



TARA FISCHER/OC TODAY-DISPATCH

### SETTLING IN

Resident Canada geese and a pair of domestics settle in for the evening as the moon rises over the South Gate pond in Ocean Pines.

## OPA seeks provider for summer election

Request solicits proposals from contractors to handle board of directors contest

**By Tara Fischer**  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) The Ocean Pines Association has issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a contractor to handle this summer's OPA Board of Directors election.

The selected vendor will print and

mail ballots and election materials such as candidate biographies, photographs, an annual meeting notice, and ballot instructions to all eligible voters.

The election must also be conducted in both paper and electronic formats and the chosen company is responsible for emailing ballots and voting documents.

OPA will provide the third-party vendor with the names, physical ad-  
See OPA Page 6

## Taylor House Museum will reopen with new offerings

**By Tara Fischer**  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) Berlin's Calvin B. Taylor House Museum will welcome visitors to its exhibits again this spring as the facility gears up to reopen its doors officially on Wednesday, April 2.

According to Taylor House President Melissa Reid, the museum opens annually in early May.

This season, however, the exhibition has moved its launch date

up a month to give Berlin residents and visitors more time to explore the hall's collection of historical material.

"We are going to open earlier this year," Reid said. "We are excited about that. We are trying to make sure that we get the museum open so that more people can have an opportunity to come and visit."

Beginning April 2, the facility will welcome attendees from 11

See TAYLOR Page 4



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# Firm selected to evaluate utility extensions

**By Tara Fischer**  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) The engineering firm George, Miles, and Buhr (GMB) will evaluate and provide recommendations for the extension of water and sewer utilities from the Ocean Pines Service Area to parcels along Route 589 south of Pennington Commons as interest in developing there increases.

Per a letter from Dallas Baker, director of Worcester County Public Works, to Chief Financial Officer Weston Young, water and sewer services to this location are anticipated to come from the Ocean Pines Service Area. Worcester County Public Works has requested the engineering group analyze and recommend infrastructure requirements “on a regional basis to serve the area in question.” The cost to the county will be \$23,700.

“As individual developments are approved in the future, the sewer and water infrastructure installed should account for future service needs for the county to effectively serve this area,” the letter reads. “Having an approved water and sewer extension plan in place for this area will ensure that Public Works can adequately serve those approved to connect.”

The proposed study was presented at a March 18 county commissioners meeting and approved 5-2. Commis-

sioners Chip Bertino and Jim Bunting, both of whom represent portions of Ocean Pines, dissented.

The scope of the work will see GMB work with the county to develop EDU projections for the future service area, keeping zoning and expected environmental limitations in mind. The study’s completion will offer recommendations on approximate placements and the “capacity of regional lift stations and associated force mains to strategically reach as many parcels via gravity sewer as feasible.”

Regional force main discharge locations will be discussed with public works based on their knowledge and understanding of the current Ocean Pines infrastructure capacity. GMB will review past water service planning documents and supply an updated concept layout with recommendations for future water main locations and potential loops.

The feasibility study will be completed in two phases based on site geography.

“The first area, North Turville Creek, will include parcels that border the Pennington Commons development and continue south to Turville Creek,” agenda documents in the meeting packet read.

“The second area, South Turville Creek, will include parcels south of Turville Creek to the intersection of

Route 50. Only parcels and large lots bordering Route 589 will be considered, but the study area can be further defined as GMB works with the County on EDU projections for each area.”

During the discussion, Bertino moved to table the item. He argued that rezoning will likely have to occur with increased development, and that the evaluation should be considered after the “rezoning and public hearings associated with them.”

“It’s a major rezoning from one of the requests,” the commissioner said. “Impact on the 589 corridor will be extensive. To move forward without input from the public is premature ... Once the public hearings [have happened] and we hear input from people who want to speak, a decision will be made. I don’t want to not do the study. I just think the timing of it is wrong ... we have not had

input from the public on the rezonings.” Commissioner Eric Fiori, however, argued that the evaluation would be a smart move to get ahead.

“If you look at the history of water and sewer and planning, we have not been good stewards on that front,” he said. “I don’t think we should be tabling this with the amount of interest on 589.”

Officials from public works maintained that the study would include looking at current zoning maps and land uses to determine what can go in the area, such as where the logical place is to put in sewage lift stations and to what size.

The goal would be to condense these lifts into two or three locations rather than several up and down Route 589, which would drive up maintenance costs.



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# Taylor Museum opening with more to see

Continued from Page 1

a.m. to 3 p.m. Visitors can stop by for a tour or learn about volunteer options and upcoming events.

In addition to the exhibits and guided tours, the museum boasts various programs throughout the year that strengthen its community presence and its mission of telling the stories of Berlin.

A new event that recently debuted is "Fiction and Fiber Arts." Individuals are encouraged to bring their crocheting, knitting, sewing, quilting, or other fiber projects to the Taylor House's parlor while a staff member reads aloud classic books.

A Fiber and Fiction Day featuring a reading of Charlotte Brontë's "Jane Eyre" was held on Sunday, March 9, from noon to 4 p.m. The facility will host another similar day on Sunday, April 13, also from noon to 4 p.m. The classic story has yet to be selected.

"[Fiction and Fiber] gives you a chance to come and sit down in a historic space, and ... and be able to appreciate it on a different level than if you were doing a guided tour," Reid

said. "We feel strongly that people understand that the Taylor House Museum was a lived home. People did live there. An event like this gives you a chance to sit in a space people would have lived in when the house was first built."

The Calvin B. Taylor House was built in 1832 for Isaac Covington and his family. In the early 19th century, the structure was home to Robert J. Henry, who, according to the museum's website, was "instrumental in bringing the railroad to Berlin."

In the 1890s and the early 20th century, the house was occupied by its namesake, Calvin B. Taylor, and his wife, Mattie. The museum's website notes that Taylor was an educator, lawyer, and founder of the Calvin B. Taylor Banking Company in Berlin.

The Fiction and Fiber event and other facility programs aim to highlight that the museum was once home to some of the town's earliest residents and influential citizens.

The house will also host "Junior Historian" days, one of which is coming up on April 2. Reid said Junior His-

torians is geared toward upper elementary and lower middle school kids.

The young learners hear about aspects of Berlin life in the 1800s, interact with objects and artifacts from the facility's collection, and complete a hands-on activity. The April 2 session is centered on scrapbooking. The kids will look at these old works and then make their own.

"We have some scrapbooks that go back to the 1850s," Reid noted. "That's a good one because kids really like to see what people felt was important and what they collected in scrapbooks at that time."

Also on the museum's docket this spring is the third annual pig roast on Saturday, April 26 at 4 p.m. The event, sponsored by Burley Building Company, will feature brews from the Berlin Beer Company and music by the band Funk Shue. The occasion is free to enter, and platters and drinks are available for purchase.

On the same day as the pig roast, a ribbon cutting will be held for an official sign designating the Taylor House as an arboretum that will allow the public to see a variety of trees. Reid said these grounds will be named the Dr. Mary Humphreys Arboretum after the local woman and biology professor.

Humphreys, who lived on Baker Street before her passing in 2009, was dedicated to science and an early backer and researcher for the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum. The arboretum's namesake also founded the Humphreys Foundation to offer financial aid to local charities, schools, and nonprofits.

"Humphreys was one of [the museum's] earliest supporters," Reid said. "She was a very noted historian in Berlin and was integral in founding the museum. Because of her biology connection, we felt it was appropriate [the arboretum] to be named after her."

The arboretum was officially announced in 2022, making the Taylor House the first property in Worcester County to carry the classification. The facility's lawn contains many significant trees, notably a sycamore called "The Healing Tree."

Now, a ribbon cutting at the April 26 pig roast will unveil an official sign declaring the museum an arboretum.

Among other changes in store for the museum, Reid said people those who want to view the structure's second-floor exhibit featuring the "Stories of Berlin" can do so this year.

Also, in 2026, through a partnership with Salisbury University, the facility is making modifications and creating new programs to celebrate the United States's 250 anniversary. The festivities will include redoing the upstairs gallery to highlight the town's restoration.

"If you haven't seen the second-floor exhibit, you'll want to come this year because it will be different next year," Reid said.

Reid added that the gallery will highlight the changes in the town that created its current aesthetic.

"People think that the Berlin you see now is how it always looked," she said. "The buildings were always there, but from the 1940s through the 1980s, most of those historic buildings were covered up... and most of the buildings were empty through the 1970s."

"We have some great before-and-after photographs of what that looked like. The new exhibit is going to focus on representing Berlin and how the focus on its historic assets really led Berlin to the way it looks now."

The "Movies at the Museum" program is also set to return on select second Sundays of the month. Mother's Day, on May 11, will feature "Freaky Friday." A July showing will feature "Runaway Bride," parts of which were filmed in Berlin, and later in the year, residents can catch "Hocus Pocus" and "Night at the Museum."

More information about the museum's programs, events, exhibits, and tours can be found on its website at <https://www.taylorhousemuseum.org/>.

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# OPA seeks election contractor

Continued from Page 1  
dresses, and email addresses of all eligible and ineligible voting homeowners.

The RFP stipulates that contractors must include a "description of their methodology for identifying and addressing 'duplicate votes' (paper and electronic) from a voter" in the proposal.

The vendor must also host a virtual count via Zoom or other technological means so that homeowners can be provided with as much transparency of the tabulation process as possible.

The contractor will not announce the election results upon the completion of ballot counting. Rather, the RFP explains, the selected company will report the findings to the OPA Elections Committee, which reserves the right to certify and release the outcome.

The RFP goes on to explain that "a fixed price agreement for a three-year term (payable in annual fixed amounts for each annual election) will be entered into with the contractor awarded this work" and that "the contract with the selected bidder must be approved (and authorized to be signed) by the HOA Board, and must fully executed before there will be any binding agreement between the HOA and the selected bidder. In this regard, the HOA reserves all rights to negotiate and make changes to the contract as it sees fit and add terms and conditions in that process, subject

to approval by the contracting bidder." The vendor will be paid upon "successful completion" of the election services. The contract is complete when all legal records, ballots, and return envelopes are delivered to the OPA Elections Committee as required by the chosen company.

The RFP says a selection will be made no later than April 15.

The community's upcoming election will see three board seats up for grabs: the ones held by current OPA Board of Directors President Stuart Lakernick, Treasurer Monica Rakowski, and Director Steve Jacobs.

Candidate applications must be submitted no later than May 10. The election will be held in August, and totals will be announced the Thursday before the annual meeting, which is hosted on the second Saturday of August each year.

Last year, the community hired the Pittsburgh-based MK Election Services to handle the governing body's 2024 voting cycle for \$26,335.

While the board, which approved the selection in a 6-1 vote, with Jacobs as the dissenting voice, agreed the price was high, the members said the company's observable count offering was essential.

Once again, the selected company must provide an observable count in the OPA 2025 Board of Directors Election.

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# Opening Day Scramble will kick off Pines golf season

Men's, Ladies' associations host opening tournament for players of all skill levels

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) As spring approaches, the Ocean Pines golf community is gearing up for its season kickoff event to welcome the warmer, golf-playing months.

The 2025 Ocean Pines Opening Day Scramble is set for Saturday, April 5 with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. The community's Men's Golf Association and the Ladies' Golf Association have teamed up to host the event.

"The scramble symbolizes the kickoff of our season," organizer Dave McGregor said. "After this event, then all the other events kick in."

The tournament follows a four-person team format. As per a scramble, the best shot of all team members will be used toward that final score for each hole.

Women will tee off from the Charcoal (formerly red) tees and men will tee off from the Orange (formerly gold) tees. Anyone over 80 may choose to take their swing from the Charcoal tees as well.

"Whoever hits the best shot, we pick up, go to that person's ball, and then you keep doing that until the ball goes to the hole and then you move on to the next hole," McGregor noted.

To add intrigue to the game, the Ocean Pines tournament dictates that each player's drive must be used at least once. Additionally, all levels of play are welcome.

McGregor added that this allows those that are typically unable to play in these kinds of events together an outlet to join forces.

"One of the ladies has two young

daughters, aged 10 and 12, that play in the tournament," McGregor said. "Their family of four comprises a team and it's one of the only events that they as a family can play together because most are for either higher caliber players, or just for men, or just for ladies. While we have a 10-year-old and a 12-year-old playing, we also have an 87-year-old playing. It's from all walks of life."

Awards for the Best Overall, Best All-Women Team, and Best Mixed-Gender Team are to be recognized.

McGregor said that prizes are likely to include pro shop gift cards and ceramic mugs that read "Ocean Pines Golf" handmade by the wife of a golfer.

A buffet-style lunch at the Clubhouse Bar and Grille will follow the tournament. A cash bar will also be available.

As the transition date for Touch of Italy, the community's new food and beverage vendor taking over for Matt Ortt Companies, was moved from early May to mid-March, the scramble will be one of the earliest catering events to be hosted by the business.

Golfers interested in entering the tournament have until tomorrow, March 21, to register. An Ocean Pines Golf member with a cart package is \$40, Ocean Pines Golf members without cart packages are \$55, and all others must pay \$70. Lunch for nonplayers is \$30. Payment must be submitted along with an entry form.

McGregor said that as of Monday, March 17, 98 golfers had registered out of a maximum of 120.

"The event is a good time to get together with old friends, meet new friends and come out and play," McGregor said. "A lot of us haven't seen each other over the winter, so it's really the first time getting out on the course and having fun."

# Food, beverage facilities will be closed during transition

(March 20, 2025) The Ocean Pines Association has announced that all food and beverage facilities will be temporarily closed as part of the transition to management by the Touch of Italy Group.

The Clubhouse Grille at the Ocean Pines Golf Club and the Yacht Club will remain closed for at least one week while the Touch of Italy team completes a deep cleaning, brings in any necessary new equipment, and staffs and trains the new team.

The Beach Club, located oceanfront in Ocean City, is scheduled to

reopen for the season on Memorial Day weekend.

Reopening dates and new operating hours for the Clubhouse Grille and the Yacht Club will be announced on [oceanpines.org](http://oceanpines.org) once finalized.

Ocean Pines Association and the Touch of Italy Group appreciate the community's patience and support during this transition period and look forward to providing an enhanced dining experience when the facilities reopen.

For more information, contact [info@touchofitaly.com](mailto:info@touchofitaly.com).

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# Coastal Bays watershed awarded \$2M grant

## Huge award to program will be used for Newport Bay watershed improvements

By **Brian Shane**  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program will receive at least \$2 million in state funding in the coming fiscal year as part of a five-year grant toward restoration the Newport Bay watershed, state environmental officials said.

But in light of the state's dire budget shortfall and legislative recommendations to slash Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) funding, it's an open question whether the Berlin-based nonprofit will ever see the other \$14.8 million they requested in their Whole Watershed

Fund grant proposal.

Kevin Smith, executive director of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP), said he's happy to have been selected for the funding, and will meet with a state oversight team in the next few weeks to home in on proposed restoration projects. Those include stream restoration and stormwater management efforts in Berlin, as well as water quality monitoring and marsh restoration projects in Newport Bay.

Smith stressed the funding opportunity means being able to bolster the health of the coastal bays, where marsh habitat is degrading and transitioning to open water, and maintaining clean water for residents and tourists alike.

"I like to think that we all benefit economically. I think fish and wildlife

benefit. As a community, having healthy ecosystems is one of those things that is really important. A lot of our resources over the years have degraded to a degree; Newport Bay is one of those areas where that's happened. Hopefully, this is a really big step into turning that around. There's no loser here," Smith said.

When DNR started soliciting for grant proposals last summer, Smith and MCBP worked on a proposal with officials in Worcester County, the Town of Berlin, the Lower Shore Land Trust and Assateague Coastal Trust.

He said their focus fell to Newport Bay for two reasons: it had been one of the worst-performing watersheds in terms of water quality, and because MCBP had already begun working on this watershed for the Town of Berlin.

This grant, if approved, would supplement their work.

Newport Bay sits to the west of Sinepuxent Bay and is separated from that body of water by an isthmus known as Sinepuxent Neck.

The Coastal Bays proposal sought \$16.8 million in funding – a massive amount of money for an environmental grant.

"It's the first time that I'm aware here in the coastal bays where we've been able to take a significant amount of money like this," Smith said, "and really direct it toward one watershed that needs our help, to turn this decline around. And so, it's a great opportunity. We're really pleased that the folks at DNR accepted our proposal and are funding it."

State lawmakers last year established the Whole Watershed Fund when they passed the Whole Watershed Act. The fund isn't a single

source of money, but is pooled from existing state environmental funds, according to DNR.

From nine applicants, DNR selected five program sponsors to receive funding: Catoctin Land Trust for Antietam Creek; South Baltimore Gateway Partnership for the Baltimore Harbor; MCBP for Newport Bay; Resilience Authority of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County for the Severn River; and ShoreRivers for the Upper Choptank River.

For grant recipients, half their award would be come from the state's Whole Watershed Fund, with the rest matched by other state, local, and private sources, according to DNR.

Each of the winners will get five years of technical and financial assistance to design and implement conser-

vation and pollution reduction projects. Program sponsors also must hold four public meetings a year and provide an opportunity for public comment on the preliminary design of each large-scale action proposed, DNR also said.

MCBP and the other four grant recipients will receive \$2 million in fiscal year 2026, beginning July 1. However, funding for subsequent years is still a matter to be worked out, as the state's oversight team selects projects to fund and works with recipients to secure leveraged funding, according to DNR spokesman Gregg Bortz. That team will hold six meetings a year with each watershed sponsor and participating local governments to review progress.

As the state continues to deal with what some estimate to be a more than \$3 billion budget shortfall, Gov. Wes See FUNDING Page 10

**'We're really pleased that the folks at DNR accepted our proposal and are funding it!'**  
Kevin Smith

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# Funding of next rounds in limbo

Continued from Page 8

Moore's fiscal 2026 budget proposed 25% cuts to environmental agencies – and from there, the state's Department of Legislative Service took it further, recommending cuts be doubled and existing programs have their budgets zeroed out, according to Valerie Keefer, spokeswoman for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

For MCBP, when it comes to possible funding after the first year, "we have no information at this time on that," Smith said in an email. "I'm taking an optimistic view. I know that the state budget issue may affect future years, but I also know that DNR and others are committed to the Whole Watershed initiative and that they will be working to identify funding for future years. They're committed to making this work and so are we."

For the Coastal Bay Program, winning the grant closes the door on what proved to be an uncomfortable part of the process – when Smith came before the Worcester County Board of Commissioners last November to ask for a letter of support.

Instead, Smith was scolded not only for Coastal Bays' neutral position on wind energy, but for the organization's acceptance of \$125,000 in donations over a three-year period from US Wind, the developer planning to build a 114-turbine wind farm off the

coast of Ocean City.

Smith countered that the donations from US Wind came over a three-year period with "no strings attached" and helped the Maryland Coastal Bays Program successfully fund habitat conservation for threatened bird species. He also said MCBP took up a neutral stance on the wind project because MCBP is not an advocacy organization.

However, by January, the county commissioners showed a change of heart and promised to support the grant request with a letter of support. Smith also shared that his group's position on wind hadn't change, but they did change their internal rules so that any donation over \$10,000 would need approval from the board of directors.

Smith said he's pleased that the county found a way to work with Coastal Bays, adding their shared 25-year history of collaboration.

"This just gives us an opportunity to do more, and really do it in a way that's targeted and tightly focused on a particular watershed," he said of the grant. "There's going to be opportunities that are going to allow now only the county and us, but also the Town of Berlin and other partners to really work together to achieve some really good things we can get accomplished over the next five years."

# Crimson Coward franchise brings hot chicken to Berlin

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) A new chicken restaurant option has come to the coastal area, this time with a southern twist. Crimson Coward, a Nashville hot chicken franchise based in California, opened its doors in Berlin last month.

Morad Ramadan, the owner of the Berlin location and a 2001 Stephen Decatur High School graduate, officially welcomed customers to the new establishment on Feb. 19.

The eatery is in the same shopping center as the Berlin Food Lion, where the Papa Johns pizza restaurant used to be. The West Coast-based operation has franchises throughout the United States, and while a few stores have found their way to Maryland, the Berlin restaurant is the franchise's first on the Eastern Shore.

The relaxed, carry-out-centric restaurant offers menu staples such as jumbo chicken tenders, chicken sandwiches with coleslaw, pickles, and a house-made sauce as toppings, chicken and waffles, smash burgers, a bloomin' onion, and fried pickles.

Aligned with the Nashville hot chicken theme, patrons can choose their spice levels. Options range from plain, known by the company as a coun-

try, to mild, medium, hot, and "burn baby burn." Ramadan said that the hottest choice incorporates ghost pepper.

"Only a few have gone there," the owner said.

Ramadan noted that nothing on the menu is pre-made, and even the sauces, like the classic crimson sauce and ranch, are made in-house. The food is also halal, meaning that it comes from animals slaughtered, adhering to Islamic law. For example, the animals must be killed as ethically and swiftly as possible.

The spot is planning an April 10 grand opening. Ramadan said that they are anticipating a ribbon cutting and are even hoping to get the SDHS band on board to strengthen community ties.

"I want to get the local community involved, especially for the grand opening, because if it weren't for them, we wouldn't be here," the owner said.

Ramadan added that the response from Berlin residents has been "amazing" and that citizens from the town and surrounding areas are excited about the new chicken spot.

"This is finally something new for the little town of Berlin," he said. "People said to me, 'You chose here, and that's

See FRANCHISEE Page 11

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Photo by Stephen Pryce Lea

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There is the misconception that colon cancer is thought of as an older person's disease. It can attack anyone under 50 years of age. Gina fought her battle with courage and poise while serving as a role model for others fighting their own battle. Gina's Comfort Fund was created in her honor to provide comfort and resources to individuals fighting the battle. Every day individuals fight cancer. Many of whom have families, jobs and life responsibilities regardless of how the disease and treatments are making them feel physically and emotionally. The fund helps to alleviate some of the stress and financial barriers to those brave individuals battling Colon Cancer. Stop in to Copy Central Monday-Friday 9 to 5 if you would like to contribute. You will be entered into a drawing for a 16 x 20 full color giclee print donated by a local artist with a \$5 donation.



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# Franchisee says reception great

Continued from Page 10  
 so cool,' and I'm like, 'I wouldn't have chosen any other town.' As soon as I decided to get on board with the company, Berlin was the first thing that came to mind. I grew up here, and I know Berlin's response. It's small, but it has such a big heart. You can feel the love from everybody. When we opened up, it was like, 'Oh my god, thank you for coming.'"

The owner emphasized that he believed there was a gap in the market for chicken places in the region. While other concept establishments can be found on the other side of the Chesapeake, bridge, like Hangry Joes in Annapolis or Ellicott City, local choices were limited to Chick-fil-A and Popeye's.

Ramadan added that he wanted to find niche offering for his hometown. Chicken sandwiches with toppings like coleslaw are an idea that has not yet been tapped in the small municipality, he said.

The larger portion sizes of the menu items, particularly the jumbo chicken tenders and sandwiches, were also a draw.

Crimson Coward has roughly 20 locations in Virginia, Maryland, Texas, California, Washington, and Michigan. Ramadan said he is opening another



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Morad Ramadan, the operator of the Berlin-located Crimson Coward, and his staff, have been open for a month. The crew is gearing up for an official April 10 grand opening.

spot in Salisbury near Salisbury University this May.

Crimson Coward is open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and the hours may be extended during the summer.

"The response has been unbelievable," he said. "I couldn't be more happy. People are much more excited than I thought they would be, which is amazing. I knew they would be excited to have me here because when we were under construction, the door would open all day, and people would come in to ask, 'When are you guys open?' I am truly blessed to be a part of this."

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# Opinion

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

## Exempting shelters makes perfect sense

Not every piece of legislation introduced in the Maryland General Assembly makes sense. Wait, let's amend that. Now and then, out of the torrent of filings introduced in the legislature each year there emerges one that makes perfect sense.

One such measure this year is House Bill 1414 sponsored by Delegate Wayne Hartman (R-38C) and others who believe an exception from the state's Climate Solutions Act of 2022 should be granted in the name of public safety.

Specifically, the measure would add certain government buildings to a short list of properties that are not obligated by law to convert from fossil fuel heating systems such as boilers and furnaces to electric heating by 2040.

The purpose of the act is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state by 60% by requiring buildings of more than 35,000 square feet to make the switch. That's an expensive proposition, but that isn't the point here.

Allowing government to fulfill its public safety obligation is what Hartman's bill is about as it proposes to exempt from the Climate Act public safety, public utility, and other buildings that have been designated as storm shelters.

This doesn't mean government and other public entities would be prohibited from switching from fossil fuel to electricity if that's what they want to do, but it would mean they could keep and maintain their traditional systems for use in emergencies.

Exposed as this area is to extreme weather and rising sea levels, it just makes sense to have a fallback position for shelters that isn't dependent on vulnerable power transmission lines.

The irony, of course, is that climate change is a major factor in the rising sea levels that threaten the Eastern Seaboard, and the legislature's decision to be part of the solution is laudable. Still, it is government's job to provide functional emergency shelters and services to as many people as possible when the need arises and passing this exemption will add to its ability to do that.

## Exemption sought for public shelters

By Brian Shane  
Staff Writer

(March 20, 2025) Lower Shore legislator Del. Wayne Hartman (R-38C) is proposing that emergency shelter buildings be exempt from a state mandate requiring large public buildings to switch from fossil fuels to electric power.

Hartman raised concerned that, during a weather emergency or prolonged power outage, reliance on electric power instead of gas or oil power could be risky and problematic.

"It is imperative that any building used for public safety purposes designated as an emergency storm shelter (or) provides public utilities is capable of being resilient during an emergency," he said during a March 5 bill hearing in Annapolis.

Hartman noted how thousands of people in North Carolina went without power for two weeks in October following Hurricane Helene, and how Hurricane Sandy in 2012 knocked out power for more than a week for some Marylanders.

"Think about some utility

generating – water, sewage, that kind of stuff. They need to have the ability to go on in the event of a prolonged weather event," he said.

Hartman's bill, House Bill 1414, responds to the Climate Energy Solutions Now Act of 2022. The law requires buildings over 35,000 square feet to comply with Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) by 2040, aiming for a 60% reduction in green house gas emission.

This would require many of Worcester County's largest buildings – including many government facilities, as well as Ocean City hotels and high-rise condos – to take their old boilers or furnaces offline and convert to electrical power.

Critics argue that retrofitting buildings to meet BEPS will be costly and time-consuming, and that the specialized equipment required to convert to electrical isn't easily available off-the-shelf.

While the 2022 law exempts certain buildings – including certain historic properties, K-12 schools, manufacturing facilities, agriculture buildings, or federal

properties – it does not offer exceptions for state or local government buildings.

Hartman's bill would change that, proposing an exemption for public safety and public utility buildings, as well as public buildings that have been designated as storm shelters in case of emergency. This would mean buildings Ocean City's convention center and 65th Street public safety headquarters would not be required to fully electrify.

Hartman also pointed out that some of these facilities already have infrastructure capable of producing their own heat and power during outages. He argued that keeping this equipment operational beyond the BEPS deadline could prove a cost-saving measure for public safety facilities.

Hartman's House bill was cross-filed with Senate Bill 470, sponsored by Sen. Jason Gallion (D35-Harford), which was heard Feb. 27 in the Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee. This Senate bill is also cosponsored by Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (D38-Worcester).

## Treatment plant upgrade underway

(March 20, 2025) Construction activities to upgrade the Riddle Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) are underway.

Early activities include dewatering. This process involves pumping groundwater away from the site and into the drainage ditch that

runs parallel to Grays Corner Road in the vicinity of the WWTP.

"Residents may notice higher than normal levels in the ditch temporarily, as crews extract water from the ground," Public Works Director Dallas Baker said. "Because the groundwater table

is shallow in most areas of Worcester County, crews have installed several small wells around the perimeter of the worksite to siphon groundwater away from the actual construction site."

Construction activities are anticipated to run now through December.

## Surf Club offers \$40K in scholarships

(March 13, 2025) The Ocean City Surf Club will award \$40,000 in scholarships this spring to graduates.

The club is offering the Environmental Scholarship for \$10,000, the Leadership Scholarship for \$10,000 and two David Fey Memorial Scholarships, each in the

amount of \$10,000.

Applicants must be a student in the Worcester County School system (public or private), graduating high school in the spring of 2025. These scholarships are valid for four-year, two-year college or universities and trade schools.

All applications and re-

quested materials must be mailed to us at Ocean City Surf Club PO Box 4752, Ocean City, Md. 21843. The deadline for applications is April 15, 2025.

To apply click this link <https://ocsurfclub.org/programs/scholarships/> or visit our website [www.ocsurfclub.org](http://www.ocsurfclub.org)

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# Obituaries

## MARION FREIDA KLEIN-LONGBERG Berlin

Marion Freida Klein-Longberg, age 88, passed away on Thursday, March 6, 2025. Born in The Bronx in New York City, N.Y., to the late Louis Shilan and Lee Smith Shilan.



M. Klein-Longberg

Moving to Berlin in the late 80's, Marion became an active secretary for Moore, Warfield, & Glick. She joined Temple Bat Yam where she met many friends throughout her multiple terms as President of Sisterhood, as well as meeting her second husband, Sy Longberg. The brightest spots in her days were her grandchildren. She adored them and was always elated when they made art projects for her to coo over.

Marion is survived by her daughters, Laurie Heller, Ellen Meyers (Barry Cohn), and Eva Klein. Also surviving are her grandchildren, Matthew Heller (Amanda Heller), Harry Heller, Danial Klein, Samantha Meyers, Joseph Meyers. Additionally, she is survived by her great-grandchildren, Evelyn, Liam, and Brooks.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Walter Klein, her second husband, Sy Longberg, and her son, Jonathan Klein.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at Temple Bat Yam in Berlin and was officiated by Rabbi Author Rutberg. Internment immediately ensued at Beth Isreal Cemetery in Salisbury, MD and shiva followed.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Town Cats and Temple Bat Yam. Letters of condolence can be sent to the family via [www.burbage-funeralhome.com](http://www.burbage-funeralhome.com). Arrangements were care for by The Burbage Funeral Home, Berlin.

## THOMAS ALBERT HALL Berlin

Thomas "Tommy" Albert Hall, age 62, of Berlin, MD passed away Saturday, March 8, 2025. Tommy's life was filled with so much love and even during his last moments, he was surrounded by what mattered the most to him, his wife Cindy, his boys and their families.



Thomas Hall

A story of love, courage and devotion to his family will be his forever legacy.

Tommy was born in Baltimore City, Maryland and was the son of Arthur Thomas Hall and Shirley Mary (Akers) Hall. He was raised in the Ten Hills neighborhood of Baltimore; the youngest of eight children. Growing up, Tommy was especially close to his

dad, spending countless hours building boats in the garage and learning the love of fishing and sailing. It was his father's guided lessons that gave Tommy a true appreciation for the sea, respect of nature and the discipline to master a sport or learn a new skill. His mother also taught him a great appreciation for his education of the arts. Tommy was a self-taught musician and enjoyed the connections music brought to his life. He was truly the apple of his parents' eye. The Hall family spent summer vacations in Ocean City, and in 1983, Tommy and his parents moved there permanently. Tommy then married his first wife, Tracey, started their family, had their son, Zachary and took residence in West Ocean City.

In 2002, while on their sons' 5th grade field trip, Tommy met the love of his life, Cindy. They instantly had an unbelievable connection and were married in February 2003. As they learned how to navigate blending their families, they helped guide their children as they each grew in their unique way. A huge part of Tommy's life was about the water. He loved fishing, both inshore and offshore, and teaching the appreciation of the sport. The continuation of the Hard-

Continued on Page 15

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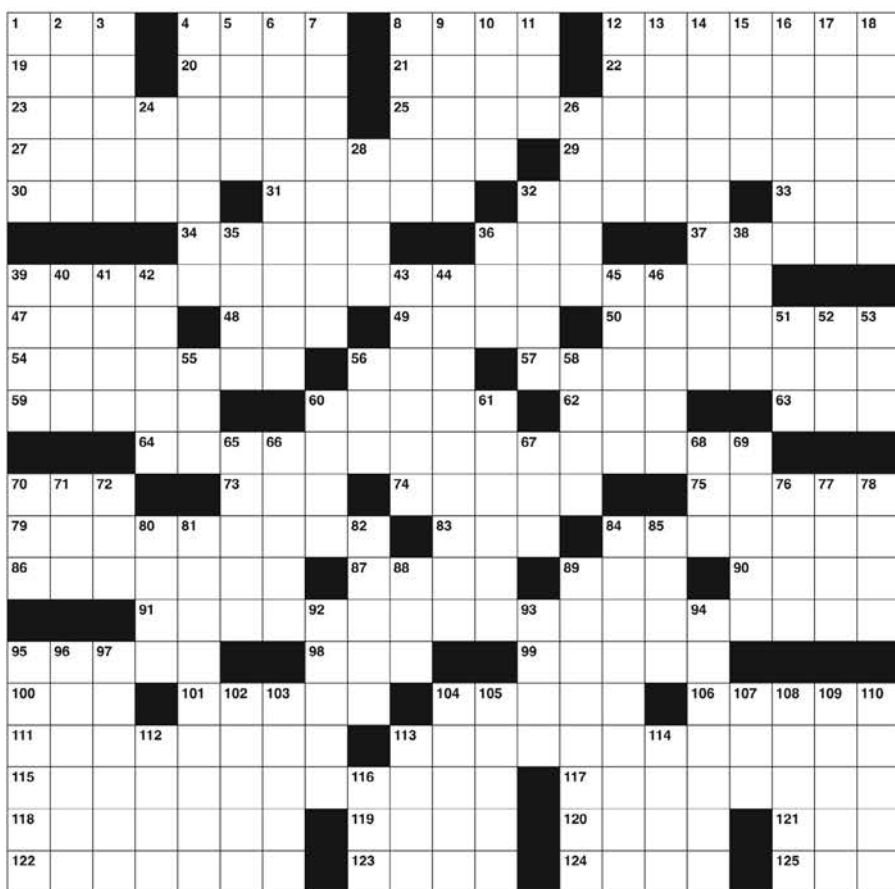
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# Puzzles

EXTRA! EXTRA!  
BY MICHAEL SCHLOSSBERG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Michael Schlossberg is an internist and self-described "history nerd" in Bend, Ore. "Most of what I read is historical fiction or nonfiction," he says. This is Michael's 14th crossword for The Times, which he was inspired to construct after reading an article that mentioned 39-Across. His favorite answers here are the combined 113- and 115-Across, which are an all-time classic of their genre. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 First lady McKinley
  - 4 Common saltwater baitfish
  - 8 Letters before Q
  - 12 Become crunchy in the oven
  - 19 Image of Mickey, maybe
  - 20 \_\_\_ Nostra
  - 21 Lake that's largely fed by the Detroit River
  - 22 "Red telephone," historically
  - 23 Breakfast order request
  - 25 *London Herald*, 4/16/1912
  - 27 *The New York Times*, 8/9/1974
  - 29 "Scarface"
  - 30 Schedule
  - 31 Drives off
  - 32 "Catch ya later!"
  - 33 Wee one
  - 34 Frankincense or myrrh
  - 36 T-E-A-M doesn't have one, so they say
  - 37 Plantain lily, by another name
  - 39 *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 11/3/1948
  - 47 Company once called the California Perfume Company
  - 48 Wrap one's head around
  - 49 Popular Hawaiian dish
- DOWN**
- 50 Driest country in sub-Saharan Africa
  - 54 They're below par
  - 56 Choice words
  - 57 Footwear for a sharp dresser?
  - 59 "\_\_\_ Mouse," Chick Corea jazz standard of 1972
  - 60 Toward the opposing goal, in hockey
  - 62 Geometry calculation: Abbr.
  - 63 "How ya doin'?"
  - 64 *Variety*, 10/30/1929
  - 70 \_\_\_ Dhabi
  - 73 Alliance since 1948, in brief
  - 74 Golf's Slammin' Sammy
  - 75 Bouquet
  - 79 Seer cursed by Apollo so that her prophecies would not be believed
  - 83 Poorly
  - 84 Headwear that's stereotypically red
  - 86 Breakout performer?
  - 87 It's blowin' in the wind
  - 89 \_\_\_ thruster (physics lab device)
  - 90 Corrin of "Nosferatu"
  - 91 *New York Daily News*, 10/30/1975
  - 95 "The rubber people," in Nahuatl
  - 98 "Biting" characteristic
  - 99 Big name in health care
  - 100 Trouble
  - 101 Fleet
  - 104 Where people typically go to the mat?
  - 106 Attempt to tear
  - 111 Fool around
  - 113 & 115 *New York Post*, 4/15/1983
  - 117 "Jeez Louise!"
  - 118 Boils
  - 119 Latin "Look"
  - 120 Filmmaker Johnson
  - 121 Degree held by only one U.S. president (George W. Bush)
  - 122 Drink after a race, say
  - 123 Signaled
  - 124 Wraps up
  - 125 The Second vis-à-vis the First, say
- DOWN**
- 1 Cher and Madonna, e.g.
  - 2 Old Scratch, with "the"
  - 3 Baby name whose popularity plummeted after 2015
  - 4 It might be chewed in a theater
  - 5 Frost
  - 6 Taxpayers
  - 7 9 to 5, e.g.
  - 8 Release
  - 9 Beams
  - 10 Parts of comedy routines
  - 11 Serving at a Chinese restaurant
  - 12 Carolina Reaper, for one
  - 13 Good name for a geologist?
  - 14 "How sad"
  - 15 Lapse
  - 16 Some red or white wines
  - 17 Pull some strings?
  - 18 Old Spanish coin
  - 24 Waste away
  - 26 Bottom
  - 28 Actress Skye
  - 32 Payments made at a table
  - 35 Leg up
  - 36 Query
  - 38 "I'll get to work right now"
  - 39 Dollops
  - 40 \_\_\_ Woods, best-selling author of 2023's "The Lost Bookshop"
  - 41 Threadbare
  - 42 Fund, as a college
  - 43 They're known to open with some jokes
  - 44 Longtime music director of the NBC Symphony Orchestra
  - 45 The "U" of 60-Down
  - 46 "Damage" director Louis
  - 51 K-pop septet
  - 52 Short note?
  - 53 Creature in the final scene of "Cleopatra"
  - 55 Long-term deposit, in brief
  - 56 Go (for)
  - 58 Certain spot
  - 60 It once shared a land border with 16 countries
  - 61 Drawing place
  - 65 Hardly the social butterfly
  - 66 Stowed
  - 67 \_\_\_ soda
  - 68 Needlefish
  - 69 Monopolist's trait
  - 70 One-pointer in cribbage
  - 71 Some undergrad degs.
  - 72 Trojans' sch.
  - 76 "Jeez, I can't catch a break"
  - 77 Call from a crib
  - 78 Slightly
  - 80 Umpire's ruling
  - 81 Writings of dubious authenticity
  - 82 Eschew
  - 84 "Victory is mine!" in modern lingo
  - 85 Privy to
  - 88 Make a scene
  - 89 "My heavens!"
  - 92 They can support a nest egg
  - 93 48-oz. beer glass
  - 94 Service providers?
  - 95 Wise-appearing
  - 96 \_\_\_ Tunes
  - 97 Like the cheese in a grilled cheese
  - 102 Protective tip on a lace
  - 103 Bel \_\_\_ cheese
  - 104 Informal goodbye
  - 105 Made some waves?
  - 107 Tech giant whose initials are its N.Y.S.E. symbol
  - 108 Some have meters
  - 109 Mexican marinade
  - 110 "The Seduction of Joe \_\_\_" (1979 Alan Alda film)
  - 112 Tolkien trilogy, for short
  - 113 Morehouse or Howard, in brief
  - 114 Whole bunch
  - 116 Instant



- 66 Stowed
- 67 \_\_\_ soda
- 68 Needlefish
- 69 Monopolist's trait
- 70 One-pointer in cribbage
- 71 Some undergrad degs.
- 72 Trojans' sch.
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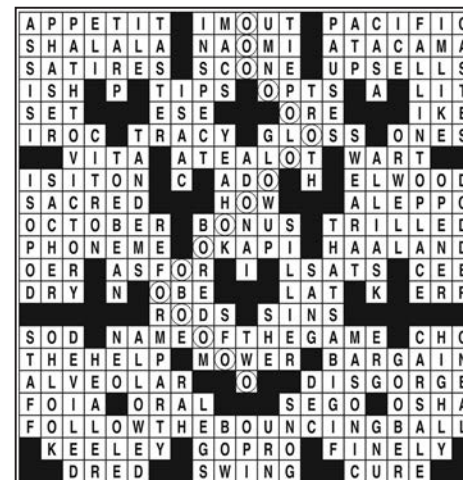
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**HARD - 94**

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.



## Answers to last week's puzzles

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



# Obituaries

Continued from Page 13

core Offshore Fishing Show afforded Tommy and Cindy the opportunity to enjoy travel and adventures together.

With the boys getting closer to graduation, it was time to find a real job! In 2005, it only seemed fitting that he use his experience, and his relationship with Freeman to help him land a job in the up-and-coming community of Glen Riddle, supporting land development. This ultimately led Tommy and Cindy to make this community their lasting home and fostered their love for the sport of golf (with Tommy teaching Cindy to golf, all those years ago).

Through several exciting career moves for Cindy, Tommy and Cindy ventured off the Eastern Shore to Northern VA in 2011. Tommy reinvented his trade, working the ferry boats that ran between their residence in National Harbor and Alexandria. Tommy was proud to reach the level of experience and knowledge required to earn his official Captain License to operate a 100-ton vessel. In late 2012 Tommy would once again graciously follow Cindy's career to Hampton Roads, where he found his dream job running boats and testing marine equipment up and down the Nansemond River.

In July of 2013 Tommy's battle would begin, receiving a diagnosis of stage 4 metastatic cancer. Cindy and Tommy immediately packed up their life in VA, headed back to shore, eventually leading them to care at the University of Marland Greenebaum Cancer Center. For the next two years Tommy would be part of one of the biggest breakthroughs in NSCLC with immune therapy, as he entered a trial study. He later became the face of what is now known as Keytruda. The next 10 years would be continued visits and monitoring at Johns Hopkins, where he followed his beloved Medical team from UMD.

Like the true fighter and champion that he was, Tommy's goal was to embrace the miracle of good health. This meant reinventing the next chapter life of life on the Eastern Shore.

Some of Tommy's proudest moments were watching his son, Zachary, graduate from the USCG Officer Candidate school and commissioned as an Ensign in 2015, watching his stepson, Andrew, receive his bachelor's degree in marketing from Salisbury University in 2016, and watching his stepson, Brendan, start a successful business, Locals Lawn Care in 2017. As Tommy continued treatment, he was able to find so much pleasure in working part-time with Brendan, working at the pro-shop to stay connected to the Golf community, where he eventually even got back out on the course! In 2018, he started a new job working the pro-desk at The Home Depot, while still working part-time with Brendan.

There is no doubt that the last four years of Tommy's life were his most treasured. Becoming a grandparent overflowed his bucket and Tommy and Cindy embraced every moment they could with their expanding family. The grandchildren quickly grew accustomed to countless hours of playtime with "Fa."

For those who knew Tommy, you know that no matter where life's journey took him, he collected friends along the way. He was kind, dependable and would give the world to the people he loved.

Tommy is survived by his wife, Cynthia D. Hall; three sons, Zachary Thomas Hall (Sydney), Andrew Wagner (Paige) and Brendan Wagner (Molly), all of Berlin, MD; three sisters, Monica Anthenelli, Betsy Harrison (Alfred) and Nancy Long (Mike);

four grandchildren, Hatteras Hall, Rhodes Thomas Hall, Weston Wagner and Lennon Wagner; twelve nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Jim Hall and Gregory Hall; two sisters, Barbara Shade and Amy Laird; brother-in-law, James Anthenelli.

A celebration of life will be held April 8, 2025, at Atlantic Methodist Church, 105 Fourth Street Ocean City, MD 21842. Visitation will be held from 12:00pm – 1:00pm, with a service to follow. Immediately following the service, a reception to celebrate Tommy's life will be at BLU Crabhouse & Raw Bar- Ember Restaurant, 2305 Philadelphia Ave, Ocean City MD 21842.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Thomas A.

Hall to the following:

Dr. Feliciano, Upper Aerodigestive Department at the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center.

Please make checks payable to Johns Hopkins University, with "In Memory of Thomas Hall" in the memo line and mailed to Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, 750 E. Pratt Street, Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202 or a donation may be made online, <https://secure.jhu.edu/form/Kimmel>.

Marlins for Mason, a local Ocean City non-profit that focuses on Dravet Syndrome research. Please make checks payable to Marlins for Mason with "In Memory of Tommy Hall" in the memo line and mailed to 10324 Plantation Lane, Berlin, MD 21811 or a donation may be made online, <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/2025/marlinsformason/>.



## Pancake Breakfast

In Honor of *The Trimper Family*

# March 23

## 8:30 AM – Noon

at



### Boardwalk at South Division St.

Free Parking at the Inlet Lot and On All Ocean City Streets

# \$10.00 All You Can Eat!

Includes pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea & soda  
Kids 8 and under FREE with paying adult

## With Each Paid Meal

(while supplies last)

- FREE Video Game or Skee Ball at Marty's Playland
- FREE Admission to Ocean City Life Saving Station Museum




# BATTER UP

## for a Good Cause

Proceeds to Benefit the

# stop Offshore Wind

## Campaign



Play to Win!



50/50 & Lottery Tree

# Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## SERVING BREAKFAST

Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City held its first of three 2025 Pancake Breakfasts on Saturday March 8. The community turned out to have some good food and support the children of Worcester County. The price was still only \$9 including the usual scrambled eggs which were a bigger cost but not passed on to attendees. Still a nice sum was realized. The 50-50 was \$310 so \$155 went to the winner. Besides the Kiwanis members, students from the Kiwanis sponsored Stephen Decatur High School Key Club and their Kiwanis advisor to the club, Jan Wolfing, volunteered to serve. Pictured are students, the serving line and the kitchen crew (below).



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



## FEATURED SPEAKER

Dr. Tony Ceddia, left, and Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines – Ocean City President Tom Southwell are pictured after Ceddia spoke to the club. He spoke about his experiences as the former overseer of Mount Airy Casino and president and CEO of Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

## NEW OPTIMISTS

New members along with their sponsors were recognized at the Ocean City Berlin Optimist Club March Dinner Meeting March 4 at the American Legion Post 166 Ocean City, MD. Pictured, from left, are Optimist President Chris Dolomount-Brown, Dan and Liz Mumford (sponsored by Don Fentress), Mitzi Patelski sponsored by Co-Vice President and Hospitality Chairperson Melva Middleton, Carol Dural (sponsored by Amanda Koontz), Linda Roskovich sponsored by Alexis Mumford, and Membership Chairman Roger Pacella.



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., March 20

### GOLDEN GIRLS THE LAUGHS CONTINUE

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. VIP tickets include photos with the actors on set after the show. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/52111837/golden-girls-the-laughs-continue-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

### CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin. Free mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. By appointment only: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

### STORY TIME: SPRINGTIME

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Butterflies, caterpillars and flowers. Welcome, spring. Enjoy songs, dancing and crafts. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### PLAY TIME

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

### VIRTUAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

For parents of children with disabilities/special education needs, 12 p.m. Sponsored by Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee of Worcester County. RSVP: Pam Green, [PLgreen@worcesterk12.org](mailto:PLgreen@worcesterk12.org).

### LUNCHTIME LENTEN SERVICE AND SOUP LUNCH

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin. Worship begins at noon followed by a light lunch. Rev. Karen Sadvari preaching on Study. [bethany21811@gmail.com](mailto:bethany21811@gmail.com), 410-641-2186

### NATURE LOVERS CRAFTING

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 1 p.m. Nature themed craft projects for adults. March: Irish Hillside Collage Art. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### LET'S MAKE ... CHERRY BLOSSOMS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Make a table decoration of bountiful cherry blossom buds and blooms. All materials provided. Registration required: 410-641-0650. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### A CELTIC FILM FESTIVAL

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m.

From ancient castles to hidden gems, these narrated films offer a unique and immersive experience. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### MAGIC THE GATHERING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m. Battle it out with sorcery, dragons and giants. Experienced and novice players welcome. BYOC recommended. For ages 12-18 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### POP CULTURE BOOK CLUB: 'AROUND THE WORLD IN EIGHTY GAMES' BY MARCUS DU SAUTOY

Game Theory Cafe, 1822 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 5 p.m. Join the Ocean City Library and Game Theory Cafe for an afternoon of popular culture nonfiction. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### QUIT SMOKING & VAPING CLASS

Gudelsky Family Medical Center, 10614 Racetrack Road, Ocean Pines, 5-6 p.m. Participants receive one-on-one support, group support, weekly prizes and quit resources. Register: 410-632-1100, Ext. 1103 or [www.worcesterhealth.org](http://www.worcesterhealth.org).

### PARENTS RESOURCE NIGHT

Worcester Technical High School, 6270 Worcester Highway, Newark, 5:30-8 p.m. Resources for children with disabilities and/or special education needs. Sponsored by Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee of Worcester County. Pam Green, [PLgreen@worcesterk12.org](mailto:PLgreen@worcesterk12.org)

### WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN'S 23RD ANNUAL PINK RIBBON BINGO

Willards Lions Community Center, Hearn Street, 6-9:30 p.m. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Food, beverages and baked goods available. Tickets cost \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Tickets: 410-548-7880, <https://womensupportingwomen.harnessgiving.org/events/2469>.

## Fri., March 21

### OC MAHJONG CLUB

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

### BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB: 'THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM' BY MARIE BENEDICT

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the library's circulation desk. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### FANDOM FRIDAY: WITCHES & WIZARDS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:30 p.m. Crafts, quizzes and discussions about the monthly topic. For ages 12-18 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### LENTEN 'SOUPER' SUPPER

Holy Savior Catholic Church Parish Hall, 1705 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Choice of three delicious soups, salad, rolls and sweet treats. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 11 years and younger. 410-289-0652

### NECROMUNDA

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5 p.m. Come play a selected role-playing game for adults only after hours. Registration required: 410-632-3495. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### KIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

*Fridays* - Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway, behind St. Luke's Church. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Light snacks available before bingo and at intermission. 410-524-7994

## Sat., March 22

### TOWN OF OCEAN CITY JOB FAIR

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 9 a.m.-noon. Meet supervisors seeking candidates in disciplines from public safety to camp counselors to bus driver to lifeguards and more. <https://www.ococean.com/event/town-of-ocean-city-job-fair/2183/>, 410-289-8924

### THE PRAISE GOD FOR THAT TOUR FEATURING JORDAN FELIZ AND SPECIAL GUEST RILEY CLEMMONS

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/92934195/the-praise-god-for-that-tour-featuring-jordan-feliz-and-special-guest-riley-clemmons-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

### 2025 OCEAN CITY CHAMBER JOB FAIR

Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort, 9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12-2 p.m. Dress professionally and bring your resume, ID and a pen. Save time by filling out applications in advance. <https://chamber.oceancity.org/events/details/2025-ocean-city-chamber-job-fair-42164>

### CATS & COFFEE

Caprichos Books, 11310 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Town

Cats of Ocean City to host this Cats & Coffee event. 410-208-1538, [admin@towncats.net](mailto:admin@towncats.net)

### KICKSTART KINDERGARTEN

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Six session series to help preschoolers get ready for Kindergarten. Families receive light snacks and tips for continuing kindergarten preparedness at home. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### 13TH ANNUAL ST. JOSEPH'S DAY FESTIVAL 2025

St. Andrew Parish Center, 14401 Sinepuxent Ave., Ocean City, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission is free. Featuring Italian food specialities, wine, beer, Italian specialty items, 50/50 drawing, games, silent auctions, basket raffles and more. [www.sonsofitalyocceancity.com](http://www.sonsofitalyocceancity.com)

### LIBRARY LEGO LEAGUE

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Explore your imagination with LEGO bricks provided by the library. Creations will be displayed in the Berlin Library. For ages 6-11 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

*Saturdays* - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 9 a.m. to noon. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

## Sun., March 23

### FORMAL GOWN SALE!

The Crab Bag Shopping Center, 13005 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 12-3 p.m. Formal, bridal and cocktail dresses sold at 75%-80% off. All dresses must go. Proceeds supporting Athletic Center Building Fund.

### ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults and includes spaghetti, salad, bread, drink and dessert. Children 4 years and younger eat for free. Proceeds benefit Rolling Stones Youth Group. Christina Wilson, 302-519-2993

### BERLIN FLEA MARKET

*Sundays* - Uptown Emporium Parking Lot, 13 S. Main St., Berlin, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendor opportunities available. Julie, 410-726-9012; Bill, 410-629-9656

### SEWING FOR A CAUSE

*Sundays* - Buckingham Presbyterian Church, 20 S. Main St., Berlin, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Learn how to sew while making a difference. 410-641-0234

# Calendar

Continued from Page 17

## JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

## Mon., March 24

### DRAGONS WEEK!

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, March 24-29. Do dragon crafts, check out the displays, find the dragons hiding all throughout the library and more. Something for all ages. 410-632-3495, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME: SPRING

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

### LEGO MASTERS CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m. Join in for a Lego challenge event. All materials provided. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

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

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference

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

### BRIDGE

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

### DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

### OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

## Tues., March 25

### SESAME STREET LIVE!

Ocean City Performing Arts Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City. 6 p.m. Cost is \$40/\$50. Sing, dance and play alongside your furry friends. Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/9301661>

7/round-room-presents-sesame-street-livesay-hello-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center.

### PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Play with the variety of toys and socialize with other families. For ages 0-5 years. 410-957-0878, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### SENSORY STORY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and fingerplays. For ages 0-5 years. 410-641-0650, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### OC KNITTING GROUP

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

### JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

### LOTR ESCAPE ROOM CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 12-4 p.m. Cele-

brate Tolkien Reading Day. Teens welcome. Call 410-957-0878 to schedule your session. [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### HOMESCHOOL HISTORY

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 12 p.m. Learn facts about different historical time periods through reading, writing and games. For ages 6-11 years. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### WOMEN IN ART

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Learn something new about women artists from the medieval era through the 17th century. 410-524-1818, [www.worcesterlibrary.org](http://www.worcesterlibrary.org)

### BEACH HEROES-OC

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

### TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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



## OPEN HOUSES

March 20 - 27



DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENT/AGENCY
Fri-Mon 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Mon-Fri 9am-4pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Saturday 10am-1pm	11421 Manklin Creek Rd., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$296,500	Jeffrey Messick/BHHS PenFed Realty
Saturday 11am-2pm	155 Jamestown Rd, Unit 104, Ocean City	1BR/1.5BA	Condo	\$279,900	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sat & Sun 11am-3pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Saturday 11:30am-1:30pm	5603 Atlantic Ave. #301, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Condo	\$1,499,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 2-4pm	11605 Seaward Rd., Unit E, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$399,900	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 11am-1pm	5 Cresthaven Drive, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$374,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate
Sunday 11am-1pm	5603 Atlantic Ave. #301, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Condo	\$1,499,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 1-3pm	10300 Coastal Hwy. Unit 1802, Ocean City	Studio	Condo	\$269,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty

**SHOWCASE YOUR REAL ESTATE LISTINGS**  
for **SPRINGFEST WEEKEND** in the  
**COASTAL ASSOCIATION of REALTORS' REAL ESTATE GUIDE**  
**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> ISSUE**

Contact **Renée Kelly @ 677.288.1233** or [Renee@oceancitytoday.net](mailto:Renee@oceancitytoday.net)  
**Space Reservation DEADLINE is April 16, 2025**



# Calendar

## CREATIVE CARDBOARD DRAGONS

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 3:30 p.m. Use cardboard and other recycled materials to create a fearsome or funny dragon. Tape, cardboard paper and Makedo tools provided. For ages 6-11 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

## OC KNITTING CLUB

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

## ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

## ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

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

## WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AND WELLNESS GROUP

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

## Wed., March 26

### BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

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

### BABY TIME

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

### COFFEE & CRAFTS: SPRING GARLANDS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join in every month for a new craft. Materials provided. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

### COOKING FOR BRAIN HEALTH

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Cooking demonstration will show how to create a delicious and nutritious dish using ingredients that promote brain health. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

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

### TOWN CATS FUNDRAISER

Panchos & Lefty's, 12911 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City, 4 p.m. Ten per-

cent of total sales on dine-in, take out and liquor sale will be donated to Town Cats of Ocean City. 410-208-1538, admin@towncats.net

### STEM: SNAP CIRCUITS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Learn about electricity, circuits and experiment with the snap circuit games. For ages 6-11 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

### FAE CAFE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m. Hot cocoa, crafts and conversation about books and events. For ages 12-18 years. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

### AIR FOAM DRAGON CRAFT

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 5 p.m. Make an air foam dragon. All supplies provided. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

### KIWANIS CLUB MEETING

Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Last Wednesday of the month meetings are offsite and information can be found on the website and Facebook. www.kiwanisofopoc.org.

## ONGOING EVENTS

### DRAGONS WEEK!

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., March 24-29. Do dragon crafts, check out the displays, find the dragons hiding all throughout the library and more. Something for all ages. 410-632-3495

### 'LUCKY LEPRECHAUNS LOOSE IN THE LIBRARY' GAME WEEK

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., March 17-22. Drop by anytime during the week to complete the games and receive a St. Paddy's Day surprise. For ages 6-18 years. 410-957-0878

### PINOCHLE

Meets the first and third Thursday of each month at Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 12:15-3:15 p.m. Established Pinochle group welcoming new members. Carrie, 410-251-8207

### MARCH INSPIRATION CHALLENGE

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., during March. Art, photography or poetry competition for all ages. Pieces will be displayed in the library for viewing. The theme is "Stormy." Due by March 26. 410-632-3495

### COMMUNITY JOURNAL: TELL HER STORY

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St. Drop in anytime during March and write a story in the community journal about a woman who has inspired you and share your thoughts and hopes for a better future. 410-957-0878

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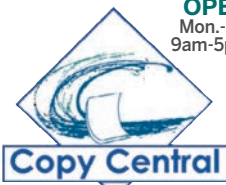
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