JULY 17, 2025

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REACH FOR IT

Huge bubbles from a performer on stilts provided some entertainment for younger attendees to last weekend's Hot Summer Swing and Taylor Bank Cheers to 150 Years! event.

Heron Park parcel given its rezoning

Change to shopping district allows Coastal Ventures to proceed with retail project

By Tara Fischer

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) Following a public hearing, the Berlin Town Council approved a request from developers to rezone parcel 57 at Heron Park from R-1, residential, to B-2, shopping district, to allow for the space's renova-

Heron Park's parcel 57, the site of the former Tyson Foods poultry processing plant, will be rezoned from a residential district to an area designated for shopping and retail. The Berlin Town Council green-lit the reclassification at its meeting on Monday, July 14.

Per the property's new categorization to B-2, the sale of parcel 57 from the Town of Berlin to developers Palmer and Sandy Gillis of Coastal Ventures Properties (CVP) may now go forward.

CVP agreed to purchase parcel 57 from the Town in April. The contract stipulates that for the sale to proceed, the land must be rezoned from residential to commercial use.

The developers' attorney, Mark Cropper, went before the Berlin Mayor and Council during the governing body's meeting earlier this week, requesting the rezoning of par-



The Town of Berlin is under contract to sell the former poultry processing buildings and property for commercial redevelopment.

cel 57 based on a previous classification mistake and a change in the character of the neighborhood. Cropper gave a similar presentation to the town's planning commission last month, seeking their recommendation, which they provided.

Cropper said that the space must be rezoned, as there has been a change in the character of the neighborhood.

Cropper defined the neighborhood as either the Town of Berlin as a whole, or a more restricted location bounded on the north by US Route 50, bounded on the south by Franklin See COUNCIL Page 3

Mayor, council seek more control over risky business

By Tara Fischer Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) The Berlin Mayor and Council reviewed a potential ordinance that could revoke businesses licenses from town establishments if their operation creates a risk or nuisance for residents and visitors.

The draft will have its first reading

at an upcoming Town Council meet-

At a Town of Berlin Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, July 14, David Gaskill, attorney for the municipality, presented a draft ordinance that if adopted, could allow the town to refuse to grant, suspend or revoke, or place restrictions on licenses obtained by businesses operating within the Town of Berlin limits on the basis the establishment is creating a hazard to Berlin residents and visitors.

The draft reads, "the right is reserved to the Mayor and Council to refuse to grant any license, to suspend or revoke any license previously granted or to place appropriate restrictions on any license which is determined by the Mayor and Council, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, to be detrimental to or to adversely affect the health, safety, morals, peace, comfort, and general welfare of the surrounding properties See TOWN Page 4

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Council agrees neighborhood has changed

Continued from Page 1

Avenue, bounded on the east by Route 113, and bounded on the west by Route 818.

Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall noted that the more specific neighborhood definition "is kind of the nutshell of Heron Park."

According to Cropper, the neighborhood's character has changed, as the space was once overwhelmed by the poultry processing plant, an industrial site. As this use is no longer in operation, the location's nature has shifted.

"As far as the change in the character of the neighborhood, Tyson's poultry plant doesn't exist anymore, that was that neighborhood, and thus that is a change in that neighborhood that is consistent with this request," the attorney said.

Cropper and CVP also claimed that parcel 57 should be rezoned on the basis that its current classification, residential, was an error.

"You have a property that is presently zoned R-1, and there has been an industrial use on it as long as I've been alive," Cropper noted. "Those two things could not be more inconsistent."

Town of Berlin attorney David Gaskill added that parcel 57's current zoning uses are disallowed on the property. This fact further supports the argument that the location should be reclassified.

"The presented evidence, based on a mistake, would indicate that this property is currently zoned R-1, but it is prohibited from constructing residences on the property," he said. "That is the classic definition of a mistake."

At last month's planning commission meeting, Berlin Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said that the municipality purchased the property in early 2016, at which point it was rezoned R-1, with the intention to turn it into a park. That goal never came to fruition, but the residential distinction remained.

The town council unanimously approved to rezone parcel 57 at Heron



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Coastal Venture Properties, a company under contract to buy Parcel 57 in Berlin, has said the first phase of the redevelopment project will take place on the north side of the property, pictured.

Park from R-1 residential to B-2 shopping and retail. Councilman Jack Orris made the motion to pass the resolution and accept the testimony from Cropper as a statement of fact. Councilman Jay Knerr seconded that motion.

Bohlen noted that the resolution technically does not take effect for 10 days after its passage.

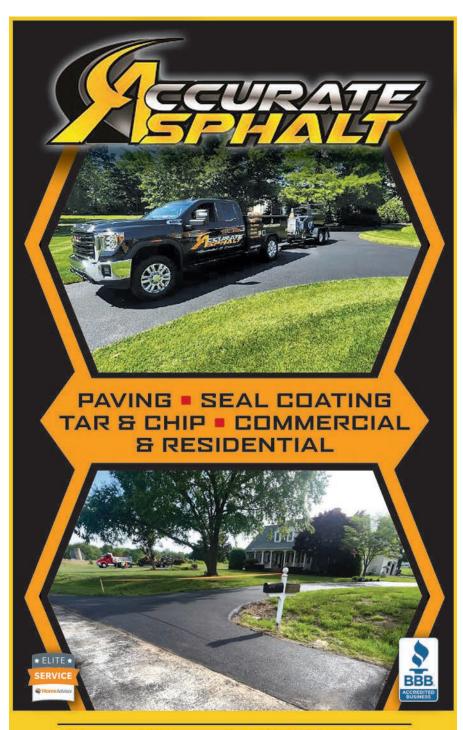
Now that the property will be rezoned to allow commercial uses, the sale of parcel 57 from the Town of Berlin to CVP may proceed. While the developers do not yet know what exactly will be utilized by the refurbished parcel, their plans include office and retail space. The Gillis' committed to constructing at least one office or retail building in the designated area within two years of closing as part of the redevelopment plans. CVP is responsible for the reengineering costs associated with the site.

Earlier this spring, the town agreed to sell parcel 57 to CVP, which consists of approximately 9.35 acres of land, for \$1,200,000. The price includes the allocation of 15 sewer Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) to the property.

Although ownership of the parcel will be transferred from the municipality to the developers, there are limitations on what can operate on the site. In the contract, the Town of Berlin and CVP have agreed upon a list of establishments that are banned from existing on the land.

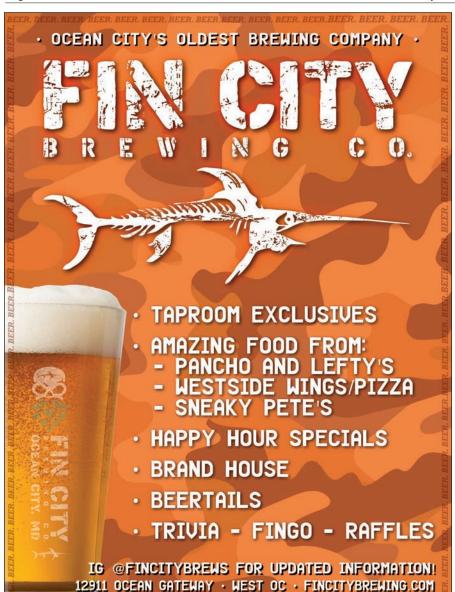
The prohibited uses include pawn shops, gun shops, tanning salons, massage parlors, adult video and book shops, adult entertainment facilities, check cashing facilities, tattoo parlors, liquor stores, and gambling facilities.

"Quite honestly, we don't know yet what's going to go there, but it will be consistent with the provisions," Palmer Gillis said at last month's planning commission meeting.





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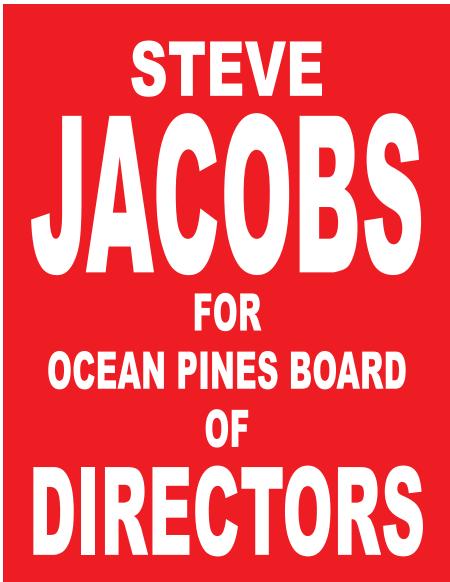




PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOD BOY MANUFACTURING

GRAND PRIZE WINNER

At the end of last Saturday's Hot Summer Swing and Taylor Bank Cheers to 135 Years! event, the grand prize drawing winner, Nancy Schwendeman, was celebrated by bank officials.

Town looks at power over licenses

Continued from Page 1

and residents and/or the public in general.'

Gaskill said that issues that may warrant the Town Council taking action, such as revoking a business license, could include excessive noise, excessive traffic, loitering outside the establishment during or after business hours, trash accumulation, and disorderly conduct, among others.

The attorney noted that, through conversations he had with Berlin Town Administrator Mary Bohlen and Planning Director Ryan Hardesty, they concluded that such an ordinance would likely never be exercised. Still, it's essential to have in the rare instance it's needed. Berlin's governing group agreed.

That's a good thing, to have it on the books and never need it," Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall said. "That's a good place to be ... Hopefully, we never have to use it, but at least if we can sit down with a party and say, 'hey look, this is the path we're headed down. We don't want to go there."

The Berlin Mayor and Council tasked Gaskill with drafting the ordinance following a concerning situation in town involving the railbike excursion company, Tracks and Yaks. In April, for at least the third time,

town residents came forward at a public council meeting, citing concerns with the operation. Adam Davis, owner of Berlin Beer Company on Broad Street, said that the railbike group does not have rest-

rooms for guests or staff. As such,

these individuals were using his

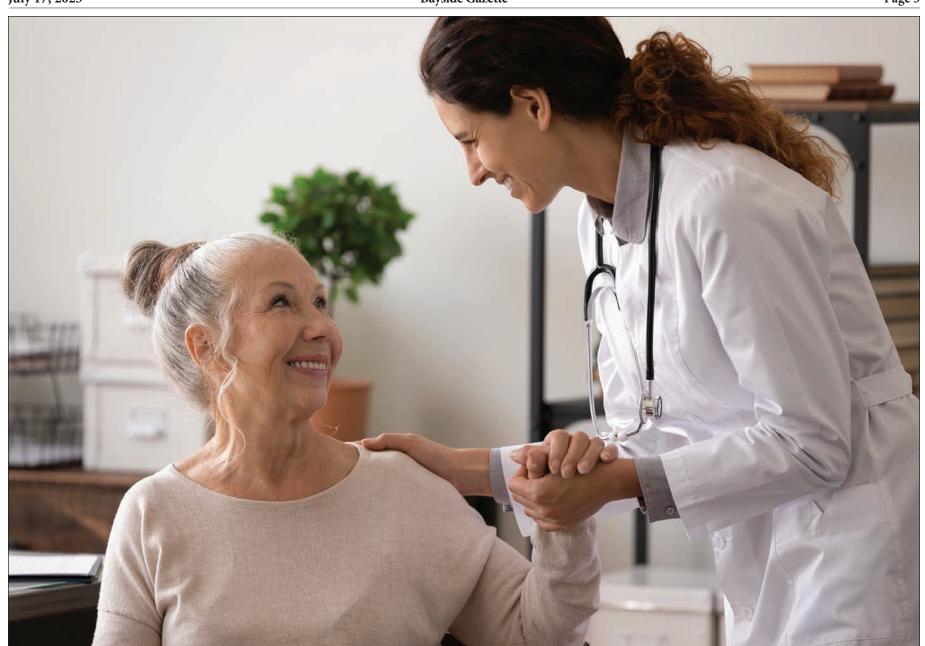
restaurant's facilities, straining the business. Tracks and Yaks customers were also parking in spots designated for Berlin Beer Company, which already has limited spaces, Davis added. Other Berlin residents came forward at that April meeting, claiming that Tracks and Yaks employees were smoking marijuana in their cars and loitering on the streets.

When the problems were first brought to light, the railbike excursion operated in such a way that guests were directed to Broad Street in Berlin for the activity, which exacerbated the nuisance issues there and on the nearby Baker Street. Now, when customers register, they are given a West Ocean City address and are then bussed to the railroad. This has seemed to lessen the company's burden on the town.

While some residents claim that the business continues to generate excessive traffic in Berlin, even with the new shuttle system, the majority of concerns, such as loitering, lack of restroom facilities, and trash accumulation, appear to have decreased.

"The situation is pretty much quelled right now on Baker Street,' Councilman Steve Green said. "[This ordinance] has come to be unnecessary today, but in the future, as certain instances arise, it is a good tool to have in our toolbox, but I hope it's never used and probably will not be."

Monday night's review of the ordinance was simply a discussion. The draft will have its first official reading at the Berlin Mayor and Council's next meeting, on July 28 at 6 p.m.



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Berlin makes tweaks to new parking space

By Tara Fischer

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) Progress at Berlin's new parking lot, located on the corner of West and Washington streets, is moving along, with ongoing discussions about possible improvements, including signage, fencing, landscaping, pay-to-park software, and a recommendation to prohibit on-street parking in areas near the property.

The new car park, which opened last month, is expected to alleviate a lack of suitable parking in Berlin. The municipality has historically struggled to provide enough parking spaces, especially during popular events, when visitors and residents flock downtown. In recent years, an uptick in Berlin's popularity has created enduring parking issues, as the supply was not enough to handle the number of vehicles finding their way into town.

Earlier this year, to address the challenge, the Berlin Mayor and Council entered into a 10-year lease agreement with William Esham, Jr., for a vacant 2.13-acre lot on the west side of West Street. The area will supply around 110 spots.

Now, officials are getting that lot up and running in time for the rest of the busy summer season.

At the Berlin Mayor and Council's



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The new Berlin parking lot on West Street is pictured on Sunday around noon during the weekly farmers market. Town officials estimated more than 110 vehicles utilized the new lot during the market on Sunday and the new chamber event on Saturday.

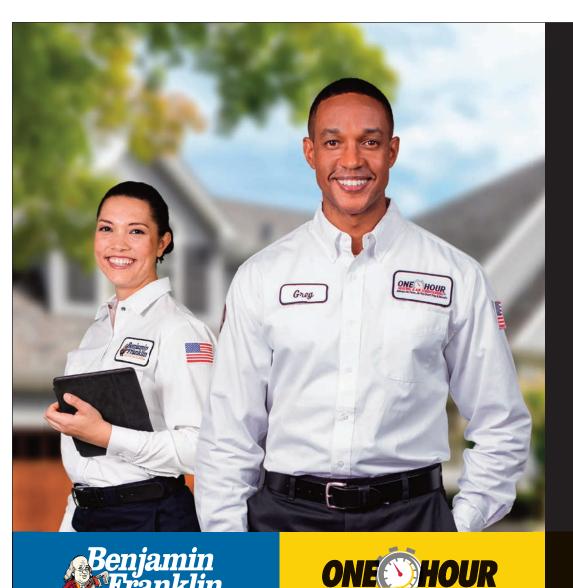
meeting on Monday, July 14, members of the parking subcommittee tasked with spearheading the creation of the new lot provided a project update to town residents and the council.

Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall created the parking subcommittee, which includes Council members Steve Green and Jay Knerr, Town Administrator Mary Bohlen, Public Works Director Jimmy Charles and others. The group's most recent progress report revealed that residents and visitors initially had access to the new lot during the town's annual Bathtub Races on June 20.

"We learned some interesting feedback from that opening," Tyndall said. "One, that people like to use the lot, which is good. Two ... we can see that the lot is getting used, which is a good case study for why it's important."

The subcommittee members note that rolling out the car park will be a gradual process, with improvements and modifications made as needed. Tyndall said that at the group's July 7 meeting, the parking team discussed upcoming changes and additions planned for the lot to improve accessibility and awareness of its existence.

Charles has installed new signage with the universal "P" symbol to denote parking on the lot. The team also



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Berlin eyes no parking on all of West Street

hopes to eventually implement "park at own risk" signs to address any liability concerns.

The new lot will be promoted on the town's social media channels to ensure visitors and residents are aware of its existence, especially ahead of significant community events, such as the weekly farmers' market. According to Tyndall, the property has been added to the town's Google Maps.

The subcommittee intends to obtain a quote for railroad ties or a similar type of framing to create a perimeter, or island, around the signs where cars can park. The horticulture committee will also likely assist with plantings on the interior of each island for aesthetic purposes.

Additionally, the group will solicit another quote for a wooden and vinyl fence for the West Street side and the Washington Street side of the parking lot.

Furthermore, the pay-to-park system ParkMobile will eventually be implemented for the car park, which the Town of Berlin hopes will help with the expenses on the 10-year lease.

Additional improvement efforts include removing the site's "No Trespassing" signs, which Tyndall maintains have already been completed. Signage will also be added in town to direct people to the lot.

The mayor added that these improvements will be funded by the \$75,000 earmarked in the fiscal year 2026 budget for the project.

"It was the stewardship of our finance director to place \$75,000 in our FY26 budget for improvements to the lot," Tyndall said. "So that's where the improvements mentioned above, the creation of the island, the putting up of the fence, would come out of that funding."

Per the creation of the new lot, Berlin law enforcement has recommended prohibiting on-street parking on the entirety of West Street, as well as making Washington Street from West Street to Broad Street a no-parking zone. These restricted sites will be indicated with signage.

Tyndall stated that residents or businesses affected by the change may contact the town via email to request special consideration. The mayor noted that these individuals may be given free access to the municipal lot for a year while they make accommodations.

The decision to create no on-street parking zones is aimed at ensuring public safety. West Street is already narrow. Adding a pay-to-park lot near a road with free parking could increase the number of vehicles lined up on that street, making it impossible for emergency vehicles to navigate through.

The no-parking recommendation has been met with some pushback. A handful of residents on West Street leave their cars on the road for various reasons, such as limited driveway space on their property.

Councilman Jack Orris asked how the town plans on alleviating any issues this action may have on Berlin citizens.

Resident Marie Velong addressed the council during the public comment period. She said that she believes banning on-street parking on West Street is unfair, and residents should be notified of the change well in advance.

"They need to know ahead," she said. "They need to have this in their plans. It's another case where business priorities take precedence over the residents of Berlin, and it annoys me. It's the residents that are the bulk of this community."

Tyndall said that he understands the concerns, but that the new lot will support Berlin as a whole.

"We hear at our level, and I'm sure it happens in social circles as well, peo-

ple can't find parking," the mayor said. "If you're a resident and want to come downtown, you can't find parking, so this offers ways that our residential community, as well as the commercial district, can have mutual benefits."

Tyndall added that the town will work to assist those affected by the new no-parking rule.

"If you're impacted, we understand that that could come as a challenge initially," he said. "To help you overcome that, all you have to do is bring us up to speed on what that challenge is, why you can't meet your parking needs, and then we can grant 12-month use of this lot for no payment to residents or businesses if they can show this change in no parking directly impacts them."

However, after the one-year grace period, Tyndall stated that businesses, residents and/or landlords should have made modifications to comply with the no-parking restriction.

The new parking lot's early days seem to be successful, subcommittee members say. According to Green, at a town event last Saturday, 30 to 40 cars were parked in the new site. That number rose to 65 to 70 on the next day's farmers market.

"Over the last two days, the 110 vehicles that have parked in that lot have helped our residents as well as our businesses," Green said. "Street parking wasn't utilized as much because there were people following the signage that was put up or using Google Maps to go to that lot. That was the idea: to have a place where people could go. I'm proud of that response we had."

"It's clear that people are finding it and using it and will continue to do so," Knerr added.



Aquatics Committee clarifies member roles

Protocol states suggestions must be in writing, sent to OPA general manager first

By Tara Fischer

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) The Ocean Pines Association's Aquatics Advisory Committee aims to strengthen its working relationship with community staff and the board of directors to ensure facility excellence, following a recent situation in which a member of the volunteer group made unsolicited recommendations to pool professionals.

The Ocean Pines Aquatics Advisory Committee met last week, where they discussed the duties and responsibilities of the group in relation to the pool operations team and the OPA Board of Directors. Ocean Pines' advisory groups are made up of homeowner volunteers who act as the eyes and ears of certain aspects of OPA life, like the pools, the golf course, elections, and strategic planning, among others. They operate separately from OPA paid staff, observing the department's ongoing operations from a resident perspective.

According to Aquatics Committee Chair Gary Miller, the guidelines conversation was scheduled after a situation in which a member of his team noted a few maintenance issues at the pools. The error was made when the individual interacted with pool employees, pointing out items that she believed needed to be addressed.

The Aquatics Advisory Group is not meant to make recommendations directly to the aquatics operations. Instead, they are to submit charging documents along with their suggestions to the community's board of directors, who forwards them to OPA General Manager John Viola, who may then speak with the pool staff. Decisions are made on whether to take the advice or not, based on whether it's realistic, if there's room in the budget, or if the general manager and operations believe it's a necessary measure.

The rule to have the committee and pool employees operate separately is in place to ensure that advisory members do not interfere with staff dealings and to ensure the committee acts in a strictly advisory fashion. Final say is up to Ocean Pines staff.

"We are allowed to look at things, and even to take photographs," Miller said. "We are not allowed to talk to any of the staff specifically. So any issues that we find, be brought here to the committee, we'll discuss it, we will either decide to send information to the board, or we'll decide to send something to info@oceanpines.org."

Miller added that any concerns that pose a safety risk and require immediate attention should be emailed to Ocean Pines at info@oceanpines.org. Items sent here often yield a quicker response time, the committee chair maintained.

"It might not be in a day, but within a day or two, you are usually getting a response," he said.

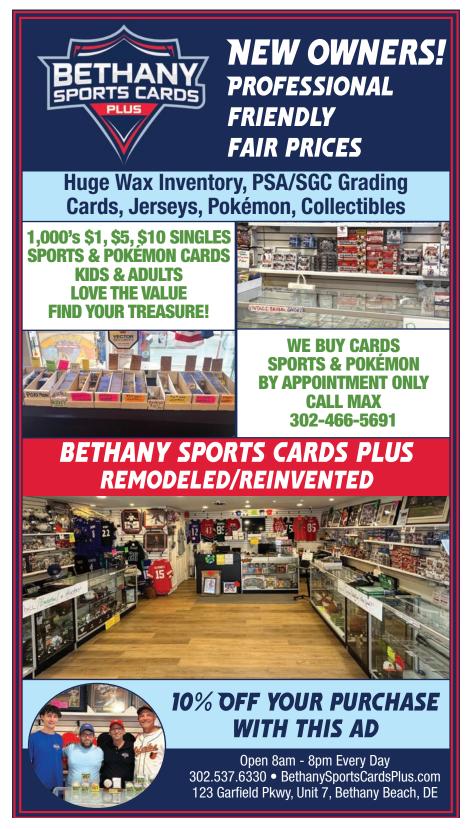
Members of the aquatics committee said that they feel their relationship with pool staff is an "adversarial one." The volunteers believe that part of their advisory role is to address concerns as poolgoers, particularly during the height of the season when staff members, such as Viola or Michelle Hitchens, the aquatics director, are extra busy. The committee believes that the pool staff views these recommendations as a suggestion that they are not performing their job correctly. The advisory volunteers maintain that this is not the case, and note that there are several instances, reflected in previous meeting minutes, in which they commend staff for their excellent work.

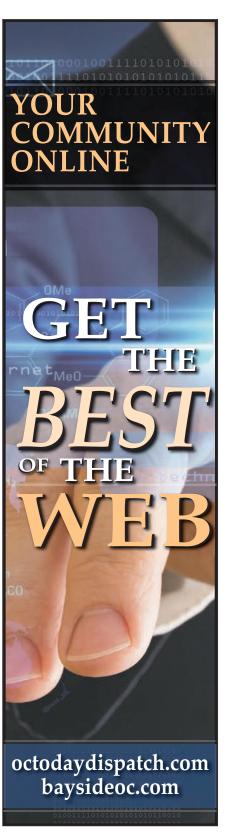
This strained relationship, committee members say, has made it feel like they cannot provide adequate input into what would improve aquatics operations and their facilities. To address the disconnect, Miller noted that committee member recommendations should be handled by taking photos, bringing them up at the advisory team's next meeting, or emailing Ocean Pines if it poses an immediate safety risk. The entire volunteer group will discuss suggestions and may be sent to the board for consideration.

"I think part of the issue was more the fact, not just with our committee but other committees that also had issues with their members inappropriately interacting with staff," Miller said. "To some extent, it's justifiable that both the board and [Viola] have tried to tighten things up so that staff don't feel like they're being confronted or anyone is angry with them."

At last week's aquatics meeting, Miller reviewed the group's actual responsibilities, as outlined in OPA's governing documents. Moving forward, they vow to stay within these guidelines. The chair added that the meeting is recorded, and if the board or community staff believe their interpretation of these standards is flawed, they can bring their corrections to the committee.

According to Miller, per the governing documents, one of the Aquatics Advisory Committee's functions is to "advise the board on methods of promoting interest in aquatics."





Charging docs first reviewed by OPA liaison

"In our original interpretation, we felt that this implies that anything that increases membership and/or interest in aquatics is open for review, including the appearance of the aquatics facility," Miller said. "Appearance and safety concerns are important factors for residents who are considering the purchase of a pool membership...In my mind, that's why this is important, and everything related to keeping people interested in aquatics as a whole is something we should examine."

Another guideline says that the volunteer team is responsible for "advising the board regarding aquatic policy and operations, including recommendations for improving the aquatic operations."

Committee member Karen Kaplan noted that this standard would include suggestions like a swipe card, a recent recommendation discussed by the group to ease bathroom and pool entrance lines.

"Most of our recommendations have been about things that we feel would improve the overall operations and gain more members," Miller added.

Another role of the volunteer members is the "development of budget proposals and programs, activities, facilities, and staff as it pertains to aquatic activities." Miller said that there have been a few instances when the committee has brought maintenance issues to the board, and they have been immediately addressed. Other times, he added concerns are not addressed, and the group does not hear back about their suggestion.

Members of the committee stated that when their recommendations do not elicit a response from the board, they feel as though their role on the volunteer team is useless. If a suggestion is not taken, it is up to the board of directors to tell the aquatics advisors why that decision was made.

"It would be nice for a committee that has worked in good faith on a proposal to understand why," said Aquatics Committee member Vivian Koroknay. "It's not like we sit here and dream this stuff up. Other association members come to us. We are supposed to be the eyes and ears of the association. If I make a recommendation in a proposal format and I submit it to the board, who may or may not submit it to [Viola. The answer comes back, 'We don't think it's necessary.' I'm sorry, that's like saying to an association member, 'nah, not know.'

"I would think that you would talk to the people who have put you on the board in a way that shows a level of respect, and say, we're not going to go through with that, or we don't think it's necessary at this time. I don't need a long, drawn-out thing, but just something other than 'nope, not necessary.' It strengthens the relationship. We're doing the best we can; we listen to what people say and accept their feedback. We submit it to the board in the best way we know how. I just need a response."

In response, OPA Board of Directors President Stuart Lakernick maintained that every charging document sent by a committee to the board is received by that body's liaison, a member of the board of directors assigned to oversee the volunteer group. However, he added that communicating with the advisory committee can be made a higher priority.

"Every charging document from every committee goes to the liaison," Lakernick said. "I get them all, and then I forward them all to [Viola's] team, and then [Viola] communicates back, and 99% of the time, it's something they've already done or are already working on. But I understand the point about maybe communicating back that they're already on whatever concern."

An additional guideline stipulates that the aquatics advisory committee is "monitoring the condition, care, and maintenance of the aquatic facility and to advise the board and aquatic professional of any specific problems or concerns."

Miller said that this standard is the one that has caused issues.

"This is the one that I think has inadvertently caused us the most pushback, because every time that we have looked at the facilities and talked about issues that are either safety related or maintenance related or whatever, we've been told that that is not our purview," the committee chair said. "It says so right here that that is something we're supposed to be looking at, and then advising the board, hey, you should be aware that this is an issue."

Committee members added that this type of collaboration could cause strife among the pool staff because, under the committee's current setup, there are two sides: the advisory groups and the department employees. This can make it seem as if recommendations are a suggestion that a job is not being completed correctly.

The advisory team states that this is not the intended outcome of their feedback. Instead, they view their role as being able to see and hear what OPA homeowners are most concerned about, adding another protective layer to facility and department maintenance.

See COMMITTEE Page 10





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Committee chair reviews proper rules, procedures

Continued from Page 9

Going forward, the aquatics team stated that they will do their best to stay within the bounds above and refrain from directly addressing pool employees about issues or concerns.

"If we do the job, we follow the guidelines that are written down, we're doing what we're supposed to do," Miller said. "We're not supposed to get involved with telling people how to do the operational part of it. We're not supposed to tell people, 'hey, you should get this fixed.' It's all a matter of ensuring that we, as a committee, understand what the resolutions say and follow them. Hopefully, the board, after reviewing this, will also follow the rules. If the rules have changed, they can notify us. Otherwise, let us do what we're supposed to be doing."

The group will also take steps to ensure that the board is required or strongly encouraged to respond to charging documents submitted by advisory committees. This action will help to strengthen the volunteer team's relationship with OPA officials.

"If we do send a recommendation, whatever the decision is, is fine, but let us know what that decision is," Miller added.

Town Hall renovations discussed

Council approves more services after decisions on interior departments, entry

By Tara Fischer

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) The Berlin Town Council approved a proposal from Haley Architecture this week for additional services to the Town Hall renovation project.

The initiative will now include an interior renovation of the existing planning and zoning building, an update to the primary front of Town Hall, and a more focal main entrance.

The Berlin Town Council approved Haley Architecture's proposal at its Monday, July 14 meeting. The additional architectural services will yield a cost of \$75,130.

The newly added services to the initiative include "a total interior renovation of the existing planning and zoning building to accommodate Economic Development's relocation, as well as added architectural services to update the main front facade of Town Hall, create a more prominent main entry, and reconfigure the service entry areas."

A significant change to the plans includes brand-new mechanical systems. According to the firm's submission, the initial scope of the work "was limited to reuse and reconfiguration of the Town Hall building to accommodate the architectural renovations." Now, the project will be expanded to "demolition and replacement of all HVAC, plumbing, and fire protection systems. It will also include the planning and zoning building."

Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall added that the replacement of mechanical systems is necessary because the main entrance is being changed, allowing for easier access to the facil-

'If someone needs an elevator, you don't have to walk outside for those things, whereas the original first draft of the design kept the mechanical systems that were there intact.'

Zack Tyndall, Berlin Mayor

ity's new elevator.

"The main entrance will be where the stair tower is now, so that people can come in, and it will flow better with planning services and customer services as well as access," Tyndall said. "We wanted access to the elevator in the first and second buildings without having to go outside of the building. If someone needs an elevator, you don't have to walk outside for those things, whereas the original first draft of the design kept the mechanical systems that were there intact"

Tyndall added that another modification to the Town Hall renovation project is to create a more prominent front entry. This change will allow Berlin locals to enter through the main entryway, and will be a "focal historical point" where residents can learn about the history of the building.

"Some of us may recall coming into public meetings through the front door," the mayor said. "Security reasons and the way the building is laid out now are not suitable for that. Changes to the Town Hall plans would allow folks to again enter through the main entry point. The public will not have full, unfettered access to the building due to current societal conditions; however, we felt it was important for people to be still able to come through the front. We're going to try to make that more of a [place] where people can learn about Town Hall history. It's been a police station, a fire station, a library, a dance studio, lots of things along the

The council intends to keep the project's cost within the estimated \$2.5 million.



Berlin's first sign auction raises \$10K-plus

Vintage Quillin Drive sign goes for \$430; Baker, Main streets also saw active bids

By Tara Fischer

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) The Town of Berlin's street sign auction, launched earlier this month, has drawn to a close, securing over \$10,000 in revenue for the municipality's community center project.

To raise funds for a community center in Berlin, the town's leaders auctioned off retired street signs, including stop signs, road name posts, and speed limit banners, via the ClickBid system. The program kicked off on July 1 and officially concluded at noon on Tuesday, July 15.

According to Sara Gorfinkel, executive assistant to Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall, upon the closure of the bidding war Tuesday afternoon, 140 of the 158 available signs were auctioned off, and more than 200 people had logged into the system, placing a total of 1,116 bids.

At the Berlin Mayor and Council's meeting on Monday, July 14, Gorfinkel noted that the auction had secured the town \$7,690 at that point. By noon the next day, that fig-

ure rose to a little over \$10,000, surpassing the executive assistant's goal of \$8.000.

The money will be used for a historical display inside the town's planned community center. The exhibit will likely incorporate plaques, archive materials and display boxes.

"We want to highlight the history of Berlin and the families that have made Berlin what it is," Gorfinkel said last month. "We know that the archives and the history are significant to the Town of Berlin, so we are specifically raising money to put aside for that. We have the Taylor House Museum, so that it won't be anything on that level. Still, we want it to be people-focused and an excellent resource, so people feel their history is reflected in the community center."

The auction's profit will help town leaders reach this goal. Gorfinkel noted that some of the more desirable signs included Baker Street, which, as of Monday night, had garnered 30 separate bids at \$370; Graham Avenue, with 25 bids at \$300; and two vintage North Main Street signs, one reaching \$260 and the other \$270.

The vintage Quillin Drive home raised the most amount of money, auctioning for \$430.

Officials maintained that the street sign auction wasn't just for locals. Most bidders were registered in the Town of Berlin, but several were outside the municipality's limits, some even as far as Colorado, Arizona, and California.

Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall acknowledged the program's success, adding that it was shared earlier this month with a member of Maryland Governor Wes Moore's team.

"They loved it so much, they said, 'Can we share this with the rest of the state?' We've taken something here that would otherwise be thrown in the garbage and made \$10,000 on it for the community center," Tyndall said.

The mayor added that the town has access to the software ClickBid for a year. The municipality is likely to utilize the website again, possibly around the holiday season, for additional fundraising efforts.

"It helps when we're looking for funding to be able to show local support," he said.

The community center is an ongoing project for Berlin, now \$10,000 closer to fruition. The endeavor has been on the town's docket for decades, but has started to make headway over the past few years. The future building will provide meeting



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Some of the retired street signs available for purchase over the last month through an auction site are pictured.

space, recreational activities, services, and amenities, and will be located at 130 Flower Street.

Progress towards the planned facility has been made possible through a partnership between the Town of Berlin, the Berlin Community Improvement Association (BCIA), SHOREUP! Inc., and the Worcester County Commissioners, who worked to combine four parcels of property on Flower Street, formerly adjacent to the Flower Street School.

Successful bidders can pick their signs up from Town Hall any day next week between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.







MDE erred in offshore wind permit process

Federal agency finds errors in state's approval, requires permit must be reissued

By Brian Shane

Staff Writer

(July 18, 2025) Maryland's Department of the Environment should have advertised a federal appeals process, not a state one, for members of the public who might want to challenge the final permit issued for developer US Wind to start building a wind farm off Ocean City's coast.

The 114-turbine wind farm is planned for a location 10.7 miles offshore – in federal waters. That means when Maryland issued US Wind a permit to proceed, it did so under federal authority with the blessing of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or

That was the gist of a stark notice that EPA Regional Administrator Amy Van Blarcom-Lackey sent July 7 to Serena McIlwain, Maryland's Secretary of the Department of the Environment, or

The feds are using a technical error in the appeals process as leverage to force a permit re-issue by Maryland. If the permit isn't fixed and reissued, the entire permit could be overturned on appeal, the letter says.

"Failure to rectify this error could result in invalidation of the permit on appeal and confusion among relevant stakeholders with respect to where to bring such an appeal," Blarcom-Lackey wrote.

Now, to fix the error, the feds say, MDE will have to reissue its permit decision and state clearly that the authority came from federal law. Otherwise, an appeal filed by a citizen in the wrong court could be thrown out.

The state is also being asked to remove all online mentions of a state appeal process and then clearly state how to file a federal appeal with EPA's Environmental Appeals Board. The feds also want Maryland to mention that there's a 30-day deadline to file a petition for review from the date of re-issued permit.

As a result, the state is forming its response.

'We received the letter and are reviewing it now," MDE spokesman Jay Apperson said in an emailed statement. "MDE is committed to ensuring all our permit processes are transparent and in accordance with the law."

Ocean City continues to fight the offshore wind project. The town is embroiled in a lawsuit against the federal government to slow or stop the wind farm, and just last week pledged \$100,000 toward an anti-wind public relations campaign called Stop Offshore Wind.

Terry McGean, City Manager, said he was pleased with the EPA ruling.

We have been asserting for some time now that these permits are being fast tracked through without proper review or correct legal process," McGean said via email. "MDE's failure to correctly identify the proper appeal process for the Air Quality permit is just another example of how US Wind continues to receive special treatment from the State.

McGean added: "We are glad to see that now, federal agencies are beginning to look at this project in a fair and balanced matter and not ignoring laws, rules, and regulations because a project claims to be 'green."

US Wind remains confident that all its permits were validly issued, according to a statement via email from spokeswoman Nancy Sopko.

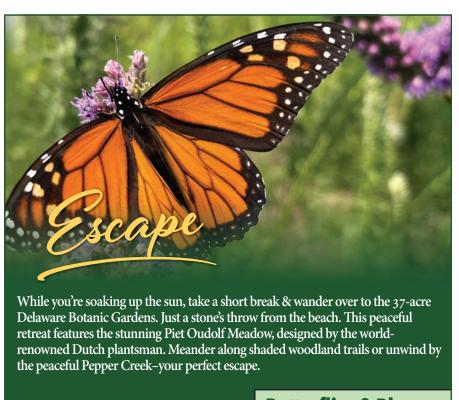
"We're very committed to delivering this important energy project to the region. The state needs all the new sources of electricity we can build in order to keep prices affordable for homes and businesses," she said.

Offshore wind opponents, like Congressman Andy Harris, chalked up the technicality as a win for their side.

"The EPA has confirmed what many of us knew for years - this project was approved with glaring procedural and legal flaws," Harris (R-1st, Maryland) said in a July 11 statement. "The Maryland Department of the Environment had no business directing the public to appeal a federal permit to a state court, and such a decision showed both incompetence and a disregard for public input from my affected constituents in Worcester County.

"For many years, my constituents across the First Congressional District have been overwhelmingly clear: they do not want offshore wind off their coast. This ruling is a major victory for the Eastern Shore, the environment, and our local economies that are existentially threatened by this project," Harris added.

President Donald Trump also announced plans to strip subsidies from wind and solar projects, according to a July 7 Executive Order. Also, the latest budget reconciliation bill passed by Congress and signed by Trump on July 4 also rescinds other green energy sub-



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25th Annual Book Sale set for Pines Library branch

(July 10, 2025) Book lovers from Ocean Pines, Berlin, Ocean City, and beyond will once again flock to the Ocean Pines Library this July for one of the region's most anticipated summer traditions: the 25th Annual Book Sale hosted by the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library.

With over 20,000 books to choose from and many starting at \$1.00, the event promises something for every reader — and every dollar spent supports the local Ocean Pines library and the library's community programs. Contributions are also welcome.

This year's sale kicks off on Friday, July 25, from 6-8 p.m. with a Members Only Preview Night for Friends of the Ocean Pines Library. Not a member? No problem, as you can join at the door for just \$5/year for individuals or \$10/year for families to gain early access to the full collection.

The sale continues on Saturday, July 26, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and wraps up on Monday, July 28, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. with everything on Monday offered at half price.

Shoppers can expect an incredible selection of hardcovers, children's books, and paperbacks, most priced at \$2.50 or less with the majority just \$1.00. The sale features more than 40 categories, with all books sorted for easy browsing. Popular genres include mystery, fiction, cookbooks, history, biographies, coffee table, and children's books. Every book is donated, with 65% being hardcover, and all are in very good to like new condi-



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Saturday, July 26, 9AM - 4PM

Monday, July 28, 9AM - 4PM (all ½ price on Monday)

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines Library Branch Manager Harry Burkett is pictured with Friends of the Ocean Pines Library volunteer Lee Monick and Ocean Pines Library Youth Director Angie DiMarco.

Sale announced for July 25-28

tion. Only cash is accepted.

A fan favorite, the Specials Area will once again feature rare and unique finds, including collectibles, signed books, first editions, ephemera, historic items, and other unusual treasures—all individually priced.

Those who attend this event know that it takes large numbers of volunteers and many hours to make this event happen. Last year, over 126 volunteers gave more than 800 hours doing set-up, tear-down, cashiering, counting, organizing, greeting, and other essential tasks. The Friends of the Ocean Pines Library would like to thank all those who donated their time last year—and offer a special thanks to the many dedicated volunteers who have already committed to helping again this year.

"The sale is a celebration of community spirit," said Lisa Schoch, volunteer chair of the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library Book Sale. "It's a wonderful way to promote literacy and support the library that gives so much back to our residents yearround."

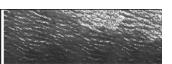
The Annual Book Sale is more than just a bargain hunt. It's a community event that promotes reading, encourages sustainability by recycling books, and supports a wide range of library programs. Proceeds help fund events for children, teens, and adults, reading initiatives, as well as technology and physical upgrades across the Worcester County Library Ocean Pines Branch.

The library is ADA accessible, with ample free parking, and volunteers will be on hand to assist anyone needing help carrying purchases. With colorful displays and rows of carefully sorted books, the event also offers plenty of selection to choose from.

If you're inspired by the spirit of the event, the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library encourages community members to consider volunteering for future sales.







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Obituaries

JANICE LOUISE CROPPER

Ocean City

Janice Louise Cropper, age 78, of Ocean City, died Monday, July 7, 2025 at home. She was born in Salisbury and



was the daughter of the late Edward Stanley Aydelotte and Helen (Rodney) Aydelotte.

Janice began her working career as an Ocean City Police Dispatcher where she met her husband, Steve. She later worked for 10

years at the Stephen Decatur High School as a Librarian Assistant and retired as a secretary from the Town of Ocean City Convention Center. She was a member of Bethany United Methodist Church in Berlin and was dedicated to raising her family. She loved craft shows and owned Cropper Promotions which promoted several craft shows at the Convention Center.

Janice is survived by her husband of 58 years, Stephen T. Cropper of Ocean City; a daughter, Teresa Cropper Beath and husband John of Tyaskin; two

sons, Christopher S. Cropper and wife Mandi Davis-Cropper of Berlin and Phillip E. Cropper and husband, Keith Hall of Ocean Pines; eight grandchildren, Christian Cropper (Tasha Lockheart-Davis), Chase Cropper (Taryn McCallister), Mia Cropper, Kloe Cropper, Erica Mazza (Paul), Christopher Beath (Sarah Rigot), Racheal Cooke (Greg), Nathan Hall and Katie Hall; five great-grandchildren, Layton, Corwin, Lennon, Payton and Phebe; two brothers-in-law, David Cropper (Patti) and Vaughn Tilghman; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Thomas Aydelotte and James Aydelotte; three sisters, Barbara Jean Baker, Irma Lee Bovce and Beverly Tilghman.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, July 18, 2025 at Ocean City Vol. Fire Co. Station 5, 10124 Keyser Pt. Road in Ocean City where friends and family may visit an hour before the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, Md. 21802 or Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, 1409 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, Md. 21842.

Condolences may be sent by visiting www.bishophastingsfh.com

THOMAS W. PURNELL

Berlin

Thomas W. Purnell, 89, of Berlin, departed this life on Friday, July 4, 2025, at Berlin Nursing and Rehabili-



Thomas Purnell

the son of the late Laura Purnell and Monroe Jones. honorably He served his country in

the United States Army. Prior to retiring. he was employed by

the State of Maryland as a Parks and Recreation worker.

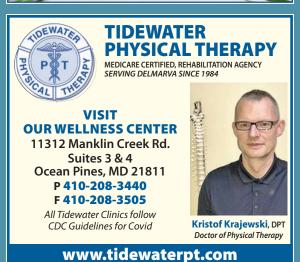
A man of deep faith, he was a dedicated member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, where he sang with the Senior Choir and the Methodist Men, and served as a Sunday School teacher. His commitment to service extended beyond the church walls—he devoted over 20 years to missionary work, faithfully impacting lives through his ministry.

He will be lovingly remembered by: one son, Marvin Smith (Beverly); one daughter, Lorinda Dale (James); six brothers, Bishop Edward Purnell (Leola), Norman Briddell (Ella), Vaughn Holland (Lynda), Larsen Jarmon (Portia), William Holland, and Carl Holland (Alma); four sisters, Cheryl Dale, Darlene Sessoms (Willie), Linda Duffy (Jeron), and Regina Mc-Cloud; five grandchildren; nine greatgrandchildren; 10 great-great grandchildren; several nephews, nieces, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Mr. Purnell will lie in repose on Saturday, July 19, 2025, from 12 to 1 PM at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower Street, Berlin. The funeral service will begin at 1 PM. Interment will follow at St. Paul's Cemetery, 10543 Assateague Road, Berlin. A ministry of comfort and dignity is being provided by Lewis N. Watson Funeral Home, P.A. in Salisbury. Please visit www.lewisnwatsonfuneralhome.com to offer condolences to the family.









Retired OCFD deputy named to county's leadership post

By Brian Shane

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) A just-retired Ocean City Fire Department deputy chief has been hired as the director of Worcester County's Department of Emergency Services.

In his new role, Chris Shaffer will be responsible for all matters relating to emergency man-

agement, including the county's 911 system, its radio broadcasts, and development of emergency operations plan. The position also liaises with the county's fire, ambu-



Chris Shaffer

lance, and police departments. He starts next month.

"Chris is a seasoned and highly respected public safety professional who has established strong working relationships with all of the fire stations in the county," said Ted Elder, president of the Worcester County Commissioners, in a statement.

"His skills, training, and professionalism make him ideally suited to bring together the people and partnerships Worcester County needs to plan for, respond to, and bounce back from any crisis, whether it's a natural or manmade disaster," Elder added

The emergency services director also coordinates with the county's mapping and data department, known as GIS, to maintain a comprehensive address system so first responders can find your home in an emergency.

County spokesperson Kim Moses said Shaffer was selected from a competitive pool for the \$130,000-a-year job.

Shaffer replaces Matt Owens, who

has pulled double duty as both the county's fire marshal and interim emergency services director for the last 15 months.

Worcester County had reorganized to put both emergency services and the fire marshal under the oversight of one director. This ended up not working because the responsibility was such that each department needed an individual director, county officials have said.

Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young thanked Owens in a statement for stepping up to lead the agency after former director Billy Birch left for another position after six years in the role. Owens will continue to oversee the fire marshal's office.

"On top of his duties as director of the Fire Marshal's Office, Matt guided every aspect of WCES until we found the right person to take the helm. His dedication and leadership made all the difference, and we're truly grateful for his commitment to our community," Young said.

Shaffer retired from a 38-year career with the Ocean City Fire Department on July 31. An Ocean City native whose father also served the OCFD for more than six decades, Shaffer began his fire service career in 1987. Starting as a dispatcher, he rose through the ranks to become deputy chief in 2016.

"Chris has been the backbone of this department for nearly four decades," said Fire Chief Josh Bunting in a statement earlier this year. "His tireless dedication and ability to bring people together has helped make the Ocean City Fire Department the gold standard for EMS care and fire suppression in our region. It goes without saying how sorely he will be missed – by the department, our extended OCFD family, and by me personally."





Snow Hill library branch renovations eyed

Project estimated to cost \$3.1M; Work includes new lights, updated restrooms

By Brian Shane

Staff Writer

(July 17, 2025) Plans are underway to renovate and modernize Worcester County's oldest library branch in downtown Snow Hill ... with or without a new HVAC system.

The goal of the project is to improve the overall layout, expand a history exhibit, and improve some office spaces for library administrators. The Worcester County Commissioners approved a request for proposals at their July 1 meeting.

The branch has been at its current location since 1975 and the building is starting to show its age, according

care givers



PHOTO COURTESY JENNIFER RANCK/WORCESTER COUNTY LIBRARY

The Snow Hill branch of the Worcester County Library on North Washington Street is pictured during its construction in 1975.

to library Director Jennifer Rank.

"Libraries are still in the business of checking out books, but we also offer space for people to study, learn, and meet. We are incredibly grateful and proud to serve the residents, and this renovation project will allow us to continue that work in a more accessible and comfortable setting,' Ranck said in a statement.

The work is estimated to take three to five months. Renovations will include updated restrooms, new shelving, improved lighting, and a kitchenette for meeting rooms. Additional work will include installing flooring and carpet tiles, a new ceiling, attic ventilation, as well as a security system, according to publicly available bid paperwork.

Ranck said this phase of the project will concentrate on upgrading the building's plumbing and electrical systems, which will include wiring additional electrical outlets for visitors who want to plug in their phones or laptops, according to library director Jennifer Ranck.

An early estimate from the firm of Davis Bown & Friedel puts that cost at \$3.1 million. For now, the county has set aside \$2.7 million for the project, with another \$276,000 provided by a bequest. The bequest is specifically to pay for new shelving, according to Ranck.

In a few years, officials hope to replace the HVAC system, too, which would add another \$1.5 million to the cost, for an updated estimate nearing \$6 million. They also hope to add an accessibility ramp to their garden space, Ranck added, though that would be another side project for which they hope to find grant fund-

Located near the Pocomoke River in the heart of Snow Hill's downtown, this branch averages 2,500 visits each month. A staff of nine people offer about 15 programs for visitors of all ages, and about 20 community groups make use of the library's public meeting spaces.



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UBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Deborah Casey, Ph.D., president of Wor-Wic Community College, wields the scissors at a ribbon cutting held in partnership with the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce of the new cybersecurity training facility at the college as community members, state and local officials, employees and students look on.

College opens cyber range training program

(July 17, 2025) College recently cut the ribbon on a new cybersecurity training facility as part of its participation in Maryland's Cyber Workforce Accelerator (CWA) program. The new cybersecurity laboratory features the BCR Cyber Series 3000 Cyber Range, a high-tech training system that simulates cyberattacks and introduces students to cybersecurity concepts and operations.

The CWA was established in 2024 by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges and BCR Cyber. It provides cyber ranges to all 16 Maryland community colleges for training across the IT and cybersecurity spectrum. Wor-Wic will now have access on site to the cyber range using dedicated remote workstations that can be used for cybersecurity curriculum development and course inclusion. Students will now be able to demonstrate their knowledge in a hyper-realistic and stimulating environment alongside both their peers and professors.

"Our cybersecurity program has been growing to meet the needs of our community and our students," said Deborah Casey, Ph.D., president of Wor-Wic. "This cutting-edge training reflects our commitment to equip students with the tools they need to keep their skills sharp for this highdemand field."

Once students complete their studies, the program assists in placing these students in industry jobs while also helping address the urgent needs of Maryland's cyber workforce.

"The Cyber Workforce Accelerator program, with its cutting-edge cyber ranges, will be a game-changer for cybersecurity education in Maryland," said Brad Phillips, executive director of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges. "We are proud to

support this initiative at Wor-Wic and its positive impact on its students and the state's economy."

"There is a significant need here in Maryland for skilled IT and cyberse-curity professionals. Community colleges play a vital role not only in helping meet this need but also helping to facilitate meaningful employment for job seekers," said Michael Spector, president of BCR Cyber. "We are excited about the launch of the cyber range at Wor-Wic and the opportunities it presents."

To learn more about cybersecurity at Wor-Wic, visit worwic.edu.



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Snapshots



CHURCH PAINTERS

The Art League of Ocean City hosted a group from Stevenson United Methodist Church in Berlin to paint flowers together at a paint night at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on June 11 with instructor Joan **Guerriero. The Arts** Center on 94th St. bayside is available to host private art nights, parties, and meetings.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ANNUAL LUNCHEON HELD

On Thursday, June 26, the Republican Women of Worcester County held their Annual June Red, White and Blue Luncheon at the Lighthouse Sound Restaurant. The guest speaker was Julie Harris, President of the National Federation of Republic Women. Pictured, seated from left, are Harris and Sharon Carrick, President of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women; and, standing, Senator Mary Beth Carozza, RWWC President Jean Delcher, Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino, RWWC 1st Vice President Carol Frazier, NFRW's Nikki Beaver and RWWC Recording Secretary Gwen Crisafulli.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PANCAKE TEAM

The Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City held its annual summer Pancake Breakfast on July 12 in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center. Proceeds benefited the youth and families of Worcester County. Pictured are Kiwanis Kitchen Crew members Dave Landis, Ed Ahlguist and Tom Flanagan.



DEGREES AWARDED

Associate degree in nursing graduates of Wor-Wic Community College who participated in a recent awards and recognition ceremony are shown in a group photo. SUBMITTED PHOTO/ BAYSIDE GAZETTE

County stresses vigilance as email scams circulate

(July 17, 2025) Worcester County Government (WCG) warned the public this month about an email scam designed to trick residents and business owners involved in the permitting and plan review processes into wiring money for alleged fees. The scammers impersonate Development Review and Permitting (DRP) staff members and claim the recipient must pay a fee without delay.

"Several individuals in our business community have received emails requesting payment for actual projects going through the review process," DRP Director Jennifer Keener said. "Fortunately, we live in a tight-knit community, so recipients have felt comfortable picking up the phone and calling to confirm that the emails in question were in fact scams."

Here are a few examples in the scam emails that should raise multiple red flags with recipients:

- @usa.com, the sender's email address, does not match a WCG address. Even if an email appears to come from an authentic county address, always hover your mouse over the sender's email address to reveal the actual address it was sent from. If the true address doesn't match the legitimate county domain, it may be a spoofed email
- require recipients to reply to the email for wire transfer instructions or include a link to a suspicious website. WCG DOES NOT accept wire transfers. Payments for valid fees can be made in person, by mail to the county's Snow Hill address, or a secure online portal. We encourage residents to confirm the validity of any payment address by calling DRP at 410-632-1200.

- claim that all correspondence must be conducted via email. WCG staff would NEVER limit communication methods. Citizens and Government Working Together, as our motto indicates, includes personalized service ranging from phone, email, and in-person meetings.

Scammers are utilizing actual county agendas, staff reports, and other online documentation to make their emails appear legitimate.

"DRP staff communicate directly with constituents going through the plan review process, so if you haven't had a conversation with an actual county staff member, red flags should be going off if you receive an email requesting payment," Keener said. "When in doubt, call the county directly."

If you or anyone you know receives a call or email from someone claiming to be a county employee and alleging that you owe an unanticipated fee for an application or service, do not share sensitive information, hit reply, or click any unknown links. Instead, call WCG directly, and staff will be glad to assist you.





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Communication Matters Consistently kept the community
informed and involved

Looking Ahead - Focused on sustainable growth, infrastructure, and preserving our quality of life



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Page 22 Bayside Gazette July 17, 2025

Opinion

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

Town should be able to revoke licenses

Being able to revoke a business's license makes sense according to the laws of nature: for every action, there is an opposite reaction.

Although it's highly doubtful that Sir Isaac Newton's Third Law of Motion is nestled deep within the Berlin Town Code, it remains applicable to the mayor and Town Council's discussion of more power over business licenses.

Common sense dictates that any privilege granted can also be taken away, and that is what town officials are contemplating: whether the town's authority to issue business licenses should carry with it the power to do the opposite if a business causes problems.

Assuming that it does, the revocation of a license would be more complicated than awarding one, since obtaining a permit to operate is relatively easy — fill out a form, promise to abide by the town's rules and regulations and pay a fee.

An attempt by the town to revoke that license, however, would require some sort of evidence to justify its action should that business challenge the town's decision in court.

The mayor and council don't want is to be accused by a business of discrimination, of acting according to personal interests or of wielding their authority arbitrarily because they don't like the way someone does business.

That leaves the town only one course of action if it wants to hold sway over business licenses: establish a hearing process that includes findings of fact to back up its decision.

Sure, the mayor and council could simply yank the license of an operation that is making life miserable for its neighbors and wait to see what happens. But the more prudent approach would be for the town to establish a process to ensure that its position is legally defensible should it come to that.

So, should the mayor and council have the authority to take back what it has freely given? It should. Never mind the laws of physics, common sense should apply here — if something is issued in good faith, then the issuer should retain the right to take it away if that good faith is not honored and reciprocated.

BAYSIDE W GAZETTE

11934 Ocean Gateway, Suite 6, Ocean City, Md. 21842 Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

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Tennis community celebrates leaders

Dale, Mitzi Ash recognized for years of service to Ocean Pines

By Cindy Hoffman

Contributing Writer

(July 17, 2025) Dale and Mitzi Ash were honored for their longtime dedication to the tennis community with a planting and tree dedication on June 21 in the Remembrance Court, a garden area at the Racquet Center that was created in 2004 to honor players who have passed away.

While the Ash's are very much alive, and still avid tennis players, they have relieved themselves of their longtime duties as President and Treasurer/Secretary of the Ocean Pines Tennis Club.

"Mitzi and Dale have been the backbone of the tennis community for many years. It was fitting that we honor and recognize them at the "changing of the guard," Deb Downing, the current president of the Tennis Club said.

"Dale has been the president of the Tennis Club more times than we know and always volunteered to take the job again when no one else stepped up to take the position," Judy Kearney, the current Treasurer for the Tennis Club, said.

"Through the years, Dale has worked tirelessly for the tennis community. He has been the spokesperson at OPA meetings, lobbying for tennis court maintenance and with Public Works to ensure the grounds were looked after.

"Mitzi served as Secretary/Treasurer for the last 14 years. She, alongside Dale, organized events, managed the clubs funds, all while fully participating in club play."

Mitzi did yeoman's work, helping me prepare the tennis directory every year, said Dale. The directory, which is not in print this year, provided members with information on staff, a calendar of events, instructions, contact information and a membership list.

The Tennis Community joined together before the Davis Cup Round Robin to recognize their contributions.

"We were overwhelmed by the surprise and very appreciative of the thoughtfulness to have a tree dedicated to us in the Remembrance Court," Dale said.

The community chose an Eastern Redbud, "Heart of Gold" variety to honor the couple. "It's one of my favorite trees," Mitzi said, noting the heart-shaped leaves.

The Remembrance Court is special to Dale and he will continue to manage it. The garden is divided into decades, beginning with the 1980s. Name plaques remember and honor each player who has passed away. The Remembrance Court was envisioned not as a place to view from afar, but to enter and reflect upon friends who have passed.

"The tree was a way to honor Dale while he is still with us and he can recognize the significance between the tree's growth and the tennis community's growth and well



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Mitzi and Dale Ash were honored on June 21 for their leadership in the Ocean Pines tennis community with the planting of a tree in Remembrance Court.

being," Downing said.

Having their tree planted in the Remembrance Court is significant to Dale because of his role as the keeper.

Dale and Mitzi have both been playing tennis for decades. Dale started with lessons when he was 12 years old and has played regularly since. He's played in Ocean Pines since 1978. Mitzi has been playing since she was 20. She has played in Ocean Pines since 1985.

They have been through many evolutions of tennis in Ocean Pines. They remember playing on the tennis courts at the Yacht Club, before the Racquet Center was developed. Dale also remembers years ago that there were courts at the current site of the Post Office.

The courts have been expanded throughout the years. Dale remembers when Pickleball players started to put down tape on the tennis courts for their use. Eventually, Pickleball courts were created, now the most popular racquet sport in Ocean Pines.

Mitzi enjoys the community aspect of the Tennis Club. She likes the welcoming atmosphere on the courts, even for drop-ins, noting that young and old and all levels of play are welcome.

Dale has observed that since the change in membership to a single consolidated rate for all racquet sports this year, he has seen more people playing tennis.

Deb Downing is the current President of the Tennis Club. She and Kearney will lead the community this year.

"We are pleased with the energy and enthusiasm that the leadership has brought to the Ocean Pines Tennis Club," Dale said.

Visit the website at www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/tennis for more information.

Coconut Caliente making waves in suncare

Founder Ardito had long career as director of pro volleyball association, tour

(July 17, 2025) In the evolving world of sun care, Coconut Caliente Costa Rica LLC is carving out a fresh, natural path after its founding in January of 2024.

Founded on the shores of Costa Rica, the brand was born from a vision of healthier, more nourishing skin protection.

Now officially in distribution as of late May 2025, Coconut Caliente has already made an impressive splash with over 80 retail accounts spanning from New Jersey to Florida and Puerto Rico, according to a recent media announcement.

Coconut Caliente's line of tanning, sunscreen, and skincare products is crafted with an abundant blend of natural and skin-loving ingredients. These include hyaluronic acid, carrot, avocado, grape, red raspberry, sunflower, and safflower oils; shea and mango butters; extracts chamomile, green tea, and pomegranate; plus, vitamins A, C, E, niacinamide, and aloe vera. Together, these ingredients along with anti-oxidants deliver deep hydration, fight signs of aging, offer natural UV protection, and help soothe redness, dryness, and acne. With alpha hydroxy acids to refine pores, improve skin elasticity and boost collagen, Coconut Caliente leaves skin feeling smooth, supple and radiationally youthful.

Among its featured products:

- Face 50 SPF: A mineral-based sunscreen packed with hyaluronic acid, vitamins A, C, and E, mango and shea butter, and raspberry, carrot, and sunflower oils.
- Aloe Mist Spray: A refreshing alternative to sticky gels, formulated with cooling menthol, hyaluronic acid, and the brand's signature oil and butter blend for soothing sunburn relief.
- · Sunless Self-Tanning: Not everyone can be in the sun because of previous skin cancer or sensitivity so this is a healthier alternative. Different than a spray tan, self-tanning works by using a chemical reaction between the active ingredients in the product and the proteins in the skins top layer (epidermis or stratum corneum) creating a temporary browning effect. The active ingredient dihydroxyacetone (DHA) reacts with amino acids to produce melanoidins which are brown pigments. DHA is simple sugar derived from plant sources like beet or sugar cane. Resulting in softer brown skin not orange.
- SPF 30, SPF 50, SPF 50 Kids: Full-body protection formulas.

While product ingredients provide SPF-like benefits, current FDA regulations do not permit SPF on the bottle even though these natural SPFs have skin protection without paying for costly governmental testing.

Bill Ardito, founder and executive director, is no stranger to the suncare world. With past experience distributing for Australian Gold and a successful career as executive director of the Eastern Volleyball Association and the \$120,000 Molson Pro Beach Tour, Ardito brings passion and expertise to the business. Owner of Beach Detailing and retired health educator, coach and athletic director certified in biology and science, he has a deeply personal motivation for launching Coconut Caliente after two bouts of skin cancer himself. Education and prevention are central to his

Coconut Caliente also offers what Ardito proudly calls "the best lip balms on the market," with eight de-licious flavors featuring SPF, beeswax, vitamin E, aloe, and shea and sunflower butters.

With the right moisturizers, SPF 15 is all you need to prevent lip cracking," he says, "so you don't have to suffer the taste of zinc oxide like with most SPF 45/50 lip balms.'

Ardito credits much of the company's early momentum to a dynamic mother-daughter team: Jayda and Brittani. Jayda, the face of the brand across its website and social media, is a natural beauty and standout student-athlete who earned an academic college scholarship. Her passion for fitness and healthy living aligns perfectly with Coconut Caliente's ethos. Brittani, the brand's marketing director, is behind the scenes managing branding, content, and digital presence. "It's the best 2-for-1 special I've ever gotten," Ardito shares.

Coconut Caliente is already generating buzz in Ocean City retail loca-

- Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City reports Coconut Caliente is outselling Panama Jack in the gift store and Tiki Hut.
- · At Seacrets, a customer bought four bottles in one visit.
- · A manager of 7-Eleven shared the Dark Tanning Lotion gave her the best tan of her life with smoother
- · At Shade Shack at 66th street, an employee bought four bottles before going on vacation with positive re-
- In Lewes, Del., the health-focused Daily Market replaced all its other sunscreen lines with Coconut Caliente.







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Puzzles

ESCAPE ROOM BY ZHOU ZHANG AND KEVIN CURRY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Zhou Zhang and Kevin Curry are a wife and husband from Seattle. Zhou is an economist who works in tech. Kevin is a stay-at-home dad and part-time consultant on corporate carbon emissions. The idea for this puzzle was Zhou's. Kevin put the lock in the center. Together they constructed the puzzle while on a weekend getaway celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary. — W.S.

ACROSS

- 1 Philosopher who wrote "The bureaucracy is 55 Fruit picker of old a circle from which no one can escape"
- **5** So
- folder
- 13 Sphinx site
- 17 Prevailing fashion
- 18 Cranked up to 11, say
- 19 Italian seasoning
- 20 Manga's film counterpart
- 22 Its freedom is granted in the First Amendment
- 23 Pitchfork-shaped letters
- 24 Ward (off)
- 25 Predator with a big mouth, informally
- 26 Meeting, for short
- 27 Post
- 28 Princess portrayed by Carrie Fisher
- 30 Send from bank to bank
- 31 Is completely oblivious 76 .. or a hint to finding 78 Remove from power the fourth key letter in this puzzle
- 37 Depleted, as savings
- 40 Hauled
- 41 Dishonorable
- 45 Moolah

(\$39.95 a year).

- 46 Lover of Shakespeare 47 Bruce Wayne's butler
- 48 Subj. of arms talks
- 49 Mario's dinosaur
- sidekick Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles,
 - 90 M&M color replaced by blue in 1995

- 52 "I wish I could ____ that!"
- 56 Make amends (for)
- 58 Credit card
- checkout option 59 ___ particle
- 60 Word with bullet or toilet
- 62 Tennis's Nadal, to fans
- 63 Japanese honorific
- 64 Deg. with courses on accounting and management
- 66 Squeaks (by)
- 67 Channel with the onetime motto On Cable. In Stereo"
- _ be a shame ..."
- 70 Liberty Mutual's bird mascot
- 71 Physique, informally 72 Trickster of Greek myth
- 74 Closest world capital to Miami

- 79 Museo display Mahal
- 83 Bobby of the
- **Boston Bruins**
- mater 85 Muck
- 86 Place appropriately found in "gets pampered"
- 87 Philosopher's "way" 88 Personal appearance
- 89 Children's author Blyton
- 91 "Stat!"

WE PAY CAS

For Like New & Used Cars & Trucks

- hit ... or a phonetic hint to finding the third key letter in this puzzle
- 99 Fir coat?
- 100 Preceded, with "to" 102 Element in strobe lights
- 103 Like witches and gourds
- 104 Cone's partner
- 106 It often comes out at night
- 108 Was out of sight
- 109 Kids' ballgame played on a court ... or a hint to finding the second key letter in this puzzle
- 113 Famed street in Beverly Hills
- 118 Become discouraged
- 119 One taking the words right out of your mouth?
- 120 Mimicked 121 Odd pair?
- 122 Low-fat
- 123 Purchases from florists

DOWN

- 1 Toddler's demand
- 2 Board game recommendation
- 3 "Midnight's Children" author, 1981
- 4 Spot markers
- 5 Only major Texas city not in the Central time zone
- 6 Substance that's used by cellists and gymnasts
- 7 Journey in which you might carry quite a load?

RACETRACK AUTO SALES

LOAD RITE & ANDERSON TRAILERS FOR SALE

- 93 "The Little Mermaid" 8 Has too much, for short
 - 9 Beach bottle inits.
 - 10 Burned rubber 11 Breathing problem at
 - night 12 Onetime wealthiest
 - family in Europe 13 Kind of joke ... or a
 - response to a really bad one
 - 14 Revering 15 Rigatoni relative
 - 16 Cupid's domain
 - 17 Number twos, in brief
 - 21 Before, poetically
 - 27 Famous movement (and hashtag) of the late 2010s
 - 29 Unwanted growth in fish tanks
 - 32 Typical patty melt specification
 - 33 With "boo," it evokes sadness — with "woo," it evokes happiness
 - 34 Put a PIN in it
 - 35 Flock formation
 - 36 Awaiting renters
 - 37 Battle between Verizon and AT&T,
 - 38 Popular chocolate biscuit from Down Under
 - 39 Final stop ... or a hint to finding the first key letter in this puzzle
 - 42 Person everyone's talking about ... or what you'll be after unlocking the lock and completing this puzzle?
 - 43 Imposed, as a fine
 - 44 Wonderlands

50 Washington and Franklin, e.g. 51 Breaking maneuver

100

118

120

- 53 Tattle 54 Hero ... or where to
- find many naval heroes
- 57 Place for a pew
- 61 Country music star with 24 No. 1 singles and an eponymous sitcom
- 63 Star of Marvel's first film with an Asianled cast
- 65 Where "the hills are alive" in song
- 69 [Insert key here] 73 Make calls on one's
- cellphone abroad
- 75 Bit of chia or hemp 76 Add up to
- 77 Wipe, as from
- memory
- 81 Split up 82 Of extremely unreliable quality, in
- slang 92 Ran smoothly, as an engine
- 94 Applies, as influence 95 Painter Magritte

122

79

- 96 Big boomer, for short 97 Word after "man of
- the' or "top of the"
- 99 Negative reputation, informally
- 101 Ritzy

98 Sign up

- 103 _-eyed 105 Gave a red card, informally
- 106 Alternative to truth
- 107 Actress Falco of "The Sopranos" 108 Sousaphone, e.g.
- 109 State for snowbirds:
- Abbr. 110 Alley
- 111 Function
- 112 Home of the world's tallest bldg.
- 114 Org. concerned with ozone depletion
- 115 Words in front of a
- minister or a judge 116 Cat scanner?
- 117 CPR sites

su do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 77

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

AUTO DETAILING AVAILABLE

PREVIOUSLY OWNED VEHICLES for SALE

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MD STATE • '10 HONDA CRV

INSPECTED • '15 SUBARU FORESTER

2002 MOUNTAIN UTILITY TRAILER

SMITH'S

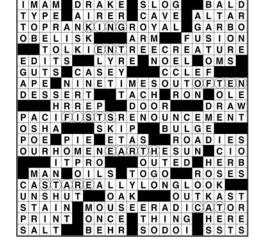
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Answers to last week's puzzles

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





DIVIDEND CHECK During its meeting Monday night, Deeley Insurance Group presented the Town of Berlin with a dividend of \$100,367 from Chesapeake **Employers Insurance, the** town's workers' compensation insurance provider. The contribution was made possible by Chesapeake's commitment to their insureds, the town's commitment to safety and risk management, and Deeley's commitment to proactively engage with our clients. Berlin has continuously incorporated toolbox/tailgate/water cooler chats into their culture with the goal to keep safety top of mind. The town has also maintained ongoing communication with Chesapeake to monitor the claims process and institute return to work programs.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Beach to Bay announces \$25K in regional grants

Discovery Musuem, ALOC among local recipients

(July 17, 2025) The Beach to Bay Heritage Area is pleased to announce the newest round of mini-grant recipients. Six organizations were awarded funding from a competitive pool of applicants.

Crisfield Arts and Entertainment District will receive funds to create an art gallery and public art brochure to help visitors and residents navigate the different galleries and art installations throughout the city.

Preservation Trust of Wicomico County will be creating and installing four historic markers throughout the Salisbury Area to commemorate sites such as Camp Wallace, the site of a Civil War Camp also known as Camp Upton.

The Delmarva Discovery Museum will be using grant funds to help augment current exhibits with a modular display system and signage for rotating exhibits.

The Art League of Ocean City will conduct a month-long heritage initiative during September 2025, celebrating the rich cultural traditions, stories, and artisanal crafts unique to Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore.

Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre will be hosting a Dance Festival on Assateague Island, free outdoor professional dance performance that will serve as a conduit to connect the community, environment, and performing arts. Seeking to share dances inspired by the island's natural assets, the festival highlights the beauty and fragility of the park, ocean, and coastal bays through a number of ed-

See RACKLIFFE Page 26

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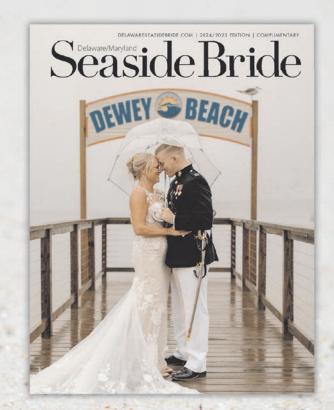
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Rackliffe House Trust will use grant for garden project

Continued from Page 25 ucational activities.

Rackliffe House Trust will be receiving grant funding to implement a dedicated space for a teaching and display garden project. The project aims to create an immersive and educational garden experience that accurately reflects 18th-century horticultural practices on the Eastern Shore while fostering a deeper connection to the historical and cultural heritage of the land and the Assateague Tribe.

Owl's Nest Learning Hub, a new awardee to the program, received funding for a youth-led summer exploration of the Pocomoke River State Park, known as Watershed Wonders. This 6-week summer program will be centered on exploring the Pocomoke River and Shad Landing area through storytelling, journaling, citizen science, and family-led clean-up efforts. The program will culminate in a youth showcase and

"Watershed Day Festival," where participants will share photo essays, nature-based art, and water stewardship pledges.

And finally, the Museum of Eastern Shore Culture at Salisbury University was awarded funding to document the history of skate boarding in Ocean City through an exhibit and mural. The project: Drop-in Skate Boarding's cultural Influence on the Eastern Shore will culminate this Summer with a community-mural led by local artist Marc Emond, an artist talk, and workshop.

The Beach to Bay Heritage Area is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote, preserve and protect the cultural heritage, historical linkages and natural assets of Maryland's lower eastern shore. Funding is received through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. For more information about the Beach to Bay Heritage Area, visit beachesbayswaterways.org



	open Hou		July 17 - Ju	ily 24	
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, 10am-4pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd., West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Friday 5-7pm	12428 Sea Oaks Lane #4, Berlin	5BR/4.5BA	Townhouse	\$584,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate
Sat. 10am-Noon	12301 Jamaica Avenue, C209, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$299,900	Rosemarie Leonard/Coldwell Banker Real
Saturday 10am-4pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community
Sat. & Sun 11am-1 pm	1114 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$330,000	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 10am-1pm	35197 Hassell Ave, Bethany Beach, DE	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$3,200,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	6 Duck Cove Cir, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$374,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday 1-3pm	21 Birdnest Drive, Ocean Pines	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$499,900	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday 2-4pm	12542 Torquay Rd, Ocean City	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$489,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate
Sunday 11am-1pm	12301 Jamaica Avenue, C209, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$299,900	Rosemarie Leonard/Coldwell Banker Real
Sunday 10am-3pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd, West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community

Calendar

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

Thurs., July 17

SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHTS

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Free concert by "Monkey Paw" (rock), views of the sunset over the Isle of Wight Bay and free admission.

https://www.ococean.com/things-todo/free-family-fun/sunset-park-partynights/

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

White Horse Park Pavilion, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 7-9 p.m. Featuring music by Whiskey Graves. Free family entertainment. Bring chairs, blankets, etc. Food will be available for purchase and BYOB is acceptable. Smoking area is in the rear. 410-641-

STORYTELLING ON THE LAWN

Calvin B. Taylor House, 208 N. Main St., Berlin, 10 a.m. Our community through stories. www.taylorhousemuseum.org

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. Appointments required: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

STORY TIME: COLORFUL LOVE

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Songs, dancing 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. A variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 0-5 years. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

CIRCUS SCIENCE

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Join silly scientist Gregory May on a tour of the scientific principles behind his circus skills. Best for ages 6-11 years. 410-641-0650,

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

CIRCUS SCIENCE

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 2 p.m. Join silly scientist Gregory May on a tour of the

scientific principles behind his circus skills. Best for ages 6-11 years. 410-957-0878, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BUBBLE PARTY AT NORTHSIDE PARK PAVILION

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 2 p.m. There will be colored bubbles, super-sized bubbles, bubble blowing competitions and more. For ages 0-11 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

VOLCANIC FUN

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Create your own volcano and learn how to make it erupt. For tweens and teens. Registration required: 410-208-4014. www.worcesterlibrary.org

POP CULTURE BOOK CLUB: 'GUILTY CREATURES: SEX, GOD, AND MURDER IN TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA'

Game Theory Board Games & Coffee, 1822 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, 5 p.m. Join the Ocean City library with Game Theory Cafe for an afternoon of popular culture nonfiction. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

Fri., July 18

SIPPIN' WITH SLOTHS

Coastal Wilds, 34215 Peppers Corner Road, Frankford, 6-8 p.m. Music by Sound Living/Glenn Stern. Cost is \$40 and includes sloth encounter, selfguided tour, and one complementary glass of wine. Tickets: https://book.singenuity.com/469/activity/details/2284/ rates. 302-829-1548

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, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

ACRYLIC PAINTING 101

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Local artist Jean Frank teaches us the basics of acrylic painting. Registration required: 410-208-4014.

www.worcesterlibrary.org

FANDOM FRIDAY: POP STARS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:30 p.m. Drop in for crafts, quizzes and discussions about the monthly topic. For

ages 12-18 years. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

MIXED MEDIA WITH SISTA BIG

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 6 p.m. Use a variety of materials to create unique art and poetry pieces. Light refreshments. Registration required: 410-957-0878. 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-

Sat., July 19

29TH ANNUAL ART HANSEN MEMORIAL YOUTH FISHING CONTEST

South Gate Pond, Ocean Pines, 9-10:30 a.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Bring own rod and reel; bait is provided. Children 3 years and younger can fish but are not eligible for trophies. Free event. All registrants receive a prize. 610-505-1697

21ST ANNUAL OCMC KIDS CLASSIC

Sunset Marina, 12911 Sunset Ave., Ocean City. Weigh-ins from 3-6:30 p.m. Awards banquet and carnival held July 20 at OCMC. Every angler receives an award. For ages 19 years and younger. https://members.ocmarlinclub.com/To urnaments

WALK WITH A DOC

Southgate Pond, Race Track Road, Ocean Pines, 9-10 a.m. An AGH representative will speak on a topic of their expertise, then the group will walk around the park's trail. First 10 participants receive \$10 Wal-Mart gift card. Alyce.Marzola@TidalHealth.org, 410-641-9268

CARIBBEAN SEA FAMILY SPLASH

Swim & Racquet Club Pool, 10 Seabreeze Road, Berlin, 5-8 p.m. Featuring a tropical themed, Caribbean atmosphere, music and activities. Some food will be available to purchase. Cost is \$7 for swim members, \$9 for residents and \$11 for non-residents. 410-641-5255

ORIGINALS ONLY

Art League of Ocean City, 502 94th St., 6-8 p.m. This event brings together poets, comedians, musicians and performers to showcase their originals. Free and open to the public, snacks included. 410-524-9433, https://artleagueofoceancity.org

ISLAND SOUNDS PLAYS REGGAE

Germantown School Community Heritage Center, 10223 Trappe Road,

Berlin, 6-9 p.m. Enjoy fellowship and fun. Hot dog, chips and soda sold for \$5. Bring your own chair, cooler and picnic basket. Cost is \$10. Tickets: 410-641-

OCEAN PINES FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Also featuring family-friendly activities, music and unique shopping experiences. Open to the public, year round. 410-641-

https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages /farmers-artisans-market

Sun., July 20

21ST ANNUAL OCMC KIDS CLASSIC

Sunset Marina, 12911 Sunset Ave., Ocean City. Weigh-ins from 3-6 p.m. Awards banquet and carnival held at OCMC. Every angler receives an award. For ages 19 years and younger. https://members.ocmarlinclub.com/To urnaments

SUNDAES IN THE PARK WITH FIREWORKS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Featuring "Making Waves" (upbeat dance). Kids enjoy free activities and entertainment. Ice cream and beverages available for purchase. Free event concluding with fireworks.

BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays - Pitts Street, Commerce Street and Main Street, Berlin, May through October, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. Producers only market featuring more than 50 farmers, food cultivators, bakers, distillers, seafood, meat and more. Also featuring a petting farm (9-11 a.m.), free kids art station and live music. The-BerlinFarmersMarket.com

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

Mon., July 21

OC BEACH DANCE PARTY WITH FIREWORKS

Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Featuring DJ Knappy. Fireworks show starts at 9 p.m. https://www.ococean.com/things-todo/free-family-fun/oc-beach-dance-party/ Continued on Page 28

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Calendar

Continued from Page 27

STORY TIME: ICE CREAM

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

MOVIES AND MUNCHIES

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Are you ready for an adventure? Join the group as they raise Motufetu. Munchies included. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FIBER CRAFT MEET-UP

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 4 p.m. Bring your work in progress for community and shared knowledge. Held in the meeting room or in the garden, weather permitting. 410-632-3495, www.worcesterlibrary.org

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

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

BRIDGE

Mondays - Ocean City 5oplus Center, 104 41st Street, Ocean City, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Reserve a spot: Tish, 410-804-3971. www.Worcoa.org/oceancity

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

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

OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

Tues., July 22

USSSA OPENING CEREMONIES

Caroline St. Stage, 2 N. Atlantic Ave., Ocean City, 3:45-5:30 p.m. The family viewing area opens at 3 p.m. Parade staging at 3:30 p.m.; parade at 3:45 p.m. Games and DJ dance party begins at 4:30 p.m. Age group: 13U & 14U. https://ece.usssa.com/softball, 410-524-9433

YOUNG CREATORS ART STUDIO

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Kids can explore their creativity and create their own masterpiece. Perfect for kids ages 6-11 years. All materials included while supplies last. 410-632-3495,

www.worcesterlibrary.org

STORY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m.

Story time geared for ages 0-5 years featuring seasonal themes designed to support early literacy skills with stories, songs and finger plays. 410-641-0650, www.worcesterlibrary.org

PLAY TIME: BUILD-IT

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 10:30 a.m. Join in for construction and block play. For ages 0-5 years. 410-957-0878, 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

TEEN ART STUDIO

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Teens will experiment with different artistic techniques to create unique works of art. All materials provided while supplies last. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

SEAFOOD NIGHT WITH THE KNIGHTS

Knights of Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Held Tuesdays in the Columbus Hall behind St. Luke's Church. Pre-order crabs Monday or Tuesday morning of that week: 410-524-7994. Non-seafood options will be available.

CROSS FARMS POP-UP FARMERS MARKET

Tuesdays - Flower Street Field across from Henry Park, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Accepting Maryland Department of Agriculture FMNP (WIC & Seniors) Checks and Maryland WIC Fruit & Vegetable Checks. Also offering a "Produce Bucks" program, which doubles purchases for eligible residents. https://www.facebook.com/theberlinfarmersmarket.

BEACH HEROES-OC

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

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

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

OC KNITTING CLUB

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

ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

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

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AND WELLNESS GROUP

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

www.htcanglican.org/activities.

Wed., July 23

MOVIES ON THE BEACH

Carousel Oceanfront Hotel & Condos, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8:30 p.m. Featuring "Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory." Free, familyfriendly event. Bring blankets, chairs, snack, drinks and warm clothing. Weather permitting. www.ococean.com/ things-to-do/free-family-fun/

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP

Meets 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

YOUNG CREATORS ART STUDIO

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Kids can explore their creativity and create their own masterpiece. Perfect for kids ages 6-11 years. All materials included while supplies last. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

BUBBLE, BUBBLE, POP!

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:30 p.m. Experiment with bubbles of all shapes and sizes and discover how to make bubbles. For ages 6 years and older. 410-208-4014, www.worcesterlibrary.org

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

Wednesdays (through Aug. 20) - Ocean Pines Yacht Club Pool, 1 Mumford's Landing Road, 6-8 p.m. DJ, games and prizes. Food available for purchase. Admission is \$3 for OP swim members, \$5 for OP residents, \$7 for non-residents and free for non-swimmers. Cash only. 410-641-7052, oceanpines.org

PAINT A SUMMER DAY LIKE MONET

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 2 p.m. Create some summer-themed impressionistic art in the style of Claude Monet. For ages 6-18 years. Registration required: 410-957-0878. www.worcesterlibrary.org

COFFEE & CRAFTS: WATERCOLORS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Join in every month for a new craft. Materials provided. 410-524-1818, www.worcesterlibrary.org

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

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

FUN NAIL ART

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 4:30 p.m. Practice making designs using stencils, polish and test nails. Best of ages 12-18 years. 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

BASEBALL BUS TRIP

Phillies vs. Orioles at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, PA, Aug 6. Game time is 12:35 p.m. Bus will leave at 8 a.m. from Ocean Pines Community Center. Tickets cost \$85 and include transportation and game ticket. Register: 410-641-7052.

FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS AT THE OC LIFE-SAVING STATION MUSEUM

Summer programs take place at the OC Life-Saving Station Museum, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., from 10-10:30 a.m., Monday through Saturday, July 7-Aug. 29. Monday - History of Our Surfmen Tuesday - Beach Safety Wednesday - Knot Tying Thursday - All About Sharks Friday - Land, Sky & Sea Saturday - Aquarium Feeding For more info: 410-289-4991, emma@ocmuseum.org

CREATIVE KIDS CORNER: COLOR BY NUMBER

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, July 1-31. Grab an art kit to create at the library or take it with you. Most supplies are included. For children ages 0-11 years. 410-524-1818

WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS IN JULY RAFFLE

Women Supporting Women, 1320 Belmont Ave., Salisbury, June 1-July 25. Tickets \$10. Daily raffle to win prizes for the 12 days of Christmas in July. 410-548-7880

Classified

MARKETPLACE

Call 410-723-6397 or email classifieds@octodaydispatch.com

by Monday, 5 p.m.

Classifieds appear in OC Today-Dispatch & Bayside Gazette each week & online at octodaydispatch.com & baysideoc.com



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environment with flexible hours in a friendly beachfront building. Competitive hourly wage based on experience Duties include routine maintenance, minor repairs, light painting and groundskeeping. Light physical labor is required.

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443-415-8000

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