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TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

**FLAG STAFFERS**

Last week, members of the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors helped install American Flags on the grounds of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial as part of the Ocean City-Berlin Rotary Club's Flags for Heroes Fundraiser.

## Pines chief retires

Says he'll leave field of law enforcement permanently

By **Tara Fischer**  
 Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) Ocean Pines Police Chief Tim Robinson is stepping down from his post on June 12 after a 34-year career in law enforcement and three years with the community department.



Chief Tim Robinson

The Ocean Pines Association announced last Friday that Robinson will retire next month. The chief assumed leadership of the Ocean Pines Police Department on Aug. 1, 2023, following over 30 years in the public safety sector.

"I have accepted the notice from the chief on his retirement," said OPA General Manager John Viola in the community statement. "We thank him for his three years of service to Ocean Pines and wish him well."

Robinson began his career as a seasonal police officer for two summers with the Rehoboth Beach Police Department and later joined the Del-

See POLICE Page 8

## Parade combines past/future

Old-fashioned celebration sees many changes over decades on Flower Street

By **Tara Fischer**  
 Staff Writer

(May 21, 2025) Continuing a neighborhood tradition dating back

to the 1940s, Berlin's Flower Street community will honor the fallen defenders of this nation and its principles with an Old-Fashioned Memorial Day Parade on Monday.

At 11 a.m., car and motorcycle units, floats, and bands will travel from Stephen Decatur Middle School down Flower Street, ending at Henry

Park as part of the patriotic Old Fashioned Memorial Day celebration. Participants will include local groups such as the Red Hat Society and Town of Berlin officials.

The celebration of remembrance began in the 1940s with what was known at the time as the Decoration

See TRADITIONAL Page 3

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TARA FISCHER/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The traditional Berlin Memorial Day Parade is set for Monday, May 25. Pictured is a float from a previous year.

## Traditional parade continues

Continued from Page 1

Day Parade. The federal holiday's official name change came in the 1970s, and attracted thousands of spectators. The parade grew in success and scope through the 1950s and 1960s, before eventually falling off around the time of integration.

Veteran and longtime parade organizer Greg Purnell said finding local marching bands willing to take part in the procession became an unfortunate challenge in that period amid tension created by black and white students now attending the same schools.

However, in the 1990s, the parade was revitalized. Now, thirty years into its resurgence, the Memorial Day pageant's popularity continues to grow, once again drawing thousands of attendees to honor deceased American soldiers.

"The parade actually started back in the 1940s, and then in the '50s it was big," Purnell noted. "That's when I came on, in the '50s and '60s. And then, shortly after that, it kind of waned because, when they integrated schools, it became difficult to get bands to come to the parade. In 1995 or 1996, we started it back up...We've been carrying it on since then."

The event is sponsored by the Berlin Community Improvement Association (BCIA) and planned by an event committee under the BCIA umbrella.

Purnell said that this year's procession theme is "honoring the past and embracing the future."

Planners expect around 10 floats, which will be scored by a panel of judges, with first place winning \$100, second place \$50, and third place \$25. Additionally, Col. John Foreman will serve as this year's grand marshal. Major General Janeen Birckhead, the 31st Adjutant General of

Maryland, will also be present to speak to the meaning of the remembrance ceremony.

"She will give a brief on what it means to honor the dead and have a perspective for those in the future," Purnell said. "It goes along with our theme."

The celebration doesn't end with the parade but will continue on the grounds of the former Flower Street school. Purnell said a bouncy house will be set up for the kids and crafts and food vendors will also be available for guests.

Included in the entertainment lineup are music, the juggler Cascading Carlos, and line dancing accompanied by instructors.

The Memorial Day event not only includes the parade on Monday, but veteran recognition starting today and tomorrow by the Duncan-Showell Post 231 of the American Legion.

Purnell said that Duncan-Showell Post 231 will visit all the cemeteries where its members have been buried, including Curtis United Methodist Church, New Bethel United Methodist Church, and St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Here, they will place flags on the graves of the fallen veterans.

Flower Street residents are known to set up chairs on the procession's route to watch the floats and acts go by, but those from throughout the county and beyond are encouraged to attend the Memorial Day festival.

"It used to be Christmas in the summer," Purnell said. "It was a very, very big parade at one time. We're trying to build back to that."

While organizers say they are continuing efforts to grow the parade, they say the event is always well attended and is a joyful day for Town of Berlin citizens.

See PARADE Page 8



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# Three incumbents running in Pines election

**By Tara Fischer**  
Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) As Ocean Pines Association's annual election draws closer, five candidates have stated their intent to run for the three seats up for grabs on the association's legislative policymaking body.

The OPA is preparing for its yearly summer election, in which residents are asked to decide who will represent them on the association's board of directors.

The board is made up of seven OPA homeowners. Every member must be elected by a majority vote of the association's citizens, and appointees serve three-year terms. These terms are staggered so that different members are up for reelection in separate years.

In this year's voting cycle, the terms of three incumbents are expiring, and each is seeking reelection to the board. These candidates for reelection are Director Elaine Brady, a second-term candidate; Association President John Latham, a second-term candidate; and Director Patrick Lehnerd, who was appointed to the governing group in March following the resignation of former director Steve Jacobs. Lehnerd is a first-term candidate.

In addition to the returning campaigners, challengers Amy Peck and William Pickett are seeking election to the board as first-term candidates.

According to OPA Board Director Jeff Heavner, who also serves as the liaison to the elections committee, the team has announced key upcoming dates for the election.

The candidate filing deadline closed on Tuesday after being extended from May 11 to solicit addi-

tional contestants. The candidate orientation is set for May 26, during which the ballot positions of the board hopefuls will be determined via a random draw.

The candidate forum is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Clubhouse meeting room. Each candidate will have the opportunity to give introductory remarks, answer three rounds of impromptu questions from the elections committee, association members, and one another, and deliver closing statements.

Residents may submit questions for the forum to elections@oceanpines.org until Friday, June 5.

The community's election provider, MK Election Services, will mail and email ballots to all association members eligible to vote in the 2026 cycle on June 22.

"The elections committee is working hard to ensure that all eligible association members receive a ballot and that their vote counts," Heavner said.

Ballots must be returned to the association by noon on Aug. 5. The votes will be counted on Aug. 7, and the OPA annual meeting to certify the results is slated for Aug. 8.

Heavner said MK Elections will provide residents with various ways to cast their votes: hard-copy ballots by U.S. Mail; hard-copy ballots that can be dropped off in the box in the Administration Building at White Horse Park; and electronic voting.

Heavner added that it is important for homeowners to know the Worcester County ballot box in the administrative parking lot is not the receptacle for the OPA election.

The board member assured that while there are



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Residents may submit questions for board candidates until June 5, which will be read at the candidate forum on June 13.

various ways for citizens to submit their ballots, precautions are being taken to guarantee that each vote is counted only once.

"MK Elections has a strong protocol in place to prevent duplicate voting," he said.

More information on the OPA election is forthcoming. Heavner said that residents can expect announcements in the recurring This Week in the Pines newsletter, important dates displayed on the community's electric signs, and details included in upcoming episodes of the Ocean Pines podcast.

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# Berlin planning commission to review code

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) Members of the Berlin Planning Commission are seeking to review the town's zoning and site plan process because of repeated confusion over project approvals, application requirements, and the interpretation of existing code.

During a discussion following a re-development proposal for Heron Park's parcel 57 last week, commissioners and staff acknowledged that sections of the town code lack clear instructions on how to review and sign off on projects.

"The code needs to be revised," town legal consultant Emily Morris said. "You guys have been doing [things a certain way], but it's not codified that way, and it's being used, es-

pecially by people not from here, in a really difficult way."

Commission members requested that staff compile a formal list of problematic portions of code and potential revisions so the planning body can discuss changes and make recommendations.

Morris said she would work on assembling the proposed adjustments, hopefully before the end of the fiscal year, which is set for June 30.

Planning Director Ryan Hardesty acknowledged that staff have long had these concerns.

"We are well aware [the code] needs to be revised," she said.

Discussion centered on confusion involving preliminary versus final site plan approvals.

Several members argued that the town should make it clear in the code

that applicants receiving preliminary approval must return for final site plan approval before they can proceed with construction.

Morris maintained that such a requirement would likely make sense specifically for commercial projects.

"At least for commercial," she said. "Maybe not for residential."

Commissioner Newt Chandler, however, suggested the requirement should apply to all development projects in the Town of Berlin.

"I think for everyone," he said. "We should look at things preliminary..."

Town staff also said inconsistent language in the existing code has created challenges for both developers and reviewers. Clearer procedures would benefit applicants, planning staff and commission members alike.

Additionally, planning commission members expressed frustration with disagreements over code interpretation occurring publicly during meetings, arguing that the back-and-forth can appear disorganized to applicants.

"It is really unprofessional to sit here... and see this back and forth between the town and planning commission in front of applicants looks really bad," said commissioner Logan Hall. "There needs to be... even if code changes take a long time... guidance

on the nuances of the code so we're not having these conversations on recording in front of applicants."

Morris agreed, noting that the town's existing planning procedures have contributed to confusion.

"I don't disagree with you," Morris said. "The reality is the code needs to be clear. The checklist was not created by any of us... that's creating confusion."

Morris added other jurisdictions, including Worcester County, have more clearly defined approval processes.

"The county code has a clear process," she said.

Commission chair Matt Stoehr proposed adding a future work session to the planning commission agenda to discuss language defining "substantial changes" to approved site plans and when modifications should trigger another review.

"Can we have a work session on coming up with verbiage on substantial changes to existing plans that were approved?" Stoehr asked. "And what constitutes a substantial change that requires it to come back?"

Morris also said conversations should address the level of detail applicants must provide at the preliminary stages and the expectations that apply before final approval.

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# Police Chief Tim Robinson to retire

Continued from Page 1  
mar, MD/DE Police Department.

According to the Ocean Pines Police Department's website, before coming to OPA, Robinson had served with the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office since 1997. Here, the chief worked in areas including patrol, administration, school safety, judicial protection, and investigations. Before leaving the agency, he had climbed his way up to a captain.

Robinson noted that he now intends to resign from the law enforcement field.

"I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity to have served as the police chief in Ocean Pines," he told the Bayside Gazette on Tuesday. "It's

been the honor of a lifetime...After 34 years in law enforcement, I am looking forward to retirement."

Members of the Ocean Pines community took to Facebook this past week to express their gratitude to the outgoing chief.

Board member Stuart Lakernick wrote, "Today we celebrate the retirement of an incredible leader, an outstanding police chief, and...a true friend."

"When you took over the department, you didn't just lead it—you rebuilt it," he continued. "Through your vision, dedication, and tireless work, you transformed the department into one our entire community can be proud of...you led with integrity, com-

passion, professionalism, and strength, always putting community first. The positive impact you made on this department and our community will be felt for many years to come."

Esther Diller, Lakernick's wife, who runs the Facebook page Ocean Pines Get Involved, also expressed her appreciation to Robinson on social media.

"Thank you for your service here in Ocean Pines," she wrote. "You brought stability, safety, and unity to our police department as well as our community. It was incredible how you rebuilt our police department, interacted with our community, and worked endlessly on the cell tower issue. Enjoy retirement and life, you earned it."

# Parade honors fallen soldiers

Continued from Page 3

"We've been so successful over the years, and we're hoping that this one will be as good or better than the others," Purnell added. "...In the old days, thousands and thousands of people would come to Berlin because this was where the parade was. When we restarted it, we restarted on a smaller scale and then built back up to thousands over the years. We have really nice turnouts."

Purnell emphasized that its purpose is to honor the United States soldiers.

"We have to thank veterans all the time for the freedoms and all of the amenities of American life that we enjoy," he said. "This is to honor those who are no longer with us...We would love to have everybody come out, pledge allegiance with us, and represent the community by giving thanks to those veterans. Giving honor to those veterans who lost their lives and even those who came home and then lost their lives. It's a Memorial Day opportunity for the community to be appreciative of what those veterans did and have done and continue to do."

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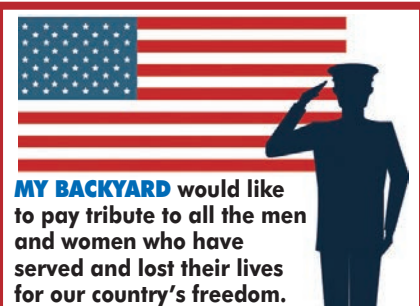
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# Commercial vision's site plan moves ahead

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) A proposal to redevelop the former Tyson chicken processing facility into a mixed-use commercial complex advanced last week after the Berlin Planning Commission approved preliminary site plans, contingent upon the mayor's and Town Council's approval of related plats.

Development representatives presented initial plans for the long-vacant industrial site known as parcel 57. They described a project that would remove deteriorating structures, repurpose portions of existing property buildings, and implement retail, medical, and office uses.

The concept includes four potential buildings: a front commercial building intended for retail, restaurant or office uses; a medical office building with a drive-through pharmacy; a commercial or office building farther back on the site; and a garden center. Plans also include retaining the site's existing water tower and converting it into a key decorative site feature.

Developers emphasized that while all buildings appear in the plans, initial focus is on the first two structures.

"We have a high-intense need for building number two to get occupancy," said developer Palmer Gillis,

who has a contract with the Town of Berlin to buy this slice of the town's Heron Park property.. He noted that an interested tenant requires access to the space in 2027.

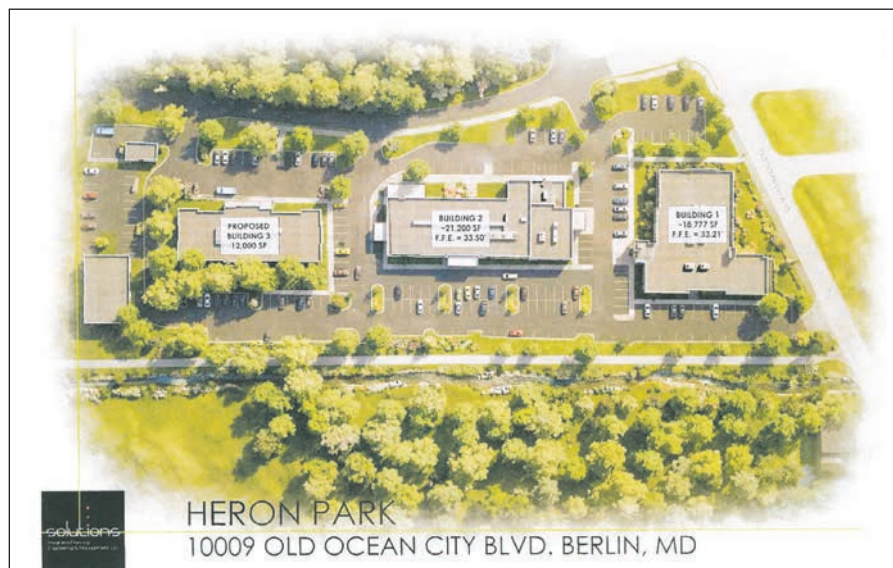
Gillis said that he has been "aggressive" in the process of moving the project along because financing and tenant commitments depend on the initiative's advancement.

Last month, the developer went before the planning commission despite not being listed on the meeting agenda and claimed that he had been repeatedly unsuccessful in securing a public hearing. That holdup led Gillis to threaten to terminate his contract with the Town of Berlin to purchase the site.

"Part of our contract...requires us to provide evidence of financing to proceed to settlement," Gillis said. "So, there's a chain of events needed for that to happen ... I have to provide the town with evidence of financing to proceed to settlement. It's a chicken and the egg situation because I can't do that until I have approvals, which is another reason I have been aggressive in this process."

Despite that urgency, Gillis acknowledged that later project phases could be delayed for some time.

When asked by commissioners whether undeveloped portions of the



SUBMITTED IMAGE/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

An aerial building for the redevelopment of the former chicken plant site in Berlin includes renovating the existing two buildings and adding a third to the north side of the property.

property might remain vacant after the first round of construction, Gillis responded, "It might be years."

He added that significant demolition would occur regardless of the timing of development.

"There are a lot of concrete structures on it," Gillis said. "Those will all be gone ... There's a lot of industrial-type structures in the back of that property that have got to go."

Commission members added that

replacing the dilapidated industrial areas with green space while awaiting any future construction would still be an improvement over the site's existing makeup.

Last week's meeting also generated discussion of project scheduling in relation to infrastructure placement and approval procedures.

Planning staff and commission members expressed concern that the See DEVELOPER Page 10



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Authority: Steve Green For Commissioner District 4, Thomas Tawney, Treasurer

# Developer outlines site vision

Continued from Page 9

application lacked clear phasing details showing how utilities, stormwater management, and parking would operate during partial buildout.

Project representatives maintained that the recent submission was intended to be comprehensive, providing the town with a full picture of the development's long-term plan. Phasing will be demonstrated at a later date to ensure that utility, stormwater, and parking are integrated functionally.

Additionally, commissioners raised concerns about utility easements shown on plans. Several questioned why utilities appeared on the west side of a proposed access road rather than on the east side, where drawings from the fall of 2024 reportedly placed them to avoid conflicts with landscaping.

Gillis said that the east-side utility easement placement was complicated

due to communication gaps, particularly with the town's engineering consultant, Davis, Bowen & Friedel.

Developers maintain that their goal is to make the front building "lively and energetic." Gillis said previous versions of the project generated interest from eight to 10 food and beverage operators. However, no commitments currently exist.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the planning commission approved a motion granting preliminary site plan approval, subject to Town Council approval of the plat and additional reviews, including stormwater approvals, forest conservation, fire marshal review, and infrastructure revisions.

Commissioners specified that the project must return for final site plan approval before construction can proceed.

# Worcester wants to spend \$1.4M on new siren system

## Phased approach ahead for replacements in Berlin, Snow Hill and Pocomoke

By **Brian Shane**  
Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) Long before cell phone alerts, push notifications and emergency texts, Worcester County's emergency responders relied on a simpler warning system: outdoor sirens.

Many of those sirens are more than 50 years old, and county officials say the aging system is due for a replacement.

Elected officials are preparing to spend \$1.4 million to replace and expand the system. They say the investment is needed because there are places where old-fashioned outdoor warnings still matter, including public parks, campgrounds, and areas with poor cell service.

The county operates 19 mechanical sirens of varying ages. Upgrades will keep them wailing in case of tornadoes, evacuations, and shelter-in-place orders.

In some communities, sirens also serve as a backup alert for volunteer firefighters.

For years, the sirens were maintained by municipalities and individual fire companies. That changed about three years ago, when the county directed its Department of Emergency Services to take over full maintenance and operation.

After that transition, the department had the sirens evaluated. They found many were decades old and in poor condition, according to Deputy Director James Hamilton.

County officials determined the system needed to be replaced and ex-

panded, particularly in outdoor public areas and places where cellular coverage may be unreliable.

The county commissioners approved the project as a consent agenda item April 15, awarding the contract to Alertus Technologies of Baltimore. The company submitted the lowest of four bids and was also rated the best option under the county's evaluation process.

The project will be funded with surplus money from the last two fiscal years, rather than new general fund spending.

Internal county memos show \$1.1 million will come from fiscal 2024 surplus funds, with another \$308,863 from fiscal 2025.

The replacement will be carried out in phases, with the first phase expected to focus on existing coverage areas in Berlin, Snow Hill, and Pocomoke City.

Later phases would involve sirens in the communities of Bishopville, Girdletree, Newark, Public Landing, Stockton, and Whaleyville. Eventually, coverage could expand to commercial centers and developments, followed by campgrounds and public parks.

County documents identified several public and private campgrounds where future coverage is expected. They include Assateague State Park, Bali Hi RV Park in Bishopville, Island Resort Campground in Newark, Frontier Town in Berlin, and two Sun Outdoors campgrounds in Berlin and Whaleyville.

Hamilton said the county is working with the vendor to finalize the contract, including the locations for new sirens. Residents could begin seeing new sirens installed before the end of summer, he said.

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**Joe Schanno is your Republican Candidate for District 5 Worcester County Commissioner.**

**Current sheriff, challenger talk issues at forum**

Crisafulli, Burht square off In Republican primary

By Brian Shane  
 Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) Staffing shortages, school safety, and mounting pressures on law enforcement dominated a forum for Worcester County sheriff candidates, as incumbent Matt Crisafulli and challenger Jeff Buhrt framed competing approaches to leading the department.

Hosted by the South Point Association at the Ocean City Golf Club, the April 30 forum often unfolded in a conversational back-and-forth with the audience rather than a tightly moderated debate.

In fact, the candidates barely crossed paths: Buhrt addressed the audience before Crisafulli had even entered the building, while Crisafulli arrived late from another candidate event and took the microphone as Buhrt was headed out for his night shift.

With no Democrats filed in the race, the June 23 Republican primary will decide who gets to oversee a department of about 100 deputies and its proposed \$22 million budget. Crisafulli is seeking a third term. He also faced Buhrt in the 2022 election.

Buhrt spent 27 years with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office before retiring from that agency. He's also served in both the Marine Corps and Army Reserve. Today, he's still a cop, working overnights as a corporal with the Somerset County Sheriff's Office.

When outlining his goals, Buhrt said he wants to bolster road patrols and launch a reserve unit of unarmed volunteers. He also criticized what he viewed as unnecessary spending, including sheriff's SUVs that were briefly decorated with charitable-cause decals.

"I know it's fun to get a lot of toys and spend money on fun things, but there's stuff that can be cut out of the budget," Buhrt said. "It sounds like small stuff, but all the patches, all the stickers, all the badges, all the nameplates, it costs taxpayer money."

Crisafulli said that no tax dollars paid for the decals during his first term and they were purchased using charitable contributions.

Buhrt went on to describe severe staffing shortages affecting departments across the Eastern Shore, including in Somerset County, where the lack of manpower has led Somer-



Matt Crisafulli



Jeff Buhrt

# Sheriff's candidates square off

set to end coverage on weekends and staff as few as two deputies on weeknights.

"It's real hard for recruiting," Buhrt said, "because Ocean City no longer has the seasonal program, which was good for, as I call it, cherry-picking. You could go and talk to people and recruit from there. Now, you have to go to colleges."

Crisafulli focused his remarks more heavily on training, mental health support, and the growing demands state lawmakers have placed on local law enforcement agencies, which he called "unfunded mandates."

"I have strengthened training to a level that it's never been," Crisafulli said. "I have a dedicated training staff to accommodate the ever-growing changes that Annapolis has been making, particularly in the last five years."

Crisafulli also said he's dedicated to securing pay raises for deputies and will prioritize recruiting and retention to keep his staff from leaving for other jobs.

"It's not an easy transition, especially for our commissioners, because you have to look at the big picture. But, ladies and gentlemen, when public safety fails, everything under it crumbles," he said.

Crisafulli also criticized state re-

strictions on cooperation with federal immigration authorities, calling the rollback of the 287-G program a "very slippery slope" for public safety. The 287(g) program allows state and local law enforcement to perform designated federal immigration enforcement functions.

Both candidates were also asked what they would do to keep schools safe.

Buhrt, who mentioned his mother was a teacher, said he'd keep deputies posted in public schools and gave Crisafulli kudos for putting a school resource officer in nearly every public school in the county.

"I think that the sheriff's office and the teachers all need to get together and not be bickering back and forth like they have been the last year, year and a half," Buhrt said.

Crisafulli, who has served as a D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) officer in schools, said he plans to keep deputies staffed in schools. He said any police activity that could cast schools in a bad light is "not our concern."

"Our concern is that you as an educator can effectively teach your children in a safe and conducive learning environment," he said. "These are the types of conversations that we have all the time. So, it's a work in progress, we have to continue that."

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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Memorial Day event in Ocean Pines to take place at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial, pictured above. The festivities will kick off at 11 a.m.

# Ocean Pines veteran park to host event for Memorial Day

By Tara Fischer  
Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) Ocean Pines will honor the nation's fallen soldiers next week with a ceremony at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial.

A Memorial Day celebration is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. on Monday at the Ocean Pines veterans park, with speeches from community leaders and area veterans, a traditional

color guard presentation, and a wreath-laying ceremony. The event will recognize the deceased members of all arms of the American armed forces.

The site of next week's festivities has been refreshed with updated landscaping and additions that will be unveiled for the first time at the event.

See MEMORIAL Page 17



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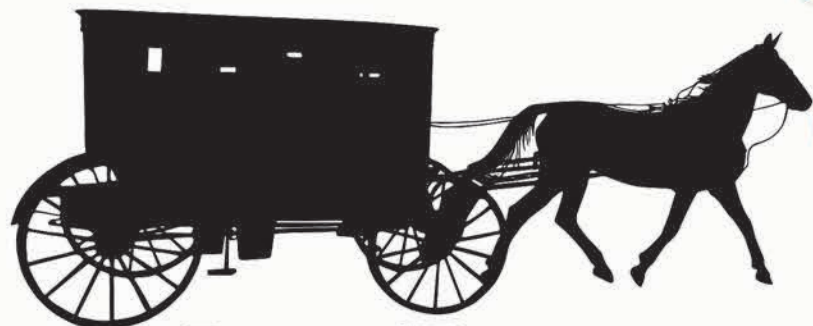
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# OP residents urged to send questions for election forum

The candidate questions and answers event is set for morning of June 13

(May 21, 2026) The Ocean Pines Elections Committee is asking homeowners to submit questions for the 2026 Board of Directors election candidate forum.

Questions can be emailed to elections@oceanpines.org until Friday, June 5.

The Candidate Forum will take

place on Saturday, June 13, from 10 a.m.-noon at the Clubhouse Meeting Room located at 100 Clubhouse Drive.

During the forum, the Elections Committee will conduct three rounds of questions: Questions from the Elections Committee; Questions submitted by Association members; and Candidates will ask each other questions.

Candidates will have the opportunity to make both opening and closing remarks.

# Memorial park receives refresh

Continued from Page 14

The work included upgrades to walkway landscaping, renovations to reinforce the structural integrity, improved seating areas, and updated commemorative plaques.

The space is home to a brick wall denoting the branches of the United States military with an American flag at the center, as well as plaques honoring local soldiers. The space is maintained and overseen by the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation.

Additionally, the foundation installed a new marker to recognize the United States Space Force. The newest defense branch joined U.S. military operations in late 2019 and was created to protect infrastructure such as military satellites, global GPS networks, and missile warning systems.

"The goal with this refurbishment was to ensure that the memory of our fallen heroes is preserved with the dignity and respect they deserve," reads an OPA-issued press release. "All residents, families, veterans and civic organizations are encouraged to attend the ceremony at 11 a.m. to stand together in gratitude for those who gave their lives for our freedom."

The ceremony is free to attend. Those interested should arrive early to secure chair space.

Additionally, the memorial grounds' yearly "Flags for Heroes" display was installed on May 13, as part of an OC/Berlin Rotary Club fundraiser and in collaboration with the veteran site's foundation.

As part of the effort, hundreds of American flags are placed in the grass at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial. The postings will enhance the space's patriotic ambiance in time for Memorial Day.

Margaret Mudron, a Rotary Club representative, said the fundraiser allows individual community members to sponsor a flag for \$50 each to recognize someone who has had a positive impact, whether personally or more broadly.

"A hero can be a soldier, a mother, a doctor, or a school teacher," Mudron said. "Anyone who is a hero in your life."

She added that about 220 flags were purchased for this year's campaign. The deadline to sponsor a flag was May 11, and proceeds will benefit the park's educational outreach programs, the Rotary Club Scholarship Fund, and other community charities.

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# Worcester County considers AI integration for employees

By Brian Shane  
Staff Writer

(May 21, 2026) ChatGPT, how are you being used in local government?

In Worcester County, officials say the artificial intelligence platform is already helping employees draft documents, answer technical questions, and streamline day-to-day work.

It's a tool valuable enough that the county commissioners last Tuesday discussed budgeting \$44,000 for 150 ChatGPT Enterprise licenses – an organizational version with additional privacy and security controls – as officials begin to integrate AI tools into daily government operations.

County Administrator Weston Young said the enterprise version would keep county information walled off in a “sandbox” environment, allowing employees to use AI tools without exposing sensitive files or internal data to the public.

Young told the commissioners that the county needs to develop a formal policy governing how employees will use the technology.

“Is this something that we need or something that we want?” Commissioner Chip Bertino (District 5, Ocean Pines) asked Young. “Is this technology that’s actually going to help us?”

“I think it will increase productivity,” replied Young.

According to IT Director Brian Jones, county staffers started dipping their toes into AI tools when employees were given the green light to use Copilot, an AI function within Microsoft Outlook, to help with writing emails.

Since then, ChatGPT and other AI tools have mostly been used for information and research and polishing written materials like press releases, policy documents, or employee handbooks.

“The possibilities are endless with AI,” Jones said.

Jones credited the county administrator for championing AI tools after he and other staffers started experimenting with earlier free versions of ChatGPT and other AI platforms about two years ago.

According to Jones, Young saw the value in paying for the subscription-based service and encouraged Jones to include the request in his fiscal 2027 budget.

“He agrees with me about our cybersecurity and keeping it within our control. He’s taking it very seriously and I’m glad he has,” Jones said.

Jones said licenses would be issued based on need, particularly for supervisors, managers and employees regularly handling documents or communications.

In particular, staffers say AI writing tools are helping with word choice and softening tone, with a goal of keeping government correspondence from sounding too cold or impersonal.

“Sometimes in the IT world you come across something that’s too technical, and we have to catch ourselves writing documents for people,” Jones said. “We want them to understand what we’re telling them.”

## Lead service line project in Newark receives funding

(May 21, 2026) Worcester County government has secured a \$613,380 grant from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to fund a lead service line replacement and cross-connection control project in the Newark Service Area.

“This project will modernize aging water infrastructure by replacing outdated and potentially lead-containing service lines along Newark Road and Langmaid Road and installing new meter pit setters equipped with dual check valves to prevent backflow,” Public Works Director Dallas Baker said.

The improvements are intended to address public health concerns associated with older piping materials and plumbing systems dating back to the 1970s, when the water system was originally installed.

The project includes connecting homes to an existing eight-inch PVC water main and abandoning deteriorated four-inch metal piping.

Once completed, the upgrades are expected to improve water quality, system reliability, and water pressure while ensuring compliance with current cross-connection control regulations designed to protect the public water supply from contamination.

The start of design work remains contingent upon final concurrence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the grant award.

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# Sports stunt show slated for Pines on Saturday, June 13

(May 21, 2026) Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks will present “Dialed Action Day,” an extreme sports stunt show, on Saturday, June 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Skatepark and Whitehorse Park.

The event will feature Dialed Action Sports, which, according to the department combines “ground-based action sports disciplines into a custom-choreographed stunt show designed to deliver a high-energy, grandstand-style experience.” The performance will include professional stunt riders, coordinated routines and a variety of action sports demonstrations.

Organizers said the show will include

music, a live emcee, giveaways, and other entertainment elements throughout the event. The program is designed to provide an engaging, family-friendly experience for attendees of all ages.

Dialed Action Day marks a new event offering for Ocean Pines and aims to give residents and visitors an opportunity to experience live extreme sports demonstrations in a community setting.

Pre-registration costs \$40 and includes a T-shirt. Day-of registration costs \$45, though a T-shirt is not guaranteed.

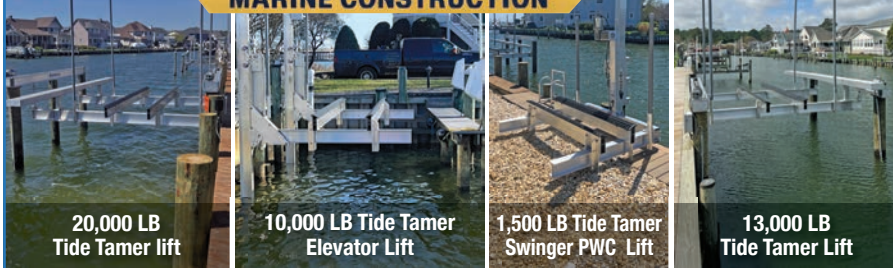
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# Worcester schools excel in post-pandemic academics

(May 21, 2026) As the Worcester County Board of Education and the Worcester County Commissioners spar over next year’s funding of the county’s public school system, it turns out that the county’s public-school students were standout performers in math and reading in the years immediately following the covid-19 pandemic.

According to a statement released by Gov. Wes Moore, an assessment of student scores between 2022 and 2025 showed that Maryland ranked third in the country for student growth in reading and fifth in the country for math.

The rankings, which are part of the national Education Scorecard, resulted from research conducted by Harvard University, Stanford University, and Dartmouth College during the four-year-post-pandemic period.

The scorecard report singled out Worcester County, along with Balti-

more City and Frederick County, for showing substantial progress.

“Several Maryland districts are emerging as “Districts on the Rise,” the report said. “These districts have shown unusual progress relative to similar districts in their own state. A core group of districts is excelling in both math and reading, with districts like Baltimore City, Frederick County, and Worcester County outperforming their peers.”

The report also said Worcester County Public Schools ranked higher than 81% of districts nationwide in average math performance during the 2022-25 school years (1,894th of 10,205 districts with available data).

Worcester County Public Schools ranked higher than 90% of districts nationwide in average reading performance during the 2022-25 school years (991st of 10,076 districts with available data).

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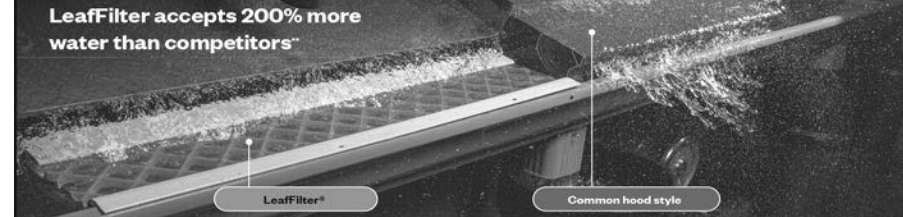
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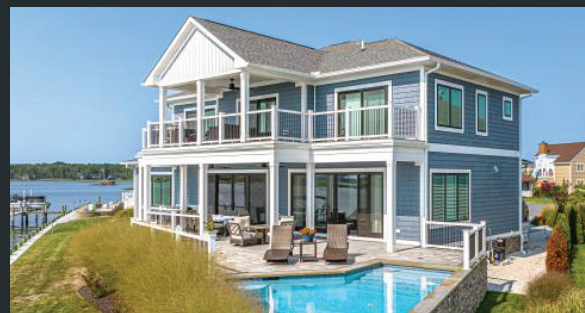
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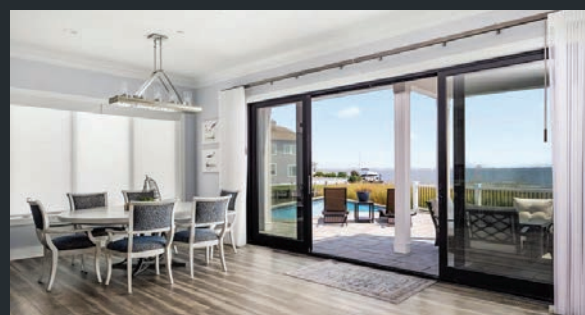
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University of Virginia



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers returned to Ocean City with the dredge Murden to conduct an Inlet dredging project. The effort will continue throughout the month.

# Inlet dredging to eliminate 15K cubic yards of material

**By Bethany Hooper**  
Associate Editor

(May 21, 2026) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers returned to Ocean City late last week to begin another inlet dredging project.

Last Friday, May 8, the dredge Murden began clearing the entrance to the Sinepuxent Channel, as well as nearby seaside areas as part of a maintenance project that will continue throughout the month. The Army Corps Baltimore District said the shallow-draft dredge is scheduled to remove roughly 15,000 cubic yards of material.

“Starting this new cycle of dredging in the Ocean City Inlet underscores our commitment to maintaining a safe and reliable maritime gateway for the region,” said Baltimore District Commander Col. Francis Pera.

“As we enter tourist season, keeping these waterways open is vital – not only for the U.S. Coast Guard’s search and rescue missions but also for the commercial and recreational boaters who drive our regional economy.”

The Army Corps said the Murden can carry the equivalent of 50 dump truck loads of material and release it by splitting its hull. This month, the vessel will take dredged material from “Priority Area #1” and place it south of the inlet, offshore of Assateague Island, to mitigate the effects of sediment transport and erosion.

Last July, the Army Corps sent its side-caster dredge Merritt to remove nearly 8,000 cubic yards of material from the Ocean City Inlet in advance of last year’s White Marlin Open fishing tournament.

The vessel was sent from the agency’s Wilmington, N.C., district, as its usual dredges – the Murden and Currituck for this region – were unavailable.

However, unlike the Murden and Currituck, which take dredged spoils away, the Merritt casts the material approximately 85 feet to from the sides of the vessel, where it settles at the bottom of the waterway. Just days after the Army Corps concluded its emergency dredge work, boaters began alerting the public of increased shoaling in the channel.

Officials said they knew the Merritt’s

work would be temporary, as the Army Corps had plans to return to Ocean City once repairs on the Murden were complete. Back in the area last November, the Army Corps focused its efforts on the entrance to the Sinepuxent Channel and dredged roughly 13,000 cubic yards of material.

The latest round of dredging will be the second to take place at the inlet this offseason. The Army Corps said maintenance dredging ensures local waterways remain accessible to the U.S. Coast Guard, as well as commercial and recreational users.

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pocomoke Middle School students visited the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines on Monday, May 18 as part of a series of education field trips hosted at the memorial each spring.

# Memorial grounds hosting field trips for local students

(May 21, 2026) Fifth grade students from Pocomoke Middle School visited the Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines on Monday, May 18, as part of an educational field trip focusing on honoring veterans and learning about United States history.

During their visit, students had the opportunity to learn from the local Pocomoke High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC cadets about proper flag etiquette, including how to correctly fold a flag.

Docents from the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation shared the history of the American flag and explained proper flag display. Volunteers, including veterans and retired school educators, guided students through the Memorial while providing insight into the layout, military branches, and commemorative pavers.

Students also walked the Patriots Pathway to view individual plaques and learn about significant American conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to the present day.

The Memorial recently underwent extensive renovations, including the addition of the Space Force wall and flag. Additional improvements include beautifully landscaped walkways, updated commemorative plaques, and enhanced seating areas.

Don McMullen, Suzie Pantone, and Michelle Winemiller, members of the Board of Directors for the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, help lead several of these educational field trips each year as part of the Foundation's mission to engage the community and educate local youth.

5th grade students from Blessed Sacrament visited earlier in May and Berlin Intermediate and Snow Hill Middle School will also visit the Memorial over the coming weeks.

The Worcester County Veterans Memorial honors all who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and serves as a living tribute and educational resource for the region.

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# JUNE 9, 2026

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**BAY DAY FUN**  
 It was a beautiful Sunday in Ocean Pines for the 7th annual Bay Day. Hosted in collaboration with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and the Ocean Pines Association, Bay Day is a conservation celebration aimed at engaging the community in local environmental efforts. Held at White Horse Park on Sunday, May 17, attendees were able to enjoy activities and information from over 30 exhibitors, boat rides, food, live music, and much more.  
 SUBMITTED PHOTOS/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



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# Opinion

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

## Show some respect before lighting up grill

Memorial Day marks the unofficial beginning of summer, mostly because the Uniform Holiday Act of 1968 led to the creation of the federally declared three-day holiday weekend in 1971.

The other Memorial Day, the real one which since 1868 had been celebrated on May 30 before the act shifted it to the last Monday in May, is when we're supposed to commemorate the ultimate sacrifice made by members of the armed forces in service to their country.

Notable in the sentence above is the passage, "when we're supposed to ..." because although it does introduce the reason for the observance, it also implies that this solemn purpose is often forgotten amidst all the pre-summer celebrations.

That's a shame, because in this age of high-tech warfare, drones and long-distance destruction, it is still the willingness of millions of men and women to go in harm's way when called upon that is the ultimate deterrent that keeps this nation's enemies at bay.

That is the essence of the real Memorial Day, which will be celebrated Monday with remembrances, honors and respect in Berlin with its Old-Fashioned Memorial Day Parade, in Ocean Pines at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial, and in Ocean City at the American Legion Synepuxent Post 166.

These salutes to the casualties of war and conflict have little to do with Memorial Day, the season opener beside occupying the same square on the calendar.

That is, of course, unless we offer a few minutes of respectful appreciation for those who fell in defense of our liberties and principles before we mark the beginning of summer by firing up the grill.

## Letter

### OP bridge no longer serves its purpose

Editor,

North Gate Bridge was, in the beginning, "iconic" – the gatehouse, the spherical lamps, the new wood. That is no longer so. Having lived here for 25 years, I have watched the bridge deteriorate: Gone is the gatehouse (most likely due to lack of use or rot), the lamps, the unmarred wood. In its place is an ugly, old bridge which no amount of flags or flowers can make look good – lipstick on a pig is still a pig!!!

The bridge should be re-

placed for the following reasons:

1. It no longer has "curb-side appeal" for newcomers looking to buy here or for us residents.

2. By having only one lane leaving, it is an obstacle to fire trucks and ambulances. If cars are 8-10 deep waiting for the light, no way can the lead car know that an emergency vehicle is behind it and, therefore, pull over. There is no place to pull over on the bridge itself.

3. Because the bridge is so narrow, hardly a month goes by that someone hasn't bumped into it or the stonework. The sides are

gouged out as if in a "bumper car" rink.

4. When the part-timers arrive for summer and holidays, the back-up to exit can be 25 cars deep. It may take 2-3 cycles in order to exit. If there were two lanes, many could make their right turn without having to wait for those making left turns.

5. It is impossible to see how this so-called icon can be compliant with the American Disabilities Act. The only wheelchair access is the narrow walkway.

It's time to make the decision for a new bridge!

Ginger Sutula  
Ocean Pines

## County workers to get \$4,000 COLA

### The move will give lower tier employees a bigger pay bump

By Brian Shane  
Staff Writer

(May 15, 2026) The Worcester County Commissioners this week approved a new pay package that replaces a proposed 3% cost-of-living increase with a flat \$4,000 raise for county employees while fully funding a \$22 million budget request from the sheriff's office.

County officials said the \$4,000 raise, once the budget is finalized, would apply to more than 600 full-time employees across county government. The flat-dollar structure would give proportionally larger raises to lower-paid employees than a percentage-based COLA would.

Commissioner Eric Fiori made the motion to alter the proposed 3% COLA in favor of the \$4,000 across-the-board raise at Tuesday's budget hearing. The vote was unanimous, 6-0, with Commissioner Jim Bunting absent.

Sheriff Matt Crisafulli called the decision a "landmark" moment for his agency, saying the raises

could make Worcester County one of the highest-paying law enforcement agencies on the Eastern Shore.

After Tuesday's budget meeting, the mood was upbeat in the ground-floor offices of the sheriff's department in Snow Hill.

"It feels like we won the Super Bowl," Crisafulli said. "This is exciting not only for our men and women, but for our community."

Under the new compensation structure, Crisafulli plans to bump starting pay for sheriff's deputies from \$63,128 to more than \$70,000 – putting Worcester County even with neighboring Wicomico County, where deputy pay jumps to \$70,000 as of July 1.

The sheriff's successful budget request marks the fourth time in the last year that he's petitioned the commissioners to budget for deputy pay raises, repeatedly warning that salary competitiveness has become a public safety issue.

Law enforcement agencies across Delmarva have increasingly competed for a shrinking pool of qualified recruits by offering higher starting pay and hiring incentives.

Crisafulli said his agency had been losing ground in the recruiting battle, with some deputies leaving for higher-paying agencies, while other experienced officers turned down job opportunities in Worcester to work elsewhere for more money.

"That was the ultimate goal: we have got to increase our starting salary," he said. "That is going to make us much more marketable."

The sheriff's proposed budget for fiscal year 2027 totals \$22.2 million, a roughly \$2.5 million increase over the current year. It includes funding for four new uniformed positions and an internal affairs investigator, bringing his roster from 96 to 101 sworn deputies.

Crisafulli is also seeking a one-grade pay increase for all sworn personnel, along with higher starting salaries for lateral transfers from other police departments, which county officials say could improve recruitment and retention.

Lateral transfers into the department have been capped at pay commensurate with five years' experience. Under the new structure, veteran hires See COMMISSIONERS Page 27

## BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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### FARMERS MARKET ZOO

The beloved Berlin Farmers Market is officially back with crafted goods, produce, entertainment, and a petting zoo.

STEVE GREEN/  
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

# Commissioners support staff pay increase

Continued from Page 26  
could enter at a nine-year baseline.  
This budgeting move won't affect the sheriff's salary, which is set by statute and currently stands at \$101,200. After this November's election, that salary will increase to \$116,392 for the 2026-2030 term.  
Not everyone will necessarily be affected by Tuesday's COLA update.

Worcester County Public Schools employees were already slated to receive a \$4,000 COLA, including certified teachers and support staff, in the department's proposed operating budget.  
Last year, for fiscal year 2026, the commissioners approved a \$2,500 COLA for all county employees, including county staff, board of educa-

tion employees, and sheriff's office personnel.  
Also at last Tuesday's budget hearing, the county commissioners voted to forgo their own scheduled salary increases.  
Their annual commissioner pay would have increased, from about \$28,000 to roughly \$33,700, taking effect at start of the 2026-2030 fol-

lowing the Nov. 5 election.  
Instead, on a motion from Commissioner Joe Mitrecic, the commissioners voted 5-0 to decline that raise. Commissioner Chip Bertino abstained. The move was reversed at this Tuesday's meeting.  
The county will finalize its roughly \$300 million operating budget on June 2.

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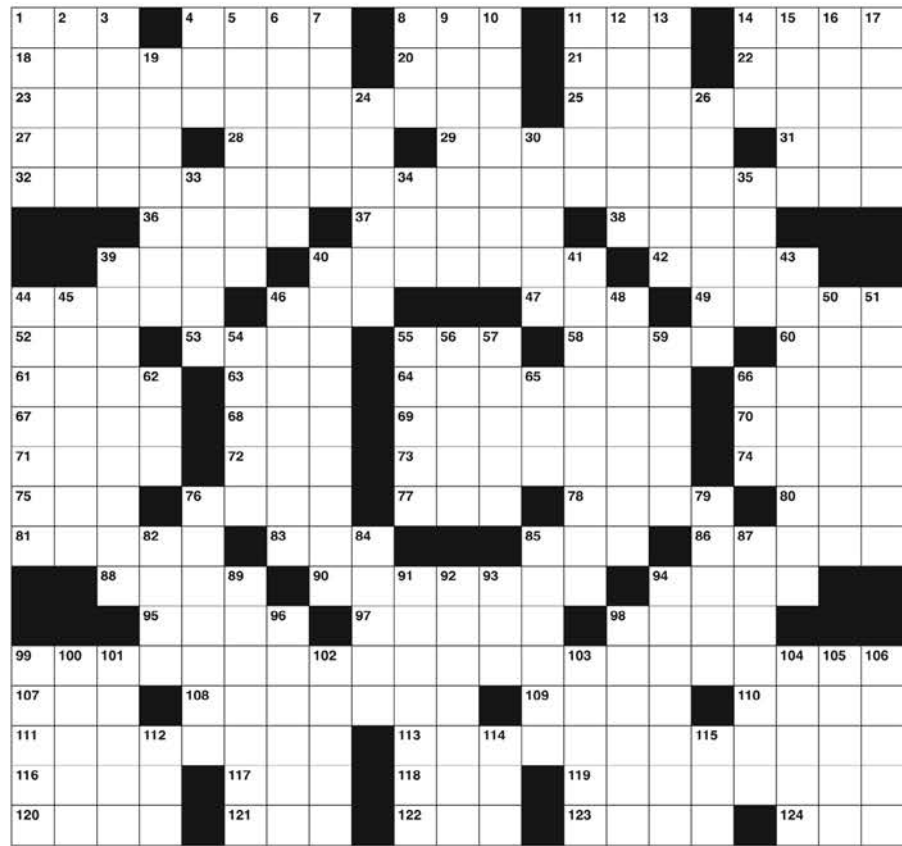


# Puzzles

COME FULL CIRCLE  
BY RACHEL FABI AND ADAM WAGNER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Rachel Fabi, of Syracuse, N.Y., is a bioethics professor at SUNY Upstate Medical University. Adam Wagner, of Oakland, Calif., is a creative lead at Patreon, a monetization platform for content creators. The two were sitting together at the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament last year when Wyna Liu walked by and said a phrase that sounded a lot like 113-Across. Adam said to Rachel, "Wait, that sounds like a revealer." Rachel instantly responded, "What if it's..." and then suggested basically the exact theme of this puzzle. They knew immediately they'd struck gold. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Many web banners
  - 4 DNA sample implement
  - 8 Grp. that regulates streams
  - 11 Vape alternative
  - 14 Apple tablet
  - 18 It might hang during the summer
  - 20 "Me, that's \_\_\_!"
  - 21 "Well, la-di-da!"
  - 22 Rural skyline feature
  - 23 U.F.C. fighter
  - 25 Where many large cutlets are seen
  - 27 A, as in aviating?
  - 28 "Little piggies"
  - 29 Dadaism, it's said
  - 31 Naught
  - 32 Wild cats
  - 36 Animated figure
  - 37 Extraterrestrial British TV villain that debuted in 1963
  - 38 Laura seen in "Big Little Lies"
  - 39 King \_\_\_
  - 40 Greatly admires
  - 42 Table salt, in a lab
  - 44 Fan's buzz
  - 46 Restaurant prearrangement, in brief
  - 47 "What's the \_\_\_?"
  - 49 Gaping gap
  - 52 Replay reviewer
  - 53 Days in Spain
  - 55 A string player plays the strings with it
  - 58 Try intermittent fasting, perhaps
  - 60 P.G.A. peg
  - 61 Tiler's measurement
  - 63 "The Daily" publisher: Abbr.
  - 64 Large summer delivery, in past times / N.F.L. linemen, at times
  - 66 Reddish-purple vegetable
  - 67 Instagram update
  - 68 Situps tighten them
  - 69 Lifeguard's tubeful / Baby gift bearing the alphabet, maybe
  - 70 Game entry
  - 71 Web page
  - 72 \_\_\_ Turner, antislavery rebel
  - 73 Dad, in a euphemism / Naval barrier preventing entering and leaving
  - 74 Jaunty greeting
  - 75 Big name in deep-dish pizza
  - 76 Letterman rival
  - 77 Refusals
  - 78 The Almighty
  - 80 Junkyard guardian's warning
  - 81 In itself
  - 83 Tanner's letters
  - 85 Newsstand item, in brief
  - 86 East Asian fiddles
  - 88 Numbskull, in Yiddish
  - 90 "Ha! My statement wasn't really true — sue me!"
  - 94 Get ad-libby-dibby while singy-ingy-ingy?
  - 95 Apr. 15 experts
  - 97 Barely visible, as a star?
  - 98 Eagle's grabber
  - 99 Chic venue that features great bands
  - 107 Hesitant reply
  - 108 2015 thriller starring Emily Blunt as an F.B.I. agent
  - 109 Midsummer babies
  - 110 "\_\_\_ framed!"
  - 111 They're frequently bcced
  - 113 Ensure that a task is finished ... and a hint that might help with finishing this puzzle
  - 116 Rx quantity
  - 117 Theater hit's inits.
  - 118 Babysitter's bane
  - 119 Gnawable, wearable items that might help with A.D.H.D.
  - 120 Baa-baa mamas
  - 121 QB's highlights
  - 122 Vietnamese Lunar New Year festival
  - 123 Gas giant?
  - 124 Girl in the fam
  - 4 \_\_\_/her
  - 5 Pass the time until
  - 6 "Meek" in "Blessed are the meek," e.g.
  - 7 Slant made with a table saw
  - 8 Abbr. starting an email header
  - 9 His first star turn was in the 1995 film "Devil in a Blue Dress"
  - 10 Less freshly funny
  - 11 "Peanuts," e.g.
  - 12 "They say ..."
  - 13 Begin using sustainable alternatives
  - 14 Ending with material
  - 15 Instrument with keys
  - 16 Daring bet
  - 17 Barbies, e.g.
  - 19 Disperse, as seeds
  - 24 The Beatles' "Please Please Me" and "A Hard Day's Night," e.g.
  - 26 Draw in
  - 30 Audibly expressed dismay
  - 33 Squirrel away
  - 34 Sat \_\_\_ (Brit's GPS)
  - 35 Length equaling 25.4 millimeters
  - 39 Bic filler
  - 40 Travelers' cases
  - 41 Leafy dish served with an entree
  - 43 Arsenic's realm, in years past
  - 44 Finalizes
  - 45 Leading lady's part
  - 46 Luxury sunglasses
  - 48 Dalmatian in a red hat, maybe
  - 50 Transparent, in brief
  - 51 Falling stars
  - 54 Just silly
  - 55 Plains animal in a herd
  - 56 Prefix meaning "eye"
  - 57 Meanders
  - 59 Fruity-smelling perfume ingredient
  - 62 Had a fast break?
  - 65 ■■■■
  - 66 "\_\_\_, humbug!"
  - 76 Admit, in a way
  - 79 Late-evening beverage request
  - 82 Use a straw
  - 84 Travel guide writer Eugene
  - 85 Lithium, magnesium and aluminum
  - 87 Unedited data set, say
  - 89 Maximally weird yet delightful
  - 91 Against the law
  - 92 Reply feigning guiltlessness
  - 93 Kinda
  - 94 Wades in puddles, say
  - 96 Digital S.L.R. insert
  - 98 Dress
  - 99 English writer with an apt surname
  - 100 "Gee whillikers!"
  - 101 Pursue
  - 102 Fidel \_\_\_\_, Philippine president in the 1990s
  - 103 Parasite
  - 104 Military deserters, in brief
  - 105 Native New Zealander's language
  - 106 Best Play and Best Upset
  - 112 "Affirmative!"
  - 114 Sign up, with "in"
  - 115 Disgusted squeals



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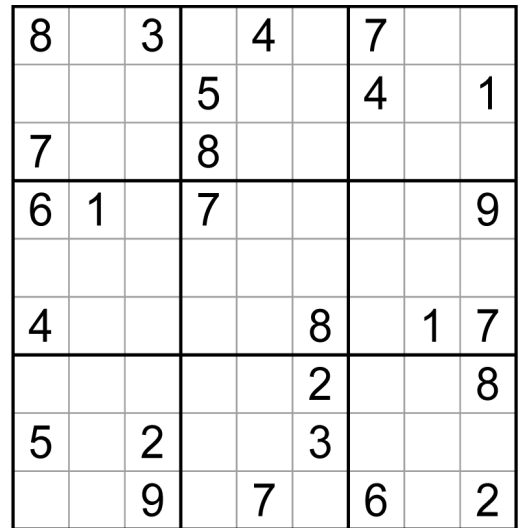
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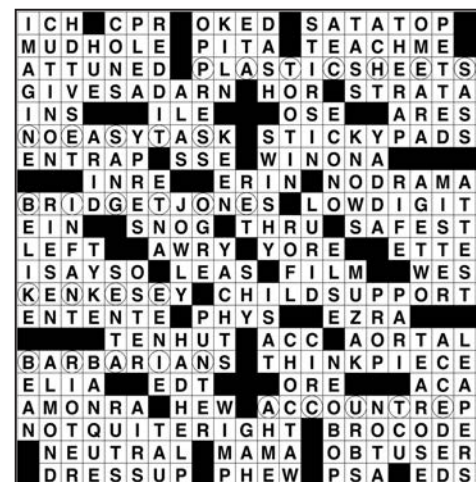
### HARD - 33

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



### Answers to last week's puzzles

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



# Obituary

## JUDY KIGHT

Bishopville  
 Judy Kight of Bishopville passed away after a courageous battle with cancer on the early morning of May 4 at Brightview Senior Living in Timonium, Maryland.

Judy was born on April 21, 1947 in Baltimore to Thomas and Elsie Knight. She grew up in Catonsville, Maryland, and attended the University of Maryland where she graduated with a bachelor of education. She also attended Johns Hopkins University for her master's equivalent degree.

Judy was a dedicated high school teacher of social studies for 30 years and continued as a consultant for four more years for Baltimore County Public Schools. She was a pioneer in establishing a Model Congress Program as well as the Mock Trial Program for high school students in Baltimore County.

She retired in 2004 and enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and being active in her community on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

She was involved with the Executive Women's Golf Association (EWGA) and the LPGA Amateur Golf Association Eastern Shore where she was President of the Eastern Shore chapter for two years.

In addition, Judy was an Ambassador for the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra for several years. A devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, Judy cherished time with her family, as well as friends.

Judy is survived by her husband, Steve, daughter Jennifer Brower (Adam), and grandchildren Anna Brower, Tommy Brower, and Cici Brower; sisters, Diane Hey and Debra Knight, and many dear friends. Besides her parents she was preceded in death by her brother, Tom Knight.


A viewing and funeral service was held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at the Community Church at Ocean Pines, 11227 Racetrack Road, Berlin, MD. The viewing began at 10:00 a.m., followed by the funeral service at 11:00 a.m. The burial immediately followed the service at the cemetery at the Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donation be sent to the American Cancer Society in her memory.

Visit [www.boundsfuneralhome.com](http://www.boundsfuneralhome.com) to share stories and memories with the family.

### OBITUARY NOTICES

E-mail: [editor@octodaydispatch.com](mailto:editor@octodaydispatch.com)



## LIBERTY TEA PARTY

### A Lecture & Living History Experience


Enjoy a traditional tea service and immerse yourself in the spirit of the American Revolution with a special presentation by historian Dr. G. Ray Thompson: "Tea Parties and the American Revolution." The event also features entertainment by cast members from the Community Players of Salisbury's production of 1776, bringing the era to life.

**June 4 • 3:00 PM**


**Atlantic Hotel, Berlin, MD**

Includes a commemorative gift  
Drawing for a night at the Atlantic Hotel

Scan to Purchase Tickets



Sponsored By:



1876 **Shore United Bank** 2026

**RACKLIFFE HOUSE CELEBRATES AMERICAS 250TH**

[www.RackliffeHouse.org](http://www.RackliffeHouse.org)



## OPEN HOUSES

May 21 - 28



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 11am-1pm	6803 Atlantic Ave #4H, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$425,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Friday 1-2:30pm	103 123rd St #309 Jockey Beach, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$262,000	Candi Noyes/Coldwell Banker realty
Friday 1:30-3:30pm	12971 Inlet Isle Lane, Ocean City	5BR/5BA	Single Family	\$2,599,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Friday 2-4pm	9 138th Street 307, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$304,900	Terri Moran/Coldwell Banker Realty
Friday 4:30-6pm	119 Old Landing Road, 201B, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$425,000	Terri Moran/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 10am-1pm	311 S Heron Gull Ct, Ocean City	5BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$2,300,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 10am-Noon	204 33rd Street Unit 20402, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$227,500	Shawn Kotwica/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 10:30am-1pm	6201 Coastal Hwy, Unit 806, Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Condo	\$1,800,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Saturday 11am-1pm	12 122nd Street Unit 3F, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$210,000	ABC Team/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	12 122nd Street Unit 3D, Ocean City	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$207,000	ABC Team/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	13031 Hayes Ave #8, Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Condo	\$529,900	Elaine Davidson/ReMAX Advantage Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	403 14th Street, Unit 13, Ocean City	3+BR/3.5 BA	Condo	\$1,550,000	Sandy Dougan/Berkshire Hathaway
Saturday 11am-1pm	11100 Coastal Hwy #1304, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$670,000	Danny Taglienti/Keller Williams Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	30847 E Annie Lank Ave Unit 1203, Milton, DE	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$449,900	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	10 135th Street #106, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$415,000	Rob & Anne-Marie Bouse/Re/Max Advantage Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	119 Old Landing Road 307F, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$350,000	Terri Moran/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 11am-1pm	12048 Pimlico Rd., 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	71 Hingham Lane, Ocean Pines	4BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$599,990	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday 1:30-3pm	5907 Atlantic Ave Unit 205, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$459,000	Shawn Kotwica/Coldwell Banker Realty
Saturday 1:30-3:30pm	208 7th Street Unit 2, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$685,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Sunday 11am-1pm	403 14th Street, Unit 13, Ocean City	3+BR/3.5 BA	Condo	\$1,550,000	Sandy Dougan/Berkshire Hathaway
Saturday 4-6 pm	12971 Inlet Isle Lane, Ocean City	5BR/5BA	Single Family	\$2,599,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Sunday 10:30am-12:30pm	208 7th Street Unit 2, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$685,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Sunday 11am-1pm	12414 Sea Oaks Lane Unit 3, Berlin	3BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$499,900	Lauren Bunting/Keller Williams Realty
Sunday 11am-1pm	504 Bayshore Drive #47, Ocean City	2BR/1BA	Condo	\$239,900	Rob & Anne-Marie Bouse/Re/Max Advantage Realty
Sunday 11:30am-1:30pm	11324 River Run Lane, Berlin	3BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$627,900	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker
Sunday Noon-2:30pm	745 Mooring Road Unit 202, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$393,000	Katie Landon/Coldwell Banker Realty
Sunday 1-3:30pm	6201 Coastal Hwy, Unit 806, Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Condo	\$1,800,000	Nancy Reither/Coldwell Banker



# Calendar

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

## Thurs., May 21

### STORY TIME 'COW LOVES COOKIES'

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and rhymes. For ages 2-5 years. 410-632-5622, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME: MS. ANGIE'S FAVES

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

### CROCHETED RUGS

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 2 p.m. Held May 21 and 27. Bring fabric shears; cotton, poly cotton or cotton knit fabric cut 1.25" wide; and a K or L crochet hook (metal preferred). Registration required: 410-641-0650.

### PRO WRESTLING & CULTURE: A 100-YEAR HISTORY

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 2 p.m. Former "Pro Wrestling Illustrated" Editor-in-Chief Harry Burkett discusses how culture is reflected in professional wrestling, were sport meets performance art. 410-208-4014

### 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](mailto:worcesterlibrary.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

### FIT & FABULOUS

Thursdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 4:30 p.m. Zumba with optional light weights. [zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com](mailto:zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com)

## Fri., May 22

### SPRING FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IN THE PARK

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 8 p.m. Featuring "Goat." Free event. Concessions available for sale. Movie begins after sunset. <https://oceancitymd.gov/oc/departments/recreation-parks>, 410-250-0125

### 81ST STREET BLOCK PARTY

The Core Club / The Juice Club Cafe, 8019 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Vendor experience is

free. Fitness classes are ticketed separately at [www.thecoreclubstudios.com](http://www.thecoreclubstudios.com). Vendors and samples include Hooked, Faded Sol, South Moon Under, IAM, T-skincare and Revelry Grace.

### PE.P CLUB POOL PARTY

Ocean Pines Sports Core Pool, 11144 Cathell Road, 4-6 p.m. There will be pizza and drinks. All swimmers must have a caregiver supervising them in the pool or sitting on the edge of the pool. 410-641-7052, [kgoetzinger@oceanpines.org](mailto:kgoetzinger@oceanpines.org)

### STARS, STRIPES, & SACRIFICE A 4TH FRIDAY EVENT

Pocomoke City Historic District, 402 Market St., 5-8 p.m. Food vendors, cash bar, bounce house and music provided by Beats by Britt. Honoring the troops by accepting donations for care packages and also writing letters to the troops overseas.

### ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP WITH COASTAL HOSPICE

Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, 1324 Belmont Ave., Salisbury, 10 a.m.-noon. Informative discussion on donor-advised funds, estate planning, planned giving, advance directives, and hospice care. Free and open to the public. Space is limited. Register at <https://bit.ly/48cxt3h>. 667-235-1320

### 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](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

## Sat., May 23

### MARYLAND BIRTHDAY PARTY

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 2 p.m. Partake in Maryland-themed crafts, games and a celebratory slice of cake. For families. 410-524-1818

### 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., May 24

### MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Firefighters Memorial, N. Division Street and Boardwalk, Ocean City, 1 p.m.

Featuring remarks from Mayor Rick Meehan and Brig. Gen. Joe Carbonell-López, skydivers delivering the American Flag, a 229th Maryland Army National Guard Band performance and a wreath-laying tribute.

### BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays (May-October) - Pitts, Commerce and Main streets, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. Producers only market, petting farm (9-11 a.m.), live music. [www.TheBerlinFarmersMarket.com](http://www.TheBerlinFarmersMarket.com)

### SEWING SEEDS OF LOVE

Sundays - Buckingham Presbyterian Church, 20 S. Main St., Berlin, 10-11 a.m. Youth of all ages 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](http://www.jw.org)

## Mon., May 25

### BERLIN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Stephen Decatur Middle School, 9815 Seahawk Road, Berlin, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The parade will begin at Stephen Decatur Middle School and proceed along Flower Street to the Dr. William Henry Park. The park will feature food, music, games, yard sale tables and vendors.

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

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

### BRIDGE

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

### DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 6:00-8:00 p.m. All ladies who love to sing invited. If you plan to visit, please Contact: Director: Ludwig692@outlook.com, 410-641-6876 or Membership Coordinator: ocelissa@yahoo.com, 410-641-8050.

### 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., May 26

### LITTLE FEAT: THE LAST FAREWELL TOUR

Ocean City Performing Arts Center,

4001 Coastal Highway, 7 p.m. Featuring iconic songs like "Dixie Chicken," "Willin'," "Oh, Atlantic" and more. Tickets:

<https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/80618191/little-feat-the-farewell-tour-ocean-city-oc-performing-arts-center>.

### 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, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

### SENSORY 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, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

### STORY TIME AT CYPRESS PARK

Cypress Park, 7 Bridge St., Pocomoke City, 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and outside play at Cypress Park. If inclement weather, story time will be held at the Pocomoke Library. For ages 0-5 years. 410-957-0878, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto: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, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

### MASTER GARDENERS PLANT CLINIC

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 1-4 p.m. Bring any questions you have and feel free to show your plants as well. 410-208-4014, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

### TEEN DIAMOND PAINTING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:30 p.m. Come craft diamond painting magnets or mini pieces of art. It's a chill, creative space with all supplies provide. For ages 12-18 years. 410-208-4014, [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org)

### PAGE ONE, VIRTUAL WRITING GROUP

Learn tips and tricks of writing fiction, nonfiction and poetry while offering critiques and receiving feedback from other writers, 5 p.m.. Registration required: 410-632-5622. [worcesterialibrary.org](mailto:worcesterlibrary.org).

### BEACH HEROES-OC

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

Continued on Page 31

# Calendar

Continued from Page 30

## JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES MEETING

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

## 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* - Lewes Senior Center, 32083 Janice Rd. Lewes, DE, 7-9 p.m. Experienced dancers and others interested in watching or learning more are welcome. No partner required. Info: [TangobytheBeach.com](mailto:TangobytheBeach.com).

## ZUMBA TONING TUESDAYS

*Tuesdays* - Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 5:15 p.m. Zumba with optional light weights. [zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.htcanglican.org/activities).

# Wed., May 27

## 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, [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org)

## COFFEE & CRAFTS: PAPER DAHLIAS

Worcester County Library - Ocean City Branch, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Join in every month for a new craft. All materials provided. Limit 30. 410-524-1818, [worcesterlibrary.org](http://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

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

TidalHealth Atlantic - Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 3-4:30 p.m. Held the fourth Wednesday of each month. Learn more: 410-641-9725, [gail.mansell@tidalhealth.org](mailto:gail.mansell@tidalhealth.org).

## SERVICE SQUAD

Worcester County Library - Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:30 p.m. Worcester County teens can earn service learning hours by helping out with craft

and program prep or other activities that help the library. For ages 12-18 years. 410-641-0650, [worcesterlibrary.org](http://worcesterlibrary.org)

## KIDS PAINT NIGHT

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$22 and includes all materials and instructions. For ages 8 years and older. Pre-registration required: 410-641-7052.

## 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.kiwanisofpoc.org](http://www.kiwanisofpoc.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

## ZUMBA PLUS!!

*Wednesdays* - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 4:30 p.m. Zumba with optional light weights. [zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com](mailto:zumbajoyceoc@gmail.com)

# ONGOING EVENTS

## RUNAWAY BRIDE WALKING TOUR

Stroll down Main Street in Berlin and visit the shops where Ike fell in love with Maggie. Visit the Atlantic Hotel where many of the scenes were filmed. Map of filming locations: <https://berlinmainstreet.com/Runaway-Bride-Walking-Tour.pdf>.

## OCEAN CITY-BERLIN ROTARY CLUB

Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 6 p.m. [ocberlinrotary@gmail.com](mailto:ocberlinrotary@gmail.com)

## 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.5050raffle.org/give/md-fire/50-50-raffles/md5050/charities/ocean-pines>

## 'GOLDEN TICKET' 50TH ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE

Sponsored by the Worcester County Arts Council. Winner will receive a \$7,000 original painting, "Foggy Morning - Ocean City" by Patrick Henry. Proceeds from the raffle benefit the Patrick Henry Arts Scholarship. The winning ticket will be drawn on June 9 at the Worcester County Arts Council's 50th Anniversary Luncheon. Tickets cost \$10 (cash or

check) and are available at the Worcester County Arts Council Gallery.

## BUS TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY

Depart on May 23 from the Ocean City Community Center at 5:30 a.m. Time in New York City will be approximately 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$85 for transportation only. Reservations: 410-641-7052.

## HISTORY-TO-GO

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., throughout May. Pick up a History-to-Go kit about Colonial gardening. Includes info sheets, recommended activities, supplies and more. Available at the Snow Hill Branch. 410-632-5622

## HISTORY HUNTERS BEANSTACK CHALLENGE

Throughout May, 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

## OC READS: 'ISOLA' BY ALLEGRA GOODMAN

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, May 1-31. Pick up a copy of this

month's read. Come in by May 30 to share your impressions and enter into the drawing to win free books. 410-524-1818

## 2025 KIWANIS LOTTERY TICKETS ON SALE

On sale every Saturday morning at the Ocean Pines Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. One \$20 ticket is good for all 365 drawings in 2025. Benefits the youth of the community.

## OCEAN CITY CHAPTER OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY

Meets every month (except July and August) at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Membership is open to individuals of Italian descent and their spouses. [www.sonsofitalyocceancity.com](http://www.sonsofitalyocceancity.com)

## POLISH AMERICAN CLUB OF DELMARVA

Meets the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 2-4 p.m. A social organization of men and women of Polish or Slavic descent.

## STAR WARS SCAVENGER HUNT

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, May 4-22. May the force be with you as you hunt down all the rebels and discover the clues to the riddle. For ages 6-11 years. 410-208-4014



## Memorial Day Ceremony

*Honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.*

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11AM

Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines

Key Note Address by David Carey, Colonel  
United States Army (Ret)

Wreath Presentations for Female Veterans  
and POW/MIA

Patriotic Music from Delmarva Chorus,  
Jack Bannon and Patrick Lehnerd,  
OC Pipes and Drums and More

A Tribute to Gold Star Families

Limited Seating – Bring a Chair

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony  
will be held at the Community Center in Ocean Pines.




The Worcester County Veterans Memorial respectfully invites individuals and businesses to become members and preserve a place of honor for those who served our country.

Visit our website at [wocovets.org](http://wocovets.org) for more information.

# Classified

## MARKETPLACE

Call **410-723-6397** or email [classifieds@octodaydispatch.com](mailto:classifieds@octodaydispatch.com)  
by Monday, 5 p.m.

Classifieds appear in **OC Today-Dispatch & Bayside Gazette** each week & online at [octodaydispatch.com](http://octodaydispatch.com) & [baysideoc.com](http://baysideoc.com)



**HELP WANTED**

**THUNDERBIRD BEACH MOTEL**  
Now Hiring  
• **FT NIGHT AUDITOR**  
RoomMaster exp. pref.  
Weekends required.  
**Apply in person**  
9am-4pm  
32nd St., Baltimore Ave.

**HELP WANTED**

**KITCHEN COOK**  
Ocean City Elks Lodge  
Salary commensurate with experience.  
**Send resume to:**  
**13708 Sinepuxent Ave.,**  
**Ocean City 21842.**  
**ATTN: Lodge Secretary.**  
email: [ocelks.secretary@comcast.net](mailto:ocelks.secretary@comcast.net)

**HELP WANTED**

**Help Wanted MAINTENANCE PERSON**  
needed in Harbour Island.  
Flexible hours. Daytime, evening & weekends. Great job for retired person!  
**Call Jimmer,**  
**240-298-0365.**

Classifieds 410-723-6397

**HELP WANTED**

**SEASONAL HELP NEEDED**  
Pyramid Condominium  
9500 Coastal Hwy.  
**Appy in person or call 410-524-4479**

**HARBOUR ISLAND GATE ATTENDANT**  
needed 10am-10pm  
Friday-Sunday  
**Call Jimmer,**  
**240-298-0365.**

**CLEANERS NEEDED**  
Vacation rental cleaners needed for OC. Experience preferred but not required.  
OC Purifiers. **Call or text 443-397-1189** or email [karen@ocpurifiers.com](mailto:karen@ocpurifiers.com).

**HELP WANTED**

• **ASSISTANT MANAGER**  
Full-Time, Year-Round  
• **COOK**  
YR, Full or PT Time  
• **BARTENDER**  
PT, Seasonal  
*Must be available for day, night or weekend shifts.*  
**If interested apply in person.**  
**Open daily, 11:00 a.m.**  
**American Legion Post #166,**  
**2308 Philadelphia Avenue**  
For information call 410-289-3166

**Classifieds**  
**410-723-6397**

**HELP WANTED**

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE FULL AND PART-TIME**  
positions available at **The Irene Condominium,**  
11100 Coastal Highway.  
Great work environment, friendly beachfront building, competitive hourly wage.  
Duties: routine maintenance, minor repairs, light painting, cleaning and grounds keeping. Light physical labor required. **Call or text Ed 443-415-8000** or email [irene11100@comcast.net](mailto:irene11100@comcast.net)

**JOLLY ROGER**  
**Small Engine Mechanic & Ride Maintenance.**  
*(Must have mechanical knowledge)*  
**Technical Support & Installation**  
*(Entry level with knowledge of network systems)*  
**SEASONAL HELP:** Cashiers, Waterpark Attendants, Lifeguards, Ride Operators  
*Wage based on experience.*  
Benefits available.  
**410-289-4902**

**THUNDERBIRD BEACH MOTEL**  
Now Hiring  
**PT/FT HOUSEKEEPING**  
**Apply in person**  
9am-4pm  
32nd St., Baltimore Ave.

**NOW HIRING**  
**Delivery Assistant \$17-\$19/hr**  
**Kitchen Help \$17-\$19/hr**  
**Retail Team Member \$16/hr**  
**Merchandiser \$17-19/hr**  
**Warehouse Help \$16-\$18/hr**  
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  - Coordinate with purchasing and project teams to ensure timely availability of materials
  - Ensure proper handling and storage of electrical components in compliance with safety standards
  - Track and report inventory usage and discrepancies to the General Manager
  - Oversee shipping and receiving processes, including vendor deliveries and job site dispatches
  - Implement and maintain warehouse organization systems for efficiency and accessibility
  - Enforce company policies, OSHA standards, and safety procedures

- Qualifications:**
- Proven experience in warehouse management, preferably in the electrical or construction industry
  - Strong knowledge of electrical materials, tools, and systems (e.g., conduit, wiring, panels, fixtures)
  - Proficiency in inventory management software and basic computer skills
  - Excellent organizational, problem-solving, and communication skills
  - Ability to lift and move materials as needed and work in a physically active environment

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Prior experience working with electrical contractors or supply houses (preferred, but not necessary)

**Work Environment:**

- Warehouse setting with frequent movement, lifting, and equipment operation
- Occasional outdoor exposure during loading/unloading

**Compensation & Benefits:**

- Competitive salary based on experience
- Paid time off and holidays

**Benefits:**

- Paid time off

**Work Location:** In person



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