



TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FUNDRAISER BOOST

Attendees at last Saturday's Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market are shown buying tickets for the fundraising drive led by the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department for its new headquarters.



STEVE GREEN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

UNDER THE HOOD

The 6th Annual Flower Street Car, Truck and Bike Show was held last Saturday at St. Paul United Methodist Church. The event featured dozens of vehicles of all years and models as well as the church's famous barbeque chicken.

OPA sees solid July numbers

Month's finances remain positive, despite declines in aquatics and yacht club

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(Aug. 22, 2024) The Ocean Pines Association released its financial statements for July this week, indicating a positive fiscal year for the community.

The report notes that the homeowner association's operating fund variance is positive year-to-date at \$432,277 and positive for the month ending July 31, 2024, at \$2,378.

Additionally, all amenities, sans aquatics, which is down \$11,000 from July 2023, and the yacht club, which has a negative difference of around \$57,000 from last year, increased their profits.

At the end of July 2023, the Ocean Pines Beach Club parking saw operational profits of \$448,282. This year, that figure has increased 4% to \$464,472. The marinas rose 18% from \$217,266 to \$257,076, the beach club's numbers improved 25% from \$131,485 to \$164,055, and the Clubhouse Grille climbed slightly from \$65,500 to \$69,555.

Racquet sports' profits grew 27% from \$82,574 to \$104,716, and golf shot up 15% to \$571,401 from \$495,337.

The report was released following the community's Aug. 10 annual meeting, at which OPA Board of Directors President Rick Farr referred to the golf course as a "destination" spot. General Manager John Viola has repeatedly referred to the amenity as the propeller to the neighborhood's financial success.

The golf course's monetary favorability is notable, as OPA officials said
See COURSE Page 7



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New Berlin business scores façade grant through state

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(Aug. 22, 2024) Last week, the Berlin Beer Company and its food partner, The Street Kitchen, were awarded a \$20,000 façade grant from the Berlin Main Street Program.

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development funded the financial gift. A Facebook post from the Town of Berlin Main Street and Arts and Entertainment District states that the grant aims to help “downtown businesses and property owners revitalize their buildings or storefront.”

According to Berlin Beer Company owner and operator Adam Davis, he and his team purchased 115 Broad Street as the physical location of the alcohol facility and restaurant. The building is historic and required modifications to ensure it could safely host patrons. The brewery will serve beer, wine and liquor. The Street Kitchen will handle the food service.

Davis said that the structure was built in the 1930s and has since lived many lives, including as the town’s freight train station, Southern States farm supply store, and, most recently, a seafood operation. Now, the facility

will welcome Berlin residents and visitors with locally brewed beer and on-site prepared dishes.

The façade grant program provided Berlin with an allowance of \$50,000 to be budgeted throughout the town, Davis said. The brewery, which put “way more” into its building’s repairs, asked for the maximum amount to which it may be entitled. Their application was approved, and the \$20,000 was gifted as a reimbursement for the work that had already been completed.

“We had to put in more than that to do the renovations to bring our building back to current code, so we asked for the max of the \$50,000, and that’s how it worked out,” the brewery owner said.

The remaining \$30,000 was spread out to additional businesses in town, including The Globe and Gilbert Provisions.

The Street Kitchen will handle Berlin Beer Company’s onsite food service. The business, owned by husband-and-wife team Jeff and Tammie Faille, opened in September 2017 as a food truck. Soon after, they began catering weddings and were recognized twice by Coastal Style Magazine for their work in Worcester County.

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TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Berlin Beer Company owner Adam Davis anticipates opening his new brewery, which will also be home to The Street Kitchen, in September.

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Generator maintenance contract awarded

County eyes preventative approach with agreement for \$36K/year for 80 units

By Bethany Hooper
Associate Editor

(Aug. 22, 2024) Officials recently awarded a contract to perform preventative maintenance on county-owned generators.

At a meeting earlier this month, Procurement Officer Nicholas Rice presented the Worcester County Commissioners with a recommendation to award Fidelity Power Systems a contract to perform yearly preventive maintenance on county generators. Of the proposals received, Rice said Fidelity offered the best value, at \$36,450 a year.

“We received five proposals from different companies,” he said. “They were

evaluated by three county employees ... All three of the evaluators had Fidelity Power Systems as the highest ranked and they were also the lowest cost.”

When asked how many generators the contract would cover, Rice said it was roughly 80. Commissioner Caryn Abbott, however, questioned the work Fidelity had performed as the county’s current contract holder.

“Wasn’t one of the problems with the current company was that they weren’t doing the inspections the way they were supposed to be done throughout the county?” she asked.

Rice, alluding to a generator the county had to replace at the jail earlier this year, said the company had conducted the necessary inspections.

“That generator, there were some repairs that were recommended by the company, to the jail, that were not

done,” he replied. “And we think that that was what ultimately ended up causing the repair or replacement ... They did the maintenance and suggested some repairs that weren’t done, I believe, in a timely manner.”

Commissioner Eric Fiori added that those issues had been corrected.

“I believe we’ve kind of caught that, kind of nipped that in the rear there ... to make sure that these generator service recommendations are going directly to public works and not the individual department heads,” he said.

For his part, Fiori said he supported the recommendation but wanted to add certain services as part of the county’s generator maintenance program.

“What appears to be our failures occurring in our generators are either fuel related or coolant related, not being cycled,” he said. “So I put on

the request to also looking at a fuel scrubbing company, an additional contract to this, and adding the replacement of antifreeze in our generators as part of the service agreement that we’re talking about here.”

When asked if adding antifreeze replacement to the contract would change the cost, Rice said he wasn’t sure.

“I can’t answer that right now,” he said.

With no further discussion, the commissioners voted unanimously to approve the contract with the addition of antifreeze service and to have the county explore a secondary contract for fuel scrubbing.

“So the fuel cleaning will be a separate contract, but we can definitely add the antifreeze to this, as part of this contract,” Rice said.

Berlin brewery secures grant

Continued from Page 3

The Street Kitchen serves brisket, pork and tuna tacos, sandwiches, cut-cut fries, and quesadillas with farm-fresh ingredients. Tammie Faille said that the truck also makes its own sauces and pico de gallo.

The Berlin Beer Company con-

tacted the Faille’s in January 2023 about the partnership. Davis said that the brick-and-mortar location is expected to be fully operational within the first few weeks of September. The facility has already passed its electrical and fire marshal inspection and is just awaiting some last-minute tests.

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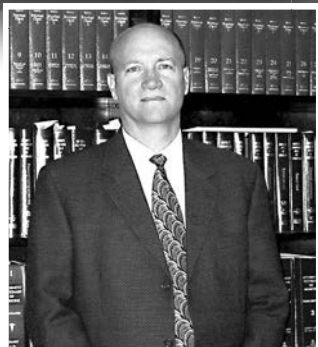
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Wind developer proposing fishing compensation deal

By Bethany Hooper
Associate Editor

(Aug. 22, 2024) While local officials continue to share concerns about the impact a proposed operations and maintenance facility could have on the local fishing industry, US Wind reports this week it is developing a compensation program to benefit commercial and recreational fishermen.

This week, US Wind's senior director of external affairs, Nancy Sopko, confirmed that the company is developing a mitigation program for commercial and for-hire recreational fishermen. The announcement comes a week after the Worcester County Commissioners shared concerns about a potential agreement.

"US Wind is adopting a compensation program to benefit commercial and for-hire recreational fishermen, a measure BOEM (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) recognized as effective in our FEIS (Federal Environmental Impact Statement)," Sopko said. "US Wind and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources signed a Letter of Intent in July 2024 to develop a fisheries compensatory mitigation program by early 2025. Such a mitigation pro-

gram could include financial assistance, assistance with equipment upgrades or training, and other services. We look forward to working with the state on outreach to the fishing community to further develop details of this mitigation program."

Earlier this month, the Maryland Department of the Environment announced it would forward a favorable recommendation to issue US Wind a wetlands permit for the construction of a pier and bulkhead on Harbor Road in West Ocean City. Last week, however, the commissioners voted to make its opposition known to the Maryland Board of Public Works, which makes the final determination.

As part of their discussions, the commissioners and county staff also shared concerns about a "fisheries compensation agreement," which was referenced in MDE's review of US Wind's wetlands permit application. Bob Mitchell, director of environmental programs for Worcester County, said it was the first officials had heard of the agreement.

"There's no compensation, there's been no outreach, and there's been no communications for anything related to the harbor," Bob Mitchell, director of environmental programs, told the commissioners last Tuesday.

Sopko confirmed this week efforts are ongoing to develop a mitigation program for local commercial and for-hire recreational fishermen. She said outreach will occur with the assistance of the state.

To support its offshore wind energy project, US Wind proposes the construction of an operations and maintenance facility at 12929 and 12933 Harbor Road in West Ocean City. Currently home to Martin Fish Company and Southern Connections, the properties will be redeveloped to include an onshore office, a marine coordination center and warehouse space, as well as quayside and berthing areas for the company's crew transfer vessels.

To moor its vessels at the proposed site, US Wind has planned upgrades to the existing pier structure, which would require a state wetlands permit. In its report to the Board of Public Works, the Maryland Department of the Environment last week issued a favorable recommendation to approve US Wind's wetlands permit application.

In a letter to Gov. Wes Moore (D), a member of the three-person public works board, Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan outlined the city's continued opposition. Meehan also pleaded with Moore to work cooperatively with Ocean City to learn about the objections to the project, notably the close proximity to the beach (10.7

See FISHING Page 8



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Berlin to buy four new flag poles thanks to donations

By **Tara Fischer**

Staff Writer

(Aug. 22, 2024) At the Berlin Mayor and Council's Monday, Aug. 12 meeting, We Heart Berlin founder Tony Weeg presented the town's public works director, Jimmy Charles, with a check for four new flag poles.

On June 26, Berlin American Legion Post #123 provided the town with \$7,500 to replace the flag poles at the Main and West Streets war memorial sites. Now, thanks to the financial contributions from the veteran's organization and a private donor totaling \$15,000, two new flag poles are set to be purchased and installed in the remembrance area and two at the Tripoli Street entrance of Stephen Decatur Park.

The updates are part of a plan to beautify the community's parks and areas of significance.

"Our goal is to help embellish all the parks in town...", Weeg said on June 26. "We are beyond excited."

Charles noted that the flagpole initiative has been in the works for a year

and a half. Including the legion funds for the initial replacement, the town has collected \$15,000 in donations and used We Heart Berlin, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit group dedicated to improving recreational activities for residents, as a place to deposit the financial gifts.

"We are going to put the poles up a little higher, and they will be much stronger," the public works director said.

Weeg attended the August 12 meeting to officially present the check to purchase the four additional flag posts.

The old poles at the memorial are 20 feet long and made of fiberglass; as a result, they have begun to see some wear and tear. The new structures, two at the war site and two at Stephen Decatur Park, will extend 30 feet and be built with heavy-duty material to withstand coastline wind. Charles added that the post's satin finish will be rust-preventative.

"Jimmy's vision is that when you come down North Main, you'll see the flags," Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall said.

Course awaits irrigation project

Continued from Page 1

the recreational service operated at a considerable loss in the past. As maintenance and renovations continue to be prioritized, membership has increased.

The course is preparing for an irrigation project, which, in its first phase, will include replacing pump stations at fairways one and nine and the driving range. According to Viola, the project is expected to cost approximately \$934,000. The work will kick off in November and be completed by March 2025.

"The golf course ... continues to be improved, and we are going to continue down that avenue to make sure it remains a destination golf course," Farr said at the August 10 meeting.

Marty Clarke, a former OPA board

member and vice president who was initially elected in 2007, noted on the Ocean Pines Forum that the July numbers indicate the HOA is "sitting on over \$9 million in our reserves and an additional \$9,777,340 in cash on hand."

On Aug. 10, Viola maintained that the community is financially stable.

"At this point, if I were to put a term on it, I would call it Goldilocks," he said. "It is a Goldilocks situation."

The association continues to improve its amenities. The Veterans Memorial Pavilion is on track to be completed by November. In the last 12 months, \$25,000 was spent on maintenance to the racquet sports pro shop, including a new HVAC system, an ice machine, office furniture, window repairs, and a splash pad installed at the Swim and Racquet pool.



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Commissioner argues state hurting county

By Steve Green
Executive Editor

(Aug. 22, 2024) The county's highest ranking elected official delivered some candid criticism of state lawmakers at last week's Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) summer conference.

"Worcester County continues to be negatively impacted by decisions of the state legislature and state agencies regarding wind turbines and solar power fields that are usurping local autonomy and threatening our community's way of life," said Worcester County Commission President Chip Bertino last week in Ocean City during the MACo gathering.

Bertino posted an adapted version of his opening remarks on his Facebook page over the weekend and sent the comments to this newspaper as a

letter to the editor. Bertino has long been critical of state mandates that shift financial burdens to the county jurisdictions, such as recent state decisions that place more health department spending on county governments. In his commentary, Bertino pointed out Worcester County's tourism spending tops \$2.5 billion annually, resulting in over 13% of Maryland's visitor spending.

"Our county is founded on three economic drivers: tourism, which generates state and local revenues; commercial and recreational fishing, which are served by the West Ocean City harbor, the only commercial harbor in the Mid-Atlantic region with ocean access; and finally, agriculture, which is dependent on healthy soil to grow crops and to nourish livestock that feed the county, the state, and the

nation," Bertino said. "Today, all three of Worcester County's primary economic drivers that earn billions of dollars for the state treasury, that employ thousands of workers here and across the state and nation, and that attract millions of tourists annually are falling prey to greedy, external predators. Concerns raised, and requests made by the County Commissioners for assistance have been ignored repeatedly by those most in a position to help and by the institutions of government that smile upon the promises of foreign business in-

terests that rely heavily on taxpayer subsidies to fund their uncertain startups, while turning a blind eye to the disastrous consequences that result locally."

The most recent subject of ire, specifically, is the offshore wind farm under development and on a fast track to reality.

"Our seaside horizon has been auctioned for windfarms. ... The impact of these monstrous structures should prick the conscience of all of us who value the splendor of the environ-

See BERTINO Page 10

Fishing industry offer coming?

Continued from Page 6
miles) compared to similar sized projects in other states like Virginia and North Carolina (26 miles).

"It is not too late to address these issues and to relocate this project. Yes, it would take additional time but it has already been 7-plus years and ultimately what is more important, a project that we will all look back and regret or a project that clearly becomes the model for offshore wind development?," Meehan wrote. "You only get one chance to get this right and I can assure you that if this proj-

ect moves forward as currently proposed, Maryland residents, property owners and visitors to Ocean City are going to ask elected officials 'How did you ever let this happen?' We humbly ask for your support. Ask the right questions. Get the right answers. Include Ocean City in the conversation. I do not believe that state and federal elected officials are truly aware of the total impact this project will have on our ratepayers and resources. Do not let US Wind, an Italian-owned company, take advantage of our State for profit."

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Bertino: County under attack

Continued from Page 8
 "Testing procedures are wreaking havoc on fragile aquatic life. Dead whales on the beach. Disoriented dolphins washing ashore. The threat to horseshoe crabs, which are critical to cancer and other medical research, is said to be unknown. ... The negative impact on our fishing industry is unconscionable. Plans to construct an oversized concrete pier in the West Ocean City harbor – established specifically as a commercial marine zoning district in 1999 – will obliterate local fishing industries."

On a different topic, Bertino also reiterated a concern shared recently by commissioners during a public presentation from MACo officials on solar panels on farmland.

"Like many rural counties across the state, Worcester's farmlands are under attack. The state is approving solar fields for large companies while denying the rights of local governments to apply their own zoning codes that reflect local values, objectives, and ways of life. Fertile farmlands are being plowed under by major companies who seek unfettered profits on historically low-taxed fields."

Bertino added, "The people of our county are being disrespected. Yet, it's hoped that opportunities can be found through cooperative discus-

sions with the state that we will ultimately blaze a path forward that respects Worcester County's way of life, its environment and its commerce."

On Saturday, Aug. 17, Gov. Wes Moore (D) closed the MACo convention touting his administration's successes and stressing the positives in Maryland.

"... Our first year and a half in office has been guided by a single question: How do we get Maryland's economy growing again? When I entered office, our economy wasn't just stagnant – it had stalled. From 2017 to 2022, the national economy grew by 11%. Maryland's economy grew by just 3%. We ranked consistently low on affordability, wages, population, education, labor force participation, and employment," Moore said. "But spending increased by 70% during the seven years just before I took office. So we were spending more but we weren't growing more. Problems beneath the surface were hidden by billions of dollars in federal money to get us through COVID. But billions of dollars from the federal government was not a "structural surplus." It was a sugar high. So to balance the equation, we knew we had to prioritize growth. Our strategy has been centered on building new pathways to three north star priorities: Work, wages, and wealth."

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Billy Rothstein is pictured judging a Jeep Yj in a previous OC Jeef Fest Show and Shine event.

PHOTO COURTESY LIVE WIRE MEDIA

OC Jeep Fest gets underway Thursday with new features

(Aug. 22, 2024) OC Jeep Fest kicks off today in Ocean City and runs through the weekend with live entertainment offered on Saturday.

The Roland E. Powell Convention Center is the hub of the event, including the vendor village and the annual Show & Shine competitions. However, this year, the production team at Live Wire Media is excited to bring back an indoor vendor village, which has not been held in recent years.

Also new this year will be live entertainment in the Performing Arts Center inside the convention center. Beginning at 7 p.m., headliners will be country music stars Jason Michael Carroll and Sam Grow. Also performing as special guests will be Rich LaFleur and Blake Wood. Tickets are available at etix.com. A bonus of the evening is attendees can view Treads In The Sand and OC Jeep Fest movie. The live concerts will benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Located inside the convention center, the indoor vendor village features more vendors than ever, as well as a Vintage & Custom Jeep Display. You won't see vintage, classic, and custom Jeeps like this at any other event, according to event director Brad Hoffman. The display will include one of the most award-winning custom Jeeps in the U.S., courtesy of Craig Huffnagle and Krawl Works.

"We're also including a Kids station inside the OCJF HQ, where kids can test their skills on the Jeep RC car track, and try their hand at our 'Design Your Own Jeep' activity," said Hoffman.

A highlight of OC Jeep Fest are the sunrise beach crawls, a sandy carpet ride of Jeeps heading north on the beach from the Inlet to 30th Street.

"We also offer our Sand Course, which is like a gentle roller coaster ride for Jeeps of any kind. This amazing course is designed by our friends at Delmarva Jeep Events, a team of

professional course creators," said Hoffman. "If you're looking for a new sound system or an upgrade for your Jeep, you can find it here at OC Jeep Fest from Thursday to Saturday. We offer show specials and deals that you cannot find anywhere else."

Title sponsor Kicker Audio will have a massive display centered around the brand-new tractor-trailer. You can listen to and try out new Kicker products. The Kicker Audio crew will also show off their own customized Jeeps. Retail partner Audio Works will be doing sales and installation by factory reps.

Additionally, a new partner to the event is BWT Off-Road, which will bring a huge selection of wheels and tires from all your favorite brands. The official off-road shop is Joe's Jeep Jungle, to show off their hemi swaps and an array of other high-end customizations.

"We work all year for a show that celebrates everything Jeep," said Hoffman. "OC Jeep Fest is all about the people and we love to host them at the beach. We're dedicated to making this event special for our participants, vendors, and the public."



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Repeated attempts by county staff to reach the owner and encourage cleanup of a Pocomoke property, pictured, have been unsuccessful.

Property declared nuisance after staff reports concerns

By **Bethany Hooper**
Associate Editor

(Aug. 22, 2024) County staff will address a nuisance property in Pocomoke.

The Worcester County Commissioner voted at a meeting earlier this month to declare the conditions at 842 Colona Road as a nuisance. Jennifer Keener, director of development review and permitting, said county staff had attempted to work with the property owners, but what little progress had been made earlier this year has since stalled.

“The health department has been involved in this process as well and has written them up,” she told the commissioners. “So on behalf of both the health department and DRP we’re requesting consideration for the

abatement of the nuisance.”

Officials report a complaint-based investigation began last year, and that several site visits had been performed. Pictures taken throughout 2023 and 2024 show household trash and miscellaneous items surrounding the residence.

“They have a lot of household garbage and now the grass and weeds have grown up within that so we can’t just go cut the grass,” Keener explained. “We would have to do both, go in and trim it while removing.”

Keener said some attempts have been made to clean up the property, but that there had been no activity in recent months. She said phone calls and letters were made to the two property owners, who inherited the house from their father.

“They’ve made some efforts, but they have not made contact with us,” she said.

To that end, Keener said she was seeking the commissioners’ assistance in declaring the conditions a nuisance. Doing so, she said, would give the property owners 30 days to clean up the property. She added the property owners could also seek an appeal.

“So what our steps would be is to notify the property owners that this has been declared a nuisance, give them 30 days to clean it up,” she said. “If they don’t, we do an RFP to bring somebody in to do the work ourselves. That would go out to bid, and then if they don’t pay that bill then it goes onto their tax records.”

Commissioner Chip Bertino said he was concerned about the cost associated with abatement. He said in a previous case, the county had spent more than it had intended to.

“I’m just concerned we could end up in that same situation,” he said. “When you put the bid out, does that come back to us for approval?”

Keener said it would. After further discussion, the commissioners voted unanimously to declare the property a nuisance and to have staff provide an update in 30 days.

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On August 14, the business of residential real estate in Maryland will change. Specifically, potential homebuyers who wish to work with an agent will need to sign a written agreement with an agent prior to work done on the buyer's behalf. Also, properties for sale listed on databases known as a multiple listing service (MLS) will no longer include an offer of compensation that the seller is offering to buyer's brokers.

This means that before you begin your home search, you have a valuable opportunity to sit down with your agent and discuss the many services they will provide, ensuring that you have a clear understanding of how they will assist you throughout the process. You'll also have the chance to determine a fair compensation structure that reflects the value and worth they bring to your real estate journey.

Regarding offers of compensation, Maryland REALTORS®, representing more than 28,000 members, and Coastal REALTORS®, serving Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset counties, applaud efforts that contribute to transparency in the real estate transaction, likely the most complex purchase anyone will make in their lifetimes. Of the requirement for a written Buyer's Agreement, this is an "advocacy win" we fought for more than eight years ago: Maryland law has required this since October 2016.

Transparency helps to place today's homebuyers and sellers in the driver's seat as it provides clarity in the transaction and defines the roles and responsibilities for all parties involved. Sellers can search for a REALTOR® based on a variety of factors including sales volume, community knowledge, and more. Buyers can also find their ideal REALTOR®, looking at factors important to them: fiduciary skills, inspections expertise, referrals, etc. While both Buyer and Seller will have contractual and financial obligations to their respective agents' brokerages, commissions remain negotiable. The Buyer and Seller have the power to search for the REALTOR® who best serves their needs.

However you choose to find your REALTOR®, understand the VALUE they bring to your home sale or search. Buying or selling a home can be stressful, difficult, confounding, complex—and your REALTOR®, a professional with specialized training, market knowledge, and unique expertise, can make your path more manageable and—dare we say?—engaging, exciting, and, at the end of the transaction, rewarding. Many REALTORS® have specializations that focus on elements that can be a game-changer: first-time homebuyers, military, diverse marketplaces, specialized properties, etc.

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While searching for the REALTOR® that best suits you, take time to educate yourself on the details of buying or selling a home. In 2019, Maryland REALTORS® launched [MarylandHomeownership.com](https://www.MarylandHomeownership.com), an educational resource, free of advertising and sales tactics, which provides actionable information, including downloadable resources and checklists (in English and Spanish), that educates consumers on all facets of buying or selling a home. Doing some homework ahead of one of the biggest decisions in your life always pays dividends.

Transparency and education are two of the most important factors that can lead to a successful outcome when buying or selling a home. The third factor is working with a REALTOR®. The path toward buying or selling a home is not traveled often. There are bumps, odd turns, hazards that you hadn't expected. Your REALTOR® will guide you through this process, and once you've successfully been handed the keys to your new home (or have sold your current home) you'll realize that your REALTOR® was WORTH the sound investment.

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Campground subdivision issue moves ahead

Public hearing will be held on accessory buildings at two Worcester locations

By Bethany Hooper
Associate Editor

(Aug. 22, 2024) A county bill to amend campground subdivision regulations involving accessory buildings and off-street parking will advance to a public hearing.

Commissioner Eric Fiori agreed in a recent meeting to add his name to a proposed text amendment that would allow a second, unenclosed accessory building on campground lots, the elimination of a six-foot separation distance between accessory buildings and other buildings, and a reduction of parking spaces from two to one. With his support, the bill will now be scheduled for a public hearing.

“I am going to put my name on this but I think we need to make some tweaks,” he said.

Currently, there are two campground subdivisions in Worcester County – White Horse Park and Assateague Pointe. The zoning code for those subdivisions allows one detached accessory building per campsite and requires two parking spaces.

Earlier this year, however, a resident within the White Horse Park commu-

nity submitted a text amendment application that would change the regulations for campground subdivisions. The amendment proposes allowing an additional unenclosed, detached accessory building on each lot, and eliminating the six-foot separation distance between accessory buildings and other buildings on the same or adjoining sites. The amendment also proposes a reduction in the number of on-site parking spaces from two to one.

“For introduction, the planning commission reviewed this text amendment on July 3 and gave it an unfavorable recommendation,” Jennifer Keener, director of development review and permitting, told the commissioners last Tuesday. “It includes three parameters for campground subdivisions, of which there’s only two in Worcester County, and would allow them in a second accessory building that would be unenclosed up to 12-by-12 in size. It would eliminate the six-foot separation requirement between accessory buildings and anything else on the property, and then also reduce the parking spaces from two to one, all in an attempt to capture as many structures as possible.”

According to a memo submitted to the commissioners, Keener said the text amendment application stems from a recent request to permit buildings such as canopies and gazebos



SUBMITTED PHOTOZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

County Commissioner Eric Fiori's willingness to add his name to a proposed text amendment on campground accessory buildings pushed the matter to the public hearing stage.

within campground subdivisions. However, the department of development review and permitting could not process the permit application, as such a structure would be considered a second accessory building. It was then that the department was notified of several similar, unpermitted buildings within both the White Horse Park and Assateague Pointe communities.

“Inspections were conducted of both campground subdivisions and notices were sent to the owners,” the

memo reads. “Various aspects of the proposed bill language were included by the applicant to capture as many existing circumstances as possible.”

When the text amendment was presented last month, the Worcester County Planning Commission voted 4-2 to provide an unfavorable recommendation. Those in opposition voiced concerns about the elimination of one parking space and the removal of the six-foot separation, a change they said could im-

See FIORI Page 15

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Indoor pool closed until Sept. 2

(Aug. 22, 2024) Ocean Pines residents who use the community's Sports Core Pool will have to find another option for swimming for the next two weeks.

According to a news release from Ocean Pines Aquatics, the indoor facility and amenities will be closed from Monday, Aug. 19, through Sept. 2, as crews perform cleaning and maintenance work.

It is set to reopen Sept. 3. The sports Core Pool is typically open all year round for classes and swim members. The facility consists of a large, heated indoor pool with a slide, large stepped entry, and indoor and outdoor sundecks and loungers. The facility hosts fitness classes, lap swimming, swim lessons, birthday parties and other special events all year for all ages.

Fiori supports citizen request

Continued from Page 14

pede fire and ambulance access. Those concerns were echoed at last week's commissioners meeting. Commissioner Jim Bunting said he would not add his name to the bill.

"First of all, the planning commission gave it an unfavorable recommendation," he said. "I think the fact that there would be no rear or side yards to these structures is very wrong. I mean, fire requires distance between buildings, and I think reducing the parking spaces would be wrong. The majority of the streets now are only 20 feet wide. There's no room to park on the streets. And this is just a bad, bad bill."

It should be noted that at least one county commissioner must introduce the amendment as a bill. Fiori this week said that while he understood the

concerns, he would lend his support. "Obviously, in Worcester County, it's applying to two different neighborhoods which obviously are of the vacation nature where they're in and out," he said. "The request I received, a lot of our senior citizens, especially with an uptick in the area with skin cancer and these things, the majority of these structures are to shield them from the sun so they can utilize the outdoor area. I agree with the fire, and I think this may need to be refined somewhat, to move forward, but I mean a majority of these places are owned by our seniors, and I think we need to consider that."

With Fiori agreeing to put his name on the bill, a public hearing will be held at a future commissioners meeting. "We just need one to move forward," Commissioner Chip Bertino said.

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Industry impact less severe in Maryland, CAR reports

By **Bethany Hooper**
Associate Editor

(Aug. 22, 2024) The Coastal Association of Realtors says it is prepared for industry changes that take effect this week, as licensed real estate agents will have to change the way they handle real estate transactions.

And while there will be new rules related to broker commissions, CAR CEO Bernie Flax said business practices will not change that much.

“Maryland’s been doing most of these things all along ...,” she said. “There’s nothing that’s really changed in how we are doing our business.”

Traditionally, real estate commissions – historically at 5% or 6% – are paid by the seller and split between the seller’s agent and the buyer’s agent. The compensation amount is also shared upfront on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS), an online tool for brokers to share information about available properties.

However, recent antitrust lawsuits challenged that transaction model, with plaintiffs arguing it reduced competition and incentivized buyer agents to avoid showing listings with lower compensations. And in March, the National Association of Realtors announced a \$418 million settlement agreement that denied all wrongdoing but set new rules for compensation.

“NAR has long maintained—and we continue to believe—that cooperative compensation and NAR’s current policies are good things that benefit buyers and sellers,” its website reads. “They promote access to property ownership, particularly for lower- and middle-income buyers who can have a difficult-enough time

saving for a down payment. With this settlement, NAR is confident it and its members can still achieve all those goals.”

As part of the settlement, compensation offers will be removed from the MLS, meaning that negotiations will be handled offline. Agents will also be required to enter into written agreements with buyers before touring a home. These written agreements must include new provisions that specify the rate of compensation a real estate agent receives and states that commissions are fully negotiable.

“Maryland Realtors support this and other changes, as they contribute to transparency in real estate transactions, which is crucial for both buyers and sellers,” Chuck Kasky, CEO of Maryland Realtors, said in a video statement this week. “In fact, Maryland law has required written buyer agreements since October 2016, reflecting our commitment to clarity and accountability in real estate services.”

Flax said this week that compensation has always been negotiable. However, officials say the new rules will give buyers and sellers more power to negotiate lower commissions.

“In real estate, there will always be two sides to each transaction,” 2024 CAR President Brigit Taylor said in March. “CAR, NAR, and Maryland Realtors stand behind the need for both the seller and the buyer to be represented by a professional who knows their market and the communities, how to prepare a home for sale, and how to prepare each party for the process of a home sale or purchase.”

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Berlin church to celebrate stained glass with events

By Tara Fischer
 Staff Writer

(Aug. 22, 2024) The Berlin Stevenson United Methodist Church is celebrating the completion of its stained-glass window restoration project this weekend with two days of events.

In the summer of 2023, through the church's Restore the Light campaign, several windows were shipped to Minnesota to be refurbished in a year-long process. Now, the facility will welcome community members to witness the work that has since been finalized.

"We want to ... show everyone how pretty the windows are," Restore the Light Committee chair Beth Sise said. "They look good on the outside but even better on the inside."

Sise added that the refurbishment project's purpose was to restore the stained-glass windows to their original state when they were initially installed in 1912.

"The building is over 110 years old," she said. "We hope that the project will keep the building up to date while also honoring its past and legacy."

A total of 34 stained-glass windows were refurbished. Of those, 20



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Crews spent much of the summer months repairing and restoring Stevenson United Methodist Church's stained glass windows.

were worked on in place, and 14, which were determined to be structurally unsound, were sent to Minnesota for historic restoration.



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Donations helped fund project

The church will welcome community members for an open house on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Berlin visitors and residents are encouraged to enter the historic building and see the updated stained glass.

Sise said the event will include light fare and musical stylings from violinist Bethany Jubilee. In addition to showcasing the completed project to the community, the open house is meant to honor the three foundations whose financial contributions propelled the project to fruition.

The Restore the Light campaign chair said the primary donors are the Humphrey's Foundation, the Thomas G. Hanley Trust, and the E. Bowen and Frances Hyde Quillin Foundation. The organizations are nonprofits created by local Berlin families with generational roots in town.

"The foundations are the major reason we were so successful in having the money to refurbish the stained glass," Sise said. "It is important that they are recognized."

The church is hosting a formal window dedication on Sunday, Aug. 25, at 9 a.m. Contemporary and organ music and a covered-dish luncheon are planned for the event. The Restore the Light team will provide fried chicken, ham, and dessert. Attendees are encouraged to bring

their own side dishes. Reverend Christina Blake, the Lower Shore District Superintendent of all the area's clergies, is also expected to speak.

Sise said that a bronze plaque is being made and will be mounted on a memorial stone in the church's front yard to honor the foundations' contributions and recognize the entire congregation. The plate will be installed sometime this fall.

Efforts to repair the stained-glass windows began in 2021 when an assessment determined that approximately \$211,000 was required to restore the glass panes and acrylic covers that had experienced wear and tear from age and the sun.

In 2022, the Restore the Light group began fundraising for the initiative. In addition to the significant three donors, other community members financially contributed to the project.

Church officials signed a contract with the company Willet Hauser Architectural Glass in August 2022, and roughly a year later, the tedious process was underway.

"The repairs boost our pride in our house of worship," Sise noted. "It adds to what is happening in Berlin with facades being fixed up. Each year, we as a town improve, and I'm proud we could be a part of it and boost our appearance as well."

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Beginning Sept. 5, rehearsals are every Thursday afternoon, from 1-2:30pm at the OP Community Center. The concert is on Sun., Dec. 8, 3pm at Community Church at Ocean Pines.

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Obituaries

FRITZ RICHARD PATSCHORKE
Ocean Pines

Fritz Richard Patschorke, 85, of Ocean Pines, (formerly of Baltimore), passed away July 24, 2024 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his daughters Linda Geiwitz (Warren) and Marylee Sewell; his sons, Michael Patschorke (Jody) and Thomas Patschorke (Michelle); his son-in-law, Kevin Sewell; his seven grandchildren, Emma (Jamey), Brandon (Christina), Erin, Timmy, Trevor, Ryan and Abb; and his great-granddaughter, Ade-



Fritz Patschorke

laide. He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Carol Lee (Ashley) Patschorke; his parents, Otto and Emma Patschorke; his brother, Walter Patschorke; and his sister, Rita Patschorke.

Rich was an avid fisherman and hunter. He loved being out on the water. Time spent with family was his most precious treasure. He will be missed by all the lives he touched.

A memorial service (also available

virtually through Community Church of Ocean Pines livestream) will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 7, at the Community Church of Ocean Pines in Berlin.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733 Salisbury, MD 21804 or online through Coastal Hospice.

LORRAINE GLORIA SIGISMONDI
Ocean City

Our beloved mother, Lorraine Gloria Sigismondi, 95, was called home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Aug. 19, 2024.

Lorraine was born on April 28, 1929, to Charles and Stella DiStefano in Baltimore. She married Philip Andrew Sigismondi Jr. on June 26, 1948, who preceded her in death on Aug. 16, 2020. They raised five loving daughters together.

Mom chose to stay home and raise her children and was grateful to our dad for making it possible. However, she later worked outside the home to continue her career in their LPS Automotive Title and Tag Transfer business. She was a dedicated Christian and an active member of the Baltimore

Chapter of Women's Aglow. She also attended Trinity Assembly of God Church in Lutherville. After her move to Ocean City in 1999, she was a devoted member of Coastal Community Church in Berlin, assisting with the youth group and various church events.

She loved spending time with family and friends, and enjoyed board games and cards. Her main priority was the care of her family. Lorraine is survived by daughters Phyllis (David) Hackel, Judy Daniel, Gina (Larry) Westfall, Victoria Sigismondi and Lori Kaiss; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. She will be greatly missed but never forgotten.

Lorraine is now united in new life with her husband Philip; parents; sister Genevive; two children she lost in pregnancy; and many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

Her daughters would like to thank the staff at Coastal Hospice and Palliative Care, Brightstar Care, and Coastal Community Church for the dedication and care of their mom.

In lieu of flowers and in memory of her life, donations can be sent to Coastal Community Church, 10900 Ocean Gateway, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

Letters of condolence may be sent through postal mail to: P.O. Box 243 Harbeson, Delaware 19951.



Lorraine Sigismondi

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Md. sports wager numbers for July exceed last year

(Aug. 22, 2024) Maryland's sports wagering market is still booming with reported revenues for July exceeding last year's figures.

According to a news release from Maryland Lottery and Gaming, the state's retail and mobile sports betting operations generated more than \$6.25 million in contributions to the state from a handle of over \$333 million for the month.

The total contribution, which goes to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund that supports statewide public education programs, was the fourth-best, single-month total and neatly double the July 2023 figure. The handle was also up by 34.7% from last year.

The release said there were 13 mobile and 12 retail sportsbooks operating this July, with 11 mobile and 10 retail in 2023.

Detailed summaries of the most recent results for each sportsbook, including handle, hold percentage, prizes paid, promotional play, taxable win, and contribution to the state, along with a summary of statewide handle and hold by sport is available at mdgaming.com.

Ocean Pines Library hosting free classical music concert

'End of summer' event set for Aug. 29 is 1st in group's back-to-school offerings

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(Aug. 22, 2024) The Friends of Ocean Pines Library, a group dedicated to supporting the Worcester County literary branch, is sponsoring a free "End of Summer Classical Music Concert" on Thursday, Aug. 29.

The event, scheduled for 6:30 p.m., will be held at the Ocean Pines Library and feature pieces by classical icons like Chopin, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Tchaikowsky, Faure, Schubert, Pessard, Haydn, and Handel performed by regional musicians on piano, oboe, flute, and voice.

FOPL Vice President Jim Meckley said that entry into the concert is free, but donations to the Ocean Pines Library are encouraged.

Musicians Julie Barton, Sally Hendon, Lisa Adams, Josie Cover, married piano duo Jenny and Pete Anderson, and Julie Mills are slated to showcase their artistic talents during the hour-long concert.

Meckley said all the performers have music degrees, and Adams and Hendon are members of the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra. Additionally, the entertainers are regional, hailing from East Coast states like Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Vermont.

The idea for a classical music concert came from the FOPL's vice president's background as a high school band director and passion for the genre.

"This event will give the area a better diversity of musical categories," Meckley said. "We have a lot of rock, country, and folk, but we do not get a lot of classical and jazz.... there is a classical music void."

Each performance will be classical or classically inspired. For example, the concert will feature a piece from Andrew Lloyd Webber's Requiem.

The event will include a flute solo, an oboe solo, a jazz solo, a piano duet, and a vocal duet. The goal is to keep the affair roughly an hour long.

"Over the years, I have attended some Salisbury University Symphony Orchestra concerts and thought, 'Wouldn't it be nice to bring that to our hometown,'" Meckley said. "I contacted about six or seven people who are music players and teachers, and we decided to do a concert...it is free, but we will collect a goodwill offering that will be given back to the library."

The Friends of Ocean Pines Library's vice president said the group is currently working on its fall calendar. In the next few months, it expects to host children's programs, movie showings, and trivia contests. Upcoming occurrences can be found on its website.

The concert is the first in the organization's back-to-school lineup.

"The kind of talent we have around here is often underestimated," Meckley said. "We have fine musicians. This is just the tip of the iceberg."

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Opinion

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

Preserving farmland isn't just saying 'no'

As the argument continues on whether the installation of solar arrays on Worcester County farmland is in the best interest of the general population, the point that is being overlooked is that agricultural property in this county is not communally owned.

It's private land and county residents have no standing to insist on how it should or should not be used, and that includes whether it is preserved, returned to wilderness or chopped up into a dozen mini-golf courses.

If it's not next door, or just down the road, it's not their concern ... unless residents from one end of the county to the other and county government itself are willing to make it their business by pitching in to save open fields from development by saving the farmer who owns them.

That is the essence of the problem. If a farmer can't make it financially by keeping a tract under the plow, or is done with a lifetime of working sunup to sundown, or the kids have no interest in following the family tradition, what alternatives are available to the landowner who needs a source of income?

According to the publication, Agriculture Dive, the Department of Agriculture estimates that farm sector net income will decline by about 25 percent this year, largely because of higher production costs.

In addition, farmers across the country are up against the wall as they wait ... and wait ... for Congress to pass a new farm bill, which may not come in time for many of them, "Farm Progress" reported last week.

Most people would agree that open farmland is far more preferable than a vast tract covered in reflective glass. But instead of telling these property owners what they can't do, county officials and interested residents need to offer some solutions that will protect the land from development in general, and they must do it by protecting the interests of the owners who are dependent on it for income.

Letters

Farr appreciates vote of support

The following letter was sent from Ocean Pines Association Board President Rick Farr to the community's voters:

Ocean Pines Association Residents,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and trust in re-electing me for a second term in the recent election. It is truly an honor and a privilege to continue serving on the Board of Directors and as President for our community.

I am humbled by the confidence you have shown in me, and I am committed to upholding the responsibilities of this position with integrity, dedication, and transparency. Your vote of confidence motivates me to work even harder to address the needs and concerns of our community, and to strive for continued progress.

I believe that together, and working in partnership with our General Manager we can continue to achieve great things and make a meaningful impact on the lives of all Ocean Pines residents. I remain dedicated to listening to your voices, advocating for your interests, and working collaboratively to build a stronger community for us all.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to continue serving you, and I look forward to the journey ahead. Your support means the world to me, and I am committed to earning your trust every day.

Thank you once again for your vote, your trust, and your belief in me. I am honored to be on our Board and to work alongside my fellow board colleagues, our General Manager, the OPA staff, and you to make our community a better place for everyone.

With sincere gratitude and warm regards,

Rick Farr
President, Ocean Pines Association

Bertino issues opinions on state

The following is adapted from welcoming remarks Worcester County Commissioners President Chip Bertino made at the opening of the Maryland Association of Counties summer conference in Ocean City last week:

Editor,

Worcester County continues to be negatively impacted by decisions of the state legislature and state agencies regarding wind turbines and solar power fields that are usurping local autonomy and threatening our community's way of life.

Worcester County is blessed with unsurpassed natural resources: the golden sands of our beaches, the fertile soils of our fields, our bays and rural landscapes. They define our community and beckon those from beyond our borders.

Our county is small in comparison to its neighbors. Our year-round population is less than one percent of the entire state. However, our visitor spending share is third highest in the state. Each summer our county generates \$2.5 billion in tourist spending, which accounts for more than 13% of statewide visitor spending annually.

Each year more than eight million visitors are attracted to what Worcester is, what Worcester has created. Whether it is dining on fresh seafood and locally grown produce, imbibing shore craft beer and local wines, searching for seashells, paddle boarding or fishing, Maryland's Coast creates lifetime memories.

Tourists could go other places. Delaware and New Jersey beaches are to the north. Virginia and the Carolinas are to the south. All nice destinations, but they don't offer what Worcester does – a more relaxed way of life, a natural beauty, and an economy and environment

that Worcester has worked hard to protect and promote.

Our county is founded on three economic drivers: tourism, which generates state and local revenues; commercial and recreational fishing, which are served by the West Ocean City harbor, the only commercial harbor in the Mid-Atlantic region with ocean access; and finally, agriculture, which is dependent on healthy soil to grow crops and to nourish livestock that feed the county, the state, and the nation.

Today, all three of Worcester County's primary economic drivers that earn billions of dollars for the state treasury, that employ thousands of workers here and across the state and nation, and that attract millions of tourists annually are falling prey to greedy, external predators.

Concerns raised, and requests made by the County Commissioners for assistance have been ignored repeatedly by those most in a position to help and by the institutions of government that smile upon the promises of foreign business interests that rely heavily on taxpayer subsidies to fund their uncertain startups, while turning a blind eye to the disastrous consequences that result locally.

Our seaside horizon has been auctioned for wind-farms. Wind turbines – that tower nearly three times the height of the Statue of Liberty above the ocean surface and stretch the length of one and a half football fields per turbine – are proposed to be erected within sight of Ocean City's coast.

The impact of these monstrous structures should prick the conscience of all of us who value the splendor of the environment. Testing procedures are wreaking havoc on fragile aquatic life. Dead whales on the beach. Disoriented dolphins washing ashore. The threat to horseshoe crabs, which are

Continued on Page 23

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Letters

Continued from Page 22
critical to cancer and other medical research, is said to be unknown.

How will endangered sea turtles, sturgeon, and right whales survive the navigational impacts of the electromagnetic fields generated by the underwater transmission lines? I believe they will be victimized.

The negative impact on our fishing industry is unconscionable. Plans to construct an oversized concrete pier in the West Ocean City harbor – established specifically as a commercial marine zoning district in 1999 – will obliterate local fishing industries.

Like many rural counties across the state, Worcester’s farmlands are under attack. The state is approving solar fields for large companies while denying the rights of local governments to apply their own zoning codes that reflect local values, objectives, and ways of life. Fertile farmlands are being plowed under by major companies who seek unfettered profits on historically low-taxed fields.

The people of our county are being disrespected. Yet, it’s hoped that opportunities can be found through cooperative discussions with the state that will ultimately blaze a path forward that respects Worcester County’s way of life, its

environment and its commerce.

*Anthony W. “Chip” Bertino Jr.
President, Worcester County
Commissioners*

Too much theater on wind farm opposition

Editor,

The folks against wind turbines and the infrastructure jobs they bring are embarrassing their state.

Have any of these so-called fishermen ever fished the Gulf of Mexico? The fishing industry and the energy industry exist side by side. There are oil platforms and oil wells all over the gulf. Are these guys unwilling to do their part to such an extent that some wind turbines, not oil platforms, are too scary for them?

The complaints are almost hilarious. The county commissioners think it is just one dock too far. They allowed the total develop-

ment of West Ocean City, with all sorts of luxury homes on filled in land, huge docks everywhere, plus more trailer parks every day literally. But one dock for America’s energy infrastructure, “no way Jose.”

The fishermen say it will ruin the White Marlin Open, you know, because there is just too much traffic in the Atlantic Ocean. C;mon. The mayor of OC saying he’ll sue, with the full support of the 1,300 people who voted for him last time, is just theater.

This has been the summer of anecdotal evidence on everything and that has to stop. We need the jobs and the renewable energy, period. Our county needs to move forward not backward. Cut out the theater. Get to work transferring the wealth from the county coffers to the workers, taxpayers.

*Greg Gunther
Ocean City/Snow Hill*

We invite you to share your opinion, but all letters are subject to verification, so please include your name and phone number. All letters are subject to editing for space and to protect the author and this newspaper from legal action. Email letters to editor@baysidegazette.com. For questions, call 410-723-6397.

Downtown Pocomoke’s next street fest block party set this Friday

(Aug. 22, 2024) Downtown Pocomoke’s next 4th Friday Street Festival, set 5-8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 23, will feature trucks and trains along with all of the regular offerings.

The block-party style event will take place within the two blocks of Market Street between Front and Second streets.

Local artists and vendors will fill the sidewalks of Market Street to sell their work, including paintings, photography, jewelry, bath and body products, home decor, fashion and plants. Participating businesses and restaurants will stay open during event hours.

The festival will also have a trucks and trains theme geared toward children, who will be able to explore local first responder and public works vehicles, as well as tractors, and a display from the Pocomoke Train Club. Games, treats, a bounce house and more will also be on site.

There will be food sales, snow cones, wine, and local craft beer from Pocomoke’s own Cypress Roots Brewing Company.

Pocomoke native Neal Hooks will perform live music.

In the event of rain, the street festival will be canceled and resume on the fourth Friday of September.

For more information, visit the Downtown Pocomoke Association Facebook page, downtownpocomoke.com, or call Pocomoke City Hall at 410-957-1333 x111.

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Aug. 22 - 29

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Fri-Sun 10am-4pm	Memory Lane, Harbour Court, West OC	3BR/4BR/5BR/6BR	Single Family	from \$799,900	Joe Wilson/Coastal Life Realty
Fri-Mon 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 11am-4pm	12346 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	3BR/2BA	Single Family	starting at \$239,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 11am-4pm	12346 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/1BA	Single Family	starting at \$179,900	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Saturday 10am-Noon	8814 Hunting Hound Rd, Berlin	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$669,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-2pm	13110 Coastal Hwy. #903 Braemar Towers, OC	2 BR/2BA	Condo	\$550,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
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Sunday 11am-1pm	13110 Coastal Hwy. #903 Braemar Towers, OC	2 BR/2BA	Condo	\$550,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 1-3pm	8814 Hunting Hound Rd, Berlin	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$669,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Monday 10-Noon	316 S. Heron Gull Court, Ocean City	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$3,999,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Wednesday 11am-1pm	121 81st St. #706 Rivendell, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Condo	\$774,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Wednesday 2-4pm	304 S. Heron Gull Court, Ocean City	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$1,399,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Thursday 10am-Noon	11602 S. Hills Drive, Berlin	5BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$1,849,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 11am-1pm	46 Coastal Drive, Berlin	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$389,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate
Sunday 1-3pm	406 15th St. #1 Blue Lagoon, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$514,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller William Realty
Sunday 10:30am-1:30pm	11000 Coastal Hwy. #1703 Capri, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$523,000	Monica McNamara/Coldwell Banker
Saturday 11am-2pm	108 Park Side Circle, Berlin	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$725,000	Justin Damadio/Iron Valley Real Estate
Sunday 10:30am-4pm	2 48th St. #804 Gateway Grand, OC	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$1,175,000	Terry Riley/Shore4U Real Estate

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Calendar

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

Thurs., Aug. 22

OCEAN CITY JEEP FEST

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vendors Village and Show & Shine. One-, two- and three-day passes available on-site. Beach Crawls and Sand Course downtown. Schedule of events: www.oceancityjeepfest.com. 443-366-5944

SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHT

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Enjoy a free concert and sunset views over the Isle of Wight Bay. Featuring "Full Circle" (modern and classic pop/rock). <http://www.ococean.com/things-to-do/>

CONCERT IN THE PARK

White Horse Park Pavilion, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 7-9 p.m. Featuring "Whiskey Graves." Free family-friendly entertainment. Bring chairs and blankets. BYOB permitted, concessions for sale. Held Thursdays through Aug. 22. 410-641-7052

STORY TIME: HOW TO CATCH A DINOSAUR

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Songs, stories and crafts. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Join in for a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC CHESS CLUB

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

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 12 p.m. Make your own sundae and celebrate another successful Summer Reading Program at the Berlin Library. For all ages. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SUMMER READING WRAP-UP PARTY

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 2 p.m. It's time for one last adventure. Join in for a variety of treats and activities at the wrap up party. For all ages. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

LEGO MASTERS CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Join in for a LEGO challenge event. All materials provided. For ages 6-12 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF WORCESTER COUNTY AUGUST MEETING AND DINNER

Ocean City Golf Club, 11401 Country Club Drive, Berlin, 5:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. Guest speakers will be Liliana Norkaitis and Maria Sofia. Cost is \$35, tax and gratuity included. Register: gop-womenofwc@gmail.com.

WORCESTER COUNTY NAACP MONTHLY MEETING

Berlin 50plus Center, 10129 Old Ocean City Blvd., 7 p.m. This is a general membership meeting. The NAACP Executive Committee will meet an hour earlier at 6 p.m. 410-213-1956

Fri., Aug. 23

OCEAN CITY JEEP FEST

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vendors Village and Show & Shine. One-, two- and three-day passes available on-site. Beach Crawls and Sand Course downtown. Schedule of events: www.oceancityjeepfest.com. 443-366-5944

ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Featuring Gary Mullen & The Works. Tickets cost \$35-\$59. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/35918164/one-night-of-queen-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

SEWING SEEDS OF LOVE

Buckingham Presbyterian Church, 20 S. Main St., Berlin, 10 a.m.-noon. Summer sewing workshop for ages 8 years and older. The group will be working on skirts. Cost is \$20. Register: Debbie, 443-430-4948.

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 our own tile set. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CRAFTY WRITERS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 11 a.m. Bring out your inner author with the creative writing games and craft activities. For ages 8 years and older. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

Sat., Aug. 24

OCEAN CITY JEEP FEST

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vendors Village and Show & Shine. One-, two- and three-day passes available on-site. Beach Crawls and Sand Course downtown. Schedule of events: www.oceancityjeepfest.com. 443-366-5944

OC JEEP FEST PRESENTS SONGS + STORIES ACOUSTIC TOUR

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7-10 p.m. Featuring Jason Michael Carroll, Sam Grow, Rich LaFleur and Blake Wood. Tickets available online at ETIX.com and at the door. Cost is \$35. Partial proceeds benefit Jeep Fest for St. Jude.

OC AIR SHOW

Ocean City beach, 13th-17th streets, 12 p.m. Featuring the Italian Air Force Frecece Tricolori and US Air Force F-22 Raptor Demo Team. Several ticket options available. Tickets: <https://ocairshow.com/purchase-tickets/>.

14TH ANNUAL IRON FURNACE FIFTY BICYCLE RIDE

Furnace Town Historic Site (Nassawango Iron Furnace), 3816 Old Furnace Road, Snow Hill. 50K, 50 mile, and 100K routes, catering to both casual and serious cyclists. Flat, fast and fun. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/iron-furnace-fifty-bicycle-ride-2024-tickets-842904057727>.

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

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.artleagueofocancity.org, 410-524-9433

PICKLEBALL FUNDRAISER - LEARN THE BASICS

Pickleball Courts at John M. Clayton Elementary School, 252 Clayton Ave., Frankford. Sessions are 2-3:30 p.m. and 3:30-5 p.m. A \$25 donation is requested. There will be raffles, 50/50 and games. Register: golmicmc@gmail.com include name, phone number and choice of session.

RESTORE THE LIGHT RESTORATION OPEN HOUSE

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 3-5 p.m. Restore the Light Restoration Open House.

Sun., Aug. 25

OCEAN CITY JEEP FEST

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vendors Village and Show & Shine. One-, two- and three-day passes available on-site. Beach Crawls and Sand Course downtown. Schedule of events:

www.oceancityjeepfest.com. 443-366-5944

OC AIR SHOW

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SUNDAES IN THE PARK WITH FIREWORKS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m., Live music by "Clockwork-Band" (top 40 music), kid-friendly entertainment, ice cream and fireworks. <https://www.ococean.com/things-to-do/free-family-fun/sundaes-in-the-park/>

'THE ITZELS' IN CONCERT

St. Matthews By the Sea UMC, 1000 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island. Bringing families together in worship. Held at 8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. Free admission. Love offerings will be received. Debby Dudley, 302-228-7809

Mon., Aug. 26

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 "BK & Chrissy" (from Radio Ocean City). 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>

STORY TIME: LLAMA LLAMA

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and games about the Llama Llama book series by Anna Dewdney. 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. This group uses exercises to stimulate creative expression. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

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

AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 6-9 p.m. Registration at 5:30 p.m. Classes held Aug. 26-28. Cost is \$25. Free to high and middle school students. Offered by the Ocean City Power Squadron. Reservations: 302-218-9474, alpaughmt@gmail.com.

Calendar

Tues., Aug. 27

STORY TIME: 'SENSORY PLAY'

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and fingerplays. For ages 2-5 years. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GAME DAY

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Come play a game. From ping pong to chess and everything in between. Bring your favorite tabletop game to share with others. For all ages. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

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

RUNAWAY BRIDE GUIDED TOUR

Berlin Maryland Welcome Center, 14 S. Main St., 4-5 p.m. Celebrating the 25th Anniversary with a guided tour of filming locations in Berlin. Reservations: 410-629-1716. A \$5 donation collected. <https://berlinmainstreet.com/Runaway-Bride-Walking-Tour.pdf>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SEAFOOD NIGHT

Knights of Columbus (behind St. Luke's Church), 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 5-6:30 p.m. Menu for all ages including steamed crabs and steamed shrimp. Crabs must be pre-ordered by calling 410-524-7994 Monday or Tuesday morning.

Wed., Aug. 28

MOVIES ON THE BEACH

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

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. Join in for imaginative play and social interaction. For ages 0-5 years. 410-208-4014

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 3-4:30 p.m. Providing participants with hope for the future. Gail Mansell, 410-641-9725, gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org

QIGONG AND TAI CHI FORMS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 5:30 p.m. A meditation



PHOTO COURTESY COASTAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

NEW REALTORS CELEBRATED

The Coastal Association of Realtors welcomed nine new members during New Member Orientation on Aug. 9. Pictured, from left, are new members Sharon Carney with Long and Foster Real Estate Salisbury, Chantal Apple with Engel & Volker Ocean City, Joy Merski with Redfin, Alexis Black with Keller Williams Select, Tarrissia Fontaine with Coldwell Banker Realty-123, Kelly Hastings with Long and Foster Salisbury, Tamekia Copeland with Coldwell Banker Realty Salisbury, Susan Hemmerly with Long and Foster Ocean City, and Mary Luddy-Barton with RML Home Group, LLC. New Member Orientation is a requirement for all members of the Coastal Association of Realtors. Attendees are introduced to services provided by the association and the class is held quarterly.

and moving practice to activate Chi in the body. A six-week course that is great for beginners. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TEMPLE BAT YAM PRESENTS THE DEL-MARVA CHORUS

Temple Bat Yam, 11036 Worcester Highway, Berlin, 7-8:30 p.m. Tickets \$15. Featuring "Coffee, Tea and Jukebox Harmony." Familiar tunes, audience participation, and free desserts. Donation is \$15. Candy, 610-506-7714; Temple office, 410-641-4311

ONGOING EVENTS

OCTOPUS HUNT ON THE BOARDWALK

Held Aug. 16-30. Kids 12 years and younger can pick up a game card from any of the participating businesses or the Boardwalk Information Booth. Find the hiding places of all the octopuses, get their card stamped at each business and return their completed card to the information booth to win a plush octopus. The first 100 winners will also receive a \$5 Power Card to Fun City or Sportland Arcades. <https://ocdc.org/special-event/octopus-hunt-on-the-boardwalk/>

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., during August. Choose a mystery adventure from the display to read. Fill out the brief form inside and return it to the library to be entered into the drawing for a prize. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CREATIVE KIDS CORNER

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, during August. Come grab an art kit to create at the library or take it with you. Most supplies included. For ages 0-5 years and 6-11 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

STREAM STATION

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., during August. Kids up to 11 years can visit the



PHOTO COURTESY GENERAL LEVIN WINDER CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CELEBRATION GRANT AWARDED

The General Levin Winder Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) was recently awarded a \$500 Celebration Grant from the National Society DAR to increase public awareness of the upcoming celebration of the nation's 250th birthday and the men and women who fought for American Independence. The funds enabled the chapter to have an America 250! exhibition booth with activities for children at the recent Blessing of the Combines in Snow Hill. Pictured, from left, are volunteer Tabitha Lauer and Chapter Regent Sharon Moak at the booth.

STEAM Station to take part in crafts and activities exploring science, technology, reading, engineering, art and math. Take a craft kit home too. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

TEEN STREAM STATION

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., during August. Each hands-on activity will focus on art, math, science, engineering or technology. Create jewelry using binary code, construct a flying glider, design your own city out of recycled material and more. For ages 11 years and older. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

PIRATE ADVENTURE MURAL

Pocomoke library, 301 Market Street, Pocomoke City, from June 17 through August 24. Every week will feature a different craft to add to your pirate ship mural. For ages 6-11 years and 12-18 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FIND A SUMMER STAR IN BERLIN

Search outside downtown Berlin to find free handblown Summer Stars by artist Jeffrey Auxer Designs. The hunt lasts all summer with 100 to win. Please register stars found at <https://berlinmainstreet.com/berlin-bubble-project/>. The Berlin Bubble Project: Operation Summer Stars.

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.nao-trinidad.org/content>

ARTISAN DAYS

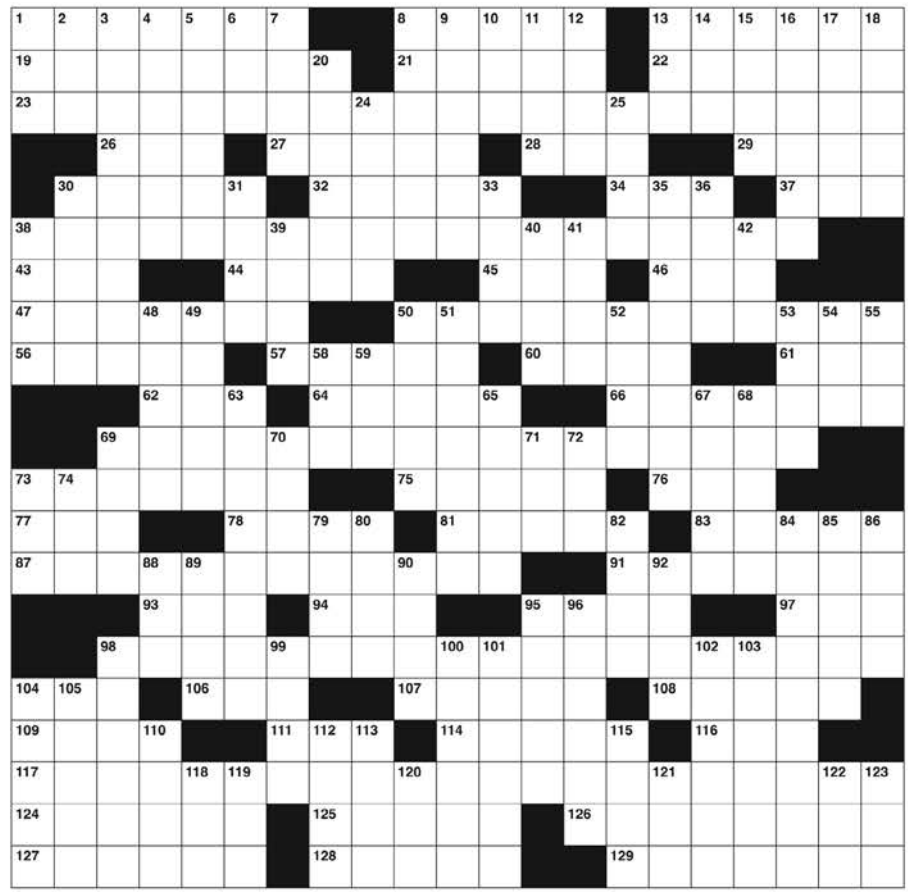
Furnace Town, 3816 Old Furnace Road, Snow Hill, on the first Saturdays from April to September. There will be volunteers showcasing their unique historical talents.

Puzzles

TAKE THE EL TRAIN BY CARYN ROBBINS / EDITED BY JOEL FAGLIANO

Caryn Robbins is a retired editor living on the east end of Long Island with her husband and two Havanese dogs. An avid lifelong solver, she discovered puzzle-constructing during the pandemic through an online course. This theme came to her in the throes of planning her daughter's nuptials, inspiring the example at 23-Across. Her favorite theme clue is 38-Across, which paints a great mental picture.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Shoots for the moon
 - 8 Saudi's neighbor
 - 13 Gets ready to surf, maybe
 - 19 Annoyance for a shopkeeper
 - 21 Japanese takeout option
 - 22 Best of all possible worlds
 - 23 Say "O di" instead of "I do"?
 - 26 Le Mans race unit: Abbr.
 - 27 Keep from happening
 - 28 "Once Upon a Mattress" prop
 - 29 Longtime hair-removal brand
 - 30 Word with hose or line
 - 32 Sewing-machine pioneer Howe
 - 34 Expert conclusion?
 - 37 Like some wits and wines
 - 38 Eviction notice sent to a New York deli owner?
 - 43 Roadwork might push it back, in brief
 - 44 Like many London skies
 - 45 Something fishy
 - 46 Back in time
 - 47 Scatterbrain
 - 50 "This thing is SHARP! It handles potatoes and carrots with ease," e.g.
- DOWN**
- 56 "The Kiss" sculptor
 - 57 Stage a hostile takeover of
 - 60 Blue dye
 - 61 Inits. for a hit
 - 62 Dept.-store inventory
 - 64 Face-planted
 - 66 Dodge S.U.V.
 - 69 Interior decorator's assertion that bold colors are back in style?
 - 73 Like the view from Big Sur
 - 75 Kind of farm
 - 76 Survive a round of musical chairs
 - 77 Setting for the musical "Two by Two"
 - 78 Inveigh (against)
 - 81 E-bike alternative
 - 83 Smother, as with sauce
 - 87 Santa's routes on Christmas Eve?
 - 91 "I categorically deny that!"
 - 93 Job-listing abbr.
 - 94 One might be organized by habitat
 - 95 "A Death in the Family" novelist
 - 97 Wall St. debut
 - 98 Advice after one's rival scores a perfect 10?
 - 104 "Me day" destination
 - 106 Org. with a PreCheck option
 - 107 What fumaroles emit
 - 108 Like streets, but rarely alleyways
 - 109 River through Florence
 - 111 Give an allowance?
 - 114 Lukewarm
 - 116 Had a session
 - 117 Airline's promise to improve its timeliness?
 - 124 Rim protector
 - 125 "___ is to place as eternity is to time": Joseph Joubert
 - 126 Where the entire "Newhart" series actually took place
 - 127 Guiding principles
 - 128 Hollandaise-sauce ingredients
 - 129 They might get worn down while solving crosswords
- DOWN**
- 1 Stuff served in a horn at a Renaissance faire, perhaps
 - 2 Red or White follower
 - 3 Magician's request
 - 4 "For my money ..."
 - 5 Subject of Bravo's "Selling Sunset"
 - 6 Directional suffix
 - 7 Company whose name is derived from "Service Games"
 - 8 Airline based in Madrid
 - 9 Markdown indicator
 - 10 "Your point being ...?"
 - 11 Stick in a makeup kit
 - 12 Skye of "Say Anything ..."
 - 13 Word on a candy heart
 - 14 Indigenous Oklahoman
 - 15 Red-carpet attire
 - 16 Maker of tiny trunks
 - 17 Loser in the 2024 Stanley Cup final
 - 18 Meanspirited
 - 20 Regard highly
 - 24 Dr. Marcus of old TV
 - 25 Greek goddess of the earth
 - 30 Alfresco dining spot
 - 31 Positions that require flexibility?
 - 33 Desertlike
 - 35 Traffic jams
 - 36 Intense demeanor
 - 38 Compote fruit
 - 39 Language whose name starts and ends with the same letter
 - 40 Looney Tunes bunny
 - 41 Admitted to a doctor's office
 - 42 Ending of a political address
 - 48 Euphoric moments
 - 49 Not go further than
 - 50 Panini maker, e.g.
 - 51 Textbook example
 - 52 Purges
 - 53 First word of a Stevie Wonder hit
 - 54 Part of a joule
 - 55 Romance
 - 58 Likely victim on April Fools' Day
 - 59 Actress Hagen
 - 63 Hollywood hopefuls
 - 65 Final purpose, to Aristotle
 - 67 Surprise 100-Downs
 - 68 "Ad ___" (2019 sci-fi film)
 - 69 Hazard for a jet skier
 - 70 Do in
 - 71 Drink like a dog
 - 72 Its prime minister is known as the Taoiseach: Abbr.
 - 73 When doubled, a dance
 - 74 "___ y plata" (state motto of Montana)
 - 79 Sparkling-juice brand
 - 80 Ill-gotten gains
 - 82 Milkweed leaves, for a monarch caterpillar
 - 84 Athena's gift to Athens
 - 85 Totally exhausted
 - 86 Bright light in the big city
 - 88 Zodiac feline
 - 89 Type of type
 - 90 Academy endorsements, casually
 - 92 Many a babysitter
 - 95 Visibly stunned
 - 96 Early NASA program
 - 98 Europe's second-longest river
 - 99 Chutzpah
 - 100 Go on the offensive
 - 101 Some farm machines
 - 102 Kappa follower
 - 103 Mideast dignitaries: Var.
 - 104 Drop in for a sec
 - 105 Honored
 - 110 Predator that can weigh up to six tons
 - 112 Like child's play
 - 113 Embarrassing mistake?
 - 115 Sea-turtle nesting site
 - 118 Indian lentil dish
 - 119 Many debut releases, in brief
 - 120 Mule of old song
 - 121 Dent or scratch
 - 122 Barber's obstacle
 - 123 Contacts on Instagram, informally



- 72 Its prime minister is known as the Taoiseach: Abbr.
- 73 When doubled, a dance
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© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 24

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

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

O	H	R	A	T	S	M	A	I	T	A	I	S	A	C	S	P	A		
M	O	O	S	H	U	E	N	R	O	L	L	A	D	A	P	T	E	R	
S	H	O	W	E	R	S	L	I	K	E	L	Y	F	E	R	R	A	R	
O	M	A	N	A	T	M	L	E	A	S	E	S	O	R	T	A			
N	A	B	S	E	B	O	Y	A	T	C	A	M	P						
E	Y	E	N	O	S	E	M	O	S	T	L	Y	C	L	O	U	D	Y	
T	E	T	O	N	S	G	A	W	P	R	I	N	S	E	P	O	E		
H	E	A	V	Y	S	N	O	W	S	T	E	V	E	S	N	I	D	E	
I	S	L	E	A	I	L	S	A	M	A	T	I	A	L	O	T			
C	H	I	R	R	U	P	S	E	L	M	O	N	I	M					
I	S	O	L	A	T	E	D	S	P	R	I	N	K	L	E	S			
E	O	N	M	A	D	E	D	E	S	K	D	U	T	Y					
S	I	T	E	A	S	C	O	T	D	A	L	I	A	B	R	A			
C	M	E	R	E	T	O	T	E	S	W	I	N	T	R	Y	M	I	X	
A	H	A	D	I	A	N	E	Y	A	W	N	V	I	S	I	N	E		
M	O	R	N	I	N	G	F	R	O	S	T	G	L	A	D	T	I	S	
L	E	T	S	E	E	S	T	E	W	O	D	E	S						
M	E	O	W	S	C	R	O	W	E	A	G	O	A	L	O	U			
U	S	O	T	O	U	R	D	A	M	A	G	I	N	G	W	I	N	D	S
I	A	S	S	U	M	E	L	I	D	E	S	I	A	M	T	O	O		
R	U	E	T	A	W	A	T	C	O	S	T	T	Y	S	O	N	S		



Pictured, from left, are "Vacation Memories" winning artists Tia Tuvesson and Karen Lembo; show judge Clytie W. Taylor; and winners Ellen Scott, Brigitte Bowden and Rebekah Simonds.

PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

Pines golf groups partnering on fall benefit tourney

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(Aug. 22, 2024) The Ocean Pines Ladies' and Men's Golf Associations are partnering for the community's 13th annual charity Pink Lady Golf Tournament on Wednesday, October 9. The final day to register is September 18.

The event, which will be played as a four-person scramble, costs \$30 to enter. Entrance forms, which are available in the pro shop, and checks can be hand delivered or mailed to the Golf Club House on or before the registration deadline.

The tournament, spearheaded by chairpersons Janet Stoer, Lynn Schneider, and Susan Morris, supports Atlantic General Women's Imaging and the Eunice Q. Sorin Women's Diagnostic Center. The proceeds help to provide mammograms and other lifesaving measures to women in the area.

The Pink Lady Golf Tournament is a nine-hole, four-person scramble. Singles, twosomes, and threesomes may also sign up and will be paired as necessary to accommodate the format.

Check-in on October 9 begins at noon. The event is scheduled to kick off at 1 p.m. Each team is assigned a different hole, and they will start simultaneously. The men will play from the gold tees; women will play from the red tees.

Stoer says the tournament has raised over \$25,000 in the last 13 years. In the early days, the event was open only to members of the OPLGA and raised roughly \$1,000 annually. The proceeds began to increase once the efforts expanded to include the men's group and the entire community. The fundraiser collected approximately \$5,600 last year.

Stoer noted that 96 individuals signed up for the tournament in 2023. Organizers hope to reach 100 participants this time around.

The \$30 fee will include a buffet lunch at the end of the round, and, in addition, a \$5 mulligan and 50/50 tickets will be available for purchase. The profits from the packages will be given to AGH. Greens and carts must be paid for separately.

"The tournament is a fun way to raise money for a charity," Stoer said. "People are much more willing to do something and contribute financially when an event is attached to it. If you were to knock on doors and ask for a check for the hospital, people would likely say no, but golfers often say yes when we do something like this. It is also a great way to get the community together."

Donations are encouraged and can be made to the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation.

Arts council names exhibit winners

(July 25, 2024) The Worcester County Arts Council recently announced the winners in the juried art competition, "Vacation Memories."

Entries in the competition are featured in the exhibit at the Arts Council's Gallery at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin, and consist of 31 pieces of artwork submitted by 20 artists with work in all media. Entries were judged by local artist and former art educator Clytie W. Taylor.

The following artists received awards:

First Place — Karen Lembo, "Gwangju Night Alley" (mixed media)

Second Place — Ellen Scott, "Go with the Flow" (watercolor)

Third Place — Judy Benton, "Culture Enjoyed in San Pedro Guatemala" (mixed media)

Honorable Mention — Tia Tuvesson, "See You Next Year" (photo

on metal)

Honorable Mention — Brigitte Bowden, "Moon Glow over Palms" (oil)

Honorable Mention — Rebekah Simonds, "Swim II" (acrylic)

The exhibit will be on display through Sept. 2.

The artwork is available for purchase.

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

Juried competition entries sought

(Aug. 22, 2024) The Worcester County Arts Council invites artists to participate in a juried art competition — "Scapes" — in conjunction with an exhibit that will be on display in September and October at the arts council gallery.

All entries will be juried in and judged for the competition by local artist and former art educator Marie A. Cavallaro.

Entries will be accepted from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aug. 27 - 29, at the arts council's gallery at 6 Jefferson St. in Berlin.

The subject, "Scapes," is open to the

artist's expression and interpretation. Artists are encouraged to create their representation of "Scapes" in literal form, such as landscape, cityscape or waterscape, and challenged to explore the concept of mindscape, moonscape or bodyscape through their creative processes.

The entries are open to artists from all backgrounds, mediums and locations, including painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media and other forms of visual art.

Detailed guidelines for the competition are available on the Arts Council's

website at worcestercountyarts-council.org

Artists are requested to complete a juried exhibit entry form (available on the arts council's website) and deliver it along with competition entries.

Winners will be announced, and monetary awards presented, during a public reception set from 4-6 p.m., Sept. 13.

The exhibit will be displayed from Sept. 3 through Nov. 3.

For more information, visit worcestercountyarts-council.org or call 410-641-0809.

Dev. center plans quarter auction

(Aug. 22, 2024) Worcester County Developmental Center is hosting a quarter auction next month to buy mobile notebooks that will help direct care staff provide the most up-to-date support to daily to clients.

The event is set for Sept. 17 at the organization's headquarters at 8545 Newark Road in Newark.

Tickets are \$10 and include one paddle. More paddles can be purchased for \$5 each. Anyone who is unable to attend and would like to participate can buy an All In Paddle for \$50.

Doors open at 5:30 pm and the auction began at 6. Attendees are

asked to bring quarters but organizers will have extra rolls of available for purchase. There will be a 50/50 raffle, a table of raffle items, and a variety of vendors. Refreshments, beverages and a limited amount of development center merchandise will be for sale.

Tickets can be purchased at WCDC or on Eventbrite at eventbrite.com/e/wcdc-quarter-auction-tickets-980189612517?aff=oddtcreator.

Organizers are also requesting donations from local businesses to help us with the fundraising event. In return, the organization will advertise the businesses.

Organizers are hoping for attendees of more than 100 people.

Donations should be sent to WCDC and mailed to P.O. Box 70 Newark, MD 21841. If items cannot be mailed, call and organizers will pick them up. For any questions, contact Jen Smullen 443-497-3875.

All donations to the auction are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Worcester County Developmental Center Inc. is exempt for federal taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In accordance with IRS rules and regulations, a tax-exempt determination letter is available upon request.

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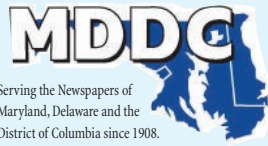
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Habitat for Humanity bingo event advertisement. Text: 'WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25. CHECK IN AT 6, GAMES AT 6. BINGO! FOR HOMES AT OCEAN DOWNS CASINO. CASH PRIZES! \$100 \$200 \$300. \$35 IN ADVANCE AT HABITATWORCESTER.ORG'.

Habitat for Humanity ReStore advertisement for a flip flop sale. Text: 'Habitat for Humanity ReStore. 11307 Manklin Creek Road Ocean Pines, MD. Toes in the Sand SALE August 20-24. 5-15% OFF ENTIRE PURCHASE. In Store Only. *Excludes Cabinets and Appliances. Grab a flip flop at the register to determine your discount! Open Tuesday-Thursday 10AM-4PM Open Friday-Saturday 10AM-3PM'.

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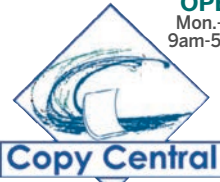
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