Huber salutatorian, major scholarships also awarded

(June 6, 2024) On May 24, 37 Worcester Preparatory School graduates officially became alumni.

According to a news release, the class received over \$7.2 million in merit scholarship offers and will go on to attend 28 colleges and universities this fall.

During the ceremony, Head of School John McDonald announced the Top Senior Award recipients as Valedictorian Vanessa Hall; Salutatorian Isabella Huber; and Best All-Round Student Claire Windrow.

Hall, who is a member of the Cum Laude Society, National Honor Society, and the Spanish National Honor Society, will attend Stanford Univer-

sity and plans to study aerospace engineering.

Huber, who is a member of the Cum Laude Society, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Art Honor Society, will attend Johns Hopkins University and plans to study neuroscience.

Windrow is the 2023-24 SGA president, is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society, and editor of the yearbook and newspaper. She will attend the University of Georgia and plans to study biology.

Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-38C), presented Koda Bauer and Ava Conaway with Maryland Senatorial Scholarships, and, on behalf of Del. Wayne Hartman (R-38), presented Ava Conaway with a Maryland House of Delegates Scholarship.

The Class of 2024 had a total of 37



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Senior Vanessa Hall is named valedictorian by Head of School John McDonald.

PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Senior Isabella Huber is named salutatorian by Head of School John McDonald.



Senior Claire Windrow receives the award for best all-round student from Head of School John McDonald.

# Colleges in 16 states selected

seniors, 11 of whom entered the class in either pre-k or kindergarten. There were seven legacy students, defined as children of WPS alumni, and graduates will attend 28 colleges and universities in the fall.

College enrollments include schools in 16 states and the District of Columbia.

Some of the colleges the graduates will attend include Carnegie Mellon University, College of Charleston, Georgetown University, the University of Georgia, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Maryland, Miami University Ohio, Northeastern University, Sewanee: The University of the South, Stanford University, the United States Naval Academy, Vanderbilt University, and Virginia Tech

During the commencement, local

scholarships were also awarded.

Two American Legion Scholarships were given to William Mumford and Isabella Huber.

Ocean Pines Golf Member's Council Scholarships went to Koda Bauer, Adam Hafez, Vanessa Hall, Carson Rayne and Claire Windrow.

Ravens Roost Scholarships were awarded to Esi Mehilli and Vanessa Hall a Berlin Little League Scholarship was given to Connor Ferguson; and the Ocean City Marlin Club Franky Pettolina Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Claire Windrow.

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# Snapshots



PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

## BREAD SALE

Worcester Preparatory School teachers Annie Seipp, Hannah Purnell, Alexis Absher, Maureen Raines, and their students, hosted this year's third grade bread sale as part of a hands-on learning lesson combining English, science, social studies (civics and community), mathematics and philanthropy. The project is modeled like a small business, with the young entrepreneurs baking bread and donating the proceeds to charity. [Aboce] Students from Seipp's third grade class take a break from the bread sale to take a picture with Head of School John McDonald and Head of Lower School Sara Timmons.



Students Zia Salem, Ellie Bookwalter, Emery Anthony and Adee Carmean took turns serving bread to guests.



Third grader Hristina Gjoni checks in with her table of second-grade guests, Palmer Hammonds, Carson Kenton, Estella Roberts and Michael Havhannisyian.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## OFFICER INSTALLATION

The General Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) installed its 2024-25 officers during a recent luncheon. Sharon Moak was installed as the chapter's new regent by Maryland DAR State Editor Pat Arata. Other officers installed were Chaplain Barbara Rusko, Treasurer Cynthia Mancuso, Registrar Gail Weldin, Historian Jane Bunting, and Elected Special Delegate Christine Nanna-Lieb. Carol Wanzer was unable to attend and will be installed as recording secretary at a later date. Pictured, from left, at the luncheon are Arata, Moak, Rusko, Mancuso, Weldin, Bunting and Nanna-Lieb.



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB

## WOR-WIC SCHOLARSHIP

Wor-Wic Community College President Deborah Casey, left, and Ocean City Berlin Optimist Club President Christina Dolomount-Brown award Stephen Decatur High School graduating senior Nicholas Hernandez Lara \$1,500 to attend Wor Wic Community College.



# 34th Annual Bathtub Races



## BERLIN BATHTUB RACES

The Berlin Chamber of Commerce's 34th Annual Bathtub Races were held on Main Street last Friday, attracting thousands to the historic town to watch 20 businesses race up and down in search of bragging rights for the year. The event attracts locals and visitors of all ages.

PHOTOS COURTESY GARRETT NEVILLE/BERLIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





# Opinion

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

## Return incumbents to board of directors

As members of the Ocean Pines Association begin to receive their ballots for this year's board of directors election, the two questions they will have to answer for themselves is whether the current board has been doing a good job and, if it has, can it be made even better by replacing the two incumbents up for reelection this year.

In short, yes and no. Yes, this board has done a fine job overall. Its low-key and business-minded approach has served the community well. In its current configuration, the board's members are grownups at the table. They don't get bogged down in the personality clashes or operational minutiae that in the past have hobbled management's ability to do its job.

As to the second question, no, replacing Rick Farr and Jeff Heavner, the two incumbents seeking reelection, with two of the challengers would not make a good board even better.

This is not to slight any of the challengers or to question their abilities, but is simply a matter of recognizing that transforming a good board into a superlative one is an unlikely proposition no matter who's running.

Further, with the candidates' performance last Thursday suggesting that they generally agree on the community's goals and its direction as well as the administration's ability to deliver the desired results, seeking change for the sake of change would be pointless at best.

Although the board has been criticized for its frequent unanimity, that is more the product of business-like deliberation by reasonable people than it is the absence of independent thought.

After all, just because people arrive at the same destination doesn't mean they took same route to get there ... or that they even arrived at the same time.

Considering how well the association has been functioning under its current leadership, shaking things up in the hope that something better will emerge is not the wisest course to take. It's like betting against a sure thing in favor of a possibility that probably doesn't exist.

## OPA honors Phyllis East, Anna Foultz

(June 20, 2024) The Ocean Pines Association board of directors recently honored the legacy of two women who each gave three decades of service to the community.

Following up on an OPA Board directive from April, a plaque was installed in the community center over the "Phyllis East Room," honoring the late executive secretary who was known as a treasure trove of information about Ocean Pines.

The room was renamed in her honor in 2011, but was widely known as "The East Room," causing some confusion as to whether it was simply the east-most room in the building.

Another room in the community center was renamed for longtime volunteer Anna Foultz in 2019, and a plaque was installed at that time.

Now, in each room, along with the plaques, are framed articles describing East's and Foultz's immense contributions to the community.

Below is the text of each article:

### The Phyllis East Room

Phyllis Clara East was the longtime Executive Secretary to the General Manager and Board of Directors of Ocean Pines.

Born in Chateaugay, New York, East was the youngest of 12 children. She met her husband, James (Jim) W. East, in 1962 and they married the same year. In 1980 the couple and their four children moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

East was hired on Sept. 8, 1980 in the ECC Department as secretary to the general manager, at the time Art Warren. She was promoted to the position of Executive Secretary in 1984 and worked under nine different general managers: Warren, Tim Stoner, Ralph Lashley, Tom Cetola, Glen Duffy, Curt Allison, Dave Ferguson, Tom Olson, and Bob Thompson. She was among the first to organize, maintain and preserve Association records and information.

dedicated the Phyllis East Room in the Community Center in 2011, in honor of her 30 years of service. She was named as a "Precious Gem" of Worcester County by the Women's Club of Ocean Pines in 2010.

In addition to their six children, East and her husband spent their leisure time doting on their grandchildren at a summer residence on the Nanticoke River. East was a member of the Berlin/Ocean City Moose Lodge and the American Legion Post #123 Women's Auxiliary. She enjoyed reading, camping at Sandy Hill Campground, and spending time with family and friends.

According to those who knew her, East had a vast knowledge of the history of Ocean Pines, and many depended on her for information - from staff, to volunteers, Board members, and people throughout the community.

East passed away at her home on April 4, 2012. She was 72 years old.

### The Anna Foultz Room

Anna Lucarello Foultz was a longtime Ocean Pines resident and tireless volunteer.

Foultz and her late husband, Carl, moved to the area during the 1990s. Carl was a World War II veteran who served in China, Burma and India, and the couple founded the Star Charities nonprofit in 2007 to give back to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Also close to Foultz's heart were the Girl Scouts, an organization she became involved with after her oldest daughter, Betty Anne, showed interest as a young girl. Foultz became a Scout leader and continued to advocate for the organization for more than a half century. In 1980, Foultz received a National Proclamation from President Jimmy Carter for organizing a massive weeklong event called "Girl Scouts in Action" at the Springfield Mall in Virginia. Thousands of Girl Scouts attended the event.

She was also a longtime member and past president of



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A plaque in front of the "Phyllis East Room" in the Ocean Pines Community Center now honors the legacy of the longtime late executive secretary, who was known as a treasure trove of information about the community during her career.

the Sons of Italy, and in 2016 was honored with the organization's Ameritan Award during a gala in Hunt Valley, Maryland.

Foultz's memoir, "Two Steps Forward," was published in 2017. She co-wrote the book with her other daughter, Shirley Isbell, and donated much of the proceeds to Star Charities.

Foultz was active up until her last days. She visited the Maryland State Capital in 2018 and received three standing ovations upon being introduced to the Maryland General Assembly.

In March of 2019 she toured the White House with a busload of local Girl Scouts. Foultz then took part in Ocean Pines' National Night Out celebration in August 2019, again representing the Girl Scouts. On Aug. 16 she presented a \$1,500 donation to Achilles of Maryland at Veterans Memorial Park in Ocean Pines.

"It just breaks my heart when I see all these people suffering, and we need to help," she said at the time. "I'm always willing to help if they need help!"

Foultz passed away on Sept. 22, 2019. She was 93.

Star Charities continued the annual "Holiday Gifts for Soldiers" collection for several years in Foultz's honor. The drive was among the biggest endeavors of Star Charities, and Foultz had said collecting for servicemen and women made her feel closer to Carl and helped to honor his service.

Watch Anna Foultz on "Focus on the Pines," circa 2008, at oceanpinesforum.com/OceanPines/Video/3478.

## BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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# Seabird Safaris offered through September

## Delmarva Birding Weekend, OC Bay Hopper partnering for birdwatching cruises

(June 20, 2024) Delmarva Birding Weekend is teaming up with the OC Bay Hopper to run Sunset Seabird Safaris through September.

The cost for the two-hour cruise is \$55/person and guests can register individually or in groups. Each tour needs a minimum of four participants to run and the maximum number of participants is 14. Tours are mostly offered on Tuesday evenings, but new dates may be added during the summer.

The tours will cover the bayside docks in Ocean City from M.R. Duck's south to the inlet, and cruise by the Assateague jetty. From there, they will explore the bayside of Assateague Island

south toward Castaways campground, then back to the harbor. The cruise will feature a U.S. Coast Guard-licensed captain and a DBW Guide.

The OC Bay Hopper has a liquor license and cold adult beverages are available for purchase. Cold water is also available.

The pickup location is Pier 23, located at 12817 Harbor Road in Ocean City. Those taking the tour are asked to park in the Pier 23 parking lot and should arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled trip departs.

Trips may be canceled in the event of strong, gusting winds or dangerous weather. If a trip is canceled, participants will be notified via email 24 hours prior to the trip departure. Full refunds will be provided within 15 days.

For more information, visit <https://delmarvabirding.com/2024-sunset-seabird-safaris/>.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUSS KOVACH

Participants of a Sunset Seabird Safari from May 18 are pictured shooting photos. The bird and wildlife tours around the coastal bays will be offered via a partnership between Delmarva Birding Weekend and the OC Bay Hopper through September.



PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND COASTAL BAYS

Maryland Coastal Bays Program volunteers are pictured with turtle nest protection covers that will be made available to residents.

## Free turtle nest protection covers available to residents

(June 20, 2024) Thanks to a sponsorship from The Home Depot in Berlin, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program is offering free turtle nest protection covers for residents who have witnessed turtles laying eggs on their properties and are interested in protecting the nests.

June begins the nesting season for the Diamondback Terrapin, Maryland's state reptile. Last year, MCBP received calls from concerned residents who had witnessed terrapins laying eggs on their properties and later, found the nests had been destroyed.

One property owner reported witnessing sixteen nests on his property predicated by crows. Crows, raccoons, and foxes will decimate an entire nesting area.

Terrapins are masters of concealing their nests to the human eye, so unless

residents see turtles creating nests, they probably won't notice them on their properties. But predators can sniff them out, or in the case of the crows, keep a watchful eye on a terrapin making a nest and when it retreats back to the bay, take advantage of the freshly laid eggs.

With the assistance of New Jersey organization Project Terrapin, MCBP received guidance on creating simple protection covers for area residents who see nests and want to provide protection. MCBP volunteers assembled 50 nest protection covers on World Turtle Day, which are now available to the public for free.

For more information, or to obtain a nest protection cover, send an email to [mcbp@mdcoastalbays.org](mailto:mcbp@mdcoastalbays.org) or call Sandi Smith at 410-213-2297 extension 106.

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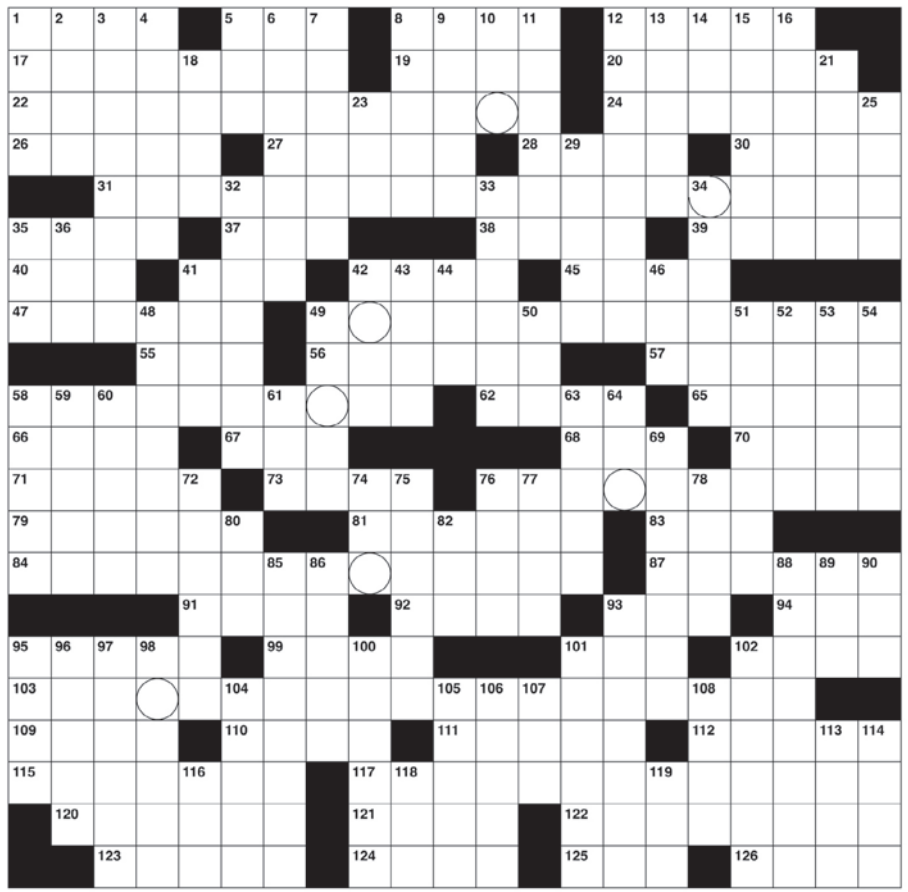
# Puzzles

## QUIET TIME

BY ZACHARY SCHIFF / EDITED BY JOEL FAGLIANO

Zachary Schiff is a writer living in New York. This is his first crossword for The Times. The theme was initially planned for a 15x15 weekday puzzle, but it didn't quite pan out; through "trial and error and a little bit of luck," he was able to rework it into a Sunday. His favorite clue is 89-Down, a fact he heard a few years back and stored away in the hope of one day including it in a puzzle.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sacks
  - 5 San Diego winter hrs.
  - 8 Lead-in to bad news
  - 12 "Bennie and the Jets," vis-à-vis "Candle in the Wind"
  - 17 Bar order that's dairy-free, despite its name
  - 19 Hockey fakeout
  - 20 On deck
  - 22 Sweet loaf with a swirl
  - 24 "Get real!"
  - 26 Like some dive bars and granola bars
  - 27 Tried to get on one's side
  - 28 Q5 maker
  - 30 Pro \_\_\_\_\_
  - 31 Triple-platinum song from Taylor Swift's debut album
  - 35 Electrical network
  - 37 Western Hemisphere grp. since 1948
  - 38 Global bank headquartered in London
  - 39 Hockey Hall-of-Famer Cam
  - 40 Block letters?
  - 41 Work diligently at
  - 42 Ice cream brand with brown-and-white striped lids
  - 45 Bear who loves a "pic-a-nic"
  - 47 Colt, for one
- DOWN**
- 49 Potato battery or model volcano, e.g.
  - 55 See 23-Down
  - 56 Lines connected to pumps?
  - 57 Win over
  - 58 Extra source of income, slangily
  - 62 \_\_\_\_\_ chips
  - 65 Close call
  - 66 Christmas-poem opener
  - 67 Big container
  - 68 Pros with IVs
  - 70 Bauhaus artist Paul
  - 71 Prepare to \_\_\_\_\_
  - 73 Part of a Viking funeral
  - 76 Side dish at a summer cookout
  - 79 Yoga positions
  - 81 \_\_\_\_\_ Gershovitz, birth name of Ira Gershwin
  - 83 Wee, informally
  - 84 Classic game-show intro
  - 87 Remove a plug from
  - 91 Ancient region once conquered by Julius Caesar
  - 92 Gobsmacks
  - 93 Old dating inits.
  - 94 Ending with concert
  - 95 Accelerated H.S. science class
  - 99 Priory of \_\_\_\_\_, guardians of a monumental secret in "The Da Vinci Code"
  - 101 Fashion designer Anna
  - 102 "I feel that!"
  - 103 Pay a backhanded compliment, perhaps
  - 109 Members of a famous boxing family
  - 110 Updo hairstyle
  - 111 Flat's problem
  - 112 Cookie brand named for its signature ingredient
  - 115 Upgrade for a growing family
  - 117 Popular charity event ... or a hint to this puzzle's circled letters
  - 120 Error message on a Blu-ray player, maybe
  - 121 List-ending abbr.
  - 122 Got to
  - 123 Actress Witherspoon
  - 124 Gives a ride to the body shop
  - 125 Looney Tunes devil, for short
  - 126 Puts in stitches
  - 14 Chemical suffix
  - 15 Baby doll
  - 16 Former friend
  - 18 Early pyramid builders
  - 21 All-encompassing
  - 23 With 55-Across, "Oh, cry me a river!"
  - 25 Hardly
  - 29 "Yeah ... I'm gonna go now"
  - 32 Introduce
  - 33 "Hot damn!"
  - 34 Couplings
  - 35 Intervening period
  - 36 One of four for a grand slam
  - 41 Bear who loves honey
  - 42 Green sci.
  - 43 Dreadful
  - 44 "Better \_\_\_\_\_"
  - 46 Test for college srs.
  - 48 Fitting N.B.A. team to go on a hot streak?
  - 49 Waited
  - 50 TV franchise since 2000
  - 51 Wild dogs
  - 52 "Gotta catch \_\_\_\_\_!" (Pokémon phrase)
  - 53 Chick of jazz
  - 54 Trapped up in the branches
  - 58 Short-tailed weasel
  - 59 "That would be nice"
  - 60 Start of an Eastern religious title
  - 61 "Yo!"
  - 63 Without a doubt
  - 64 "Wheel of Fortune" buy
  - 69 Caribbean nation whose capital is Castries
  - 72 Chinese gambling game with dominoes
  - 74 Carnival city
  - 75 Neighbor of Francia
  - 76 Cab charge
  - 77 Cabs, e.g.
  - 78 Opposite side divided by the hypotenuse
  - 80 Agcy. for retirees
  - 82 "Tartare"
  - 85 Never, ever again
  - 86 Yale of Yale University
  - 88 History-book graphic
  - 89 Fee, in dollars, to run the inaugural N.Y.C. marathon in 1970
  - 90 Give a bad review
  - 93 Mozzarella with a creamy core
  - 95 Leading man?
  - 96 Whom Biden debated in 2008
  - 97 Bach's "Mass in \_\_\_\_\_"
  - 98 Like the first post position in horse racing
  - 100 Counterbalance
  - 101 Show utter contempt for
  - 102 Presently
  - 104 "Skip me"
  - 105 Arnold Schwarzenegger, to Chris Pratt
  - 106 Christmas carols
  - 107 Bronzed
  - 108 Early pyramid builders
  - 113 MGM co-founder Marcus
  - 114 "No ifs, \_\_\_\_\_ or buts"
  - 116 Go toe to toe
  - 118 Judge Lance of the O.J. Simpson trial
  - 119 Potato-chip brand



- 72 Chinese gambling game with dominoes
- 74 Carnival city
- 75 Neighbor of Francia
- 76 Cab charge
- 77 Cabs, e.g.
- 78 Opposite side divided by the hypotenuse
- 80 Agcy. for retirees
- 82 "Tartare"
- 85 Never, ever again
- 86 Yale of Yale University
- 88 History-book graphic
- 89 Fee, in dollars, to run the inaugural N.Y.C. marathon in 1970
- 90 Give a bad review
- 93 Mozzarella with a creamy core
- 95 Leading man?
- 96 Whom Biden debated in 2008
- 97 Bach's "Mass in \_\_\_\_\_"
- 98 Like the first post position in horse racing
- 100 Counterbalance
- 101 Show utter contempt for
- 102 Presently
- 104 "Skip me"
- 105 Arnold Schwarzenegger, to Chris Pratt
- 106 Christmas carols
- 107 Bronzed
- 108 Early pyramid builders
- 113 MGM co-founder Marcus
- 114 "No ifs, \_\_\_\_\_ or buts"
- 116 Go toe to toe
- 118 Judge Lance of the O.J. Simpson trial
- 119 Potato-chip brand

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## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

### HARD - 33

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.

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

### Answers to last week's puzzles

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

BLACK	ASICS	MASCOT
SOOTHES	RATITE	TVTAP
QUOTATION	MARKS	WEARIN
URN	POTPIE	RIPAT
INIT	TEE	CUTOFF
BEERAMID	CASTRO	UNSET
IMIN	HES	STUBS
JUMPING	JACKS	SLR
ANISE	DESISTS	ITISSO
MIC	MURAL	PATINAS
STARBUCKS	LONG	JOHNS
BACKSAW	PAPAS	YOU
MRPINK	YESIDID	ALMVP
YEAS	EAR	SPLICED
BAR	ARMED	ION
ADAPT	ASCENT	EDHARRIS
DASHED	HOPES	BAH
TAY	ELROY	DARETO
AHISEE	TWODOLLAR	BILLS
HOLIER	SERENE	TOOKAIM
INSOLE	RENTS	TEENA



# Annual Ocean Pines-Taylor Bank Golf Scramble returns

### Charity event to raise funds for junior tournaments, golf clinics, and scholarships

(June 20, 2024) The Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council will host the 40th annual Ocean Pines-Taylor Bank Golf Scramble at the Ocean Pines Golf Club on July 17 with a 9 a.m. shotgun start.

Players and sponsors are still needed, and the deadline for both is July 12.

The annual tournament benefits junior golf in the area by supporting junior golf clinics and an annual tournament for junior golfers.

The scramble also raises funds for scholarships for local high school seniors who have shown an interest in golf.

In the last nine years, the Golf Members' Council has raised almost \$73,000 for the program.

The public entry fee is \$120 per person, which includes greens fee, cart, team prizes, men's and ladies' closest-to-the-pin prizes, door prizes, on-course refreshments and lunch at the Clubhouse Bar and Grille following the tournament.

Players may sign up individually

or as a foursome. Individuals or incomplete teams will be paired.

Taylor Bank is the longtime event title sponsor. Platinum, gold, and silver level sponsorships are still available.

Tee sponsorships are available for \$60 for businesses and nonmembers and \$40 for golf members. The deadline for tee signs is July 10.

To download player or sponsorship forms, visit [oceanpines.org/documents/20124/91011/2024+trifold+flyer+Updated+040524.pdf/9a502fa3-b74b-d32a-0d42-d2ca33acf63c?t=1717002996007](http://oceanpines.org/documents/20124/91011/2024+trifold+flyer+Updated+040524.pdf/9a502fa3-b74b-d32a-0d42-d2ca33acf63c?t=1717002996007).

The sponsorship form includes a tax identification number for those providing sponsorships or donations.

Entry and sponsorship forms may also be picked up at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

Fees may be mailed to Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council, PO Box 1356, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Checks should be made payable to "Ocean Pines Golf Members' Council."

For more information, contact Steve Howse at 571-239-8469 or [stevehowse75@gmail.com](mailto:stevehowse75@gmail.com), or Bob Long at 410-208-0606 or [rmlong@aol.com](mailto:rmlong@aol.com).

# Obituary

**ROBERT SCOTT MILLER JR. (SCOTT)**  
Ocean City

Robert Scott Miller Jr. (Scott) passed away peacefully on May 11, 2024, due to long-time health complications.

He was the loving son of Robert S. Miller Sr. (pre-deceased) and Virginia (Ginny) Weimer; devoted fiancé of Mary Stalaker; loyal brother to Diane Baxter (Tom) and Glenn Miller (Ginger); loving uncle to nephews Brandon and Patrick, and niece, Shelby Miller.



Scott Miller Jr.

Scott grew up in Landover Hills on Cooper Lane, where he was active in Boys Club, Cub Scouts and church. He had many fond memories of growing up there and still has childhood friends. In his teen years, the family moved to New Carrollton, where he graduated from Parkdale High School and earned his associate's degree from Prince George's Community College.

He was a wonderful friend to many and still had friends from childhood

and high school. Scott was kind, thoughtful and had a big heart to help others. He was an avid Redskins fan, in addition to being a fan of the former Washington Senators and now, Nationals baseball. Scott loved to make people laugh and was always joking or talking about his favorite movies and TV shows. He was very good with dates and knowledgeable of all sports. After working 30 years in the computer field, he retired to Ocean City to help take care of his mother.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Funeral arrangements are as follows: A viewing will be held at 11 a.m., on Friday, May 17, at Mayo United Methodist Church, Edgewater MD, with service immediately following at Noon. Interment to follow at Lakemont Cemetery in Davidsonville.

Letters of condolence can be sent to the family via [burbagefuneralhome.com](http://burbagefuneralhome.com). Arrangements are in the care of The Burbage Funeral Home.

### OBITUARY NOTICES

Obituary Notices cost \$50 per week for Print and Online Publications.

E-mail: [editor@occancitytoday.net](mailto:editor@occancitytoday.net)

Mail: 11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842

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Photo by Brent Baker

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# Calendar

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

## Thurs., June 20

### 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 Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

### STORY TIME AT THE PARK

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 10:30 a.m. Wiggle, sing and read interactive stories together at the picnic pavilion by the playground. Bring a blanket or sit at a picnic table. Rain location is the OC Library. For ages 0-5 years. 410-524-1818

### STORY TIME: SUMMER

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Join in to share ideas and make a bucket list on things you want to do this summer. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. A variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### OC CHESS CLUB

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Enjoy a relaxing game of chess every Thursday at the library. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### TRIVIA: TAYLOR SWIFT

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Test your Swifty knowledge. For all ages. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### T(W)EEN PRIDE CRAFTERNOON

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3 p.m. Tweens and families can join in for an extra special rainbow afternoon. Hang out, do crafts, play the Nintendo Switch and spend time with friends. For ages 12-18 years. 410-524-1818

### SPOOKY SUMMER BOOK CLUB

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 4:30 p.m. Choose a title from the master of horror Stephen King to read and discuss. Refreshments provided. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### CONCERT IN THE PARK

White Horse Park Pavilion, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 7-9 p.m. Featuring "On the Edge." Free family-friendly entertainment. Bring chairs and blan-

kets. BYOB permitted, concessions for sale. Held Thursdays through Aug. 22 (except July 4). 410-641-7052

### BEACH SINGLE 55 PLUS MEET AND GREET

Thursdays - Nick's Kitchen + Bar, 14410 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, 4-6 p.m. 215-385-4993, [BeachSingles.org](http://BeachSingles.org)

## Fri., June 21

### MAHJONG CLUB

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

### ARTISTIC ARENA: SUMMER BUCKET LIST

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Create a bucket list to begin your summer kick off. All materials provided. For ages 6-11 years and 12-18 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### THE ART OF DRAG - A NIGHT OF DRAG EXCELLENCE

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 7-9 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Featuring Miss Mann, Tara Ashleigh Austin and Cadet Kelly. Lite fare included. Tickets cost \$25 plus fees. Tickets: <https://bit.ly/TheArtofDragALOC>. 410-524-9433

## Sat., June 22

### CRAFTY SATURDAY: SUMMER

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Surf on over for some tubular crafts. For all ages. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### ASSATEAGUE ADVENTURES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. A ranger-led adventure featuring crafts, puppets, stories and cool props from Assateague Island National Seashore. A different adventure each week. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### MOVIE MATINEE

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 11 a.m. Join everyone's favorite beagle and his gang on their summer camp adventures. Movie and crafts. For all ages. Registration required: 410-957-0878. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### FREE KIDS CRAFT

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Bring the kids and do something creative with them and for them. Projects change each week. No reservations needed. Free and open to

all. [www.artleagueofoceancity.org](http://www.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., June 23

### SUNDAES IN THE PARK WITH FIREWORKS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Live music by "Chris Sacks Band" (tropicana rock), kid-friendly entertainment, ice cream and fireworks. <https://www.ococean.com/things-to-do/free-family-fun/sundaes-in-the-park/>

### BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

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

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

## Mon., June 24

### MONDAY MORNING MOVIES AND MUNCHIES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Join the group as they become part of Ariel's world. Munchies provided. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME: MERMAIDS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Songs, stories and activities all about mermaids. For ages 0-5 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### WRITING FOR WELLNESS

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

### BRIDGE

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

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

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin,

5-6:30 p.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and living a healthy lifestyle. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

### DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

### OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

## Tues., June 25

### SUMMER READING KICK-OFF PARTY - BERLIN

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit your library during the Summer Reading kick-off party to register for Summer Reading and go on your first adventure. For all ages. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### SUMMER READING KICK-OFF PARTY - SNOW HILL

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Visit your library during the Summer Reading kick-off party to register for Summer Reading and go on your first adventure. For all ages. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### OC KNITTING GROUP

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

### SUMMER READING KICK-OFF PARTY - OCEAN PINES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Visit your library during the Summer Reading kick-off party to register for Summer Reading and go on your first adventure. For all ages. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### MIL COLORES (A THOUSAND COLORS) - A BILINGUAL FAMILY CONCERT

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2:30-3:30 p.m. A fun and interactive presentation of Nathalia's original bilingual music. Fusing popular styles of music with traditional Latin American sounds and rhythms. For all ages. 410-524-1818

### BEACH HEROES-OC

Tuesdays - Volunteer beach clean-up group meets from 9-10 a.m., year-round.



# Calendar

Trash bags, grippers and gloves provided. Check the Facebook page "Beach Heroes-OC" for weekly meeting locations. All are welcome.

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

### OC KNITTING CLUB

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

### ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

### ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

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

### WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AND WELLNESS GROUP

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

## Wed., June 26

### MOVIES ON THE BEACH

Carousel Oceanfront Hotel & Condos, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8:30 p.m. Featuring "Encanto." Enjoy free movies on the beach every Wednesday through the summer. Movie lineup: <https://www.ococean.com/things-to-do/free-family-fun/>.

### BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Songs, stories and giggles. For ages 0-2 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### SUMMER READING KICK-OFF PARTY - OCEAN CITY

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Visit your library during the Summer Reading kick-off party to register for Summer Reading and go on your

first adventure. For all ages. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### NAILED IT!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 12 p.m. Try your skills recreating a diorama. All materials provided. For ages 6-18 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### FAMILY RAINBOW CRAFTS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 3 p.m. Show your support during Pride Month by making a flag, button or sticker. Families and teens may drop in any Wednesday in June from 3-5 p.m. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 3-4:30 p.m. Providing participants with hops for the future. Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725, [gmanzell@atlanticgeneral.org](mailto:gmanzell@atlanticgeneral.org)

### FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Ocean Pines Yacht Club Pool, 1 Mumfords Landing Road, 6-8 p.m. Featuring swimming, DJ, games and prizes. Cost is \$3 for swim members; \$5 for residents and \$7 for non-resident. No cost if not swimming. Food available. Wednesdays

through Aug. 21. 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. Guests are welcome. [www.kiwanisofopoc.org](http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org)

### BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

Online Zoom call on the third and fourth Wednesday of each month. For surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatric Center, 410-641-9568

## ONGOING EVENTS

### JUNETEENTH MIXED MEDIA COLLAGE

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., Pocomoke City, June 10-21. Help create a collaborative collage that represents freedom. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### OCEAN PINES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT RAFFLE

Win a 2024 F-150 4X4 Supercrew 5.0L V8. Tickets cost \$100. All expenses (registration, sales taxes, etc.) covered by O.P.V.F.D. Drawing will take place when all of the tickets have been sold. For more information: [www.opvfd.com/f-150](http://www.opvfd.com/f-150).



## OPEN HOUSES

June 20 - 27



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENT/AGENCY
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Friday & Saturday Noon-3pm	12346 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	3BR/2BA	Single Family	starting at \$239,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Friday & Saturday Noon-3pm	12346 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/1BA	Single Family	starting at \$179,900	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Friday 3-5pm	377 Walnut Hill Drive, Berlin	3BR/3.5 BA	Single Family	\$774,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Friday 10am-1pm	13 131st St. #105, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$449,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	36913 Creek Haven Dr., Selbyville	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$824,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-3pm	121 81st St. 3 #706, Rivendell, Ocean City	3 BR/3.5BA	Condo	\$780,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 10am-1pm	377 Walnut Hill Drive, Berlin	3BR/3.5 BA	Single Family	\$774,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 1-3pm	11602 S. Hills Drive, Berlin	5BR/4.5 BA	Single Family	\$1,849,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Monday 11am-1pm	1300 Marina View Lane #23	4BR/4BA	Condo	\$1,399,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Wednesday 3-5pm	1300 Marina View Lane #23	4BR/4BA	Condo	\$1,399,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	9800 Mooring View Lane #6 West OC	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$484,900	Nick Preziosi/Long & Foster Realty
Saturday Noon-2pm	8 60th St. Meridian, Ocean City	4BR/3.5BA	Condo	\$999,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty of Delmarva
Saturday 3-5pm	674 94th St. Casa Del Sol, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Town Home	\$524,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty of Delmarva
Sunday 11am-1pm	37844 Darning Drive, Delmar	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$499,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty of Delmarva
Saturday 10am-Noon	103 Mumfords Landing Rd., Ocean Pines	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$629,900	Sandy Dougan/BHHS PenFed Realty
Sunday Noon-2pm	7 Evergreen Court, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$384,900	Cindy Crockett/Hileman Real Estate, Inc.
Saturday 10am-Noon	21 Fairway Lane, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$418,000	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate, Inc.

Contact Renee Kelly 667.288.1233 or [renee@oceancitytoday.net](mailto:renee@oceancitytoday.net)





# Classified

MARKETPLACE

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

Classifieds appear in OC Today-Dispatch & Bayside Gazette each week and online at [oceancitytoday.com](http://oceancitytoday.com) & [baysideoc.com](http://baysideoc.com)



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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

### TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR

The Town of Snow Hill is accepting applications for the position of Water/Wastewater Operator. Responsibilities include but not limited to: maintenance on pumps, valves, motors, etc.; troubleshoot operational problems; performs laboratory analysis; collects samples and mixes chemicals; water meter readings, testing and repairs; sewer service connections and sewer line maintenance. Preferred candidate has Class 2 Water Treatment Operator license and/or 5A Wastewater Treatment license, and certification to collect drinking water samples; has good organizational skills and excellent communication skills.

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

To request an application form, send resume with salary requirements to: [execadmin@snowhillmd.com](mailto:execadmin@snowhillmd.com) or Town of Snow Hill, Michelle Beckett-El Soloh, P.O. Box 348, Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

**POOL DECK ATTENDANT**  
PT, 3 days per week, 10am-6pm. Summer Seasonal. Check guests for arm bands, keep pool area clean & assist w/other duties as needed.  
Call 410-524-9400.

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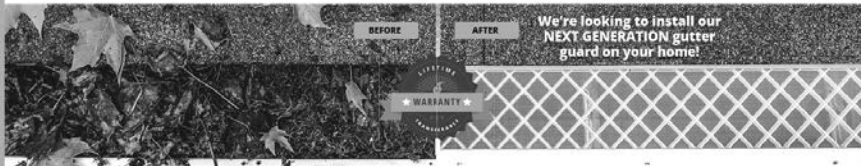
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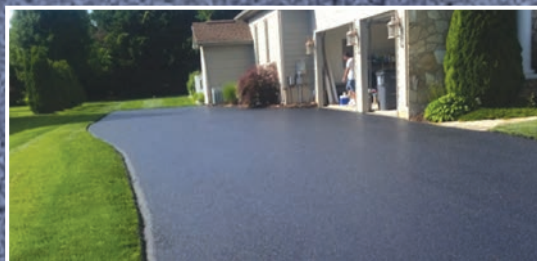
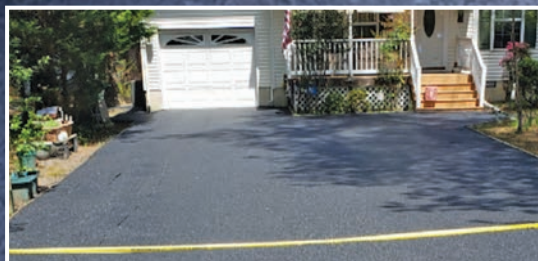


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