

BAYSIDE GAZETTE



JULY 4, 2024

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STEVE GREEN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FIELD OF FLAGS

Well over 100 flags have been on display for the last six weeks off Route 589 at the field located next to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial. Through the "Flags for Heroes" initiative, sponsored by the Worcester County Veterans Memorial and the Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club, the flags were purchased by businesses and residents to recognize individuals with a lasting impacts. The flags were sponsored for \$50 with proceeds going to local scholarships and charities.

TidalHealth to get tech school cafe

New venture will fill needs in education while offering public some good food

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) Worcester Technical High School's Culinary and Pastry Arts Department is preparing to launch a teaching café at the TidalHealth Ocean Pines Campus, allowing students to receive additional hands-on education and deliciously

give back to the community.

The Pines Café by Worcester Technical High School will open in late August or early September and has secured the space for three years. It will welcome customers Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop will feature coffee, breakfast sandwiches, pastries, lunch, soups, and salads prepared by the culinary and pastry program students.

The goal is to extend the hours based on the volume of business the shop receives.

"The TidalHealth campus opens for lab work at 6 a.m.," said Phillip Cropper, the program's head chef. "What better way after 12 hours of fasting for lab work than to start your day with a freshly baked muffin, breakfast sandwich, or house-roasted cup of coffee."

According to the educator and former restaurant owner, the idea was conceived when he visited the Ocean Pines TidalHealth space and discovered that the facility's café had been

See TIDALHEALTH Page 3

Memorial gets Legion's help with flag poles

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) The Berlin American Legion Post #123 provided the town with funding to replace three flag poles at the Main and West streets memorial sites.

The group presented 'We Heart Berlin' with \$7,500 for the initiative

See LEGION Page 8

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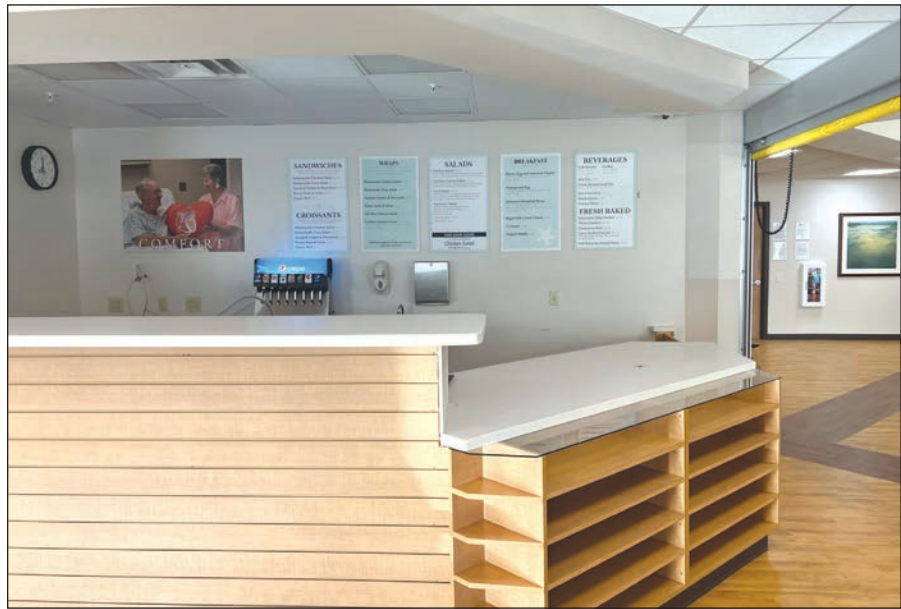
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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The current café site at the TidalHealth Ocean Pines Campus will soon be taken over by the tech school's culinary and pastry arts program.

TidalHealth getting new cafe

Continued from Page 1

closed since the covid-19 pandemic.

“I had wanted to create a teaching cafe for a few years to give my students additional opportunities but logistically could not find a space that worked,” Cropper said. “I contacted Mr. Scott Phillips, a Vice President with TidalHeath, and the collaboration was born.”

Cropper pitched the idea to his direct supervisors and the Worcester County Board of Education to evaluate the café’s practicality. The initiative was approved.

“WCPS has work-based learning opportunities ..., and The Pines Cafe is just another example of our commitment to growing our local workforce and meeting community needs,” Worcester County Public School Career and Technology Education Coordinator Brian Phillips said.

Phillips explained that the school system continually monitors workforce demands using Maryland’s Occupational and Industry Projections database and that the Pines Cafe was a “product of this practice.”

“Demand for jobs in the consumer services, hospitality, and tourism career clusters have the highest number of projected jobs in Worcester, so we were excited to expand our Culinary Arts program with a Youth Apprenticeship program that also served one of our local communities,” Phillips said. “... These program expansions build capacity in our students and help us to better address workforce demands.”

The endeavor was also accepted as a job site for the Apprenticeship Maryland program, which offers students “paid opportunities to join the workforce while still in school.”

Up to three students will work as interns at the café and will be supervised by two part-time managers the program plans to hire. The managers will also oversee daily operations, Cropper said.

The shop is expected to be self-sufficient. After payroll, operation costs, and consumables, all profit will return to Worcester Tech’s culinary arts department.

The café’s employees during business hours will be seniors who have finished one year of the culinary or pastry program in their junior year and have their Certified Fundamental Pastry Cook or Certified Fundamental Cook credentials from the American Culinary Federation.

Cropper expects his students servicing the site to learn proper knife skills, cooking techniques, food safety and sanitation, menu planning and development, culinary math and basic bookkeeping, inventory management, communication, customer support, leadership, emotional intelligence, and adaptability.

Cropper curated the menu with input from his 2023-2024 school-year students. It includes a Southwest breakfast wrap, croissant sandwiches, overnight oats, jumbo muffins, gluten-free chocolate oat cookies, fruit tarts, scones, apple turnovers, pumpkin blondies, a Mediterranean salad, Tuscan chicken noodle soup, and an array of cold sandwiches and hot grilled paninis.

Cropper, who is in his 14th year teaching for Worcester County, said the culinary and pastry department has 32 students accepted yearly, 16 of whom are enrolled in the culinary branch and 16 in the professional baking and pastry classes. Both programs consistently have a waiting list.

“The Pines Café will serve as a dynamic educational tool for WTHS’s culinary students, bridging the gap between academic learning and practical experience,” Cropper said. “For the community, it will act as a vibrant center for social interaction, economic support, and educational enrichment, ultimately fostering a stronger, more connected community and a more robust culinary program at WTHS.”



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Attendees of a past Ocean Pines July 4 celebration are pictured at Veterans Memorial Park. This year's festivities will commence Thursday, with kids games and other activities during the day and a fireworks show at night.

Fireworks, special event on tap for OP's 4th

(July 4, 2024) The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department will once again host a Fourth of July fireworks celebration at Veterans Memorial Park on Route 589 and Cathell Road.

The event this year is scheduled from 4 to 8:45 p.m. on Thursday,

July 4, with carnival games, dry slides and bounce houses for children, plus live music and food and drink vendors, face painting, jewelry and hair wrap and sand art.

Wristbands are \$15 and are good for all slides and bounce houses, games, etc. Wristbands will be required for those attractions only. Cash and credit cards will be accepted for wristbands, and for glow-in-the-dark and light up products sold at the recreation area.

General admission is free and open to the public, for both the carnival and fireworks.

Fireworks are scheduled to start at roughly 9:15 p.m.

The fireworks will launch from the north side of the pond, by Cathell Road. Viewing will be available at Veterans Memorial Park.

There will be limited seating (chairs and blankets), along Ocean Parkway, from the South Fire Station to Manklin Creek Road. This area will be controlled by Public Works and will not be available for vehicles.

Guests may bring lawn chairs and blankets for seating at Veterans Memorial Park and the Parkway in the designated viewing area.

Police will close Ocean Parkway from Manklin Creek Road to Offshore Lane about 60 minutes before the fireworks begin. That area will remain closed until all fireworks have been launched and the Fire Marshal deems it safe.

There will also be a "safe zone" marked by an orange fence, from Offshore Lane to the firehouse. No one may enter the marked area once the fireworks have started. This area will be monitored and controlled by Fire Police and Public Works. Pedestrian traffic will be allowed until one hour prior to the launch time. No vehicles will be allowed through the area during that time.

Public parking will be available in the Green Lot across from the Post Office. Parking will not be allowed along Ocean Parkway. Limited handicapped parking will be available at the library parking lot. A handicap-accessible shuttle will be available between the library and the event area.

Additionally, police will close the south end of Cathell Road from Ocean Parkway to the entrance of the Sports Core Pool at around noon, when the fireworks vendor is scheduled to arrive. The area will remain closed until the fireworks equipment is loaded, the area is cleared of debris, and the fire marshal deems it safe and clear for traffic.

Cathell Road will remain open from the Sports Core Pool to Route 589 for the entire day, for pool access and access to Veterans Memorial Park.

Public Works personnel will help with road closures and directing traffic throughout the day. Please note that the road closures are for public safety and are required by the Fire Marshal's Office.

The Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works and Neighborhood Watch will be directing traffic, and helping with parking and crossover traffic from the Green Lot. Pedestrian traffic is encouraged, to help with traffic delays.

At the conclusion of the fireworks, pedestrians will have preference over motorists. Residents and guests should expect delays throughout the day.

In case of inclement weather, the fireworks display will move to Friday, July 5.

If you want more fireworks after the Fourth of July, the Snow Hill Area Chamber of Commerce is once again partnering with the Town of Snow Hill's First Friday with a fireworks celebration set to take place on Friday, July 5 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Sturgis Park in Snow Hill.

Sturgis Park will transform into a hub of excitement, offering something for everyone to enjoy. Event highlights include refreshing beverages from a variety of local vendors and the Snow Hill Area Chamber of Commerce station for freshly grilled hamburgers/cheeseburgers as well as beers from our beer wagon. Live music will be provided by DJ Smack. The Chamber Plinko Game will offer chance to win fantastic prizes.

The fireworks display will take place over the Pocomoke River. Bring your family and friends, spread out a blanket or chairs.

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Inaugural River raft race Friday

Event will be followed up by Snow Hill’s fireworks, live music, activities, games

(July 4, 2024) The inaugural Pocomoke River Raft Race is set for Friday, July 5, at Sturgis Park in Snow Hill, and according to organizers, promises to be “a spectacular day filled with creativity, competition, and community spirit.”

According to a news release, participants from across the region will showcase their ingenuity by constructing homemade rafts and racing them on the Pocomoke River. Race start time is at noon, July 5, and people of all ages are welcome to attend the event and watch the races for free from Sturgis Park.

Highlights of the event include innovative raft designs featuring the creativity and craftsmanship of participants; family-friendly activities such as Yacht Rock music, food and drinks available for spectators to purchase, and Plinko games hosted by the chamber with cash prizes at

stake; community engagement with local business owners, community leaders and residents; and awards and prizes.

Competitors will vie for titles, such as Best Dressed, and one team will earn the Broken Paddle Award for their struggles in not giving up. Prizes will also be awarded to the first, second and third finishers.

For more information about the raft race, visit Pocomoke River Raft Race on the Snow Hill Area Chamber website at snowhillchamber.com.

After the event, the town’s First Friday Independence Day Celebration will commence with festivities and fireworks from 5-9 p.m. at Sturgis Park.

Event highlights include beverages from a variety of local vendors and the Snow Hill Area Chamber of Commerce station, live music provided by DJ Smack, and the chamber Plinko game with chances to win a variety of prizes.


The fireworks display is set to take place over the Pocomoke River at 9 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
A row of paddles that will be given to the Pocomoke River Raft race winners during the July 5 event are pictured.

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TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Representatives of American Legion Post #123 presented Berlin leadership with a donation of \$7,500 last week to fund replacement flag poles at the town's memorial plaza at the corner of Main and West streets.

Legion donates flag pole funds

Continued from Page 1

on Wednesday, June 26, at the site.

The nonprofit defines itself as an organization dedicated to promoting “healthy and sustainable activities and to support the creation of and maintenance of recreational opportunities for the benefit of Berlin and its residents.”

Public Works Director Jimmy Charles said the poles will extend 30 feet out of the ground, a 10-foot increase from the current posts. A bigger flag will also be added to the memorial.

Charles maintained the structures will be heavy-duty and made for wind near a coastline. Additionally, the poles’ satin finish will be rust preventative.

“I know you all have been integral in the establishment of the memorial,” Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall said, addressing members of the legion on hand at last week’s presentation. “You have been integral in helping us along the way to make sure we get it right and represent what we should represent. You have been partners since day one, so we cannot thank you enough.”

Since the memorial’s creation, officials have added the Town of Berlin and the Prisoner of War/ Missing in Action flags. The POW/MIA banner, adopted by the National League of Families in 1972, was unveiled in Berlin on Veteran’s Day in 2021 and carries the phrase, “You Are Not Forgotten.” The saying is dedicated to the more than 1,500 American soldiers who have still not been found.

Thanks to the additional funding, the new and improved flag structures will now be added to the remembrance area. Charles said that they also intend to add fresh lighting.

“Our goal is to help embellish all the parks in town and this is a park to us,” We Heart Berlin Executive Director Tony Weeg said. “We are beyond excited.”

Recently, the memorial added a wheelchair-accessible entrance to the site. The amendment is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Weeg said that local veteran Mark Bunting, who is in a wheelchair, contacted him and inquired about a ramp so that he and other disabled individuals could fully enjoy the area.

Weeg first proposed the idea four years ago. However, the company Cox Masonry installed the opening earlier this month.

In addition to the memorial’s structural modifications, town officials are overjoyed by its overall appearance and the future. The Berlin Horticulture Advisory Committee has been partnering with the town’s public works department on a multitude of beautification projects at town parks and along Main Street.

“The garden has never looked better,” Tyndall said. “You see the bees, the butterflies. Aesthetically, it looks great, but these flag poles will make a difference in the look and feel of the entry point to Berlin.”

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AT OUTLETS OCEAN CITY

State issues \$3.8 million in bonds for projects in Berlin

New electric meter system, public works headquarters at Heron Park planned

(July 4, 2024) The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development announced last week it has issued \$3.8 million in bonds through the Local Government Infrastructure Financing (LGIF) Program to support infrastructure improvement efforts in Berlin.

“Berlin is a special, lovable and growing place. Our Local Government Infrastructure Financing program is an important tool for local governments to help fund projects to enhance the lives of its residents such as those planned in Berlin,” said DHCD Secretary Jake Day. “We’re also grateful for partners such as McKennon, Shelton & Henn, People First, Caine Mitter, and Wilmington Trust for their hard work and diligence to make this happen.”

The money for these two projects are part of an overall \$34.8 million in bonds that will be issued in support of local jurisdictions across Maryland. DHCD’s Community Development Administration administers the bonds on behalf of counties, municipalities and/or their in-

strumentalities to finance projects that serve the community at large, such as streetscape improvements, transportation enhancements or water and sewer treatment facilities.

For Berlin, the financing through the Department, which includes a bond premium generated from the sale of the bonds, will help bring the electrical system meter replacement and upgrades and construction of a new public works facility.

The town will utilize \$1 million in bonds to upgrade its electric meter system to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system, which will provide voltage monitoring and outage notifications for the electric system and system integration with the town’s existing billing system. The upgrade to the infrastructure will allow the town to continue to provide reliable electric and water services to approximately 2,700 and 2,900 customers, respectively.

The town will utilize \$2.8 million in bonds to construct a new public works facility. The current facility was erected decades ago as a temporary structure and no longer suits the needs of the town. The new facility will improve employees’ well-being and retention, contribute to efficient pub-



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Pictured during the recent official presentation of \$3.8 million in bond financing for the Town of Berlin are DHCD Manager Charlie Day, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall and Secretary Jake Day.

lic services and accommodate evolving technology and safety standards.

"The Town of Berlin is excited to receive \$3.8 million in Local Government Infrastructure Fund financing through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. This funding, which includes \$2.8 million for a new Public Works Facility and \$1 million for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure

(AMI) system for the town’s electric utility, will significantly enhance our town’s infrastructure,” said Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall. “These projects are pivotal for improving our public services and ensuring our community’s sustainable and efficient future. We are grateful for this support, which empowers us to serve our residents better and continue building a stronger Berlin.”

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Ocean Pines planning ‘Rock the Park’ weekly search

Recreation department offering summer activities for entire community

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) The Ocean Pines Association’s Recreation and Parks Department is offering family-friendly events all summer long.

The Rock the Park project lets residents enjoy the neighborhood’s fun-filled offerings. Every week until Aug. 19, the recreation department will hide five gold-painted rocks at Ocean Pines parks, including White Horse, Pin Tail, Manklin Playground, Robin Hood, Huntington and the Veteran’s Memorial.

Individuals who find the hidden masses can return them to the Ocean Pines Community Center to receive a certificate for the Yacht Club’s Family Fun Night.

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club sponsors the 28th Annual Art Hansen Memorial Youth Fishing Contest on Saturday, July 20. The event is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the South Gate Pond near the Sports Core Pool. Participants are required to supply their rod

and reel. The contest organizers will provide bait and water.

There is no entry fee for the contest, which is open to children ages four to 16 and divided into three age categories. According to the event’s official announcement, “trophies and prizes will be awarded to the first three runners-up in each age group.”

The Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department will teach residents to play Cuban Dominos. Instructor Jose Alvarez will show participants the ropes at the community center on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Each session is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Additionally, OPA is offering water gun painting for children four to 10 on Saturday, July 13, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the community center, a kid’s paint night on Wednesday, July 10, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., weekly concerts at White Horse Park each Thursday at 7 p.m., and a 5K race on July 4 that will start and finish at Veterans Memorial Park.

For more information, all upcoming community events can be found on OPA’s official website.

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Group aims to spotlight Ocean Pines history

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) The Ocean Pines Association has assembled a historic task group to ensure the community's past, present, and future is preserved and remembered for years to come.

Board member Elaine Brady, who

advocated for the group's creation, said the idea was conceived when Ocean Pines forum moderator and association homeowner Joe Reynolds contacted her regarding the signage on the East Room at the Community Center.

Reynolds noted that most resi-

dents are unaware that the East Room was named after Phyllis East, the longtime executive secretary to the general manager and board of directors before she passed in 2012.

The forum moderator observed that neither the East Room nor the Anna Foults Room, which honors a dedicated volunteer of the Ocean Pines community, contains information on the women and why they are recognized. The oversight was amended in June with plaques acknowledging the residents' commitment to the neighborhood.

"His request sparked the need to form the group, as much of the inherent knowledge of the early days of OP will be forgotten," Brady said.

The club aims to assemble a framework and processes for storing, cataloging, preserving, and obtaining physical and digital historical information. Currently, they are working towards reprinting late resident Bud Rogner's History of Ocean Pines book.

The book provides details about the community's past. According to Brady, only a few copies remain as Rogner did not supply a reprint. The recount is not copyrighted, so the group hopes to sell bindings to interested residents.

The newly printed volumes are expected to be 5x7 spiraled editions and

will go for \$20 each. The group intends to acquire 200 additional copies.

The Historic Task Group is also working with OPA General Manager John Viola to obtain a secure storage space to save artifacts properly. Brady said there are original lot pricing, builder, and relator documents that have been stuffed into binders and shuffled from room to room. Their goal is to protect the pages with a dedicated area for filing and storing so they may be protected and well-maintained.


Additionally, the group will work to determine best practices for archiving documents that have already been donated and develop methods for garnering historical information that the association currently does not possess.

Brady said the ultimate goal is to transition the task group into a volunteer Historical Society for the community. "What we do today will be Ocean Pines history in the future," she noted.

The group is open to all residents. "Anyone can join at any time," the director maintained. "The goal is to have folks with various interests, ideas, or experience obtaining and preserving historical information and documents."

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JULY 15TH

Coastal Hospice Thrift Shop grand opening announced

(July 4, 2024) Coastal Hospice Thrift Shop is excited to announce the grand opening of our new location in Berlin.

The celebration is set for 11 a.m., July 10, and will feature a ribbon cut-

ting ceremony with special guests and community members.


Located in 10716 Ocean Gateway, Berlin, the new store offers a wide variety of new and gently used clothing, household items, and unique treasures at unbeatable prices. The new store will showcase a custom designed mural by Abby Curtis Design and provide an exceptional shopping experience, which includes a Holiday Room, two custom built dressing rooms, and an interior, with easy and fast checkout.

The event begins at 11 a.m. with a welcome, with the ribbon cutting set for noon, and light refreshments, discounts, and door prizes until 4 p.m. The first 100 shoppers receive a reusable shopping bag.

"We are delighted to open our new location," Monica Escalante, president and CEO of Coastal Hospice, said in a news release. "Thanks to our community we are able to continue offering quality goods and support the care that Coastal Hospice provides at the Macky and Pam Stansell House, located in Ocean Pines, MD."


To learn more about Coastal Hospice Thrift Shop, visit coastalhospice.org/thrift-shop, or find the organization on Facebook, or Instagram @CoastalHospiceThrift

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- #2: 2 Half BBQ Chickens, 3 Sides
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- #3: 2 lb. Ribs, 4 Sides, 6 Cornbreads**
- #4: 3 lb. Ribs, 5 Sides, 8 Cornbreds**
- #5: 1 lb. Ribs & 2 Half BBQ Chickens
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- #7: PUB GRUB DELUXE, 1 lb. Each:
Pork, Brisket, Pulled Chicken, 2 lb.
Ribs, 2 Half BBQ Chickens, 5 Sides,
12 Cornbreads**



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

State and local officials, including DHCD Secretary Jake Day, center in red pants, pose for a photo outside of Cypress Roots Brewing Company in Pocomoke City on June 26.

State secretary tours Pocomoke, Snow Hill

Day Trip tour allows leaders to meet with local business owners, residents in person

(July 4, 2024) Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Secretary Jake Day traveled across Worcester County on June 26 to learn about the needs of

the area. The visit was part of ongoing DHCD's Day Trip tour, which started last fall as a way to directly connect with Maryland's communities. Worcester County was the 11th stop overall. From fiscal year 2020 through fiscal year 2024, DHCD has invested more than \$42 million in Worcester

County for affordable housing, broadband infrastructure, community and business revitalization as well as services for homelessness support.

"We cannot learn the needs of our communities while sitting in our offices in Lanham – we must meet people where they are," said Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Secretary Jake Day. "I've seen great changes in Worcester County first-hand over the years but I still learned so much from today's Day Trip. I'm confident we can continue to work together with leaders from the county and the great cities and towns of Worcester County to ensure we leave no one behind."

Worcester County Commissioner President Chip Bertino said partnerships with state agencies play a huge role in moving projects forward for a jurisdiction like Maryland.

"Worcester County is continually undertaking projects across a broad spectrum that together support vibrant and bustling communities, with thriving downtown commercial districts at the heart of our towns," Bertino said. "We are grateful for on-

going opportunities to collaborate with Secretary Day along with other state and local partners to leverage vital grant funds to rehabilitate homes, expand and develop new parks and recreation spaces, and attract career and family-sustaining businesses."

Day and DHCD staff first traveled to Pocomoke City to tour its downtown area, visit with town officials and see recent redevelopment projects.

Later in the day, DHCD officials traveled to Snow Hill to visit two homes being rehabilitated with funds through the department's Special Targeted Applicant Rehabilitation Program. The STAR Program is used to preserve and improve single-family properties and designed to bring properties up to applicable building codes and standards or a minimum housing quality standard.

The day concluded with a roundtable discussion at the Snow Hill Firehouse. The meeting gave officials from Worcester County, Snow Hill, Berlin, Pocomoke City and Ocean City the opportunity to share their needs and feedback to DHCD.

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Berlin store receives small business grant of \$10,000

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 3, 2024) The Berlin furnishings and decor business, House Berlin, received a \$10,000 grant to enhance the store's offerings and provide an improved shopping experience for town residents and tourists. The shop's owners, husband and wife team Andrea and Corey Canon, applied for the Backing Small Businesses Grant presented by American Express in partnership with Main Street America. The group awarded the couple's business \$10,000.

Main Street America's website states, "The Backing Small Business grant program supports economically vulnerable and under-resourced small businesses with community reach and cultural significance."

The statement continues, emphasizing that eligible business owners could apply for the monetary gift for projects that "grow or improve their businesses by building community, supporting their economic viability, or bolstering meaningful change."

Andrea Canon said they plan to use the money to improve their paint classes, enhance the lawn on the storefront's patio, and bring on new vendors to expand the shop's offerings.

House Berlin provides interested residents with the chance to learn from the store's certified Chalk Paint retailers how to properly use the supplies on furniture. Participants are required to bring their own small fixtures, like side tables, to the workshops. Canon maintained that the grant will enhance these classes.

"We wanted a way to re-vamp things a bit, and this grant will allow us to do so without going into debt," she said.

House Berlin, located on Artisan's Way, just celebrated its seventh anniversary. Canon said that she and her partner, originally from Baltimore, were inspired to open the shop after they both experienced parental losses.

"My husband and I were both in jobs that didn't fulfill us, and we wanted to do work that we were passionate about," the owner said. "We had both lost parents to cancer in 2015, and they were both young. This motivated us to change our lives in a big way. We moved to Berlin, quit our jobs, and opened our own business, which was something we had always dreamed of."

Canon said they are thankful for the support from the Backing Small Businesses award.

"We are passionate about turning old furniture into beautiful pieces of art,



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

"We encourage other small businesses to apply for grants. It's worth putting in the time and effort. We feel truly blessed ...," House co-owner Andrea Canon said.

and we love inspiring our customers," she said. "Making our customers happy with our work is what is most rewarding for us...we are so grateful for the grant. We encourage other small businesses to apply for grants. It's worth

putting in the time and effort. We feel truly blessed to be a recipient."

House Berlin is open daily. Its hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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No second for storage amendment motion

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) A text amendment permitting recreational storage buildings on Worcester County’s agricultural land failed to pass at the Tuesday, June 18 County Commissioners meeting.

The Worcester County Planning Commission reviewed the text amendment on April 4, where it received a favorable recommendation. Applicant Johnathan Anders and co-owner Jeff Mahan were present for the meeting. During the discussion outlined in the agenda packet for the June 18 hearing, Anders explained that he and two friends purchased a 30-acre agricultural parcel on Worcester Highway, intending to build a storage space for their classic cars and boats.

As the structure was being built, the men were informed that the current code limits buildings like theirs to 500 square feet unless there is a principal dwelling on site, which their land lacked. He and the co-owners applied for the text amendment to avoid constructing what they believed to be an unnecessary structure.

Worcester County’s A-1 agricultural district currently restricts the stashing of non-farming equipment in buildings like the ones that Anders and his partners constructed.

“We are trying to use the building that we have built there for personal storage of classic cars and things like that that we have in there and not have to put a primary residence on the property,” Mahan said at the June 18 hearing.

If passed, the proposal would have

allowed any size of private, noncommercial buildings to be used for personal storage without a principal structure in A-1 parcels larger than 20 acres with special approval by the Worcester County Board of Zoning Appeals.

A graphic included in the agenda packet shows that the proposed amendment would impact 1,716 parcels greater than 20 acres in the A-1 district.

“I don’t want to open this up for a free-for-all all, but their only option at this point to create compliance if they don’t put agricultural equipment in there is to put in...a house, against their wishes just to fill a void,” Commissioner Eric Fiori said at the June 18 meeting. “... f there is nothing stored outside the dwelling, what is inside of it, if it is for personal use, I

just don’t see where that is any more invasive than farm equipment ... I just think that this owner is trying to become compliant and was unaware of the agricultural restriction when this was done.”

Anders noted on April 4 that if the amendment fails to pass, he intends to place a double-wide on the farm to act as the primary residence so that the recreational storage facility would align with the current code.

Fiori motioned to approve the text amendment to allow personal storage in Worcester County’s agricultural district on at least 20 acres of parcels. The motion failed to pass for lack of a second.

Local physician elected as state council delegate

Dr. Scopp ‘honored’ to represent for three years

(July 4, 2024) Dr. Jason Scopp, a sports medicine fellowship trained orthopaedic surgeon with Peninsula Orthopaedic Associates, was recently nominated and elected to the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine Council of Delegates for the State of Maryland.

Scopp has been with POA since 2003 and is a pioneer in the field of cartilage restoration, a procedure for joint pain available in only a handful of medical centers across the country. Along with his biotechnology research on joint preservation, Scopp specializes in the treatment and prevention of sports-related injuries. He is an internationally featured speaker on the topics of joint preservation, cartilage defects and restorative treatment options. Fellowship trained in Sports Medicine and a lifelong athlete himself, Scopp has been team physician for the United States Soccer Team, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Salisbury University and the Delmarva Shorebirds (a Baltimore Orioles organization), among others.

The mission of the council of delegates is to serve as the primary liaison between the society membership and the board of directors and committees, and to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas. Some of the specific functions of the council of delegates are to:

- Facilitate communication between the society and members within the individual states, including assisting in the execution and implementation of the society’s policies and providing an opportunity for feedback from the members in each state to the council and other society governing bodies
- Identify and address issues af-

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Berlin looking to fill committee vacancies

Deadline for interested residents to submit papers for mayor's review July 19

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) The Town of Berlin is accepting applications for upcoming vacancies in various boards, committees and commissions. The deadline for interested residents is Friday, July 19. Berlin citizens who wish to serve their community are welcome to apply. There are two vacancies in the Arts and Entertainment Committee, one on the Board of Supervisors of Elections, four

on the Board of Zoning Appeals, and three on the Ethics Commission. There are three vacancies on the Historic District Commission, two on the Housing Board of Review, three on the Horticulture Advisory Committee, and two on the Parks Commission. The Planning and Zoning Commission has no currently available positions, but spots are expected to open in November. Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall said that current seat holders must undergo the same process as new applicants. Candidates will fill out the document, which requests their name, contact information, an indication of which committee they wish

to serve and why and a formal resume. They will then be invited to an interview, where they will meet with Tyndall, his assistant, Sara Gorfinkel, town administrator Mary Bohlen, and the department chair. A nomination is presented to the council for approval after the discussions. "It is very consistent throughout," Gorfinkel said. "It does not matter how long you have served on the committee. Everyone goes through the same process." While the July 19 application deadline is for first consideration and not a hard deadline, the mayor main-

tains that historically, committees receive more candidates than available positions. The application can be found on the Town of Berlin's website under the Government tab on the Boards, Commissions, and Committees page. The same site also contains a meeting schedule and each group's outlined goals and missions. "We all have different backgrounds," Tyndall said. "If people want to serve and are focused on one area, there is a pathway to do that. I am here for the service and enjoy serving my community. It is a nice way to give back."

Scopp to serve on sports medicine council

Continued from Page 16
fecting orthopaedic sports medicine

- Advise the society's board of directors and committees, and develop recommendations as appropriate, regarding matters of importance to the practice of sports medicine
- Contacting members in your state and being a mentor to members

that may need assistance

- Attending meetings or working on consensus statements at the request of the board of directors

Scopp's term will last three years. "I am honored to represent the State of Maryland for the Council of Delegates for the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine," he said in

a news release. "As a sports medicine surgeon, my goals are injury prevention and safe return to play. This position will allow me to contribute to the policies and procedures unique to our state and our athletes." Peninsula Orthopaedic Associates is a multi-specialty orthopaedic practice with offices in Ocean Pines and

Salisbury, and Lewes, Milford, Millsboro and Seaford, Delaware. The practice provides a broad spectrum of advanced orthopaedic treatments and diagnostic services including foot and ankle, hand and elbow, hip and knee, shoulder, spine, sports medicine, joint replacement, joint preservation, and orthopaedic trauma care.

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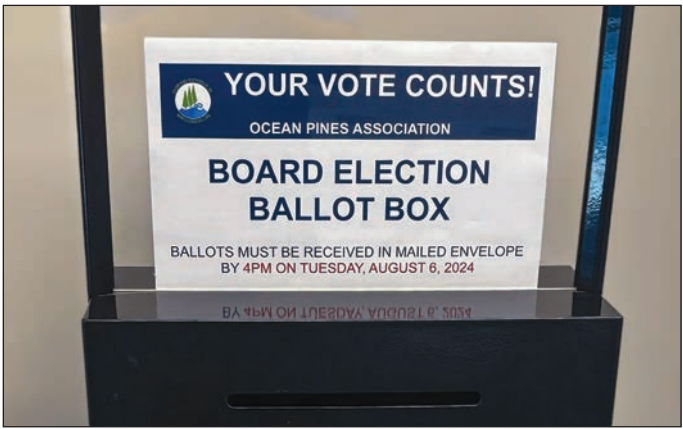
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A secure drop box for Ocean Pines election ballots is pictured set up at the police station. SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Ballot drop box now available

(July 4, 2024) The Ocean Pines Elections Committee has set up a secure drop box at the police station, allowing members to conveniently drop off their completed ballots for the 2024 Board of Directors Election.

The drop box will remain in oper-

ation through the ballot deadline of 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6. Ballots may be dropped off any time until then, 24 hours a day.

For questions about the drop box or the election, contact the elections committee at elections@ocean-pines.org.

Commissioners name Vieira head of emergency dept.

(July 4, 2024) The Worcester County Commissioners recently appointed Katy Vieira to serve as the emergency preparedness manager within the Worcester County Department of Emergency Services. Vieira stepped into her new position in late 2023.

"Katy is a great person and brings so much to this position," Fire Marshal Matt Owens said in a news release. "She has proven to be a valued part of a great team. She is a proven leader and always steps up to the plate, continuing her education in all aspects of the job, and being a great role model."



Katy Vieira

Vieira, who joined Worcester County Government in 2015 as a 911 communications specialist and rose through the ranks, brings nine years of emergency management experience to her new role. She earned Emergency Management Institute Professional Development Series Certification through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and she is a certified emergency telecommunications instructor, with certifications in quality assurance for emergency medical, fire, and police dispatch, as well as the National Incident Management System and Incident Command System. She has trained six incoming 911 communications specialist classes.

"Former WCDES Director Fred Webster influenced my passion to be a part of the county's coordinated response team that works together to protect our community from natural and manmade disasters," Vieira said. "I'm grateful to the commissioners for giving me the opportunity to take on this new role within emergency management."

Vieira is part of the multi-agency coordination center command. She serves as a backup communications center manager during emergencies, disasters, and as coverage is needed; helps to manage special projects and disaster efforts; works with agencies to coordinate logistics for special events; and helps update emergency plans to remain in compliance with federal and state requirements. The plans include the Hazard Mitigation Plan, Hazard Vulnerability/Risk Assessment, Recovery Plan, and the Worcester County Emergency Operations Plan.

Vieira, an avid reader and amateur local historian, is a county native. In 1680, her family was among 14 settlers who patented a 100-acre tract of land on the Pocomoke River that is known today as Mattaponi Landing. Vieira and her husband, Chris, are both lifelong Worcester County residents. They have three children, Maddison, Cordelia, and Marshall. The family enjoys spending time at the beach and on the Pocomoke River.

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Government offices to close

(July 4, 2024) Worcester County government offices, including all five branch libraries and recreation and parks, will be closed Thursday, July 4.

The central landfill and homeowner convenience centers will also be closed.

All government offices will re-

sume standard hours of operation on Friday, July 5.

County government staff wish one and all a safe and happy Independence Day holiday.

For more information on Worcester County government hours of operation, visit co.worcester.md.us.

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Knupp allegedly misused foundation funds

Discrepancies revealed during divorce proceeding in Wicomico County court

By **Bethany Hooper**
Associate Editor

(July 4, 2024) Tiffany Knupp, president of the Gavin Knupp Foundation, has been charged with embezzlement, theft and theft scheme for allegedly misappropriating funds.

On June 26, nine charges – including felonies of embezzlement, theft \$1,500 to under \$25,000, and theft scheme \$1,500 to under \$25,000 – were filed against Knupp, whose son, Gavin Knupp, 14, was killed in a hit-and-run incident in July of 2022. Charging documents filed last month allege Knupp had embezzled \$12,625 in her position as president of the Gavin Knupp Foundation.

“Tiffany Knupp was entrusted with overseeing the Gavin Knupp Foundation,” the charging documents read, “but it is clear she betrayed that trust.”

Last December, during a divorce proceeding in Wicomico County Circuit Court, it was revealed that Knupp had used the foundation’s funds to pay her personal attorney, according to charging documents. An investigation into the foundation’s bank account showed two payments – one for \$2,500 and another for \$4,000 – were made to her attorney’s law firm.

“Tiffany declared under oath on 12/14/23 that she had obtained The Foundation’s authorization to compensate her personal lawyer for representing her in the contempt case ...,” the charging documents state. “I conducted interviews with current and former members of the Foundation board which revealed that none of the board members had authorized any payment to [attorney’s name redacted] for her representation of Tiffany.”

The investigation also revealed other questionable payments. Last November, a local pool bar raised \$3,200 to support a local family who had lost their son. As a representative of the Gavin Knupp Foundation, Knupp

pledged to match the funds raised, resulting in a total of \$6,400, according to charging documents. One month after the fundraiser, however, a cashier’s check for \$4,200 was made to the family.

“During our interview, Tiffany stated that she had deposited the money into the Foundation’s bank account and contributed an equal amount to the [name redacted] family, deducting her expenses, for a total sum of \$4,200,” the charging documents read. “There is no evidence indicating that Tiffany made any cash deposits into the Foundation’s bank account. Moreover, from May 19, 2023 to January 9, 2024, there were absolutely no cash deposits recorded in the Foundation’s bank account.”

A look into Knupp’s personal bank account also revealed deposits that should have been made into the foundation’s bank account, according to the charging documents. In January of 2023, a \$1,925 check from a shirt company – which arranged the sale of merchandise for the Gavin Knupp Foundation – was deposited into Knupp’s personal account. The money was the foundation’s portion of proceeds from the shirt sales, according to the charging documents.

“During multiple fundraising occasions, cash was utilized for the sale of merchandise, posting a significant challenge in terms of tracking,” the charging documents add.

The statement of charges concludes that Knupp had mishandled money, misrepresented the foundation board and misused community-raised funds for personal use. Knupp faces five felony charges, including four charges of theft \$1,500 to under \$25,000 and one charge of theft scheme \$1,500 to under \$25,000, and four misdemeanor charges, including three charges of embezzlement and one charge of theft \$100 to under \$1,500.

“Between January 1, 2023, and December 29, 2023, Tiffany embezzled a total of \$12,625 by exploiting her position as the president of the Gavin Knupp Foundation,” the charging documents read.

uments read.
Shortly after Gavin Knupp’s passing in July 2022, a GoFundMe page was created to help the Knupp family move forward. Thanks to 687 donations, the page raised \$52,175 for the family. In a press conference Wednesday, Knupp’s attorney, Thomas Maronick, said his client will be entering a not guilty plea
“These charges are completely bogus based on distortions of the truth or blatant inaccuracies, and we will fight these charges to their core,” he said. “She is completely innocent of all charges, and we await our day in court, See KNUPP Page 20



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Ocean Pines man arrested for violating protective order

(July 4, 2024) An Ocean Pines man was arrested last week for violating a protective order and spitting on a law enforcement officer.

According to a news release from the department, officers detained Danny Wayne Musser, 34, around 10:15 p.m., June 13, at a house in Ocean Pines. The release said an officer found Musser in the garage in violation of a protective order the officer had served on him just three hours prior, barring him from the property.

The officer arrested Musser, but during process, Musser spit in the face of a Worcester County Sheriff’s Deputy who had arrived on scene to help.

Musser was taken to the Ocean Pines Police Department where he was charged and processed.

Following an initial appearance in front of the district court commissioner, the release said Musser was released after posting of his bond.

He faces charges of violation of a protective order and second-degree assault.



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Theft prevention awareness advice offered

(July 4, 2024) The Maryland State Police and Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council are urging motorists to take precautions against vehicle thefts as part of National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month in July.

Nationally, vehicle thefts have increased 25% from 2019 to 2023, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. A news release said Maryland experienced a significant increase in vehicle thefts

from 2022 to 2023 due in large part to the national trend of Kia and Hyundai thefts on the rise. Overall, a car is stolen 32 seconds in the United States and every 47 minutes in Maryland, according to the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council.

Leaving vehicles unlocked, or with keys or the fob inside, are the primary causes of vehicle thefts. The stolen vehicles are then sold for parts or used to commit other crimes. Citizens must

remain vigilant in safeguarding themselves and their property.

The following are some simple, effective methods to prevent vehicle theft:

- Use an anti-theft device
- Park in well-lit areas
- Close and lock all windows and doors when parked
- Put away valuables
- Do not leave keys or fob in vehicle
- Do not leave the area while vehicle is running

Collaborative outreach efforts con-

tinue to take place throughout the year to address vehicle theft.

The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council distributed \$2.5 million in grants statewide for Fiscal Year 2025. In January, the Maryland Department of State Police teamed up with the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council to provide free steering wheel locks to Hyundai and Kia owners.

Established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1994, the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council significantly reduced vehicle thefts in Maryland by almost 70% between 1994 and 2022.

Sports wagering app launched

(July 4, 2024) The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Commission has issued a mobile sports wagering license to Veterans Services Corporation and its operator partner Bee-Fee LLC.

On May 23, VSC and Bee-Fee successfully completed a controlled demonstration of a mobile wagering app (LetsBetMD) and website (letsbetmd.com). Customers participated in live wagering as Maryland Lottery and Gaming staff ensured that the sportsbook complied with all required procedures and that its systems functioned properly.

With the launch, Maryland has 12 mobile sportsbooks and 12 retail sportsbook facilities currently operat-

ing, including one at Ocean Downs off of Route 589.

Through the first 11 months of Fiscal Year 2024 (July 2023 through May 2024), sports wagering contributed more than \$54.58 million to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund, which supports state public education programs. Another \$913,263 in expired sports wagering prizes have been paid to the Maryland Problem Gambling Fund, which supports responsible gambling programs, including no-cost counseling for residents.

Maryland Lottery and Gaming reports sports wagering revenue figures on the 10th of each month. The reports are available online at mdgaming.com.

Knupp attorney says not guilty

Continued from Page 19

where we will be able to face these allegations head on and show the truth. Tiffany is a person who has stood up in her life for others. She has faced overwhelming pain and then more than a year of media attention following her son's death while she's worked to be the best mother she can be, a strong advocate for the community, a business owner and a friend to many. Under Tiffany's leadership, the foundation has donated thousands of dollars to families in need and continues to support local families of those who have lost

children."

Maronick continued, "She has had to deal with a documented continual harassment from her ex which has taken place over years and has led to the granting of multiple protective orders against him. We believe these present allegations have a connection to that strained relationship. We look very much forward to our day in court and what we will believe will be the clearing of Ms. Knupp's good name."

State's Attorney Kris Heiser, who is prosecuting Berlin resident Tyler Mailoux in connection with the Gavin Knupp hit-and-run case, made clear on Wednesday that neither she nor her office will be involved in the embezzlement case.

"The Office of the State's Attorney for Worcester County has not and will not have any involvement in the investigation, charging or prosecution of Tiffany Knupp," Heiser said. "The investigation was handled by the Maryland State Police in consultation with the Office of the State's Attorney for Somerset County. Once notified that charges had been filed, this Office immediately petitioned the District Court to appoint the State's Attorney for Somerset County as special prosecutor for this case. Any further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to the Office of the State's Attorney for Somerset County."

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Prolonged school emergency plans reviewed

Updates to standards must be approved every two years by county officials

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) The Worcester County Board of Education unanimously approved the adoption of the prolonged state of emergency plan, a preventative measure if events like the COVID-19 pandemic force school closures.

According to Coordinator of Public Relations Carrie Sterrs, who gave the presentation, Maryland requires that each county secures an outline to guide school personnel in proceeding if they are met with an educationally disruptive situation, like the 2020 pandemic. The standards will be revisited every two years.

“This is meant to be a flexible plan,” Sterrs said. “We do not know what kind of state of emergency could potentially be called.”

Maryland Governor Wes Moore defines a state of emergency as “preventing regular, in-person attendance at public schools for at least 14 consecutive school days.”

The plan addresses staffing and personnel, instruction, student assessment and learning support, social-emotional

support, community communication, technology, nutritional and health services, and directions for returning to in-person.

The staffing and personnel section of the guidelines ensures that everyone adheres to their normal job responsibilities while also building adaptability depending on the situation’s specific needs.

Educators, for instance, must “actively monitor teacher-student and teacher-parent communication channels to ensure questions and requests for support are addressed within the seven-and-a-half-hour workday.”

The student instruction aspect of the plan requires that education does not suffer, regardless of the mode of delivery, like virtual or hybrid learning. The outline also ensures that all children have access to necessary school materials while paying particular attention to how students with disabilities receive their services. The regular attendance policy will remain the same.

The state of emergency framework guarantees that instructional content will be maintained so students do not fall below Maryland’s college and career

readiness standards.

The learning support plan includes the “administration of regular assessments, process for establishing benchmarks at the start and the end of virtual education as well as periodically throughout the course, and provisions of additional learning supports for students identified as having learning loss.”

Sterrs said that technology, laid out in the emergency document, is something teachers and students are now comfortable with, thanks to the previous school closures and the adoption of updated devices.

Additionally, the district’s library system provides mobile hotspots for

children and educators requiring at-home internet connectivity.

Nutrition and health services will also be available in the event of a prolonged emergency. With the approval of the Coordinator of Food Services and the Maryland State Department of Education, curbside meal pick-up may be offered.

The plan outlines a system for resuming regular operations. Stage one is virtual learning, stage two is hybrid learning, with the students who most require face-to-face instruction returning first, and stage three is hybrid learning with an alternating week model. The final phase is an entire in-person mode of education.

“We have this structure to work from in the event it is needed, but it is flexible if changes must be made dependent on the type of emergency,” Sterrs said.

‘This is meant to be a flexible plan. We do not know what kind of state of emergency could potentially be called.’
Coordinator of Public Relations Carrie Sterrs

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Update given on evolving math instruction

New curriculum requires county students to ‘take things to the next level’

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) As the school system continues to struggle with math results, the Worcester County Board of Education heard a presentation on the complexities and rigors of instruction at their Tuesday, June 18 meeting.

“There has been a lot of discussion around mathematics and the challenges with the math scores that have come out,” Chief Academic Officer Denise Shorts said.

Worcester County Public Schools Coordinator of Mathematics Instruction Sarah Blackburn presented initiatives to the board of education that display the challenging and comprehensive nature of the curriculum. The demonstration included the example of fifth-grade math assessments, which incorporate modeling, critical thinking, and reasoning.

“Frankly, I’m glad I’m not a fifth grader at times when it comes to ... all the complexities that we ask of them,” Shorts said.

Blackburn, who just finished her first year as the mathematics coordi-

nator, notes that they ask students to “take things to the next level.”

She said that to be considered college and career-ready, students must meet grade-level standards and showcase mastery in content, reasoning, and modeling.

Demonstrating content skills requires students to solve the math outlined expected for their age. The children must also be able to reason or explain the ideas. For example, they may be given a diagram on tests and asked to articulate why it makes sense.

Additionally, fifth graders must grasp the concept of modeling. To be considered proficient, students must be able to apply the problems to a real-world setting and communicate their thinking.

A math assessment for this grade level is roughly 50% content questions, 25% reasoning, and 25% modeling.

“We are not just asking students to do the math problem,” Blackburn said. “We are asking students to take things to the next level with application and explanation.”

Math teachers in Worcester County are encouraged to facilitate “number talk.” At the beginning of every class, the instructor poses a problem, gives students time to think, shares their answers, and then

talks to a partner. During this time, the educator notes the ways the children solved the equation.

This activity is vital in teaching kids that there is always more than one way to solve a problem, allowing them to expand their mathematical and critical thinking skills.

The process emphasizes the importance of mental math. The students are required to solve the problem, such as fraction multiplication, in their heads.

“...We ask students to multiply fractions with paper and pencil, but also ask them to do multiple math strategies,” Blackburn said. The modeling then comes into play.

“Modeling starts with a problem and ends with students communicating their solution to the problem,” she continued. “A lot of what they are doing is applying that content. When these questions are posed on assessments or in-class practice, they are provided space to draw a diagram, make a table, or any other way they can communicate their thinking.”

Students receive a checklist for assessing their math modeling to ensure they are on track. Teachers also provide feedback.

The board of education approved the outlined math instruction.

“It is a great joy to see that a child

can sit down to a math problem and come up with a completely different way than the person sitting next to them, and it’s okay,” board member Elena McComas said.

Chief Operating and Academic Officer Annette Wallace shared similar sentiments.

“As a former math teacher, the two things that are most difficult for students are fractions and word problems,” she said. “I am most proud of our math program is that we are teaching mathematics in a way that makes sense ... students from my generation ... it was all memorization, and you were rewarded for how quickly you could get the job done. Unfortunately, that created over time learners who had very little understanding conceptually what a fraction stood for ... It is wonderful to see our students grow.”

This year’s mathematics scores are expected to be available to teachers and school officials by August 15.

According to Blackburn, standardized math assessments are graded by the state. The content-based half of the test is machine-scored, as it is primarily multiple-choice. Real people evaluate the longer problems. This takes more time, as every response is assessed by several educators across Maryland.

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Berlin native Dale serving as U.S. Navy student pilot

(July 4, 2024) Lt. j.g. Aaron Dale Jr., a native of Berlin, is serving in the U.S. Navy assigned to Training Squadron (VT) 31 where naval aviators learn the skills they need to fly missions around the world.



Aaron Dale Jr.

Dale, a 2015 graduate of Stephen Decatur High School, joined the Navy three years ago. He also earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Frostburg State University in 2019.

Today, Dale serves as a student pilot assigned to VT 31, a U.S. Navy advanced flight training squadron at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

The aviation squadron's primary mission is to train future naval aviators to fly, as well as instill leadership and officer values. Students must complete many phases of flight training to graduate, including aviation preflight indoctrination, primary flight training and advanced flight training. After successfully completing the rigorous program, naval aviators earn their coveted "Wings of Gold."

After graduation, pilots continue their training to learn how to fly a specific aircraft, such as the Navy's F/A-18 Super Hornet fighter attack jet, the F-35 Lightning strike fighter jet or the SH-60 Seahawk helicopter. These aircraft take off from and land on Navy aircraft carriers at sea.

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Snapshots



PHOTOS COURTESY WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

AVIATION COMMAND SPOTLIGHTED

Maryland State Police-Aviation Command, in partnership with the Town of Berlin and Mayor Zack Tyndall, recently visited Worcester Preparatory School's pre-K and first grade classes to introduce the students to the role of a flight paramedic and provide insights into the responsibilities of Trooper 4, based in Salisbury. (Above) Members of the pre-K and first grade classes are pictured with MSP Aviation Command and Town of Berlin representatives following the presentation.



Prior to summer break, MSP First Sgt. Michael Mann (second from right) spoke to WPS students about the role of a flight paramedic and provided insights into the responsibilities of Trooper 4. Pictured by his side are his sons, WPS freshman Gavin Mann and junior Ryan Mann, along with Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall.



Pre-K students Ri-An Moyer, John Showell, Reagan Whitlock, and Charlie Tyndall explore the inside of Trooper 4's helicopter.



First graders Caroline McCready, Camila Prosser, Harper Zervakos and Tenley Brittingham smile for a photo on the Trooper 4 helicopter, along with ninth grader Gavin Mann.



Maryland State Police First Sgt. Michael Mann (center) is pictured with his sons, Ryan, left, and Gavin.

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Worshipful Master Doug Trimper, right, of Evergreen Lodge #153 in Berlin, presents 2024 Masonic Charities of Maryland scholarships to Daniel Karcheusi, left, and Matthew Beck, center, both recent graduates of Stephen Decatur High School.



SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED

Cate Nellans presents the \$1,000 Macon Katherine Chandler Art Scholarship, as well as one of Chandler's prints, to Jessica Beck, a 2023 graduate of Stephen Decatur High School who is pursuing an architecture degree at Catholic University. The scholarship was created with donations in Chandler's memory after her death earlier this year and will be awarded annually to an art student through the Art League of Ocean City.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID J. LANDIS SR.

LUAU FUNDRAISER HELD

Worcester County Youth & Family Services held its annual luau fundraiser at Sunset Grille on June 13, and some members of the Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City attended. Pictured, from left, back row are Tom and Skip Flanagan and John Hanberry. Front row, from left, are Candy Foreman, Kitty Wrench, and Teri Westbrook. WCY&FS is one of the organizations the club supports. Earlier this year a \$2,000 donation was made.



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY-BERLIN ROTARY CLUB

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

The Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club recently installed two new members. Pictured, from left, are Past District Governor Cliff Berg, new members Colleen Nichols and Jay Warrington, and President Gina Shaffer. The club meets the first and third Wednesday of the month at Don's Seafood at the South Gate of Ocean Pines.



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN CITY-BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB

PLAYERS SAY THANKS

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club recently donated \$2,500 to the Pocomoke High School basketball team. Pictured, from left, are players Jeremiah Walker, Jymir Schoolfield, Deshour Pritchett, Zymiere Walker, Jayden Mason, Michael Ames and Jordan Ames.

Opinion

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

Field of flags nothing less than inspiring

Anyone who walked through the dozens of flags flying at full staff over the last six weeks in Ocean Pines probably found it impossible to not wonder about the stories each flag represents.

Since May 18 (Armed Forces Day), the flags have been on display at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial. The patriotic display is a partnership between the Worcester County Veterans Memorial and the Ocean City/Berlin Rotary Club. The flags – totaling well over 100 – will be on display through the weekend.

Each flag is sponsored for \$50 by a business or individual in honor of a hero who left a mark on this country. Proceeds from the sponsorships are shared in the community through scholarships and charity donations.

Everyone who works or lives near Ocean Pines has undoubtedly driven by these flags off Route 589. It’s an impressive visual but there’s nothing like walking through the flags and reading the names of the men and women on each pole.

Each flag is meant to honor an individual who has made a special impact on a person. Who they are and what they did is only known to the donor but the medallion on each flag pays tribute to them.

The honorees could be in the military, a loved one, a special teacher or a parent, deceased or living.

Perhaps over the holiday weekend, visitors and residents might want to take a few minutes and park their cars at the memorial and then take a stroll through the flags and look at the names.

Let the creativity of their stories and background run through your head, but recognize their impacts were enough to move someone to honor them publicly. These are their stories to tell, but it’s a special demonstration of importance.

No matter the individual and unknown efforts, acts and impacts of these honorees, walking through these flags is nothing less than inspiring.



PHOTO COURTESY ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY
Artist Randy Hofman poses with one of the paintings from his “Tides of Life in OC” series that will be exhibited throughout the month of July in the Thaler Gallery at the Ocean City Center for the Arts.

Hofman unveiling exhibit at OC show

Ocean Pines resident among featured artists during July

(July 4, 2024) The Art League of Ocean City invites the public to five new art shows, including one by Ocean Pines resident Randy Hofman, opening on First Friday, set 5-7 p.m., July 5, at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th Street bayside.

Admission is free with complimentary beverages sponsored by Montgomery Financial. Jon Pheasant will provide live music. Clare Shockley of Clare’s Nutty Concoctions will be giving out toffee samples.

The Thaler Gallery is hosting an exhibition by Hofman called “Tides of Life in OC.”

According to a news release, Hofman, a D.C. native, felt called to the “dreamy and beautiful” allure of the ocean” after attending the Pratt Institute where he studied advertising design and visual communication.

Hofman is renowned for his art on the beach, where he carves sand into intricate sculptures. He is also a prolific painter, creating large

scale acrylic paintings.

“My paintings focus on the life that exists in the space between the land and the sea,” Hofman said in the release.

The annual Beverly Bassford Memorial Juried Group Show will fill the walls of the Sisson Galleria in July.

After Bassford’s death in 1999, her family honored her love of art by establishing a prize in her name that grew into the annual show, with continued sponsorship by the family. Jinchul Kim, professor of art at Salisbury University, juried the show and selected the winners, along with Yumi Hogan, former First Lady of Maryland.

Studio E will feature painter Mason D’Aleo, who was born and raised in Ocean City and currently attends the Savannah College of Art and Design.

“I’ve lived on the water my whole life; it is something I appreciate being close to or making art about,” D’Aleo said in the release. “I see beauty in everything; it’s a priority to recreate concepts into lasting memories.”

Painter Joanne Guilfoil is the Spotlight Gallery artist for July.

A frequent teacher at the art league, she is exhibiting two series: Pollinator and Pelagic Species.

“Two species that help define our coastal environment and provide residents and guests endless pleasure are the pollinators and the pelagic fish, which visit for a brief exciting season,” she said in the release.

Her paintings include depictions of white marlin, blue marlin, tuna, mahi mahi, bumblebees, hornets, butterflies and hummingbirds.

In conjunction with the Spotlight Gallery show, Jim Motsko, the founder of the White Marlin Open, will be signing his new book, “The Making of the World’s Largest Billfishing Tournament,” co-written by his daughter, Sasha Motsko, Sandy Phillips, and Guilfoil.

Jeweler Dee Dobson will exhibit in the Artisan Showcase in July.

She continues to use the traditional gold and silver-smithing methods with metals of choice, such as sterling and fine silver, varying carats of gold, and copper.

“Precious and semi-

See FIRST Page 27

BAYSIDE

GAZETTE

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Two regional herp explorations conducted

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(July 4, 2024) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program hosted two volunteer surveys last month to assess the species diversity of reptiles and amphibians, or herps, in the designated areas.

The studies are vital in understanding the health of local ecosystems, Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps member Kelsey Poisal said. The group organized two explorations. The first was hosted at Ilia Fehrer Nature Preserve in Berlin and ran from 9 a.m. until noon. The second event was at Showell Nature Preserve, which lasted from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The environmental program welcomed over 40 volunteers as they searched 28 plots, each 25 by 25 meters, across the two properties. Poisal said that the group found a combined total of 10 frogs, including a few tadpoles and eggs, 34 toads, 32 snakes, four turtles, and 34 salamanders.

“Herps are an integral part of the ecosystem, and amphibians are considered indicator species,” Poisal noted. “This means that their presence indicates that the environment is relatively healthy. Using data from herp surveys, you can track species’ presence over time and make inferences about how the ecosystem’s health may

change. If, in the future, we notice that reptile and amphibian species presence declines, then we may want to consider habitat restoration options. Now that we know which species can be found in the coastal bays region, we can incorporate these species into future environmental education programs.”

Poisal said that amphibians are sensitive to pollution and environmental degradation. Therefore, their presence indicates a healthy ecosystem.

Additionally, herps serve as both prey and predator, balancing the ecosystem and providing necessary services to the health of the environment. These include seed dispersal, biological pest control and bioturbation,

and they act as a protein source for other organisms.

Poisal said the initiative was created as the main component of her capstone project. As she is working for the Maryland Coastal Bays Program this year as a Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps member, she was to host an endeavor that fills a gap in the organization.

“MCBP used to have herp surveys about a decade ago,” she said. “I thought that bringing herps back into focus with these surveys would be a great addition to all of the programs MCBP uses to educate the public about our watershed.”

The study aimed to inform volunteers of the importance of reptiles and

amphibians within an ecosystem. Poisal created a field guide about herps on Maryland’s coastal bays in preparation for the surveys. The PowerPoint, accessible on the organization’s official website, provides information on the various species on the Eastern Shore.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program recently hosted an outreach program about diamondback terrapins and how to protect their nests.

“With a group of community volunteers, we built nest covers that can be placed over a terrapin nest to protect their eggs from predation,” Poisal said. “We currently have nest covers available at our office for anyone to come pick up, free of charge, if they have terrapins nesting on their property.”

First Friday kicks off exhibit July 5

Continued from Page 26

precious stones are chosen to represent the brilliant colors of the southwest desert to the dazzling display of light on the oceans,” Dobson said.

The artwork of Elizabeth Grey, “Different Impressions,” will continue showing in the Staircase Gallery.

Art shows at the Art League’s satellite galleries are all new in July.

Joel Trotta will exhibit his work at the Coffee Beanery on 94th Street and Coastal Highway. His years of experience in creating award-winning signs, brochures, and displays for the State of Maryland led to his retirement on the Eastern Shore where he works as a freelance artist.

Siobhan Duggan will open a show of paintings in the Princess Royale lobby

at 9100 Coastal Highway. Duggan taught in New York City public schools before moving to Delaware with her family to enjoy the beach. She is currently a middle school art teacher in the Indian River School District.

“The gorgeous color palette of pastels and their immediacy and directness constantly inspires and motivates me to create,” she said in the release.

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Puzzles

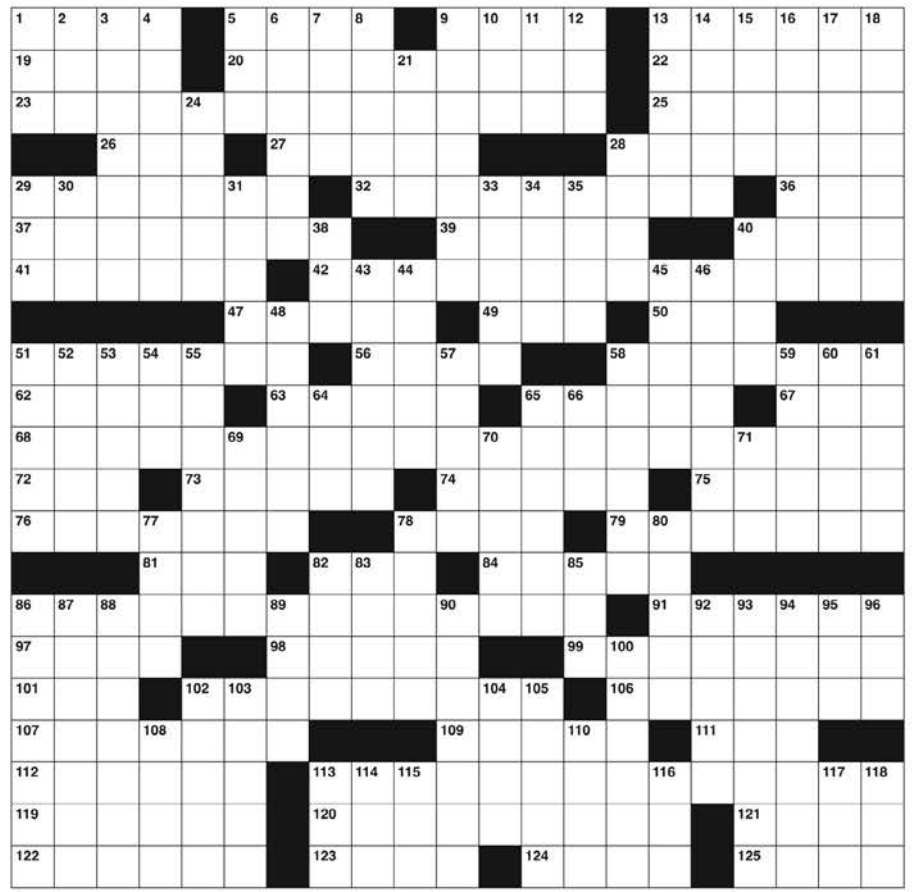
PICTURE DAY

BY MICHAEL SCHLOSSBERG / EDITED BY JOEL FAGLIANO

Michael Schlossberg is an internist in Bend, Ore. This is his third Sunday crossword of the year. Michael's antenna is always up for theme ideas — he struck upon this one after seeing the phrase at 113-Across in a news article. Though Michael is an avid gardener, he never brainstorms themes there. “It’s my happy place,” he says.

- ACROSS**
1 Plant in a bloom
5 “La Vie en Rose” singer
9 Mechanical catch
13 Seasonal decoration from the Old French for “sparkle”
19 Atypical band instrument
20 Path to Machu Picchu
22 World Cup cheer
23 Two Iowans (1930)
25 Renovation need, perhaps
26 Succor
27 Patton crossed it in 1944
28 Stuff left behind by an old flame?
29 Slip in a warehouse
32 Part of the atmosphere above most weather
36 Writer buried in a Baltimore churchyard
37 Six Basque villagers (1937)
39 “Real Time With Bill”
40 Souvlaki go-with
41 Hashtag’s neighbor on a keyboard
42 12 orbs (1889)
47 Adorable one
49 Runner Down Under
50 Many moons
51 Modern-day Phoenicia
56 TV host Joy
- 58 Performing, perhaps
62 Wane
63 About to bloom
65 “Ted Lasso” footballer Jamie
67 Good name for a nuclear engineer?
68 One gemstone (1665)
72 Just manage, with “out”
73 Component of the immune system
74 Sauce in Philippine cuisine
75 Wacky
76 Feature of a Raggedy Ann doll
78 Frog-hopping-into-water sound
79 Crazy Horse and kin
81 Name on a box of fruit-flavored candy
82 Minute
84 Wash out
86 With 99-Across, four timepieces (1931)
91 Too much, musically
97 Plugs
98 Unreliable narrators
99 See 86-Across
101 Prefix with genetics
102 Instrument “played” in the “Bill & Ted” movies
106 Shanties
107 Goes straight
109 Eyelike openings
111 Not in the dark
112 Kitchen-drawer section
113 Kind of craft-store kit ... or a hint to this puzzle’s theme
- 119 Sheathe
120 They’re comfortable alone or in a crowd
121 River through Kazakhstan
122 Yarn label number
123 World capital that’s part of the NATO alphabet
124 Viking group?
125 Cable channel with horror/fantasy programming
- DOWN**
1 “So that’s your game!”
2 Flight
3 Shin armor
4 Knowable without experience
5 Proof of meeting a celeb, say
6 “Hold on!”
7 What pore clogging can lead to
8 “Oliver Twist” antagonist
9 Press-conference organizers
10 Sound at the doctor’s office
11 Console with a wireless controller
12 Business name ender
13 Something to talk about
14 Actress Graff of “Mr. Belvedere”
15 Enthusiast
16 Words woven into Charlotte’s web
17 Director who is part of filmdom’s Splat Pack
18 “Mangia!”
21 Answering-machine signal
24 Bouncer’s job
28 Vocalist Vikki
29 Supermarket-chain inits.
30 Enthusiast
31 Fünf : German :: ____ : Spanish
33 Put a value on
34 Sorry excuse for a pillowcase?
35 20-Across setting
38 QB stat: Abbr.
40 About 40% of a yard
43 Like some teas
44 Look at desirously
45 Gossip
46 One of two openings under a bridge
48 Divider’s counterpart
51 Bock or dunkel
52 Chargeable transport
53 Like one’s soul in a heart-to-heart
54 The Hawks, on scoreboards
55 Fresh perspective
57 Paragon
58 Cereal with a Mega Stuf variety
59 Helvetica-like typeface
60 “I’m ____ Git You Sucka” (1988 parody film)
61 Often-frayed parts of papyrus
64 Penguins play in it, for short
65 It circles the earth
66 Neighbor of Montana: Abbr.
69 Less emotional
70 Deck out
71 Vaccine component
77 Starts of some cheers

Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



- 78 Kind of dish that you wouldn’t want to eat from
80 “Ya dig?”
82 “Bridesmaids” co-star
83 Biblical figure whose “whole body was like a hairy garment”
85 Con head?
86 Danced like Cardi B
87 Two farthings, colloquially
- 88 Large building
89 Some cameras, for short
90 Country that had a nonviolent “singing revolution” in the late 1980s
92 Sphere
93 Kind of spending bill
94 That’s a bunch of crock!
95 Hardly a noob
96 Kvetchers’ cries
- 100 Lighter igniters
102 Childish retort
103 “No more for me, thanks”
104 When Macbeth fights Macduff
105 Politico Gallego
108 Like some mirrors
110 Vega’s constellation
113 Mate
114 113-Down, in French
- 115 Company that once generated more than 4,000 patents in a single year
116 Security Council member
117 Subj. of Churchill’s “Never ... was so much owed by so many to so few”
118 Canny

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HARD - 31

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

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

Answers to last week’s puzzles

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

MAPS GEOTAG DOTH BRA
ALOE ANDONE IDEA BRIM
STOREFRONTS SEAR RAVI
SOLVEFOR TACO DEUCES
HELEN SEASONOPENERS
GLASS ASTER RAKE
PALM TEAMLEADERS ISNT
SOLE ACNE SISI HOO
RAPAT PLATOS OPERA
MOVIEPREMIERES CLAIMS
REIGNED HEALS CRANKIT
BUSHED ROCKETLAUNCHES
EVITA MOSEYS INDIA
ART SIAM BRIE KFED
NESS FRESHSTARTS EASE
UNIT USEAS EMITS
NEWBEGINNINGS TOTAL
AMADOU ATAD SHACKSUP
ROKU RAMA SHOWERHEADS
CREE EVEN UMPIRE UFOS
OYS DADS POSTED PENT

Calendar

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

Thurs., July 4

JULY 4TH FREEDOM 5K
Veterans Memorial Park, 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, 8 a.m. Day-of registration begins at 7 a.m. Dress in patriotic attire. All ages welcome. T-shirts for pre-registered runners. Pre-register: runsignup.com. Awards for best runners and best July 4th costume. 410-641-7052

4TH OF JULY FARMERS MARKET CELEBRATION
White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Featuring an abundance of fresh local produce, jams, eggs, local honey and baked goods. 410-641-7052

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION & FIREWORKS
Veterans Memorial Park, 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, 4-8:30 p.m. Carnival games, music and food. Admission fee is \$15 wristband. Credit cards accepted. Fireworks begin after dark. Parking available in grass area next to Taylor Bank and Ocean Pines Library.

JULY 4TH MUSIC AND FIREWORKS
Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave. and Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City. Celebrate the Nation’s birthday with great music and an amazing fireworks show. Music kicks off at 8 p.m. with the fireworks display held 9:30 p.m. ococean.com

BEACH SINGLE 55 PLUS MEET AND GREET
Thursdays - Nick’s Kitchen + Bar, 14410 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, 4-6 p.m. 215-385-4993, BeachSingles.org

Fri., July 5

RED, WHITE, AND ROO
Coastal Wilds at Barn Hill Preserve, 34215 Peppers Corner Road, Frankford, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Self-guided tour, kangaroo walkabout, special animal encounters, live music, outdoor yard games and kid’s crafts. Cost is \$25. Tickets: <https://book.singenuity.com/469/activity/details/2292/n/start>. 302-829-1549

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

ARTISTIC ARENA: FAIRY OR GNOME GARDEN
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1 p.m. Assemble and create your own fairy or gnome garden. All material provided.

For ages 6-11 years and 12-18 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FIRST FRIDAY OPENING RECEPTION FOR JULY EXHIBITS
502 94th St., Ocean City, 5-7 p.m. Meet the artists, enjoy hors d’oeuvres, and see the new exhibits by a variety of local artists. Plus live music by Jon Pheasant! Free. All are welcome. 410-524-9433

Sat., July 6

SATURDAY WRITERS
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Novice and established writers gather to share their writing projects. Structure includes critiques and appreciation, market leads and writing exercises. Drop in welcome. 410-641-0650

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. For all ages. 410-641-0650, 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, 410-524-9433

FAMILY SPLASH NIGHT
Ocean Pines Sports Core Pool, 11144 Cathell Road, 5-8 p.m. Enjoy an evening of water-themed activities. All ages welcome. Cost is \$8 for non-resident, \$6 for resident, \$4 for swim member and \$2 for non-swimmer. 410-641-5255, oceanpines.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., July 7

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST
American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 8-11 a.m. Menu includes eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, chipped beef gravy, biscuits, coffee, tea and juice.

SUNDAES IN THE PARK WITH FIREWORKS
Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Live music by “Radio Tokyo” (hip-hop, R&B, pop, rock, coun-

try), 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/farmersmarket/>

JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES MEETING
Sundays - Berlin Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses, 212 West St., Berlin, 10 a.m. www.jw.org

Mon., July 8

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

STORY TIME: OCEAN
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and activities all about ocean animals. For ages 0-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

TRUE CRIME BOOK CLUB: “CHASING ALICE: HOW THE LIFE, MURDER, AND LEGACY OF AN ENGLISH TEACHER...”
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. True Crime Book Club discusses “Chasing Alice: How the Life, Murder, and Legacy of an English Teacher Changed a Delmarva Community.” 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME AT THE OCEAN CITY AIRPORT
Ocean City Muni Airport-Oxb, 12724 Airport Road, Berlin, 2 p.m. Special story time will include a tour and walk around an airplane. For ages 2-5 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GENEALOGY RESEARCH
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 3-6 p.m. Need help finding your roots? Come by the second Monday of each month and the local history librarian can help navigate the library’s print and online sources. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

OC BEACH DANCE PARTY WITH FIREWORKS
Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Beachside dance party featuring “Ocean 98 Night.” Free fireworks show starts at 9 p.m. All ages welcome. <https://www.ococean.com/things-to-do/free-family-fun/oc-beach-dance-party/>

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

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

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

Tues., July 9

STORY TIME: “WORMS”
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and finger plays. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OMAZING YOGA ADVENTURE
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. The group will stretch and move their bodies, learn breathing techniques and relax together, while having fun and being silly. For ages 6-11 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OMAZING YOGA ADVENTURE
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. The group will stretch and move their bodies, learn breathing techniques and relax together, while having fun and being silly. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

PARKINSON’S SUPPORT GROUP
Atlantic General Neurology, 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 3:15-4 p.m. Group provides education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications, and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765, kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org

Calendar

GHOST HUNTING IN THE LIBRARY
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 5 p.m. Listen to local ghost stories and help investigate. For ages 12-17 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

JR. LIFEGUARD CAMP
Ocean Pines Sports Core Pool, 11144 Cathell Road, 5:30-7 p.m., July 9-11. Must be a strong swimmer. For ages 7 years and older. Cost is \$75 for residents, \$80 for non-residents. Jr. Lifeguards receive T-shirt and whistle. Register: 410-641-5255, oceanpines.org.

BOOK CLUB: 'NORMAL PEOPLE' BY SALLY ROONEY
Tides & Vine, 106 W. Green St., Snow Hill, 5:30 p.m. Join Snow Hill Library and Tides & Vine for an evening of books and wine. Must be at least 21 years of age. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

J1 STUDENT WELCOME TO THE WILD SIDE EVENT
Coastal Wilds, 34215 Peppers Corner Road, Frankford, 6-8 p.m. Self-guided tour, games and raffle prizes. Free shuttle service. Only \$10. Book now at www.CoastalWilds.org/j1.

SONG CELEBRATION
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 6 p.m. Bring a song and share it with other players and writers in a welcoming and encouraging space. Originals encouraged. Listeners welcome. Hosted by Mikel Campbell. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SAFE BOATING COURSE
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 6-9 p.m. Takes place July 9-11. Cost is \$20 for all three evenings. Register: Barry Cohen, 410-935-4807, CGAUXOC@gmail.com.

ATLANTIC COAST SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION MEETING
American Legion Synepuxent Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7 p.m. A representative from the U.S. Coast Guard, Ocean City Station will speak on a variety of issues of interest to local fishing and boating. Food and beverages available by 6:20 p.m. Open to the public.

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

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY
Tuesdays - Worcester County Health



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY GOVERNMENT

TECH STUDENTS RECOGNIZED
At a ceremony at the Worcester County Fire Training Center June 10, Worcester County Commissioner Ted Elder presented commendations to 11 individuals, the majority of them Worcester Technical High School students, for completing fire and EMS training through WTHS.

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

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

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

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

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

Wed., July 10

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP
Online Zoom call on the first and second Wednesday of each month. For non-surgical patients. Atlantic General Bariatric Center, 410-641-9568

OMAZING YOGA ADVENTURE
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. The group will stretch and move their bodies, learn breathing techniques and relax together, while having fun and

being silly. For ages 6-11 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FANCY NANCY PARTY
Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 12 p.m. Bonjour! That's fancy for hello. Join in for "tea," tattoos and tutus. For all ages. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

ADULT CRAFTERNOON: WATERCOLORS
Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Bring the colors to life on the page. Limit 30. First come, first served. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TABLETOP ROLE PLAYING GAME
Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5 p.m. Come play selected role playing game for adults and teens. Registration required: 410-632-3495. Limit 10. www.worcesterlibrary.org

ADVENTURE BACK TO TIN PAN ALLEY
Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 5:15 p.m. Notes on the Beach performs music from Tin Pan Alley and some songs inspired by the Great Gatsby. Mocktails of the era and light snacks served. Registration required: 410-641-0650.

KIDS PAINT NIGHT
Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 5:30-6:30 p.m. For ages 8-17 years. Cost is \$22. All materials and instructions provided. Pre-registration required: 410-641-7052. oceanpines.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

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

KIWANIS CLUB MEETING
Wednesdays through Aug. 26 - Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 8 a.m. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Third Wednesday meetings are offsite and information can be found on www.kiwanisofopoc.org.

ONGOING EVENTS

NAO TRINIDAD IN OCEAN CITY
Chicago Avenue and 3rd Street, bayside, Ocean City, June 28 through Sept. 1, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Nao Trinidad was the flagship of the Magellan-Elcano expedition, leading the first sailing around the world between 1519 and 1522. Tickets: <https://tickets.naotrinidad.org/content>

ARTISAN DAYS
Furnace Town, 3816 Old Furnace Road, Snow Hill, on the first Saturdays from April to September. There will be volunteers showcasing their unique historical talents.

OCEAN PINES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT RAFFLE
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