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Water line project will get lead out

Town has \$1.9 million plan for Williams Street project

By **Tara Fischer**
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) The Berlin Town Council has agreed to a \$1.9 million contract to replace aging lead water lines along Williams Street. The body also agreed to transfer funds from another town project to cover the initiative's budgetary shortfall.

Nicholas Bradley from the town's engineering consultant Davis, Bowel & Friedel reported receiving a single bid for the project from Teal Construction, with a base bid of \$1.9 million and an alternative add-on bid of \$1.4 million. The base bid would fund full lead water line replacements for homes along Williams Street.

The base bid with the additional work would cost the town a hefty \$3.38 million. As the town has only budgeted
See LEAD Page 3

VANDALISM INVESTIGATED

The Berlin Police Department is following up on a graffiti spree this week after vandalism was discovered Tuesday morning throughout Berlin, including at the Evergreen Lodge on Main Street, spray painted campaign signs, street signs and at least one vehicle. The anti-Trump messages appeared in various parts of town. The suspects were seen on video spray painting the Evergreen Lodge and leaving the scene and similar paint was used at the other locations. If you have any information or additional camera footage, please contact the Berlin Police Department at 410-641-1333 and speak with an officer.

Gillis gets extension on developing park property

By **Tara Fischer**
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) Efforts to revitalize an abandoned industrial property in Berlin are continuing — for now — after municipal leaders complied with the developer's request for more time to establish property line details and finalize building permits, environmental procedures and trans-

portation processes.

Developer Palmer Gillis, who formed Coastal Venture Properties LLC with his wife, Sandy, to redevelop the former Tyson Foods property at Heron Park, warned last week that they would abandon the deal with the town if the town refuses to grant him an unconditional extension

See GILLIS Page 14



Planned renovations to the old buildings and a complete site overhaul are pictured.

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BERLIN VANDALS SOUGHT

Still images captured from video cameras along Main Street show two of the individuals involved with graffiti vandalism on Main Street and elsewhere. Call police at 410-641-1333 with leads.

Lead water lines to be replaced

Continued from Page 1

\$1.47 million for the project, DBF recommended that the municipality only approve the base bid, which is ultimately what the council passed this week.

“The way this project is set up is there is a base bid with a bid alternative,” Bradley said. “...The budgeted funds are \$1.47 million which includes a budget shortfall, in which case we only recommend the award of the base bid. This reduces the shortfall to \$463,000.”

To cover the \$463,000 gap, town leaders agreed to transfer \$500,000 from the Elizabeth, Maple, Schoolfield, East Branch and Railroad initiative into the lead service line effort.

Council members maintained that the reallocation would not cancel the other project but rather delay it.

“I want to make sure that everyone understands the other project is not not happening,” Councilmember Shaneka Nichols said. “It is happening in the FY27 budget, so it’s not not happening,

the funds are coming to come from somewhere come hell or high water...”

Timing remains a concern, as the Williams Street work must be completed ahead of a planned paving project by the Maryland State Highway Administration.

“This is contingent on the State Highway because they want to pave this road this fall, so it’s going to be a short deadline” said Jamey Latchum, the town’s director of water resources. “We likely won’t start until August, and the state wants to have this road paved by November.”

Town Administrator Mary Bohlen added that once paving is completed, the town would be restricted from disturbing the roadway for two years except in emergencies.

“Their requirement is once they pave, we can’t break the pavement for two years unless it’s an emergency,” she said. “This is a project we are required by law to undertake, and we will be seeking additional funds to make up for that shortfall.”



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Team from SU to study Berlin's impact fees

Current fees outdated, have not been evaluated since at least 2005, town says

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) Town officials have taken a step toward updating Berlin's outdated impact fees this week by approving a proposal from a Salisbury University team to conduct a comprehensive study.

During a recent mayor and Town Council meeting, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall said the issue has been on the minds of municipal leaders for some time. When officials adopted the fiscal year 2026 budget, they acknowledged the town's current impact fees — a charge levied on a new residential unit or commercial property — are "behind the times" and are not fully capturing the true cost of development.

According to the town's website, the one-time residential impact fees are \$2,000 per residential dwelling unit and commercial impact fees are \$1 per square foot of building.

Tyndall added that besides the out-of-date impact rates, complicat-

ing matters is the town's inability to justify how its existing fees were originally calculated.

"Math was conducted at some point, we don't know when, to derive the fees...however we can't find the justification for that math," he said.

To address the issue, Berlin set aside \$50,000 in its FY26 budget for a formal study. The town put out a request for proposals last year, which indicated that the municipality has not undertaken a Development Impact Fee Study since at least 2005.

When the RFP did not yield any responses, officials turned to The Business Economic and Community Outreach Network (BEACON) of the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business, a Salisbury University-based group, which submitted a proposal to complete the work.

John Hickman, director of BEACON, outlined a three-phase approach expected to take roughly five and a half to six months.

The first phase would focus on data collection, including a review of Berlin's current fee structure and comparisons with similar jurisdictions across Worcester County and Maryland. The second phase would involve determining potential impact fees based on cost calculation and gathering input from stakeholders. A draft report would then be prepared for council review.

While the original proposal included both an impact fee study and a review of the town's general fee schedule, council members ultimately agreed to narrow the project's focus.

Councilman Steve Green argued that staff had already done significant work in recent years to evaluate and adjust general fees, including increases to business licenses and short-term rental rates.

"Coming off a budget meeting a week ago where we have a deficit, I am looking at every dollar," he said.

"And that is one that I would like to see the group striking, the \$12,000 for the general fee schedule review because I think it's already been done."

Town staff agreed. Town Administrator Mary Bohlen said the municipality had already conducted comparisons with similar communities and arrived at reasonable general fees and emphasized that impact fees remain a priority.

"The impact fees are really the important thing that we need to get nailed down," she said. "The general fee schedule could be looked at another time."

Bohlen added that "it is very important that these fees are intended to be paid by the user of the service, not subsidized by the taxpayer in general."

The council voted unanimously to remove the general fee schedule review from the proposal, reducing the contract cost by \$12,442 and allowing the consultant to focus solely on impact fees.

The move to reduce the scope brings the project's price tag of \$49,766 down to \$37,325 and shortens the initiative's timeline.

'Math was conducted at some point, we don't know when, to derive the fees... however we can't find the justification for that math.'

Berlin Mayor
Zack Tyndall

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Berlin planners puzzled by missing records

Purnell Crossing hearing muddled by seemingly lost plans from April 2021

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) The Berlin Planning Commission approved key elements of the Purnell Crossing development last week, despite unresolved questions about missing documentation from a 2021 approval.

The discussion focused on phases five and six of the development, where confusion arose over whether specific setbacks had ever been formally approved. Developer Troy Purnell maintained that the setbacks — 25-foot front yard, 5-foot side yard, 10-foot rear yard — were clearly shown on plans submitted and ap-

proved in the spring of 2021.

The commission, however, said they did not have those full-sized drawings on file to confirm that those plans had received permission.

“The crux we’re running into is that in the 2021 approval was finding anything within the document showing the setbacks,” commission chair Matt Stoehr said.

Purnell expressed his frustration, telling the commission he had submitted the plans and was unaware that they had not had a chance to review them.

“I thought you already had them,” he said. “...the lack of communication is a problem here, guys. If I had known you didn’t have a copy of it, you would have been supplied with it a long time ago.”

During the meeting, Purnell pre-

sented printed plans dated April 13, 2021, which he said were the same documents reviewed during a May 2021 meeting. It was at this meeting that the planning commission considered a concept revision that included adding nine single-family lots and reconfiguring the subdivision layout.

The commission also watched the 2021 meeting, which referenced the same lot numbers included in the current proposal. However, commission members did not outwardly discuss setbacks in the archived recording.

After watching the 2021 meeting, several commissioners said they believed the setbacks presented now were likely the same ones previously approved.

“While we can’t know exactly what was in those drawings, because we just don’t have them, I find it insanely hard to believe that it wasn’t these documents that we approved,” Stoehr said. “This is what you would have presented to us.”

Town legal consultant Emily Morris cautioned that the commission needed to determine whether the setbacks were explicitly authorized, as required by code. Still, she said the commission had the authority to approve them now if it chose to do so.

Ultimately, the commission voted to affirm the phase five and six setbacks. The group maintained that the evidence presented likely indicates that the setbacks have already been approved.

“I see it, if I don’t like the setbacks, tough,” Stoehr said. “I approved it. I don’t know how I can reverse that decision in my mind. Is there a 1% question? Sure. I can’t physically see that exact piece of paper, but in what world are we looking at all those papers [in the video] and it’s not that? I just don’t believe that to be true.”

Mark Cropper, Purnell’s legal representative, added that every single detail from the presented plans is not likely to be discussed before approval.

“I have been doing this for almost 40 years,” he said. “I can’t tell you how many hearings I’ve done for PUD plans, site plans, subdivision plats, for a variety of bodies where I go in, I submit a set of plans, we have a meeting, and nobody asks any questions. Nobody says, ‘Wow, the setbacks on these lots are this versus this. You have 10 parking spaces versus 14...’

“They are satisfied with the plans that got submitted, and those plans get approved, whether you have discussed every detail on those plans or

See PLANNERS Page 7

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Changes likely for county's water and wastewater rates

(April 16, 2026) The public is invited to attend a hearing on proposed water and wastewater rate changes in Worcester County for fiscal year 2027. The hearing will take place May 5 at 6 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room in the Worcester County Government Center in Snow Hill.

Rate increases are proposed in 10 of the county's 11 water and wastewater sanitary service areas (SSAs). No changes are proposed for the West Ocean City SSA.

Proposed changes include an increase of about five percent to the base fee—the fixed charge customers pay regardless of water use—as well as updates to how water usage is billed for both residential and commercial customers.

These adjustments are intended to keep up with rising costs to operate, maintain, and improve the systems that provide clean water and wastewater treatment, according to county officials.

Those who wish to speak or attend the public hearing in person are encouraged to call county administration at 410-632-1194 to pre-register. Comments may also be submitted to wchearing@worcestermd.gov on or before 4 p.m. May 4.

For detailed information about rates in each of the 11 service areas, proposed rate adjustments, and answers to frequently asked questions, visit this site: <https://www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/water/charges>.

Planners review Purnell project

Continued from Page 6
not.

“Once those plans are approved, the details of those plans are approved. It makes no difference to me whether the planning commission members at those meetings went through every item, every detail, every setback, every parking space because you're not required to.”

The commission later unanimously approved a revised master plan for Purnell Crossing, incorporating updates to phases five and six.

However, final approval of the project's record plat was delayed due to advertising requirements. The commission agreed to hold a special meeting to consider both preliminary and final plat approvals in a single, properly advertised session.

The discussion also touched on future elements of the project, including a planned pedestrian connection between phases. Purnell said construction of that feature would not occur until phase six is completed and could not commit to a timeline.

Last week's discussion follows action taken by the planning commission in September, when officials reviewed preliminary subdivision plans for phase five of Purnell Crossing South. At that time, property owner Troy Purnell and attorney Mark Cropper sought initial approval to subdivide land off Prospect Drive, a request the commission supported.

That proposal called for dividing the property into three parcels: one for an extension of an existing roadway, to be turned over to the Town of Berlin; another for approximately 20 single-family homes; and a third for stormwater management, likely including a pond and drainage area. While Purnell said he may sell the property, the subdivision would allow him to move forward with development if he chooses.

The original Purnell Crossing Planned Unit Development was green-lit in the early 2000s, and the land designated for phase five has long been identified as space for future development.

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Money for Henry Park fence moved to playground repairs

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) The Berlin Town Council approved shifting funds to repair storm-damaged playground equipment at Stephen Decatur Park by delaying a fence replacement at Henry Park for a few months.

The decision reallocates fiscal year 2026 parks and recreation capital outlay equipment in the amount of \$55,000 to support playground repairs. The action was taken to address damage caused by February's winter storm that inflicted significant damage on Stephen Decatur Park's playground structure.

"We were hoping to reallocate some money from the fence to get the playground up and running so we have the kids back in the playground playing safely," said Public Works Director Jimmy Charles.

He added that the repairs are more complex than typical fixes due to the equipment's specializations.

"This structure — you can't just go buy a new bolt from Home Depot and repair it," Charles said. "It has to be all original manufactured equipment to keep the warranties up to the playground system."

Complicating the issue further, officials learned the playground equipment was not insured. Berlin Human Resources Director Kelsey Jensen ex-

plained that while the park carried liability coverage, the equipment itself had been removed from the town's insurance policy years ago.

"When the damage occurred, we found out that it was asked to be removed from insurance...at least 10 years ago," Jensen said. "There was no coverage for it."

Town staff are now working to reinstate insurance coverage for the equipment.

To pay for the repairs, officials approved reallocating money that had been set aside for a fence project at Henry Park. Town Administrator Mary Bohlen clarified that the fence replacement is not being canceled, but simply delayed until the next fiscal year.

"We are only pushing it a few months," Bohlen said, noting the project is expected to be included in the FY27 budget.

Council members asked about the current condition of the Henry Park fence, with Charles describing it as "in fair condition" and capable of lasting until the replacement can move forward after July 1.

Charles also noted that the project at Stephen Decatur Park is expected to be completed within a few weeks of receiving the necessary equipment.

The funding reallocation was approved unanimously by the council.

Town of Berlin scores grant for clean energy initiatives

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) The Town of Berlin has been awarded more than half a million dollars in state money to advance energy efficiency and solar initiatives at municipal facilities, town officials announced this week.

Sara Gorfinkel, executive assistant to Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall, told officials at Monday night's Town Council meeting that the municipality received \$554,211 through the Maryland Energy Administration's Local Government Energy Modernization program, which aims to help local governments reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

Of the total award, \$50,000 will go toward LED lighting upgrades at the town's wastewater treatment plant, while the remaining \$504,000 will pay for solar installations at Berlin Town Hall and the treatment facility.

Gorfinkel said while one array will be installed on the Town Hall rooftop, the second may be placed on the treatment plant property.

"The funding supports local governments to engage in sustainable

long-term clean energy and energy efficient projects that lead to reduced energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions, increase cost savings and robust clean energy and economic development," Gorfinkel said.

Tyndall praised town staff for their work securing the grant.

"It should make Town Hall net zero, so it will lower our utility bill," he said.

In a Facebook post earlier this week, Tyndall said the grant would support both the ongoing Town Hall renovation project and upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant, adding that the solar investment brings Berlin "one step closer" to achieving net-zero energy use at Town Hall.

According to the Maryland Energy Administration, the Local Government Energy Modernization program is designed to help municipalities implement sustainable infrastructure projects while pushing for continued community adoption of clean energy. For fiscal year 2026, the agency offered \$64 million in one-time funding to accelerate clean energy initiatives statewide.



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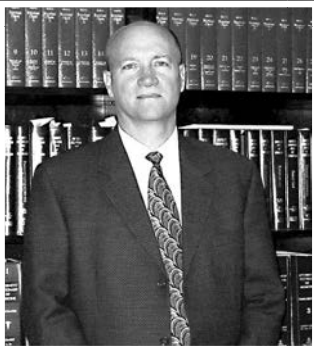
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Berlin gears up for Record Store Day with music event

Town to feature vintage sales, lineup of performers, refreshments on Saturday

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) Berlin's downtown will celebrate Record Store Day on Saturday with lineup of performances, food and drinks, and vendors selling books, clothes and home décor all aligned with the vintage spirit of the vinyl-inspired festival.

Saturday, April 18, marks Record Store Day, an international semi-annual event celebrated by independent vinyl shops. The intent is to bring together fans and small businesses through the release of special and limited-edition records, fostering appreciation for music and vinyl, a more vintage method of play.

For the third year in a row, the Town of Berlin will recognize the celebration with an all-day musical event kicking off at 11 a.m. and winding down around 4 p.m. But this year the plans have expanded.

According to Berlin's Economic and Community Development Director Ivy Wells, the musical lineup will begin with The Papers, a duo out of Salisbury, followed by JURNOS featuring Brian Russo.

Next up is Sketchbook, Gavin Hades' new band. Hades is an Ocean City local and young artist who has played with musicians such as Brett Michaels. The slate of talent will then wrap up with a performance by national recording artist Brian Sella of The Front Bottoms.

Wells added that this is the first year the festival will be expanded into a "full downtown event."

"We're closing the streets, adding beer and drinks and a full day of live music," she said. "Bringing in a national act like Brian Sella is also new for us, and we were able to do that with support from the Maryland State Arts Council. It just feels like a much bigger experience this year."

Beer, drinks, and food will be available, and vintage vendors will be set up along Pitts Street with clothing, home decor, books, and other items. Wells added that many of the shops will have sidewalk sales.

"You can spend the whole day downtown and not run out of things to do," she said.

Parking will be available at the West Street lot and Stephen Decatur Park. While there is no shuttle service this year, everything is within walking distance once attendees arrive downtown.

Wells said that the event celebrates Berlin's musical and artistic scene. Particularly, the festival recognizes the turntable format, often praised for its authenticity and superior sound quality.

"Music has always been a big part of Berlin, and there's something special about vinyl; it's how music was meant to be heard," the community development director said.

She maintained that Berlin has multiple shops that sell new vinyl, "which isn't something every small town can say."

"For us, it makes sense to celebrate that, support those businesses, and build an event around something people genuinely love," Wells noted.

The event is free to enter and made possible by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and sponsored by the Berlin Main Street Arts and Entertainment District.

Organizers hope that the festival further promotes the spirit of downtown's artistic scene and supports Berlin's economic and cultural development.

"[Record Store Day] supports our small businesses, brings new visitors into town, and gives locals something to be proud of," Wells said. "It's also an opportunity to highlight our arts and music scene, which continues to grow. When people come for an event like this, they don't just stay for the music, they shop, they eat, they explore, and they come back again."

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Local, higher bidder chosen for library work

By Brian Shane
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) Worcester County officials broke from their usual procurement practice this week and awarded a \$2.19 million library renovation contract to a higher bidder so they could keep the work local.

In a 6-1 vote Tuesday, the county commissioners selected Salisbury-based Harkins Contracting, despite staff recommending Towson-based Oak Contracting as the low bidder after a formal review process. The bid included a 5% contingency.

Oak's bid was \$2,178,005. The company has previously worked in Worcester County, including projects at Showell Elementary and Snow Hill High School, Procurement Director Ed Welch told the commissioners.

The next-lowest bid, \$2.19 million from Harkins, was just \$12,705 higher, prompting a brief debate among commissioners about whether to favor a local contractor.

"I do like the idea of using more local-based and keep our folks on the shore here working - they're the ones paying the taxes here to us and I think they deserve it," said Commissioner Eric Fiori (District 3, West Ocean City).

Commissioners President Ted Elder said he didn't think \$12,000 was a lot of money on a \$2 million



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Renovation of the Snow Hill Library will be completed by a Salisbury company, commissioners decide, despite bid being \$12,000 more than the next lowest proposal.

contract, but officials should stick with the lower price when the price gap between bids is bigger.

"If it's a big difference, I hope we would all keep in mind we want to protect the taxpayers' money," said Elder (District 4, Western).

The commissioners ultimately rejected the recommended low bid and moved to select Harkins as the contractor. That prompted Commissioner Joe Mitrecic, a home builder

and contractor himself, to cast the lone dissenting vote.

"I agree with hiring local contractors, but I know that if I was Oak Contracting and was recommended and picked to do the job, that I'd be a little upset the county commissioners overrode that decision," said Mitrecic (District 7, Ocean City). "I'm going to vote no on this."

Worcester County does not have a formal policy giving bid preference to

local contractors, Welch said, though he noted that could be considered in the future.

"In our case, we simply looked at the lowest responsible bid," he said.

County Administrator Weston Young said cost and experience are typically the major factors considered in choosing bidders responding to a request for proposal.

Renovations to the Snow Hill See LIBRARY Page 13

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Library work to be done this fall

Continued from Page 12
branch of the Worcester County Library should be completed this fall, according to library director Jennifer Ranck. The goal is to modernize the county's oldest library branch, which opened in 1975. The county budgeted \$2.5 million for the project.

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.

Renovations will include updated restrooms, new bookshelves, improved lighting, and a meeting room kitchenette.

The project also includes new flooring and carpet tiles, a new ceiling and attic ventilation, and a new security system.

In the meantime, a temporary library has been set up within walking distance at 301 Bank Street, where administrative offices have been repurposed for book collection, computer and copier services.

Programming for babies and small children will continue at the temporary location while some services will move to Recreation and Parks facilities.

County says forgive old water debt

Commissioners decide the six-figure bill will not be absorbed by homeowners

By Brian Shane
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) The Worcester County Commissioners agreed to forgive a \$188,000 bill tied to a two-decade-old water infrastructure project, rather than ask homeowners to absorb the cost.

"After 20 years, I feel like we should just forget the debt that's been sitting on the books," said Commissioner Joe Mitrecic (District 7, Ocean City), whose motion to write off the debt was approved unanimously at Tuesday's meeting.

The debt is tied to The Landings, one of the county's 11 water-sewer districts, which operates as its own enterprise fund. It's named for the Route 611 community it serves.

Enterprise fund controller Quinn Dittrich raised the issue with the commissioners, asking them to choose: forgive the debt, or create an \$18 quarterly surcharge for homeowners in The Landings to pay it down over a decade. He added that the fund remains in the red, meaning it cannot cover the cost.

The issue dates to June 2006,

when the county hired developer Toll Brothers to construct a wastewater system for The Landings.

The county asked Toll Brothers for an add-on to the job, requesting to extend service further to the Lewis Road area. The developer billed \$188,000 for the pipe extension, according to county attorney Roscoe Leslie.

From there, responsibility for the cost shifted to The Landings service area. Four years later, however, the service area was experiencing a revenue shortfall, and the bill remained unsettled, according to Dittrich.

Even the figure itself was uncertain. Internal county memos – including a handwritten note on lined paper – indicated arbitration had once been considered before both sides settled on \$188,000.

By February 2010, the county agreed to assume the debt and paid off Toll Brothers directly from its general fund. The Landings then owed the county.

Sixteen years later, that pipe extension remains in use. But the unpaid debt, while noted annually during the budget process, remained unresolved.

"The service area has owed the county this amount for almost two decades now. We've never asked until now – should Landings pay it back or

not?" said County Administrator Weston Young. "It never got addressed and, I'm guessing, forgot about. But it's on our books and we need to clean it up."

How county government could hang onto a six-figure bill for so long drew more than a little head-scratching among commissioners.

County Commissioner Chip Bertino (District 5, Ocean Pines) questioned why, after four terms in office, he'd never seen the debt – and why anyone would even consider asking The Landings district's more than 300 ratepayers to foot the bill when it doesn't benefit them.

Deputy County Administrator Candace Savage said the debt had appeared in prior budgets but had never been brought forward for action. She said it came to light now because a new auditing firm flagged the debt, prompting review. "We're digging a little bit deeper, asking more questions," she said.

Commissioner Eric Fiori (District 3, West Ocean City) seconded the motion from Mitrecic to discharge the debt.

"I would never say let the taxpayer absorb it, but this has been such a long time," Fiori said. "I don't think it's the responsibility of The Landings ratepayers."

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Gillis gets additional time to work with town

Continued from Page 1

on its initial study period by April 20. And on Monday night, Gillis almost made good on that promise.

About a year ago, Coastal Venture Properties entered into an arrangement with the municipality to buy the town-owned site known as parcel 57 for \$1.2 million. The idea was Coastal Venture would transform the long-blighted property into a usable commercial space for residents and visitors.

Gillis says the endeavor has been stalled due to conflicts between him and the municipality. Gillis, who came before the Berlin Planning Commission last week despite not being listed on the agenda, complained that property lines for parcel 57 have yet to be determined and that his attempts to meet with town lead-

ers and staff to resolve these differences have been denied.

Still, while Gillis threatened to terminate the purchase contract, the redevelopment initiative has, at least for now, been salvaged after the Berlin Town Council voted unanimously on Monday to grant the developer a year-long extension.

The extra time will allow Gillis to complete the project's study period, which will include navigating the Worcester County Soil Conservation processes, working with the Maryland Department of Transportation, and obtaining building permits.

Under the extension, Gillis will have the right to walk away from the purchase and receive his \$100,000 deposit back until April 2027.

The town and CVP may also utilize the 12 months to agree upon clear

boundary lines, an issue that both parties say has been delaying the project's timeline.

On Monday, Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall explained the town's side of the administrative holdup. According to Tyndall, who presented an extensive document to the public, Gillis requested twice to push back parcel 57's north boundary, which the municipality agreed to accommodate. The developer asked for the most recent property line adjustment in February, which was approved by the Town Council in March.

CVP argues that since the northern line was green-lit, a plat has yet to be recorded. A recognized plat would allow the project to secure a construction loan and move the development further along.

Mark Cropper, Gillis' legal representative, spoke on the developer's behalf on Monday. He noted that the construction loan would likely come to \$25 million to \$30 million.

"He can't even make an application for a construction loan because there still isn't a final agreement on what he's acquiring, what all the property adjustments are going to be," Cropper said. "We have yet to see a preliminary subdivision plat, even a draft of one, even though you indicated [engineering firm Davis, Bowen & Friedel] is in the process of preparing it."

Gillis has also requested that the land he acquires include .35 acres of the parcel's easterly boundary, which currently abuts another portion of the property known as parcel 410.

At this week's meeting, Councilman Jack Orris made a motion to grant the stretch of land to CVP. The action failed due to a lack of a second.

Tyndall said that the town is willing to negotiate the .35 acres with

Gillis, but that the town's engineering consultants are determining how much of the land could be incorporated into the sellable plat.

"We have the engineers working on making sure whatever we put in documentation and approval, actually can be recorded and is clear and understandable," the mayor said. "...We now have 12 months, so we will do our best to get it done as quickly as possible."

For his part, Cropper said that the stalled plat determination could be easily resolved with an in-person meeting between municipal leaders and staff and CVP. However, requests for a sit-down talk have not yet been granted, despite months of attempts, Cropper said.

"[Gillis] has been trying to get a meeting with you, mayor, and your planning staff since Nov. 18," Cropper said, addressing Tyndall. "As of today, it still hasn't happened. Not because of [Gillis], not because of his availability or mine, but because of you and your planning staff."

Cropper added that Gillis' primary reason for the 12-month study extension is that he hopes to settle the boundary-line debate, among other issues and process requirements, through a proper conversation among all parties.

"You want a reason why he wants a 12-month extension?" Cropper said. "That's it...[Gillis] didn't think it would take over six months to get a meeting with you and the planning staff...I could have shown up this evening, probably with 30 pages of emails between [Gillis], you, and the planning staff, where he's been requesting those meetings and they've never been agreed to...And quite honestly, he doesn't have much confidence that in the next six months, he'll be further down the line."

Cropper said that Gillis, who is out of the country for the next few weeks, provided him with a termination letter to submit to the council if the 12-month extension was not granted this week.

Ultimately, the Town Council unanimously voted to move the project forward.

"The bottom line is if he submits that letter, there is no Plan B to what happens to this property," Councilman Jay Knerr said. Knerr made the motion to offer the unrestricted extension.

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Residents urge town to get Gillis deal done

Councilman Steve Green, who seconded the motion, added, "I know what we're looking at right now is pretty firm. It's more important to me that we keep this process moving forward than that letter being delivered tonight."

Monday night's meeting included passionate public comments. Berlin residents urged the municipality to remain committed to the sale of parcel 57 and accommodate Gillis in his efforts to revitalize the blighted property.

"This is ludicrous, this is a \$1.2 million deal...I don't care what you do, you get it done," said Gina Ve-long.

Citizen Jeff Auxer was also in attendance Monday night, where he maintained that the sale of parcel 57 is in the best interests of the town and its residents.

"Whatever it takes to have this done, it needs to be done, and it needs to be done timely because he's not going to sit around and wait...I don't think there is anybody who doesn't want this to happen," he noted. "The responsibility [of the council] is to get this done."

Some expressed concerns that the purchase agreement was entered into without a clear understanding of the boundaries of parcel 57.

"What is plat 57?" Ray Jenkins asked. "You still will not give a definition. You keep on saying 'an idea.'"

Tyndall responded, arguing that "we know what 57 approximately is."

"The reason I say that...it's not just the Town of Berlin that doesn't know what 57 is. What we are looking to do is mutually agree on what is going to be sold," he continued.

The mayor also addressed what he believes is the narrative that the Town of Berlin is responsible for the project's issues.

"There is what's being painted in the public's mind as the town not wanting to work with the developer, which is not true. We share a mutual goal of seeing this redeveloped ... I believe it is being used as a negotiation tactic by CVP."

However, Jenkins shot back that

that type of rhetoric is "adversarial" and counterproductive to facilitating a smooth deal.

Additionally, Cropper maintained that Gillis is looking to come before the planning commission for preliminary site plan approval. Cropper reiterated that CVP has been unable to present to the body because the mayor will not sign the application.

Tyndall responded that he does not have the authorization "to write my name on a piece of paper that includes something that the Town Council has not agreed to sell."

Despite the back-and-forth, Cropper expressed Gillis' desire to come before the planning commission in the near future, "for the planning commission to give general comments that will then be reflected later once all the details are ironed out."

Following Monday night's meeting, Gillis shared a message on Facebook thanking the Town Council for opting to move the project forward.

"Like all of you, we share a common goal — to see this long-vacant property transformed into something truly special that reflects the spirit and charm of Berlin," the message reads.

"We appreciate the leadership of Mayor Zack Tyndall and the Council in working through a complex process and ultimately coming together in support of moving this project forward...over the next 6-12 months, we look forward to working collaboratively with town leadership and the community to bring this vision to life—creating jobs, new opportunities, and a vibrant destination that everyone can be proud of."

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Snapshots



BLL KICKS OFF SEASON

An annual tradition, a parade was held on Main Street to officially launch the Berlin Little League's new season. A ceremony followed the parade at the Berlin Little League's fields.

PAMELA GREEN/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE





SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY GRADUATES

Twenty-one jail and correctional officers recently graduated in the 123rd entrance-level class of the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy, operated by Wor-Wic Community College. Graduates include, from left, De'neshia Dale, Dashon Nuttall and Jacob Shourds of the Worcester County Jail and Detention Center.

Hero flags available to sponsor

(April 16, 2026) The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation has joined with the Rotary Club of Ocean City/Berlin to create a display of flags that will proudly fly in Veterans Memorial Park, along Route 589, in Ocean Pines to honor heroes.

The definition of a hero is a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities.

Individuals and community busi-

nesses can be part of this tribute by sponsoring a flag for just \$50. The sponsors' name and their hero's name will be identified on each flag.

Proceeds from this project will benefit Student's Education Outreach projects, community charities, and the Rotary Scholarship Fund.

The cutoff date to sponsor a flag is May 11.

For more information, contact Cliff Berg at 302-540-2127 or email cliff0917@aol.com.



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Opinion

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

It's been a year, get on with parcel sale

A year ago this week, Town of Berlin officials announced they had reached an agreement with Palmer and Sandy Gillis to sell a 9.35-acre piece of the Heron Park tract to their company, Coastal Ventures Properties.

The plan back then was that the deal for \$1.2 million would fulfill what Mayor Zack Tyndall referred to at the time as a "long mission of ours to revitalize that property." Few people, if any at all, would disagree with that, since Parcel 57, as it's known, just might be the single ugliest piece of real estate in town.

It's a blight and an embarrassment, which makes one wonder how the nature of the disagreement between the two parties became so overwhelming that Coastal Ventures is on the precipice of walking away 12 months after the deal was struck.

What, for Berlin's elected officials, can be more important than getting that albatross off the municipality's neck? Nothing comes to mind considering there don't appear to be any prospective buyers standing outside Town Hall ready to jump in with a better offer.

It could be that someone is concerned that Coastal Ventures might get more out of this arrangement than the Town Council agreed to a year ago.

But so what? If the Gillises do come away with more than the town intended, the whole point of this exercise is to prevent the town from being stuck with these derelict buildings and grounds for years to come.

That's why the town is kidding itself if it thinks it's negotiating from a position of strength. A collapse of this agreement with Coastal Ventures would saddle the town with a piece of real estate that will be increasingly difficult to unload ever with a bad taste in the mouth for anyone in the future.

So give the prospective buyers an official plat of the property to take to settlement and get this thing done.

County's largest solar field planned

Project moves ahead and expects to break ground next year

By Brian Shane
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) A proposal to build Worcester County's largest solar project is moving through the state approval process, with construction possibly beginning as early as next year.

New Jersey-based developer Soltage is proposing six solar arrays on an industrially zoned site at the northwest corner of Routes 50 and 113. The arrays would produce up to 18 megawatts of electricity, enough to power thousands of homes.

The site consists of two parcels totaling about 157 acres, with solar panels planned on roughly 112 acres. Property owner Adham Abouassali, whose company Berlin Living LLC will continue to own the land, said interest from many solar developers has been growing for years.

"I get probably at least two letters a month just asking to lease the farm," he said by phone this week. "They got in touch with me maybe three years ago and we've been working on it for quite some time."

In October, the developer filed its application with the state, seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, which is required for all energy generation projects in Maryland.

Maryland usually limits

community solar projects to 5 megawatts each. However, state rules allow multiple projects to "co-locate" on the same property if the land is zoned industrial.

That means, unlike a single large solar farm, this project is structured as six smaller, independently operated solar arrays, with each connected separately to the grid.

If approved, the project would break ground by 2027 following additional permitting and site plan approvals, according to Zac Meyer, a project manager with Soltage.

He estimates the project could serve between 5,000 and 7,000 households that subscribe to community solar programs through Delmarva Power, particularly among moderate- and low-income families.

"Big picture, it's providing energy at a time when energy demand is rising quickly," Meyer said.

Meyer also said construction period, estimated at 9 to 18 months, would generate more than 100 jobs, along with long-term property tax revenue for the town. Soltage estimates lifetime tax revenue for the project could total about \$8 million.

While the site is now being used for farming, Meyer said its industrial zoning makes it well-suited for solar, which he described as a relatively low-impact use compared to potential industrial uses like manufacturing or heavy industry.

Plans call for a vegetative

buffer of more than 1,200 trees, agricultural-style fencing, and provisions to preserve topsoil. The developer has also committed to a decommissioning plan, backed by a bond, to return the land to its pre-development condition after the solar farm's estimated 30-year lifespan.

The company agreed to other stipulations sought by Berlin officials, including making good-faith efforts to hire local workers and avoid impacts to nearby Bunting's airfield. The town also could purchase renewable energy credits from the project.

Soltage is also exploring educational programming related to solar power for local schoolchildren, Meyer added.

Moving forward, state and local agencies will need to grant stormwater and final site plan approvals. Meyer said Soltage hopes to complete permitting later this year, with construction to follow.

While the project falls under the jurisdiction of the Town of Berlin, when completed it would be the largest solar installation in Worcester County. The county's largest solar farm in operation generates 7.6 megawatts and is located off Old Ocean City Road, where Route 90 branches off from Route 50.

Maryland has set aggressive targets for clean energy, including getting half its electricity from renewable sources by 2030, with at least 14.5% coming from solar.

Berlin planning process questioned

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) Frustration over delays, last-minute submissions, and communication gaps is prompting officials and staff in the Town of Berlin to consider changes to the town's development review process.

Following lengthy discussions last week on the Pur-

nell Crossing project and the pending parcel 57 sale, members of the Berlin Planning Commission and staff turned their attention to concerns about how applications are reviewed and approved.

Commission chair Matt Stoehr said developers need clearer expectations, particularly when it comes to

timelines.

"I know you guys need time, but developers need to be given some sort of window," he said, addressing the town's planning staff. "... If I'm submitting for a project, I would like to know that within 45 days, 30 days, I'm getting a response. I think the open window isn't fair

See CONCERNS Page 21

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Council okays \$7K match for \$1.4M in federal funds

By Tara Fischer
Staff Writer

(April 16, 2026) The Berlin Town Council this week advanced its long-anticipated community center project, approving a local funding match of \$7,000 needed to secure \$1.4 million in federal support.

According to Sara Gorfinkel, executive assistant to Berlin Mayor Zack Tyndall, the municipality must contribute \$7,000 to access the congressionally directed spending awarded earlier this year. The money will support the project's current preconstruction design phase, being conducted with Haley Architecture.

"Our community center is moving forward with \$1.4 million of congressionally directed spending funds that we received," Gorfinkel said. "We are required to match a portion of it. There isn't a minimum or maximum, just the town has to contribute some funds to the project in order to kickstart the project."

Tyndall confirmed the contribution would come from the town's community center fund, which currently holds about \$400,000.

"So \$7,000 shouldn't impact things very much at all," Tyndall said.

The \$1.4 million comes by way of the United States Department of Agricultural Rural Development.

Discussion of the project also raised citizen concerns about operating costs tied to the proposed facility.

Berlin resident Sara Hambury questioned the accuracy of personnel projections included in the project's feasibility study, which estimates roughly \$898,000 in staffing costs.

According to Hambury, the study has the building open seven days a week for 12 hours a day. She argued that current proposed staffing levels are not adequate to accommodate the planned operating hours.

"Seven days a week, 12 hours a day," she said. "It says we will need two people at the front desk for seven days a week, 12 hours a day. Two lifeguards. It's just not feasible."

Hambury said she was concerned the document, which has been used to seek support from state and federal officials, likely underestimates how much it will truly cost to operate the facility.

"That is my problem with this document that has been handed to other people to get support for this project," she added. "If we're going to ask for support from people, congress, senators, county commissioners, I would just like to know why the document is saying personnel costs will be \$898,000 when it can't be operated with just 15 people. It's going to need a lot more people to have something open 12 hours a day, seven days a week...I just feel like maybe these personnel costs should be revised to be a bit more accurate."

Resident Gina Velong suggested the

town consult similar facilities, such as local YMCAs, to develop more accurate staffing estimates.

Gorfinkel responded that the feasibility study already drew from comparable regional locations, including the Worcester County Recreation Center in Snow Hill, Ocean Pines, and Northside Park in Ocean City.

In addition to funding discussions, Gorfinkel provided updates on efforts to clear the Flower Street site where the community center is planned.

Last month, the council approved a \$121,436 contract with Bennett Construction to demolish the existing multipurpose building at 130 Flower Street, using Community Development Block Grant funding aimed at eliminating blight.

This week, Gorfinkel said the town is exploring whether remaining grant funds could also be used to remove three nearby trailers used by SHOREUP! Inc.

"We are awaiting asbestos testing to come back this week," she said. "That would be the largest cost for demolishing it."

She added that the town expects test results by the end of the week which will determine if the expanded demolition scope is feasible.

Obituary

DANIEL EDWARD BARNHART
Berlin

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Daniel Edward Barnhart 66, of Berlin, who departed this life on March 31, 2026, at his home. He was born on June 22, 1959, in Gettysburg, PA to the late Daniel Webster Barnhart and Mildred Jane (Strait) Barnhart.



Daniel Barnhart

Dan retired from Waste Management of Greencastle, PA where he was employed for more than 30 years. Dan was known for finding trash treasures and one of his most memorable acquisitions was a little black shiatzu he named Susie (after his mother-in-law.) Despite his wife's initial objections, Susie quickly became the apple of Dan's eye, and it wasn't long before the whole family was in love. He was a longstanding member of the American Legion Post 262 in Biglerville, PA, and the Gettysburg Eagles Aerie #1562 of Gettysburg, Pa.

After his retirement Dan and his family relocated to the Eastern Shore of Maryland. There Dan owned and operated DJ Lawncare and held a part-time position as a porter with

Oceans East Apartments in Berlin MD. During his downtime, Dan loved spending time with his family, especially his granddaughter, Aaliyah and traveling to some of country music's most famous places.

Dan is survived by his loving wife, Jill Barnhart who cared for him until his death; his children, Erin Barnhart of Berlin, MD, Taylor Kinser of Oakdale, PA, Ashley Kinser of Burbank, CA, granddaughter, Aaliyah Barnhart of Berlin, MD; three brothers, Roger Strait of Sunset Beach, North Carolina, Ernest Strait of Biglerville, PA and John Barnhart of Aspers, PA as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service in Dan's honor will be held at St. Peter's Lutheran Church 10301 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, MD 21842 on May 9, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

A Celebration of Life will be held at The Legion Woods Pavilion located at 3030 Tablerock Rd Biglerville, Pa. 17307 on July 11, 2026, from 1-4 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Hope Lodge 636 W. Lexington St. Baltimore, Md. 21201 or St. Peters Lutheran Church, 10301 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, Md. 21842.

Condolences may be sent by visiting www.bishophastingsfh.com

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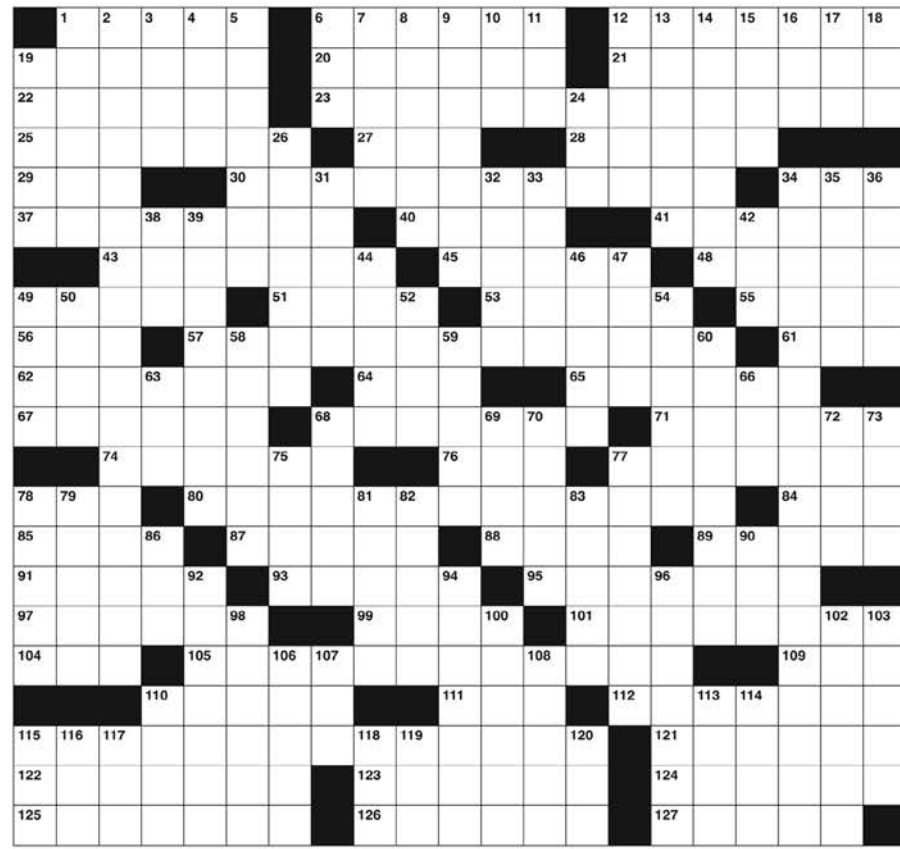
Puzzles

BADVERTISING

BY SAM DONALDSON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Sam Donaldson is a law professor at Georgia State University. He recently joined the board of directors of Dogs for Better Lives, a national organization that trains and places assistance dogs. This puzzle started when he saw 57-Across on a billboard and thought that would make a poor slogan for a certain airline. Then he brainstormed other possible examples of "badvertising." — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 They need fans to stay cool
 - 6 Philippine marinades
 - 12 Second first lady, after Martha
 - 19 Cheap cigar
 - 20 Philippine capital
 - 21 Contrition
 - 22 Prime-time time
 - 23 We're literally giving away our rental cars!
 - 25 Resembling bone
 - 27 Overnight option
 - 28 Pull some strings?
 - 29 Phony social media follower
 - 30 It hurts how much we're overcharging for this detergent!
 - 34 ___ Constitution
 - 37 Winter measure
 - 40 "Nostalgia is a seductive ___": George W. Ball
 - 41 Spider's pouch
 - 43 Inappropriately appropriated
 - 45 Crush a test
 - 48 Muse depicted with a lyre
 - 49 Like raw footage
 - 51 Alexander ___, 1980s secretary of state
 - 53 Competition with clowns, maybe
 - 55 Showbiz "grand slam," familiarly
- DOWN**
- 1 "This. Means. War!"
 - 2 Our soap is deadly!
 - 3 Serpentine shape in architecture
 - 4 Certain cosmetic surgery, familiarly
 - 5 High class?
 - 6 Big letters in bowling
 - 7 "Beavis and Butt-Head" spinoff
 - 8 Common soccer score
 - 9 Two-year periods
 - 10 Common soccer cheer
 - 11 With 44-Down, home of the U.S.'s most-visited municipal zoo
 - 12 ___ rock (music genre)
 - 13 Nickname for Britain's King Edward VII
 - 14 Encroach (on)
 - 15 Horror movie staple
 - 16 Grande's perfume line
 - 17 Major research lab for astronauts, for short
 - 18 Actress Jamie ___ Curtis
 - 19 Highfalutin sorts
 - 24 Yank
 - 26 Creature with a signature whistle it can use to identify itself
 - 31 Accordion fold
 - 32 Iridescent shell material
 - 33 Dirt pie ingredients
 - 34 Our magazine hates everything and everyone!
 - 35 Squelched
 - 36 Michael ___, Steve Carell's role on "The Office"
 - 38 Sch. endearingly called "Wazzu"
 - 39 Animated TV series set in the 31st century
 - 42 LSAT alternative, for some law schools
 - 44 See 11-Down
 - 46 Lab label
 - 47 Afternoon socials
 - 49 It'll take you for a ride
 - 50 Mama's mama
 - 52 Natl. economic yardsticks
 - 56 Scrooge's shout
 - 57 Our planes don't have seats!
 - 58 Dripping, say
 - 59 White's longtime co-host
 - 60 Many a book fair sponsor, for short
 - 61 Social worker?
 - 62 Undertake, as a journey
 - 63 Quite spirited
 - 64 College admissions fig.
 - 65 Whence St. Francis
 - 66 Bulletin board addition
 - 67 A chair might cover one
 - 68 Place to store magazines
 - 69 Broody genre
 - 70 First college in the modern era to boast a 15-0 football team
 - 71 Bump on the head, say?
 - 72 Our tech products fall apart easily!
 - 73 However, in texts
 - 74 Sportsbook figures
 - 75 Grinning Face With Sweat, for one
 - 76 Winnow
 - 77 Some exits in Exeter
 - 78 Japanese healing discipline
 - 79 Hägar the Horrible's dog
 - 80 Like a wrung-out mop
 - 81 Some commotion in a sheepfold
 - 82 Rep
 - 83 Most ridiculous
 - 84 Monopolist's portion
 - 85 Our cable channel is devoted to censorship!



- 54 Discounted
- 58 Zero chance
- 59 Something well-taken?
- 60 Chartreuse or brandy, e.g.
- 63 Mess up
- 66 Part of a sch. year
- 68 Orange cone, say
- 69 "No cause for alarm!"?
- 70 Land rover
- 72 Home of Qatar Airways
- 73 A long time, in Spain
- 75 Tach stats
- 77 Sax player Clarence
- 78 "The Greek" in a 1964 film
- 79 Optimal
- 81 Emergency option for a fighter pilot
- 82 High, wispy clouds
- 83 Alice of TV's "Queen of the South"
- 86 Manage moguls, say
- 90 "___ expected"
- 92 Like many legal phrases
- 94 Fried Japanese fare
- 96 Impersonates
- 98 1997 Demi Moore military drama
- 100 Hampers
- 102 Fixed rate
- 103 Statistics tool used to find significant differences
- 106 Not real
- 107 ___ out an existence
- 108 They might be loaded or stolen
- 110 Headliner
- 113 Neutral tone
- 114 April or May, e.g.
- 115 Q3 starter: Abbr.
- 116 Luau instrument, in brief
- 117 Mme., across the Pyrenees
- 118 "The Bachelor" network
- 119 Actress Gadot
- 120 Foxy

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 © Puzzles by Pappocom
HARD - 38

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

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

Concerns over planning aired

Continued from Page 18 for developers.”

Staff agreed improvements are needed but argued that rigid deadlines can be difficult, citing the back-and-forth nature of the review process.

“Thirty days is not enough time,” said Ryan Hardesty, Berlin’s planning director. “Comments might go back and they might need to revise a few things. It could go back and forth. 30 days is not enough time.

Officials discussed creating a more structured system that would establish response timeframes while allowing some flexibility. Stoehr suggested that the planning department offer two timelines: the first a date that indicates to developers when they can expect to receive comments, and the second a scheduled time for a public hearing.

Another key issue raised was the submission of new materials at meetings, which several members said undermines their ability to make informed decisions.

Staff indicated that accepting last-

minute materials has been a long-standing problem and suggested stricter rules moving forward.

“It just needs to be a practice that we don’t accept anything,” Hardesty said. “If it’s not in the packet, it’s not in the record.”

Commission members also emphasized the need for better coordination between the planning commission, town staff, and elected officials.

Some said the lack of joint meetings with the mayor and Town Council has contributed to miscommunication and conflicting expectations.

“Don’t we want to give off the image that the planning commission and mayor and council are on the same team?” commission member Erich Pfeffer said.

Staff acknowledged the concerns and said efforts are underway to improve planning procedures.

No formal changes were adopted during the meeting, but officials agreed to continue the discussion at a future session.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ARBOR DAY OBSERVED

The Ocean Pines Garden Club hosted its annual Arbor Day Celebration of Life ceremony on Thursday, April 9, at Pintail Park. Garden Club Co-Presidents Nancy Mulligan and Ann Shockley led the event, which featured readings and a memorial ceremony to honor community members who passed away in 2025. During the tribute, family members were invited to place soil around the newly planted Arctic Fire Red Twig Dogwood, this year’s Memorial Tree, and were presented with flowers from the Garden Club.

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OPEN HOUSES						April 16 - 23	
DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENT/AGENCY		
Fri-Mon 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside, Ocean City	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate		
Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd., West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community		
Friday Noon-2pm	12971 Inlet Isle Ln, West Ocean City	5BR/5BA	Single Family	\$2,699,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 10am-Noon	504 Beaumont Court, Ocean Pines	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$1,399,000	Cindy Poremski/BHHS PenFed Realty		
Saturday 10am-Noon	403 14th Street Unit 13, Ocean City	4BR, 3.5BA	Townhome	\$1,600,000	Sandra Dougan/BHHS PenFed Realty		
Saturday 10am-1pm	6201 Coastal Hwy Unit 806, Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Condo	\$1,800,000	Nancy Reither/ Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 11am-1pm	37033 Barrington Pkwy, Millville, DE	4BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$614,990	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 11am-1pm	201 S Heron Unit 8A, Ocean City	2BR/2.5BA	Condo	\$499,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 11am-1pm	9701 Village Lane Unit 5, Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Tomehome	\$374,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate		
Saturday 11am-1pm	12048 Pimlico Ln, Berlin	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$899,900	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate		
Sat & Sun, 11am-3pm	12430 Old Bridge Rd., West OC	2BR/2BA	Single Family	from \$284,750	Shelly Wilson/Salt Life Community		
Saturday Noon-2pm	7710 Yacht Club Drive, Ocean Pines	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$445,900	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate		
Saturday 12:30-2pm	1 66th Street #101, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$479,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Saturday 2-4pm	16 Marview Dr, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$399,999	Power of 2 Team/Hileman Real Estate		
Saturday 2:30-4pm	204 S Heron Dr #202G, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$565,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Sunday 11am-1pm	26740 Chatham Lane, Millsboro, DE	3BR/2.5BA	Townhome	\$349,900	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty		
Sunday 11:30am-1:30pm	1 66th St #101, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$479,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty		

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Calendar

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

Thurs., April 16

CHAIR YOGA

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 10 a.m. Join Tidal Health Community Health Educator Bobbi McDonald for a morning of stretching and relaxation. Registration required: 410-957-0878

EASTERN SHORE SEWISTS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10 a.m. Promoting the needle arts through sewing education, activities and textile crafts. For artisans of all skill levels. 410-641-0650, worcesterialibrary.org

PLAY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Join in for a variety of activities and toys. Play and socialize with other families. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-5622

STORY TIME: DRAGONS

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Crafts, songs and stories. For ages 2-5 years. 410-208-4014

TRICORN HATS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 4 p.m. Celebrate Maryland 250 by making your very own 18th century-style tricorn hat. All supplies provided. For families. 410-524-1818, worcesterialibrary.org

LEGO MASTERS CHALLENGE

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

DRY PANTRY

Thursdays - St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower Street, Berlin, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. For those in need of resources such as paper products, laundry products, baby items, and personal care items. Limits apply. 410-641-0270

Fri., April 17

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, worcesterialibrary.org

OC MAHJONG CLUB

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

BOOK OF THE MONTH: 'THE INDIGO GIRL' BY NATASHA BOYD

Oaked at The Globe/Tiki Tim's, 12 Broad St., Berlin, 2 p.m. Pick up a copy of the book at the Berlin Library and then join in for a lively discussion. 410-641-0650, worcesterialibrary.org

FRIED FLOUNDER DINNER

Bowen Fellowship Church, 8426 Newark Road, Newark, 4:30 p.m. Fried flounder, green beans, Mac & cheese, cornbread, dessert and beverage. Carry outs available. Cost is \$10.

ART SPEAKS: CREATE, SHARE, PERFORM

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 6 p.m. Make a poetry art piece using mixed media and snips of famous poems. An open mic will follow the art session. Light refreshments. 410-957-0878, worcesterialibrary.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. At least \$1,000 in payouts and a chance for a \$1,000 big jackpot at the end of the evening. Light snacks sold. 410-524-7994

KIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

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

Sat., April 18

VINTAGE & VINYL RECORD STORE DAY

Historic Downtown Berlin, 124 N. Main St., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Featuring live music, vintage shopping, and exclusive vinyl releases on Pitts Street. Free event. Free shuttle from Berlin Intermediate School. Rain date is April 19.

5TH ANNUAL OPAC FISHING FLEA MARKET

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Buy/sell fishing, crabbing, boating items, crafts, etc. Proceeds support Teach Kids to Fish and the Kids Fishing Tournament. Free admission, coffee, donuts, 50/50 raffle. Reserve a table: 918-910-6485.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, 8 a.m. All men are encouraged to attend. Free event. 410-641-0270

DR. CHARLES ALBERT TINDLEY GOSPEL CELEBRATION & HISTORY

New Bethel United Methodist Church, 10203 Germantown Road, Berlin, 1-3 p.m. Exhibit opens at 12 p.m. Celebrat-

ing the music and history of Rev. Charles A. Tindley D.D. Admission is free. All are welcome. Refreshments available. 410-641-0638, germantown-school@gmail.com

DOG MAN PARTY

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 11 a.m. Celebrate Dog Man with games, crafts and plenty of laughs. For ages 6-11 years. 410-641-0650, worcesterialibrary.org

FISH FRY FUNDRAISER

Jolley Memorial Chapel, 600 Franklin Ave., Berlin, 11 a.m. Fried fish sandwich, chips, bottled water for \$10. Delicious baked good fro sale too. Proceeds support the Stephen Decatur High School Class of 1976's upcoming 50th Class Reunion.

PIG ROAST

Calvin B. Taylor House, 208 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-8 p.m. Featuring Museum Comes Alive! Live music, beer, food and live action reenactments. www.taylor-housemuseum.org

OCVFC LADIES AUXILIARY CASH BINGO

15th Street Firehouse, 1409 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6-9:30 p.m. Tickets \$35. Doors Open at 5 p.m. Bingo starts at 6 p.m. Door Prizes, 50/50, Chance Auction and food available. 15th Street Firehouse, 2nd Floor. Call or text 443-235-1222 for tickets (\$35) in advance.

NIGHT AT THE COLOSSEUM

Residence Inn by Marriott Ocean City, 300 Seabay Lane, 6-9 p.m. Tickets \$75. Live music, silent auction, Olympic-style follies, Mediterranean Mezze. Togas and tunics are encouraged. Tickets: <https://givebutter.com/NightAtThe-Colosseum>. Proceeds benefit Art League of Ocean City. 410-524-9433

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. 410-641-7052, <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market>

Sun., April 19

FAMILY GOLF AT OCEAN PINES GOLF COURSE

Ocean Pines Golf Club, 100 Clubhouse Drive. Featuring nine par 3 holes. Registration fee is \$40. Juniors play free with a paying adult and \$15 for additional juniors. Register: 410-641-6057, mrugiere@oceanpines.org

VANILLA FUDGE LIVE IN CONCERT

Rehoboth Beach Convention Center, 229 Rehoboth Ave., 3-6 p.m. Tickets \$75-\$150. Vanilla Fudge Live in concert with original members, Carmine Appice, Mark Stein, and Vince Martell, with bassist Pete Bremy. 302-402-3055

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., April 20

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK CHECK-OUT CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Pick up a challenge sheet in the kids' department. Earn a prize by checking out at least three items from the challenge list during the week. For families. 410-641-0650, worcesterialibrary.org

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, worcesterialibrary.org

STORY TIME: EARTH DAY

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, worcesterialibrary.org

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

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

BRIDGE

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

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. Elissa, 410-641-8050; on social media; or delmarvachorus.org.

OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

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

Calendar

Tues., April 21

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK CHECK-OUT CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Pick up a challenge sheet in the kids' department. Earn a prize by checking out at least three items from the challenge list during the week. For families. 410-641-0650, worcesterlibrary.org

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research, followed by a Q&A. Bring a laptop, tablet or papers containing family information. Registration required: 410-208-4014.

BABY TIME

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Songs, rhymes and stories. Stay after to socialize with other families. For ages 0-2 years. 410-632-5622

STORY TIME

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 a.m. Story time featuring seasonal themes designed to support early literacy skills with stories, songs and fingerplays. For ages 0-5 years. 410-641-0650

STORY TIME: BIRDS AND NESTS

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 10:30 a.m. Crafts, songs and stories. For ages 0-5 years. 410-957-0878, worcesterlibrary.org

OC KNITTING GROUP

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Bring whatever project you happen to be working on. 410-524-1818

LET'S MAKE ... EARTH DAY BEE HOUSES

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1 p.m. Build small bee houses for pollinators. All materials provided. Register: 410-641-0650, worcesterlibrary.org.

WATERCOLOR BASICS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Artist Jan Coulbourne teaches this class about creating a piece of watercolor art. Registration required: 410-524-1818

EARLY READERS BOOK CLUB - 'DRAGON'S FAT CAT: AN ACORN BOOK'

Worcester County Library - Pocomoke Branch, 401 Fifth St., 4 p.m. Enjoy a shared reading experience as a group. Afterwards children will play games or do crafts that relate to the story that was read. Best for ages 6-8 years. 410-957-0878, worcesterlibrary.org

SENSORY SENSATION

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m.

Enjoy sensory bins, including Kinetic sand. For families. 410-208-4014

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY SUPPER

Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful pot roast dinner. Cost is \$15. 410-524-7994

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

OC KNITTING CLUB

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

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE

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

ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

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

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT AND WELLNESS GROUP

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

Wed., April 22

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK CHECK-OUT CHALLENGE

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Pick up a challenge sheet in the kids' de-

partment. Earn a prize by checking out at least three items from the challenge list during the week. For families. 410-641-0650, worcesterlibrary.org

EARTH DAY DOCUMENTARY FEEDING TOMORROW

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate Earth Day by joining the Ocean City library for a very special film screening. 410-524-1818, worcesterlibrary.org

PUZZLE SWAP

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 1-7 p.m. Bring your gently used puzzles and leave with new-to-you puzzles. Don't have a puzzle to exchange but still want one? That's OK too. All puzzles must be complete in their original box. 410-641-0650

SELF DEFENSE BASICS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Kevin Killian from Gracie Ocean City teaches this class. Registration required: 410-641-0650. worcesterlibrary.org

SERVICE SQUAD

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Teens, help out with craft and program prep, or other activities that help the library to earn service learning hours. Open to students of Worcester County schools. For ages 12-18 years. 410-641-0650

EARTH DAY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m. Create some Earth Day crafts. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014, 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.

CASH BINGO

Wednesdays - Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave. Door open at 5 p.m., bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Food available before bingo and at intermission. Open to the public. 443-605-5028

ONGOING EVENTS

ORIOLES VS. ATHLETICS BUS TRIP

Bus trip to Camden Yards, May 10. Cost is \$150 and includes transportation, section 288 seating, Picnic Perch food and bathrooms, Family Fun Day Sunday, watch batting practice and Denim Crab Cap Gate Giveaway to first 20,000 fans. Depart from the Ocean Pines Community Center at 9:30 a.m. Game time is 1:35 p.m. Tickets: 410-641-7052.

TEEN TIME: PAINTING POTS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, April 6-30, 3:30 p.m. Decorate your own flower pot for a plant. All materials provided. While supplies last. 410-208-4014

BOOKMARK DESIGN CONTEST

Pick up an entry form and template at any Worcester County library branch. This year's theme is "Unearth a Story." Submit your design by April 30 for a chance to be featured. Winners announced May 13. For families. 443-235-5597

HISTORY HUNTERS BEANSTACK CHALLENGE

Throughout April, pick up a field guide and your paper mascot from any Worcester County library branch, visit historic sites, read books and snap pictures of your adventures along the way. Return your field guide when you're finished or log your activities online on beanstack to enter the drawing for a prize. For families. 443-235-5597

THE STORIES OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., throughout April. Celebrate the author's birthday with a make and take craft kit. Stop by anytime to pick up supplies for your own fairy tale diorama kit. Learn more about Andersen at the Storywalk through a picture book biography at John Walter Smith Park. For families. 410-632-5622

HISTORY-TO-GO

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., throughout April. Pick up a History-to-Go kit that is all about Colonial gardening. Includes info sheets, recommended activities, supplies and more. Can be picked up at the Snow Hill Branch. 410-632-3495

OC READS: 'HEARTWOOD' BY AMITY GAIGE

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, April 1-30. Pick up a copy of this month's read. Come in by April 29 to share your impressions and enter into a drawing to win free books. 410-524-1818

TAKE HOME POETRY KIT

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, April 1-30. Take home poetry kit full of fun prompts, ideas, and challenges. Available for both the 6-11 years and 12-18 years age ranges. 410-524-1818

MARYLAND FIREFIGHTER 50/50 FUNDRAISER

Drawings are held every Thursday at 8 p.m. Ticket sales open Thursdays at 8:05 p.m. and close the following Thursday at 7:59 p.m. One winner takes home 50% of the total jackpot and the remainder supports the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department. Tickets: <https://md.505oraffle.org/give/mdfire/50-50-raffles/md5050/charities/ocean-pines/checkout>

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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HELP WANTED

Airbnb Turnover Cleaner (Seasonal) Dependable, reliable cleaner needed. Every 3-5 days. Must be available for check in/out window, 11am-4pm. Single level house, 4BR, 2 1/2 BA. Turnover linens. Professional level attention to detail. \$150 per cleaning.
Call 301-437-6369.

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Hiring Pool Deck Attendant
9400 Condominium Building
Full Time, Seasonal
May to September.
Hours 10-6. \$16 per hour.
Duties: Keep Pool Area Clean - Check for Wrist Bands - Sell Ice Cream, Other Duties as Needed.
Call 410-524-9400.

HELP WANTED - RECEPTIONIST

Plaza Condominium in Ocean City is seeking a full-time Receptionist/Front Desk Administrator. Friendly, professional customer service skills required. Duties include answering phones, greeting residents and guests, handling front desk operations, maintaining records, and providing office support. Receptionist or administrative experience preferred. **Call 410-723-3300 or email resume to jobs.plazaoc@gmail.com**

HELP WANTED

BUILDING MAINTENANCE HELP WANTED - FULL AND PART-TIME
positions available at The Irene Condominium, 11100 Coastal Highway. Great work environment, friendly beachfront building, competitive hourly wage. Duties include routine maintenance, minor repairs, light painting, cleaning and grounds keeping. Light physical labor is required.
Text or call Ed at 443-415-8000 or email irene11100@comcast.net

HOUSEKEEPING/ JANITORIAL POSITION

The Plaza Condominium in Ocean City, MD is seeking a dependable Housekeeping/Janitorial team member to help keep our oceanfront high-rise clean, safe, and well maintained. Duties include cleaning common areas, hallways, restrooms, elevators, amenity spaces, and other assigned areas, while reporting maintenance or safety concerns promptly. Applicants should be reliable, detail-oriented, able to work independently, and able to lift, carry, bend, and stand for extended periods.
To apply, please contact The Plaza Condominium at 410-723-3300 or submit a resume to jobs.plazaoc@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

The Plaza Condominium is seeking **Housekeepers** and a detail-oriented **Security/Property Preservation Officer** to conduct vigilant patrols of our parking decks, pool areas, and building perimeter to ensure guest safety and site integrity. You will be responsible for adhering to facility standards, monitoring equipment like the handicap lift, and maintaining a pristine, hazard-free environment through proactive inspections.

Application in person 9800 Coastal Hwy, OCMD
Send resume to: Jlantz.plazaoc@gmail.com
For more information: Josh Lentz, 410-723-3300.

15 Passenger Bus Driver for school drop-offs and pickups. Background check required. Mon.-Fri. Part-time during school year, mornings and afternoons. \$20/hour.
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The Breakers Hotel is currently looking for Full or Part-time seasonal front desk clerks available during the evening hours, 3-11 p.m. Experience in Room Maser is not required; however, basic computer skills are necessary. **Please send your resume to info@ocbreakers.com or contact us directly, 410-289-9165 Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

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Product/features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist. This specific offer not available in CO, KS, NY, OR - call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate C254/B465, (ID: C254ID; PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6370



410.629.0089

LOCAL CARE. REAL SAVINGS. COMMUNITY STRONG.

11005 Manklin Meadows Lane #1 - Ocean Pines
M-F 9am-6pm - Sat: 10am-2pm - Sun: Closed



STOP OVERPAYING FOR YOUR MEDICATIONS!

LET COASTAL DRUG HELP YOU SAVE - EVEN WITHOUT INSURANCE

ARE YOU PAYING TOO MUCH FOR PRESCRIPTIONS?

Many people don't realize they are OVERPAYING on Medications every single month - especially on GENERIC drugs.

- High insurance co-pays?
Deductibles not met?
Rising healthcare cost?

You have options - and we're here to help.

TIMES ARE TOUGH. WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

With rising costs everywhere - gas, groceries, and interest rates - we know families are feeling the pressure.

For over 11 years, Coastal Drug Pharmacy has proudly supported our community. Now, we're doing even more.



BRING US YOUR MEDICATION LIST - WE'LL REVIEW IT AND HELP YOU SAVE. In many cases, our prices are LOWER than your insurance co-pay



COASTAL CARE PROGRAM

BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES ACCESS TO THE MEDICATIONS THEY NEED

WE'RE GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY THAT HAS SUPPORTED US!

IF YOU ARE UNINSURED OR STRUGGLING TO AFFORD MEDICATIONS:

We will provide essential antibiotics at NO COST (drug cost):

- Z-Pack (Azithromycin) 250-500 mg
Amoxicillin 500 mg
Medrol Dose Pack 4 mg
Prednisone 10 mg

ONLY \$5 DISPENSING FEE

(Covers bottle, labeling, pharmacist & technician time)

CAN'T AFFORD THE \$5? WE WILL WAIVE IT. NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

THIS IS NOT JUST FROM US... This is made possible by every customer who supports Coastal Drug Pharmacy. Together, we are giving back to the community.

LIMITED TO 100 PATIENTS PER MONTH

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- 1 ASK YOUR DOCTOR To include 'Coastal Care' on your electronic or hard copy prescription.
2 BRING YOUR PRESCRIPTION to Coastal Drug Pharmacy.
3 WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

Stronger Together. Healthier Together.