



MORGAN PILZ/OCEAN CITY TODAY

Sewage tanks leak, but fix will take years

Holding waste for treatment has own set of problems

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Replacing hundreds of concrete and plastic water holding tanks to prevent sewage spills in Ocean Pines was examined during the Worcester County Water and Sewer Advisory Council meeting on Monday.



John Ross

Worcester County Public Works Director John Tustin said work over the past decade has decreased the number of concrete tanks from 765 in 2006 to 496 presently, while plastic tanks have been reduced from 790 to 555.

“We’ve been replacing a lot of the
See HOLDING Page 2

FAREWELL

First responders and area residents watch as an American flag is raised at half-mast in memory of Lt. Col. Paul Voss of the United States Air Force. Voss was killed in Afghanistan when his reconnaissance plane crashed two weeks ago. His body was escorted from Dover Air Force Base and traveled through Worcester County on Tuesday, Feb. 11, before making its way to his hometown in Virginia.

Heron Park opens to public

After months of work following chemical accident, all's well

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) It's official: after being closed for five months and nearly nine months of cleanup, Heron Park is again open for public use, after a motion by Berlin Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood was approved by the mayor and Town Council on Monday.

“For the last probably six weeks or so, there's been a significant amount of work accomplished by town staff,” Fleetwood said. “I want to



MORGAN PILZ/OCEAN CITY TODAY

Heron Park is officially open for public use after a motion was approved by the Berlin mayor and Town Council on Monday. The park will be seeded in March and town employees expect to see grass by May or June.

publicly recognize Jamey Latchum and Tim Lawrence ... everyone contributed. Lots of employee involvement,

what I can tell mayor and council is it looks like it never happened.”

See HERON Page 16

County, Ocean Pines talk spray irrigation

Workgroup's first step will be to define cost

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) The possibility of using treated wastewater to irrigate Ocean Pines Golf course was examined during the Worcester County Water and Sewer Advisory Council meeting on Monday.

Worcester County Deputy Director of Public Works John Ross and OPA General Manager of Golf Operations John Malinowski have been working on a cost estimate of such a project, but have yet to arrive at a figure, and County

Public Works Director John Tustin said the need to replace the course irrigation systems is still being explored.

One problem of converting to spraying effluent is the age of the existing irrigation system. Ocean Pines Service Area Water and Wastewater Advisory Board member Jack Collins said the golf irrigation infrastructure dates back about half a century.

“I don't know how much pressure those pipes can stand,” he said.

Advisory board member Fred Stiehl asked if other
See COUNTY Page 16



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Holding tanks replacement will take two more decades

Continued from Page 1

older holding tanks, which has reduced the amount of infiltration, both groundwater and rainwater, into the system tremendously," he said.

Ocean Pines Service Area Water and Wastewater Advisory Board member Fred Stiehl, noting 30 tanks were replaced last year, asked what basis those were selected for updating.

Worcester County Deputy Director of Public Works John Ross said both concrete and plastic tanks are prone to developing cracks that allow water seepage.

"Generally it's because of roots [and] those tanks will get a crack in them," he said.

Ross said the abundance of growth in Ocean Pines adds further difficulty.

"All these trees and landscaping heads straight for that crack in the tank because they love that stuff," he said. "Concrete and hydrogen sulfide gas do not get along."

Ross said when tanks become clogged with roots homeowners start experiencing backed up sewer lines.

"There's a backlog of these tanks to be replaced," he said.

Ross said while awaiting replacement, regular tank maintenance to address invasive roots is performed with ongoing monitoring.

"In the last 15 years we have 500 odd tanks we have replaced," he said. "If we continue at that pace, we will have all replaced in 24 years."

Ocean Pines resident Joe Reynolds said despite those efforts to address leaky holding tanks the picture remains far from satisfactory.

"They overflow in people's yards where their children play," he said. "This is not part treated sewage, this is raw untreated."

Reynolds said during extreme rain events vacuum lines inside holding tanks open and begin pulling out water.

"When that water is being sucked out of those broken tanks that vac-

uum line stays open into those tanks," he said. "Tanks further down the line receive no vacuum and therefore are not pumped out."

If the situation is prolonged tanks connected further down the line begin overflowing, Reynolds said.

"Most people in this community who have the problem where they have raw sewage overflowing on their property don't know it's happening because it's ... in a wet environment," he said.

Reynolds said in at least one instance partially treated sewage was released into the St. Martin River.

"To say it's going to take another 24 years, I don't know how you can come in here and say that with a straight face," he said. "These things need to be fixed [and] they need to be fixed now."

While not disputing those facts, Ross noted there are now alarm systems to monitor the situation.

"We do get a heads up whenever there's a stuck vacuum valve," he said. "We've made a lot of strides in keeping that from happening."

Although acknowledging those diligent efforts, Reynolds said the potential health concern needs to be solved.

"Mitigation of raw sewage is not acceptable [and] we want raw sewage to be eliminated from peoples' yards," he said. "For God's sake replace the tanks."

Stiehl asked about the potential cost to replace the entire list of remaining concrete and plastic tanks.

"We need to understand how often this happens," he said. "It is worthwhile doing if we have raw sewage running down the streets of Ocean Pines."

For now, Ross said the county, while committed to replacing tanks, maintains that the work would take an extensive amount of time.

"The position we've taken is this is going to be handled over a long period," he said.



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Capital reserve fund fiscal control processes discussed

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Ensuring that money allocated in the new capital reserve fund for projects or purchases is not used for other purposes was discussed by the Ocean Pines Board of Directors last Wednesday.

Established in November, the New Capital Reserve Fund caused some concern during the budget hearings for next year.

Board member Charlotte Horn said she feared some future board could change a project's allocation.

"We want to make sure a project that's approved doesn't get lost or ... reversed by a future board," she said.

While in favor of creating the fund, OPA President Doug Parks also called for controls to curtail changes in how the fund's set-asides are employed.

"Any four directors can decide they want to build a bowling alley and that's not the intent," he said.

See CAPITAL Page 4



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OPA Treasurer Larry Perrone, right, details fiscal controls intended to stymie misappropriations from the recently established New Capital Reserve Fund, while directors Dr. Colette Horn and Steve Tuttle look on, during the board meeting on Feb. 5.

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OP short-term rental enforcement

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Ocean Pines, because of its size and its unincorporated status, will be affected more by Worcester County's new rental regulations than any other population center, and Ocean Pines Association officials are trying to establish what they need to do to comply.

At last Wednesday's meeting of the OPA Board of Directors, President Doug Parks said the county's short-term rental regulations became law on Jan. 1, primarily in response to the increasing popularity of online platforms such as Airbnb or Vrbo.

"There are now some stipulations with regard to registering your property with the county as a rental," he said.

Last August, the county commissioners approved legislation requiring rental property owners to obtain licenses as of this January. The rule applies to all property outside the county's municipalities that are rented for sleeping accommodations, including single-family homes, RVs, lots to park mobile homes or tents.

Parks has taken the lead in coordinating the association's enforcement efforts with Worcester County Commissioners Chip Bertino and Jim Bunting, whose districts include Ocean Pines.

"Right now, we'll coattail off of what they're doing, but they're also looking to partner with us and try to make sure that we're consistent in how we address and identify rental properties and enforce the law," he

said.

Reporting to the other directors, board member Frank Daly, who has also been part of rental regulation discussions with county officials, said, "The county commissioners basically said that the Airbnb phenomena in the county is largely an Ocean Pines problem."

To make matters more complicated, Ocean Pines is a homeowners association, which limits rule making.

"Where other municipalities can pass and enforce legislation, we can not," he said.

In addition, he said, finding rental regulation violations in Ocean Pines is one thing, but enforcing them would be something else.

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OPA President Doug Parks discussed ongoing efforts to coordinate enforcement of newly enacted short-term rental regulations during the board meeting on Feb. 5.

Capital reserve fund adds worry

Continued from Page 3

Parks said a clearly defined policy must be established to ensure that funds are spent according to the original intent behind the allocation.

"Until that happens, I'm very uncomfortable," he said.

Parks also said spending initiatives should be tied to a strategic plan.

"What mechanism do we use to make sure that we are addressing the proper authority to select a project, transfer monies into the capital reserve fund and how to approve expenditures?" he asked.

Board member Larry Perrone, who headed the effort to create the new capital reserve fund, said a maximum balance of \$1 million and a \$500,000 annual spending limit were included to restrain slush fund-like abuses.

"We're not anticipating using it for another large building," he said.

Perrone said the intent is to establish an additional reserve fund for smaller scale projects or new equipment purchases without affecting annual assessment rates.

"Part of the plan is having the Strategic Planning Commission be actively involved in that process," he said.

During public comments, Bernie McGorry asked how the recommended fiscal budget incorporated long-term strategic planning.

Parks said the OPA Strategic Planning Committee has been dormant and needs to be revived.

McGorry admitted being perplexed after he volunteered for the committee, which is listed online, only to discover that the group had not been meeting.

"We are looking to jump start it and there's a ground swell of desire here to get that thing up and running," Parks said.

With research needed to determine how the fund will be financed, OPA Vice President Steve Tuttle suggested that Perrone form a work group to consider the options and return to the board with recommendations.

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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BUILDING BLOCKS

Masonry work on the Ocean Pines Association Police building expansion plods along among a mound of cinderblocks in White Horse Park, Saturday, Feb. 8.

Town of Berlin annexes over 100K-square-foot property

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) An agreement to annex more than 100,000 square feet of property into the Town of Berlin was approved by the Berlin mayor and Town Council meeting on Monday.

The land is on the south side of Route 50 and the east side of Seahawk Road. The process began last December when the Planning Commission approved the request.

There are 104,811 square feet eligible for annexation, according to a memorandum from Oct. 24 last year. A McDonald's restaurant once stood on the property, as did a Harley Davidson dealership, according to Planning Director Dave Engelhart.

The land is designated as a C-2 Commercial zone in Worcester County, according to the annexation memorandum. If approved, the area would be rezoned to B-2 Shopping District within Berlin's town limits.

"The area is within 2 acres, it is [across] from the town, and the purpose of the annexation is, frankly, to

allow the property to have a use," attorney Joseph Moore, of Williams, Moore, Shockley & Harrison in Ocean City, said. "The intended use of the property ... is an AutoZone property."

Moore added that the properties would be connected to the town sewer. As for the expense the property owners would bear the responsibility, he said. The property owners would also pay ready-to-serve fees associated with the allotted equivalent dwelling units.

"These uses on the property are not residential, they are commercial, which brings us to our request that you would allow the rezoning of B-2 for the zone," Moore said.

Moore also presented a letter of approval from the Worcester County Commissioners regarding the annexation of the properties.

Robert Mitchell, director of environmental programs for Worcester County, served as Moore's witness for the annexation proposal.

The annexation was passed by a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Zach Tyndall opposed.

OPA working with Worcester to enforce rental regulation

Continued from Page 4

"The county has a regulation that says you can not stack parked cars in a driveway," he said. "It has never been enforced and if you look at what goes on around here in the summertime, parking is the last thing anybody wants to address with new regulations."

Board member Larry Perrone said initial talks with county officials made clear that the county is not equipped to enforce the regulations.

"Their comment was there's no money for enforcement in the county," he said.

Daly said at this point Worcester officials have expressed interest in developing "spot legislation" with Ocean Pines to prevent online rental platforms from "destroying the flavor" of the community.

"They clearly put the ball in our court to come to them," he said. "They're not going to solve the problem for us."

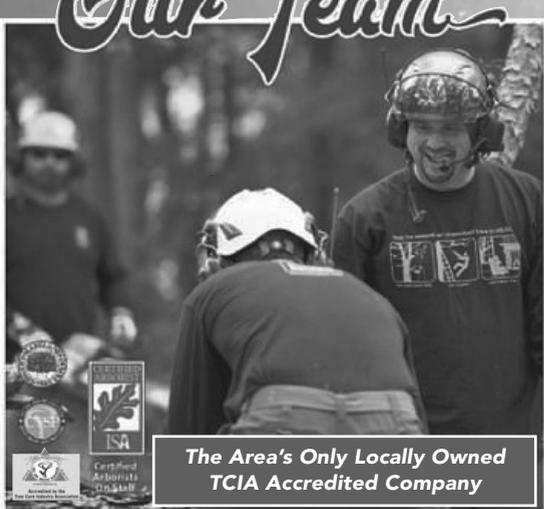
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OP budget talks hits on bulkheads

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Increased assessments for waterfront lots and how to differentiate canal dredging fees from payments into the bulkhead reserve were discussed last Wednesday during a public hearing on the Ocean Pines Association's budget.

The recommended budget, which was issued on Jan. 24, maintains the \$986 assessment charged for non-waterfront lots during the current fiscal year, but raises the bulkhead differential charge for waterfront properties.

Wood Duck Drive resident Doris Lloyd asked what the increase would be and how it would be used at the board of directors meeting last Wednesday.

General Manager John Viola said the additional assessment fee imposed on waterfront lots is proposed to increase from the current rate of \$465 to \$515.

"There was a \$50 increase for the bulkheads for the waterfront assessment," he said.

Viola said the intent is to catch up on bulkhead maintenance after repairs were slighted in recent years.

"The cost to do bulkheads has gone up substantially," he said.

With the bulkhead reserve account balance estimated to be approaching



Waterfront resident Richard Marchesiello provided details of a meeting last June with OPA leadership over concerns that annual differential fees collected for canal dredging are comingled with bulkhead reserves during the board meeting on Feb. 5.

GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

\$1.2 million to open the new fiscal year this May, and another roughly \$900,000 in contributions slated, the neglected maintenance will now be undertaken.

"The bulkhead team has stepped up and increased our allocation of resources," he said. "We're eating into that balance with all the work we're doing catching up."

OPA Treasurer Larry Perrone said in light of the excessive untapped funds in bulkhead reserves, a \$19 fee for bulkhead assessments was dropped for the last two fiscal years.

"That's going back into place and we are increasing the lot owners' bulkhead assessment this year and it's probably going to be increased the next two years," he said.

After the work slated for next fiscal year is completed, the bulkhead reserve account balance is estimated at about \$638,000.

"The cost of materials has gone way up," he said.

Lloyd, whose bulkhead is being updated, estimated that she has spent about \$14,000 out of pocket for bulk-

See WATERFRONT Page 10



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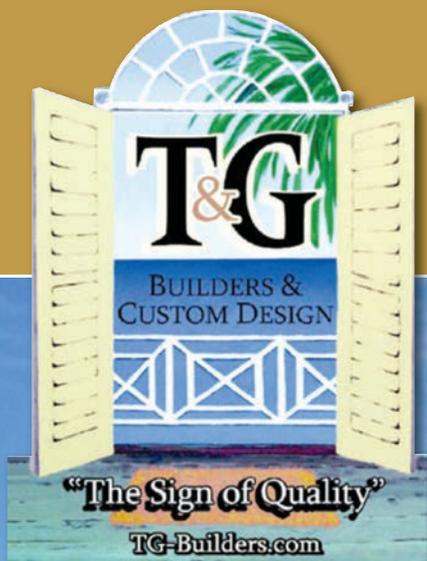
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Waterfront charges bring resident concerns

Continued from Page 7

head upkeep during her 32-plus years of living in Ocean Pines.

"When they get finished, I have to replace the electricity and [address] the water coming from my crawl space, which will be more than \$1,000 that they will not cover," she said. "I'd rather pay my own bulkhead than have you take care of it."

Board member Tom Janasek said the per foot bulkhead replacement cost has skyrocketed since the issue was last discussed.

"The cost has gone up so substantially in the last five years that it's hard to recoup," he said. "It's going to go away faster than we're putting it in."

Lloyd said the situation would probably get worse.

"In five years, you're going to have to raise it and it will cost a lot more," she said.

Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips said even with increasing the bulkhead assessments \$50, the cost-benefit ratio doesn't work.

"Statistically, it averages about \$30,000 a lot for bulkheads, so with annual bulkhead waterfront assessments at \$465, where it has been, it would take 61 years for the homeowner to pay for the cost," she said. "With bringing it up to \$515 it brings us down to 55 years."

In light of those time constraints, wooden bulkheads, which have an average useful life of three decades, will be swapped out for vinyl.

"We're going to vinyl which gives us about a 50-year [window]," she said. "We are trying to improve it ... so it lasts longer."

Phillips said the bulkhead repairs underway on Wood Duck Drive stem from Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

Richard Marchesiello, who lives on Mallard Drive, asked for an accurate accounting of the \$90 waterfront differential fee collected for canal maintenance and dredging.

"The 1,600 waterfront lots are assessed about \$145,000 a year," he said. "The money has nothing to do with bulkheads."

Marchesiello met in June with OPA leadership and asked how the accounting handled the differential fees charged over the last few decades.

"Canal dredging has not occurred in the last five years, during which \$145,000 has been collected each year," he said. "Those funds have been co-mingled in the bulkhead account even though they have nothing to do with bulkheads."

Following the meeting, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sent a letter to Marchesiello that said dredging could cost more than \$1 million if Ocean Pines was affected by a hurri-

cane.

"If we are hit by a major hurricane, the last thing we're going to have to worry about is dredging the canals," he said. "The interpretation was my \$90 could go to building bulkheads in other parts of Ocean Pines even though I pay for my own bulkhead."

Marchesiello questioned whether the fee should remain at \$90 or be abandoned, considering that he has paid about \$2,000 over the last 20 years.

"I have never seen a dredge in my canal and I don't believe very many people have," he said. "This fee is just being collected out of rote."

Viola said he tried to unravel the numbers in decades-old ledgers to see if differential fees had been comingled with bulkhead funds, but could not.

"If we could have, we would have done it," he said.

Viola said while uncovering previous financial details is unlikely, the possibility of discontinuing the fee could be discussed.

Responding to Marchesiello's repeated request for an accurate accounting of the waterfront differential fee and canal dredging money, Perone replied, "We do not have it segregated as you would like."

Viola, who said the so-called \$90 dredging charge is also used to purchase buoys, lights and signs for

canals, added that breaking out dredging as a separate fund is possible.

Unlike in recent years, dredge work plans have been established and are ongoing, Viola said.

"We can't just go in there and arbitrarily dredge ... the whole place," he said. "There has to be a plan [and] there has to be the Army Corps of Engineers involved."

Board member Frank Daly suggested Viola establish a workgroup to examine the differential fee allocations.

"To be absolutely honest, it's inexcusable that we haven't done dredging, which is legacy of the past," he said. "It's inexcusable that funds are comingled but that's an accounting issue of the past."

Daly said during his first meeting after being elected to the board it was explained that more than 90 percent of bulkheads in Ocean Pines are privately owned, with the percentage of maintenance costs split 60/40 between waterfront and non-waterfront lot owners.

"I'm not saying what we do is wrong but ... when you ask about the split and ... the allocation and how it's done, there's this mystery [and] nobody knows," he said. "That work group should reset something for all of our 8,452 lot owners that says, 'this is

See PINES Page 11



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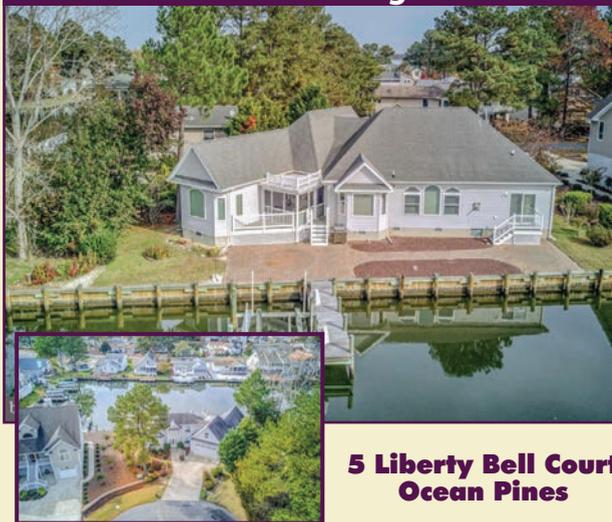
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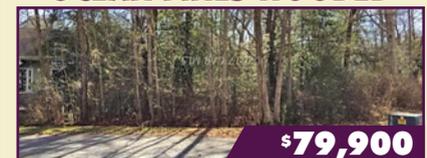
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Worcester tourism wins state honor

(Feb. 13, 2020) Worcester County Tourism and area partners took home an award during the 39th annual Maryland Tourism & Travel Summit in November.

The multi-jurisdictional effort, which promotes main streets and arts and entertainment districts, earned the Leveraging Partnerships Award for the "Eat. Drink. Buy Art" (EDBA) campaign.

The award was given for excellence and major contributions in expanding the market of Maryland tourism products, maximizing opportunities to generate overnight stays, leveraging partnerships and showcasing Maryland as an exciting, must-see tourism destination.

"The EDBA campaign is your all-inclusive guide to what's going on throughout the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Delaware," Tourism Director Lisa Challenger said. "Discover Delmarva's arts and entertainment districts, sample local fare, explore unique galleries and enjoy



Worcester County Tourism and area partners earned the Leveraging Partnerships Award for the "Eat. Drink. Buy Art" campaign during the 39th annual Maryland Tourism & Travel Summit in November. Pictured, from left, are Jim Meyer and Liz Fitzsimmons of the Office of Tourism and Development; Mindie Burgoyne of the Maryland Department of Commerce; Lisa Challenger, director of Worcester County Tourism; Tom Riford of the MDC; and Judy Bixler, chair of Maryland Tourism Development Board.

local events. From bay to beach, we connect art lovers, foodies and visitors with local artists, art venues, restaurants, breweries, wineries and events in dozens of communities."

For more information about the many tourism opportunities in and around Worcester County, visit www.beachandbeyond.org or on Facebook.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pines budget hearing draws crowd

Continued from Page 10
the split, how we pay for it and why we pay for it."

Coming up in the budget process is a final hearing on Feb. 18 at 9 a.m. in

the Ocean Pines community center, where the board will hear final comments, consider any motions to amend the plan and vote to adopt the final budget

To review the recommended fiscal 2020/2021 visit www.oceanpines.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/20200124153101435.pdf.

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Board of Appeals approves three variances for nonprofit

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) A request by Homes for America's motion variances allowing fewer parking spaces and a replacement building was approved by the Berlin Board of Appeals last Wednesday.

Representatives of the nonprofit development company asked the board for variances for its rental communities on 113 and 115 Flower Street, adjacent to Henry Park. The buildings — one with 31 units and other with 11 — were built in 1982.

The organization plans to demolish 115 Flower Street, rebuild it and create an additional apartment unit, giving it 12 units instead. Homes for America bought the properties in

2001 and are renovating them.

The first variance asked for parking for 57 spaces for 40 apartment units, going against the standard 80 (two spaces per unit). Company representatives Diana Talios and Casey Rauch told the board that the existing parking has been underused for several years.

"There are 53 spaces currently [for 113 Flower Street], and it's been noted that those spaces are very rarely ... ever at capacity," Rauch said. "Keeping that in mind, we're adding four spaces. I think it's safe to say that parking should not be an issue."

For the new project, Rauch and Talios plan to combine the parking
See BUILDING Page 13

Worcester treasurer's office to stay at Isle of Wight site

By Elizabeth Bonin
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) The Worcester County Treasurer's Office will continue to keep a satellite office at the Isle of Wight location, now that the county commissioners have abandoned the idea of relocating it to the Ocean Pines Library.

During their Jan. 7 meeting, the commissioners voted to move the office to one of the two computer labs in the library because the current Isle of Wight facility has problems. They also approved an FY20 over-expenditure of \$7,088.33 for office furniture.

However, a clause in the 99-year lease between Ocean Pines and the county states that the land the county leased for the library could only be used for library services.

According to Dick Brady, who was the Ocean Pines Association president when the contract was written in the 1990s, that clause was to prevent the county from turning the library into additional office space. The dollar-a-year lease states that any change to the contract must go through a public referendum process.

At the county commissioners Feb. 4 meeting, County Commissioner Jim Bunting moved to keep the office to remain at its current location, at the intersection of Route 90 and St. Martins Neck Road.

"Due to calls and emails I've received, I would like to see us — for our office to remain at the Isle of Wight," Bunting said.

The motion passed unanimously.

Berlin Historic District Briefs

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) The Berlin Historic District Commission approved two requests and an election among its members during its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Election

The board re-elected Carol Rose as the board's chair and Robert Poli as the vice-chair.

Fence request

The commission approved a request by Berlin resident Ernest Gerardi to install a vinyl privacy fence around the property he is remodeling. The fence is designed to be three feet tall in the front of the house and six

feet tall in the rear.

Gerardi asked for the fence because a house was built behind the one he owns on what used to be part of the property.

In addition asking for the fence, Gerardi told the commission about his renovation, which includes new landscaping, the restoration of the original wood flooring inside the house, new cabinets for the kitchen and dining room and updated the staircase.

Sign request

Lawyer Lindsey West received approval from the commission to repaint a sign for her law firm, which occupies space formerly used by the Dusty Lamb on Williams Street. The sign will be repainted with her firm's name.



MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

This property located on 115 Flower Street will be demolished and rebuilt into a 12-unit apartment after the owners – Homes for America – received approval from the Berlin Board of Appeals on Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Building will be demolished, rebuilt

Continued from Page 12

spaces for the complexes instead of having them separated as they are currently.

A second variance request was for an additional unit to be added to the new building, which is currently at 4,435 square feet, bringing its total to 4,474 square feet.

“In order to make the property financially feasible, we need to rebuild the one that is being demolished with the same number of units or close to so that the property will be able to support and work for the budget overall to be able to [support] the combined renovation and redevelop-

ment of the community,” Talios said.

Chairman Joe Moore asked the representatives if they would be in a position to redevelop the property without the variance, and the responded they would not.

Rauch and Talios emphasized the importance of improving the community after receiving many reports of leaking pipes, insects and equipment failure among other complaints, with Planning Director Dave Engelhart confirming the severity of the problems.

During the demolition of the 115 Flower Street property, residents will be relocated and have been informed

of the impending construction, Rauch said.

The organization plans to overhaul the property on 115 Flower Street to make it more compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act standards. It also will upgrade 113 Flower Street with a new roof, new kitchens, HVAC systems and other necessities. Homes for America estimates the investment so far has been \$12 million.

Currently, there is a third party management system in place, but once the project is completed, Homes for America plans to have a property manager on site and promises there will be no increase in rents.

Solid waste policy sparks debate

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) A stricter policy regarding the collection of solid waste was approved by the Berlin mayor and Town Council on Monday, although there were disagreements on how the policy should or could be enforced by residents of the town.

Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood introduced the ordinance to the council to address the possibility of the improper use of the bulk waste system. The policy was first suggested to the council two months ago, and failed to gain support.

The town offers to collect yard waste, bulk waste and live-cut Christmas trees

from “improved, occupied single-family residential properties” each year, according to the policy. Bulk and yard waste are typically collected in the spring and fall, while the trees are retrieved in January.

“Mr. Dave Wheaton, Mary Bohlen and myself have browbeaten this signif-
See SEVERAL Page 14



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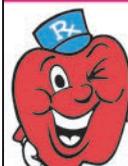
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Several citizens offer suggestions regarding pickup

Continued from Page 13
icantly again," Fleetwood said. "The major exception is there no money involved in this. What we're asking for the mayor and council to consider a number of items that can be capped when picked up.

"One of the major issues is when the public works folks are out picking up this bulk pickup, there are mattresses that are not wrapped, furniture not wrapped ... I do want to say this to the citizens of this town, it's not everybody that's doing this," he added. "I fully recognize that, but there needs to be a limit put on this."

Fleetwood and Bohlen demonstrated the size of the problem by showing pictures of multiple piles of bulk waste ranging from wooden pieces, which are ineligible for collection, to multiple unwrapped mattresses or furniture.

Bulk waste is defined as "waste items not considered to be normal household trash/refuse, recyclables or yard waste," the policy states.

The new policy offers a limit of four items per household per collection date, with one box filled with multiple items not exceeding 50 pounds being considered as one item. Any items in excess of



PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF BERLIN

Bulk waste left on the curb of this Berlin home shows excessive quantities as well as unwrapped furniture. The town council voted for a new policy to restrict the number of items left for pickup.

four will be left behind, the policy states.

Other requests are that fabric items be wrapped to avoid infestation of fleas, bedbugs or other various health risks. There would also be no cost during bulk collection time.

The policy also kept the requirement that anyone participating in bulk pickup should call the town at 410-641-2770 by noon on the Monday of the designated week. Those with questions concerning special collections should call the town's public works department at 410-641-4001 or email Superintendent Dave Wheaton at dwheaton@berlinmd.gov.

However, some residents at the meeting felt more could be done regarding bulk pickup.

One resident asked about the possibility of paying extra to have additional items collected. Fleetwood noted with irony that such a request had been considered during the first proposal in November.

"We hope that this will significantly

improve the situation for the pickup in the spring," Mayor Gee Williams said.

Council member Zach Tyndall suggested having a feature online regarding bulk pickup to gauge the reactions of people regarding a fee for excessive material.

Other residents argued against allowing residents to leave their bulk collection materials on the sidewalks overnight. One member of the audience reported that he had seen drivers with Delaware license tags drop off their own waste materials at night because they were aware of the dates of the pickup.

Another resident suggested having a Dumpster day, when an open area could be available to drop off waste. To use that service, a resident would have to show proof of residency with an ID or other proof of address.

All of these ideas were taken into consideration by the council, with Tyndall suggesting there be a review of the policy after one year to make adjustments as needed.

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Pines ongoing drainage work plan

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Ocean Pines' long-time storm water drainage problem looks to be improving, as engineering consultations and infrastructure upgrades are gradually producing a drier picture.

Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips last Wednesday gave the Ocean Pines Board of Directors an update on the administration's implementation of drainage solutions, which include replacing culvert pipes and work on ditch maintenance.

Last fall, Phillips and Public Works Director Eddie Wells began working with Vista Engineering consultants, and went on to establish a drainage workgroup with support from General Manager John Viola and the board.

"Everybody has been on board and recognizes the severity at times, especially in certain areas," she said.

After recently replacing failing or damaged culverts on Boston Drive and Mumford's Landing Road, the focus shifted to other problem spots, including Watertown Road, the Borderlinks Resort area, Harborview Drive and Blue Bill Court.

"Right now, we're currently in the process of replacing the culverts and catch basins at Watertown," she said.

While that approach will work in certain locations such as Borderlinks, other spots such as Harborview Drive and Clipper Court have never been addressed.

"There's not a culvert pipe there now, but in working with Vista ... they went out and are going to install one there to help with the drainage," she said. "Nothing is going to fix it, but it's going to improve."

Other infrastructure improvements include replacing rusted metal pipes with high-density polyethylene pipe.

"Throughout Ocean Pines, we have these rusty culvert pipes," she said. "The good thing with [HDPE pipe] they'll last 50-plus years [and] we won't have the rust."

To assure the drainage flows into drainage pipes unimpeded, a ditch maintenance plan has largely been completed, Phillips said.

"These are not the ditches in front of your home," she said. "These are the large ditches that are beside [and] behind your home."

Ditch maintenance will be performed on a rotating basis to assure OPA-owned ditches are free of brush and debris, Phillips said.

Previewing work in the next fiscal year that starts on May 1, Phillips said the focus would be on neighborhood sections two and three, which comprise roughly 10 percent of landmass in Ocean Pines.

"This is just deemed the worst, because it affects 761 lots and three parks," she said.

also deemed these areas, which drain through Bainbridge Pond down to Beauchamp Road, as the highest priority.

To help finance the undertaking funding is being sought with assistance from the Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

"We are applying for the Chesapeake and Coast Grant, which is a ... proposal through [Worcester] County," she said.

Phillips said the grant application would be submitted by Feb. 14 through Worcester County since Ocean Pines is a homeowner's association and not a municipality.

The intent is to address Bainbridge Park and pond where severe flooding and groundwater overflow occur.

Solutions could include expanding the adjacent retention pond and in-

stalling one or more culverts under Beauchamp Road.

"Back in the late 2000s, they added one under there that helped significantly," she said. "We're looking to do a second one, and possibly a third, to help increase the runoff in that area."

Retrofitting the retention pond in Bainbridge Park to include outfall upgrades is also on tap.

"We're looking to increase the water quality and outfall capacity with the retrofitting, she said.

Increased downstream flow through swales and ditches could alleviate pond overflows, which drift towards homes west of the park.

Phillips said engineering consultants had proposed raising roads west of the pond to further alleviate occurrences.

The drainage workgroup has scheduled drainage seminars on March 2,



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
Colby Phillips, director of amenities and operational logistics, details ongoing efforts to reduce water drainage problems in Ocean Pines during the board meeting on Feb. 5.

April 20 and May 12.

"We've been trying to keep everybody in the community educated about drainage and the things you can do [or] we need to do," she said. "We're trying to get ahead of it so you don't have to call us."

For questions about the project, contact Phillips at cphillips@oceanpines.org.

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County, Pines looking into spray irrigation

Continued from Page 1

courses in the county use the spray irrigation approach and was told that Ocean City's Eagle's Landing Golf Course began doing that last summer.

"We reduced the amount of water they have to pull out of the ground," he told committee members. "We got rid of the effluent from the Mystic Harbour treatment plant."

Ross said spray irrigation also is used at the GlenRiddle Golf Club and at the nearby River Run Golf Course.

"There are certain setbacks we have to maintain," he said. "Depending on quality of water, setbacks go away totally."

Stiehl suggested that those operations and the results be monitored as Ocean Pines considers what it might do.

"You're monitoring what's happening at these places," he said. "There are a lot of questions ... before we move ahead, and we need to keep asking those questions."

Ross said Worcester County has included \$25,000 in next year's budget to study the use of wastewater irrigation at the Pines golf course.

"In the meantime, we will gather information from the golf course [about the] irrigation system," he said.



GREG ELLISON/OCEAN CITY TODAY

Preliminary discussions about using treated wastewater for irrigating Ocean Pines Golf course took place during the Worcester County Water and Sewer Advisory Council meeting on Monday.

Once funding becomes available in July, when the new county budget takes effect, the study can be conducted, Ross said.

"Ultimately, we will have to incur cost for bringing a specialist in," he said.

OPA General Manager John Viola said the board of directors had agreed to proceed with the preliminary study.

OPA Treasurer Larry Perrone said an initial concern is the cost to OPA membership.

"We need to see what the numbers are," he said.

Stiehl, however, said health concerns should override cost considerations.

"The cost is going to be borne by the ratepayers one way or the other," he said.

Pines resident Joe Reynolds said the expenditure should be covered by Worcester County because of the inclusion of residents who live outside of Ocean Pines but who are still connected to the Ocean Pines sewer serv-

ice area.

"Any expense made on the plant has to be paid for by the ratepayers in the district," he said.

Perrone agreed that any benefits would reach beyond the community.

"The overall benefit is not just Ocean Pines," he said.

Stiehl said spraying treated wastewater on the golf course would eliminate using drinking water supplies for other purposes.

"One of the concerns was Ocean Pines was pulling water out of the aquifer that we use for drinking water to water the golf course," he said.

Stiehl also asked when effluent would be likely to hit grass.

Ross said the approval process would take at least two years, but more likely twice that time.

"You're going to have to get the study done, put the number to it [and] then go find the money," he said.

Ross said the use of spray irrigation also has the potential to reduce nutrient levels in the St. Martin River.

"You can't discount that because that is a selling point," he said.

To advance the matter, Stiehl proposed that Worcester County and Ocean Pines form a workgroup to determine the costs.

Heron Park cleaned up and ready for public

Continued from Page 1

Nine months ago, an undisclosed amount of sodium hydroxide (caustic soda or lye) was spilled in June during demolition work by a contractor.

Chesapeake Environmental Services handled the bulk of the clean-up for \$283,000. Other work was done by town workers and contractors at a

cost of about \$3,000 rather than the \$50,000-\$60,000 quoted by other companies.

"Again, I want to reiterate ... there are no chemicals on site, they're gone," Fleetwood said.

All five council members voted to have the park reopened on Tuesday.

Some work remains to be done.

The Maryland Department of the Environment will evaluate the groundwater under the area where the spill occurred. The testing, which is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 19, will involve drilling three wells about 15 feet deep near the original spill site.

There will be a field test the day of the drilling, and results are expected to

come back that day. If there are levels of any of the spill left over, the other perimeter wells will be tested as well.

After the groundwater tests are conducted, grass will need to be planted on the areas that have been cleared. The ground is extremely muddy after tons of dirt was put back into the ground.

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Seaside Boat Show in OC convention center

Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club holds event to raise funds for youth activities

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club's annual Seaside Boat Show will return to the resort for the 37th year, with more than 350 boats, 50 dealers and 150 vendors, at the Ocean City convention center on 40th Street, this weekend, Feb. 14-16.

Dealers and exhibitors will feature the latest and most popular models, and many are offering special show prices during what has become one of the most popular boat shows on the East Coast.

Visitors can browse an array of sport cruisers, sport fishing, performance and "super boats." Financing and insurance is available for interested buyers.

The show grows in popularity every year, drawing thousands of water and boating enthusiasts to the resort to see various equipment and supplies, such as boat electronics, canvases, wave runners, jet skis and pontoon boats. More than 17,000 people attended the show last year.

"People come to see the latest line of boats," Boat Show Chairman Charlie Dorman said. "Plus, every penny that is made on this boat show goes back into the community. That's why it's named 'the boat show that works for children.' Every cent goes back in our community projects with the children."

Exhibitors will be selling state-of-the-art marine electronics, trailers, motors, boat lifts, dock builders, paddle boats, fishing and other water sports-related gear, in addition to jewelry and artwork.

"The main reason I think it's a popular show is they sell more boats here – from what I understand from the dealers – more than any other show in the area," Dorman said. "A lot of dealers say they see people in Washington, they see people in Baltimore and they come down and make their final decision."

New this year will be a seminar on



Thousands of people are expected to visit the Ocean City convention center on 40th Street during the 37th annual Seaside Boat Show, this weekend.

Saturday beginning at 11 a.m. with Scott Lenox, of "Hooked on OC" fishing TV show.

Lenox, as the main speaker, will discuss flounder fishing in the bay. Dorman is also expecting a presentation from the Maryland State Police, Department of Natural Resources, Coast Guard Auxiliary and a representative from Mid-Shore Electronics.

The Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club sponsors the event and is a local affiliate of Optimist International. The chapter has 114 members and is recognized as one of the top clubs in the volunteer organization.

The Seaside Boat Show is also one of the major fundraisers for the Optimist Club's children's programs. All of the funds raised are used for youth activities and community service in Worcester County.

In the past, the show has supported Worcester GOLD, Diakonia, the Worcester County Fair, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services, Boy Scouts, oratorical contests, WEXL banquet, Junior Achievement, Youth ID, art contests, reading programs in the elementary schools, the drama program at Stephen Decatur High

School, essay contests, an art show in Berlin, after-prom parties, and scholarships at the three county high schools.

For more than 30 years, the club has provided scholarships totaling more than \$3 million to more than 400 Worcester County seniors at Stephen Decatur, Snow Hill and Pocomoke high schools, Dorman said. "All the middle schools, high

schools and elementary schools all ask for funds and we support them – anything that has to do with children who request money," Dorman said. "We look at [the programs] and we supply funds that we can give to them. So, it's all about the kids."

In addition, anyone who buys a ticket to attend the show will be eligible to win a Sweetwater 18-foot pontoon boat. See MOST Page 18

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Most popular boat show on ES offers new pontoon raffle

Continued from Page 17
toon boat with a 40 horse power Suzuki motor valued at \$21,000, courtesy of North Bay Marina. The Fenwick Island, Delaware business has donated a pontoon to the show for the last three decades.

“The biggest, biggest draw that a lot of people come, is because there is no other boat show on the sea anywhere on the East Coast. That for the price of admission of \$10, you can get a pontoon boat,” Dorman said. “You get to win that thanks to North Bay Marina who has given to us for the past 34 years. Thanks to [owners] Scott and Mary McCurdy for doing that.”

Admission is \$10 for a day pass or \$15 for the entire weekend.

The Seaside Boat Show runs from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday; and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

For a chance to win a boat, attendees must include their name, address and phone number on the tear-off section of the admission ticket and put it in the raffle container.

Visit www.ocboatshow.com for a list of exhibitors. For more information about the Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club, visit www.ocberlinoptimist.org.

Art of the pARTy tickets available

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) A limited number of tickets are available for the second annual Art of the pARTy on Friday, Feb. 21, at the Atlantic Hotel in Berlin from 6-8 p.m.

Ticketholders will have the opportunity to sample the cooking of students at Worcester Technical High School's Culinary Program during the fundraising event for culinary-related scholarships. Several restaurants and organizations, as well as high school culinary programs from Wicomico, Worcester and Dorchester counties, and Wor-Wic Community College will be participating.

To promote food as a form of art, the Worcester County Arts Council and the Delmarva Chefs and Cooks Association created a scholarship for students of creative cuisine last year, and netted more than \$3,800 through their first food sampling party.

“We decided to bring it back this year and we're hoping to hit the \$4,500 mark and just kind of keep growing from there,” said Phil Cropper, president for the Delmarva Chefs and Cooks Association and culinary instructor at Worcester Technical High School. “Our feedback was great. We're just excited to keep building on it, making it bigger and better every year.”

This year's event will have live jazz and will be one hour shorter to avoid dragging out the event. There will also be ice carving, a 50/50 and art raffle.

Guests at the event will find 12 stations featuring food from American Culinary Federation-certified restaurants. Established in 1929, the American Culinary Federation is the premier professional chefs' organization in North America with more than 17,500 members and more than 150 chapters nationwide.

The American Culinary Federation is what makes someone a certified executive chef or a pastry chef or a culinary educator, Cropper said.

Students from Worcester Technical High School, Wor-Wic Community College and Somerset Culinary will prepare food onsite.

American Culinary Federation-certified restaurants and organizations slated to participate in the event are Centerplate of the convention center on 40th Street, Marlin Moon on 33rd Street, Box Car 40 of Pittsville, Baked Desserts in Berlin, Coastal Coffee Roasting in West Ocean City, Princess Royale on 91st Street, Coastal Cupcake in Berlin, Washington Catering of Snow Hill and the Handy Seafood Company in Salisbury.

“It's a great community event and it's great to see students in action as

well as all your favorite restaurants in one spot,” Cropper said. “All the proceeds from the party go directly back to the community in the form of culinary literacy and scholarship.”

The money raised from last year's party will be used for scholarships this year, since the inaugural fundraising event took place after the scholarship deadline. Additional money raised this year could be used to help members of the chefs association continue their education by sending them to conferences and conventions.

Some of the meals guests can taste will be dry rubbed brisket of beef with roasted red pepper and tomato chili sauce, roasted pork, gourmet deviled eggs and candied bacon, artisan cheese, sautéed blackened shrimp over three cheese grits, and shrimp wrapped with shredded phyllo dough and coated with a Thai sweet chili sauce. Desserts, of course, will follow.

Cropper hopes to move the event into a larger space in the future, to allow for more tickets to be sold, as the Atlantic Hotel ballroom can only hold so many people.

Tickets are available for \$45 on Eventbrite or www.Delmarvachefs.com. Only 100 tickets will be sold. For more information, visit www.Delmarvachefs.com.

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OPA repair work to remedy subpar roadway conditions

(Feb. 13, 2020) Ocean Pines and Worcester County Public Works crews continue working on substandard roads in the community.

Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips said part of that effort is in educating the public and that Worcester County Deputy Director of Public Works John Ross has been distributing information in that regard.

“One of the ongoing operations of the department over the past several years has been to replace the blue tubing that connects from the main water delivery pipes under the streets in Ocean Pines, to houses in the Pines that utilized this tubing in their construction,” she said. “The nature of the problem is that blue tubing is constructed of a plastic that tends to disintegrate over time at a faster pace than other construction material, leading to leaks that must be repaired.

“While this is primarily a problem for homes constructed between 1985 and 1991, it does exist elsewhere in the Pines,” Phillip continued. “Worcester County Public Works has been replacing this tubing on an emergency basis for several years and has focused, when possible, on removing this from houses along Ocean

Parkway. In the past several years, they have removed virtually all of the tubing along the Parkway.”

She said that work included more than 200 homes.

“The point of focusing on Ocean Parkway was to avoid the interruption of traffic flow, because of the necessity of flagmen and to avoid cuts in the roadway shortly after it was repaved,” she said.

Phillips said emergency repairs would continue, and that Worcester County Public Works has set aside funding to replace tubing near 25-30 homes per year, on a discretionary basis.

“County public works will continue to repair the broken blue tubing as it occurs in the Pines. With this, the community will see several ‘road cuts,’ which usually are square/rectangle in nature,” she said.

Phillips said homeowners concerned about potholes due to general road deterioration should contact Ocean Pines Public Works at 410-641-7425 to be placed on a list for work orders.

For road cuts, caused by water and wastewater work, homeowners should contact Worcester County Public Works at 410-641-5251.

“Worcester County Water and



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines and Worcester County Public Works crews continue working on substandard roads in the community, which include pot holes and cuts in the pavement.

Wastewater uses a contractor to address these road cuts and, due to this, will address them once their list hits a certain number. This helps with costs,” Phillips said. “Ocean Pines will continue to work as quickly as possible to address potholes, in-house.”

Phillips said Ross shared two other tips for homeowners.

“If you are planning to leave your house unattended for more than a month, it is a good idea to have a professional plumber come and winterize your home,” she said. “If you have a sewer line issue in your house, call Worcester County Public Works first before calling a plumber, because if it is their issue and they can repair there will be no charge. If you contact a plumber first, they cannot reimburse for the service cost.”

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OCEAN PINES



Wor. Tech hosts local SkillsUSA competition

First-, second-, third-place finishers move on to state contest in Baltimore in April

By Elizabeth Bonin
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Students from Worcester Technical High School showed off their trade expertise during the sixth annual SkillsUSA local competition, held Saturday, Feb. 8.

About 130 students competed in 35 different contests, which included masonry, welding, automotive service, electrical wiring, cosmetology, nursing, computer programming, mobile robotics and culinary arts at the Newark, Maryland, school.

Those who placed first, second or third have qualified for the state competition, which will take place in April in Baltimore, Principal Tom Zimmer said.

Rick Stephens, a welding teacher and the lead SkillsUSA advisor for Worcester Tech, said that the local competition brings multiple opportunities for the students – the first and foremost being practice before the state competition.

He added that on the other side of the Bay Bridge, the schools have more competition, so their regional events are similar to the state competition in Baltimore.

“Our region isn’t as large and we

don’t have as many schools that participate,” Stephens said. “That’s why we started our local competition – to give our kids some practice before they go to states. And, it’s really paid off.”

Sixty out of 100 Worcester students last year placed in the top of the state, Stephens said.

Twenty-nine students then went on to the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky, in June. Piper Gooding, now a freshman at Pocomoke High School, placed second in the middle school pin design competition at the national event.

The program is also now starting to draw in more middle school students, Stephens said.

“It gives the kids the opportunity – one, to compete in their trade, to show off their skills, what they’ve learned and be able to expand on those,” Stephens said. “Competition brings out a lot in people. Plus, they get to travel across the state and compete and meet new friends that way.”

Zimmer said his favorite part of the program is watching the students demonstrate their skills.

“Whether it be in welding or cosmetology or any of the other trades, the students take such pride in showing what they can do,” Zimmer said.

He added that Worcester Tech’s past success shows that the need for tradespeople is high in demand.



PHOTO COURTESY RICK STEPHENS

Irwan Cabello-Vargas, left, and Isaiah Haswell placed first and third, respectively, in the masonry category during Worcester Technical High School’s local SkillsUSA competition on Saturday, Feb. 8 in Newark.

“There are many opportunities for our students to go out into the community upon graduation and gain employment immediately – an early start to a career,” Zimmer said.

The event was also an open house for local eighth graders.

“It gives them a chance to see kids actually in action when they’re in their program,” Stephens said. “It’s a good recruiting tool.”

It’s a multi-opportunity event for students participating, as representatives from local businesses help judge the competition and local colleges set up booths for students to explore.

“We bring businesses into our schools to see hopefully their future employees and for our kids to make contact with possibly some different businesses they’ll be able to go to during their apprenticeship or after graduation,” Stephens said.

He said he thought the students

performed well over the weekend and was grateful for the support from teachers, the board of education and the Worcester County Commissioners.

“I was very impressed,” Stephens said. “The time that the teachers spend with these kids to help them prepare, not just for this, but to graduate and go into the trades and go on to a higher education is phenomenal. And we got lucky. We’ve got great kids in Worcester County, we really do.”

A few more local competitions will take place at the school over the next two weeks, Stephens said.

Worcester Tech will take about 110 to 120 students to the state competition, held April 17-18, in Baltimore, he added.

The first-place winners there will qualify for the national competition, slated for June 22-27 in Louisville, Kentucky.

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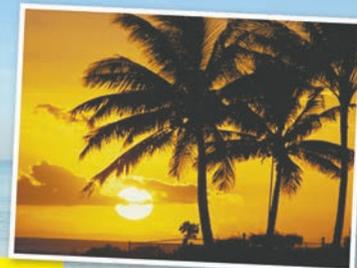
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*See Store For Details

SDHS addresses vaping dangers

By Elizabeth Bonin
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) The Worcester County Health Department and Stephen Decatur High School teamed up to tackle vaping with a community forum at the Stephen Decatur High School auditorium on Tuesday, Feb. 4. The goal of the night was to educate parents on vaping products and how to combat student usage.

In 2016, 26 percent of high school-aged individuals in Worcester used electric smoking devices, in comparison to 13.3 percent of the same individuals in Maryland, according to data from the health department.

Crystal Bell, the chronic disease and tobacco supervisor for the health department, began the presentation by running through the popular electronic products. Some of these include Kandypens, the JUUL device, Suorin Air, MLV Phix and Puff Bars, which is gaining popularity since it requires no refill or charging system.

Bell said these devices are also called electronic nicotine delivery systems, electronic smoking devices, e-cigarettes, vapes, pods, mods or JUULs.

"You'll notice that the make-up of these devices is the same," Bell said. "They may look different, but they all comprise of the same components like a mouthpiece, a microprocessor and a

battery."

She said it's important to keep on top of the various devices because they have evolved from disposable e-cigarettes, to medium tank devices and pens, to larger tanks and pods. The JUUL devices are particularly dangerous because using one pod for the device is the equivalent to smoking one full pack of cigarettes, according to Bell, and some users go through three to four pods a day.

"The biggest thing to know is that the user is able to get such a hard hit and a huge buzz from these devices because they are made up of nicotine salts," Bell said, "which means that the device has lower alkalinity levels, which means the user is able to get a stronger hit from these particular devices."

She added that the product marketing is also dangerous. They are easily purchased online because there are no strong age verifications.

"A lot of youth think these devices are harmless because they're being marketed as harmless devices because of the flavorings," Bell said. "They're packaging them to look like candy items, food items."

Alyssa Rink, tobacco program coordinator, agreed.

"It might be the flavor that draws them in, but it's the nicotine that keeps them coming back," Rink said.

She noted that the products harm the memory, attention and learning parts of the brain.

To combat the issue, Rink encouraged parents to learn about how some students might be hiding the vaping products. Many are designed to look like flash drives, White Out, or pens, and one can even be hidden inside a watch.

Rink added that the products are banned on school grounds and if students are caught with one, they are referred to an alternative suspension through the health department. To complete the sessions, the students are required to turn in homework assignments concerning the dangers of vaping.

"This holds the students accountable," Rink said. "They have to actually go home and do something in order to get the participation for this. They're not just sitting through, they have to actually learn something from it."

She also mentioned the Tobacco 21 law, which prohibits people under the age of 21 from buying tobacco products.

The forum was not as well attended as school officials hoped, with two attendees at the 5 p.m. session and a couple at the six p.m. session. Thomas Sites, principal of Stephen Decatur High School, thought one of the rea-



ELIZABETH BONIN/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Alyssa Rink, tobacco program coordinator for the Worcester County Health Department, explains the Tobacco 21 Law during a community vaping forum at Stephen Decatur High School on Tuesday, Feb. 4.

sons for the low attendance was that the forum was on the same night as the \$1 Taco Night event, which school officials had originally hoped would attract parents to attend the vaping forum.

"We want to provide evening events like this for our community to come out and learn about the dangers of vapes and the dangers of e-cigarettes and trying to help them educate the parents as to what they're looking at," Sites said. "I would hope in the future that we can have better attendance."

Even with low attendance, Sites said that the school's vaping task force will continue and move toward speaking with the intermediate and middle

See FORUM Page 23

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Wor. Youth receives grant to help unemployed

(Feb. 13, 2020) Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services received funding this fall for its Career Assistance Program.

This program is designed to help youth between the ages of 18 and 24 who are unemployed, underemployed or not enrolled in school.

Funding from the Governor's Office for Children through the Worcester County Local Management Board will enable the agency to help prepare young people for employment or higher education.

The Governor's Office for Children refers to this group as "disconnected youth" and at high risk for social service dependency. Worcester County has the highest rate of "disconnected youth" in Maryland.

The goal of this initiative is to help young people start a career, obtain an apprenticeship through a local business, begin technical training in the trades or enroll in higher education, while embracing the importance of maintaining it as a lifelong skill.

The organization is asking the community and parents to refer young people to the program, so they may begin their path toward a lifelong career.

When young people enter the program, innovative assessment tools will identify individual strengths to create a strength-based profile for each of them.

Assessments will also identify specific training modules that will enhance the participants skills necessary for gainful employment. Staff will assist participants with personalized assessments, job readiness training, career placement, job training enrollment, apprenticeships, or enrollment in higher education.

There are three potential pathways for employment within the program.

The first is through apprenticeships, where participants have some job skills but need other support systems to maintain employment. The second is to build or enhance skills through technical training through a certification program like HVAC, cosmetology, welding, nursing, commercial driving, etc. The third is to enroll in a local college for higher education.

In each case, staff will work with participants to ensure they're making progress and maintaining their personal goals for employment in addition

to independence.

Achievable goals will be established based on the sophisticated assessment tools and one's personal interests to ensure their success. The program will equip young people with the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace and in life.

Youth training will include soft skill development, such as business communication, work ethic, problem-solving, and self-confidence. Training will also include interpersonal and communication skills, healthy relationships, home budgeting and personal care.

Staff will also work closely with busi-

ness owners to ensure they are aware of the program and to explore opportunities for apprenticeships or hiring quality employees.

Those interested in learning more about this program for the young adults, call 410-641-4598, or email Christine Felix at cfelix@gowoyo.org.

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Forum aimed to educate parents

Continued from Page 22 schools next.

"We want opportunities for our younger kids to learn about the dangers of vaping and what it can do to you before they can even get to the high school," Sites said.

Those who want to quit can text "Ditch JUUL" to 88709.

Opinion

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

Spray irrigation all about land, money

Of the many questions regarding the application of wastewater spray irrigation for Ocean Pines or any other area, the least critical is whether public health will be adversely affected.

Strict environmental regulation and monitoring of effluent used in spray irrigation have eliminated the public health concern, as has been evidenced all across the Eastern Shore. What, then, are the most critical factors? That would be money, soil composition and the lay of the land.

They all go together. Money can't make clay absorb enough water to prevent runoff, just like having acres of loam means nothing if the finances don't work.

There's no argument among environmental experts that spray irrigation is the better method of wastewater disposal than the old standard of discharging it into nearby waterways. Time was, no one questioned this latter approach, as communities pumped effluent into the river, and it was gone forever. Except, as we now know, that it wasn't.

Nutrients and chemicals in treated wastewater didn't vanish with the tides as we pretended, but remained to damage the riverine ecosystems.

With ground application of wastewater, however, the soil filters these chemicals and nutrients as the water seeps into the earth. It isn't perfect, but it is better ... unless you can't pay for it.

The cost of converting the Eagle's Landing Golf Course to accept spray irrigation from the Mystic Harbour wastewater system was more than \$3 million. The Town of Berlin's second spray irrigation site near Newark cost \$3.5 million, and the price tag on the county's Newark project launched last May was expected to be in the \$2 million range.

But even then, the key to the successes of those operations was that land with the right soil, the right slope and the right location was available. Maybe Ocean Pines has that in the golf course, and maybe it doesn't. That would be the first thing to find out, then the business of finding the money will determine what happens next.



HERON PARK HAS LEFT REHAB

Squadron hosts four-day boat course

(Feb. 13, 2020) The Ocean City Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, will present a four-night comprehensive safe boating course at the Ocean Pines Library, beginning on Feb. 24.

This is a nine-hour course and will be given on four consecutive days starting Monday, Feb. 24 and continuing on Feb. 25, 26 and 27. This includes a review and exam on the last day.

On the first day there will be registration from 6-6:30 p.m. Class will begin at 6:30

p.m. The course will take place from 6:30-9:30 p.m. each evening.

There is a \$20 fee for the course and materials. Middle and high school students under age 18 will be admitted free.

Anyone born after July 1, 1972, must satisfactorily complete a safe boating class to operate a recreational vessel or personal watercraft in Maryland. Successfully completing this class also satisfies the requirements nationwide.

This course covers basic

boat handling, navigation, federal and state regulations, rules of the road, aids to navigation and required equipment, among other topics.

Statistics show that in 82 percent of boating fatalities the captain had no formal boating education. The Ocean City Power Squadron encourages all boaters to complete a boating safety course.

For more information and early registration, call 410-641-6535 or 410-641-8040.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Phone: 410-723-6397 / Fax: 410-723-6511.

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Women's Club to award scholarships

(Feb. 13, 2020) The Women's Club of Ocean Pines will be awarding scholarships at its May general membership meeting to promising students who are full-time residents of Ocean Pines.

These students must graduate from high school in good standing with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 and plan to attend an accredited institution for further education.

These awards may be

used by the recipient to help defray post-high school expenses at any approved degree of certificate-granting college or university, technical or vocation school.

The club's scholarship committee will consider the applicant's needs, goals, scholarship, citizenship, community service, extra-curricular activities and motivation. The club believes in non-discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin or family status, in both prin-

ciple and practice.

Applications for these scholarships may be found on the Stephen Decatur High School website, <https://stephen-decaturhs.weebly.com>.

All applications must be returned to a senior counselor at Stephen Decatur High School by March 20. Qualifying applicants who do not attend Stephen Decatur are asked to call 410-641-8046 for information and/or an application.

Berlin approves SD Park programs

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Stephen Decatur Park will now have access to a Worcester County Recreation and Parks toddler gym and tennis court sessions after the county proposal was approved by the Berlin mayor and Town Council during Monday's meeting.

Several adult and youth tennis clinics will take place weekly on Tuesdays beginning May 5 to May 26 from 6-8 p.m., as well as a Wednesday toddler gym program starting May 13 and ending June 10 from 10-11 a.m.

"The toddler gym program is devoted to families within the community with toddlers ages 1-5 years old," Myro Small, of the Recreation and Parks Department told the council.

"This program will promote social interaction amongst the families as well as our program managers providing physical activities."

The fee to participate in the four-week toddler gym program is \$20 per family. Financial aid is available for families who qualify. The toddler gym program has been used in Snow Hill for the past five years and averages around 30 families per quarter for each session.

"We're trying to duplicate the same thing here at the northern end of the county," Small said.



Myro Small represents the Worcester County Recreation and Parks Department during a motion to approve a toddler gym and two tennis activities at Stephen Decatur Park during the Berlin mayor and Town Council meeting on Monday, Feb. 10.

MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The tennis stroke clinic is an activity the department offers in the fall. The program was so popular that residents asked that it be taught again in the spring. The clinic is taught by tennis professional Buzz Truitt.

Additionally, the department is offering a drop-in tennis clinic, which was popular in the fall, Small said. Each drop-in session costs \$3. The drop-in clinic is open to the commu-

nity.

"The reason why we're offering the program for a second time is because it's in high demand and has been requested," Small said. "We get a lot of emails and phone calls asking when our next program being offered at Stephen Decatur Park."

For both programs, equipment will be provided by the Recreation and Parks Department.

CFES welcomes Diriker as chief strategy officer

(Feb. 13, 2020) Veronique Diriker, Ph.D., CFRE has joined the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore as chief strategy officer.

Diriker will lead the foundation's strategic planning and implementation with a focus on its continued growth, impact and effectiveness.



Veronique Diriker

"The Community Foundation has a longstanding history of leadership and expertise in philanthropy, and we ensure this on the ground level by developing a team that is cutting-edge in their respective fields" said Erica Joseph, CFES president. "Veronique's extensive knowledge and skill set makes her a natural addition to our team as we build for the future."

Diriker's professional experience includes nonprofit management and leadership, university development, nonprofit fundraising, public policy analysis and consulting, event planning, program development, higher education teaching, outcomes assessment and program evaluation, and

See DIRIKER Page 29

OPEN HOUSES FEB. 13 - FEB. 20

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Daily	Assateague Point, Berlin	1BR/2BR/3BR	Mobile	From \$100,000	Tony Matrona/Resort Homes
Sat-Mon, 11-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday 10-Noon	7142 Arcadia Crl., Newark MD	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$204,900	Lauren Bunting/Bunting Real Estate
Saturday 2-4	12222 Brant Rd., Bishopville	3BR/2.5BA	Single Family	\$464,900	Lauren Bunting/Bunting Real Estate
Sunday 11-1	122 Nina Lane, Fruitland	5BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$374,900	Lauren Bunting/Bunting Real Estate
Fri-Sun 11-5	9800 Mooring View Ln., West Harbor Village #32	3BR/2.5BA	Townhomes	From Low \$300,000s	Kathleen Clark/Monogram Realty
Sunday 12-2	10 Leslie Mews, Ocean Pines	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$699,900	Cindy Crockett/Hileman Real Estate
Thurs-Mon 10-4	218 25th St., Ocean City Bayfront	3BR/3BA	Townhomes	From \$646,250	Mary McCracken/Long & Foster
Saturday 12-3	590 Ocean Pkwy., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$300,000	Mary McCracken/Long & Foster
Sunday 10-12	162 Winter Harbor Dr., Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Single Family	\$470,000	Karen Oass/Long & Foster
Saturday 11-1	23 Leslie Mews, Ocean Pines	4BR/4.5BA	Single Family	\$725,000	Sandy Dougan/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Sunday 11-1	5-A Blue Bill Ct., Ocean Pines	4BR/4.5BA	Townhome	\$579,900	Sandy Dougan/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Friday 11-1	607 Osprey Rd. #2, Ocean City	1BR/1.5BA	Condo	\$198,000	Sandy Dougan/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Sunday 10-1	101 Points Reach, Ocean Pines	4BR/3.5BA	Single Family	\$450,000	Jennifer Cropper-Rines/Coldwell Banker Res.
Saturday 10-1	11425 Gum Point Rd., Berlin	5BR/4.5BA Total	SF + In-Law Suite	\$794,500	Jennifer Cropper-Rines/Coldwell Banker Res.
Sat 1-3 & Sun 12-2	7601 Coastal Hwy., Coral Seas #110	3BR/3BA	Condo	\$371,900	Lauren A Smith/Keller Williams
Sat 12-2 & Sun. 10-12	7 127th St., OC, Top Royal #200N	1BR/1.5BA	Condo	\$199,900	Lauren A Smith/Keller Williams
Saturday 10-12	8003 Brighton Trail #8003B, Bethany Beach	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$285,000	Lauren A Smith/Keller Williams
Sat. & Sun. 10-2	110 Peach Tree Rd., Ocean City	2BR/1BA	Single Family	\$199,900	Scott Holdren/Holdren Real Estate
Sat. & Sun. 10-2	13400 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City #N601	1BR/1BA	Condo	\$195,000	Scott Holdren/Holdren Real Estate
Saturday 11-3	15 Freeport Ln., The Parke - OP	3BR/3BA	Single Family	\$398,000	Debbie Bennington/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed
Sat. & Sun. 11-2	744-C 94th St., Ocean City	3BR/2.5BA	Townhome	\$479,900	Tara Wancowicz/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed

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Election committee selects new 2020 balloting systems

Ocean Pines Association to retain paper, while adding online option for members

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) While not completely switching from paper ballots in the Ocean Pines Association 2020 election this summer, the OPA Election Committee last week agreed to incorporate a new voting system that will provide an online option.

Election Committee Chairman Steve Habeger said during the group's meeting in January that the committee had examined many voting options, including systems that allowed online and telephone voting.

"We decided to make minimal changes to the voting process for 2020 and maybe the next 2-3 years," he said.

OPA IT manager Steve Grabowski, who has been helping research system prices, obtained costs for a scanner and laptop required to continue conducting the elections in-house.

During last month's meeting, Grabowski presented his findings and said ProScan Snap Survey seemed to offer the best choice for price and service.

"I don't see us going away from paper ballots next year," he said. "Which means that we'd have to do this again or we'd have to find another solution."

Habeger said the new system would permit OPA leadership to design ballots, which could include color photographs of candidates.

"What we're headed to is a very modest change to the balloting process that people have been used to for a long time, with the potential of

changing in the future," he said.

While the new election system would permit either paper ballots or online voting, the telephone option was found to be cost prohibitive.

Grabowski said the cost to vote by phone would add roughly \$20,000 to the tab.

"These guys will do telephone, but you actually have to set up a call center," he said.

As for online voting, Grabowski said voters would be issued a code for online use.

"We can introduce the online part of it next year to see who bites," he said. "It's a good way to stick your toes in the water."

Committee member Bob Windsor noted the replacement effort was undertaken after the previously used scanner outlived its usefulness.

The committee voted unanimously to budget up to \$4,500 to buy a scanner and laptop for the OPA elections.

The committee also approved a request to bid for ballot printing, mailing and processing services.

Board liaison Steve Tuttle, who said the new year's proposed budget includes \$15,000 for printing services, suggested increasing the figure to \$20,000 after costs topped \$15,500 last year.

Habeger said new stipulations were included in the bid package for printing services to assure that association members are notified of the election regardless of their eligibility.

That adaptation follows up on a notice the committee received last year that the association bylaws require notification of all members.

That had been the procedure years earlier, but it was abandoned in recent times, Habeger said.

"We're going to prepare and send more material than we had in the previous contracts over the past years," he said.

For the 2020 election, eligible members will be mailed a voting package and members deemed ineligible to vote will be notified by letter.

Another stipulation in the bid proposal is that the contractor must provide trained personnel to operate the election computer and scanner. OPA members are prohibited from serving in those roles.

In the 2019 election, the association had 7,957 eligible voters and 768 members who were ineligible for reasons such as failure to pay annual assessments or continues to violate the declaration of restrictions after being advised of that violation by the board.



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Community stewards seek to 'Keep Worcester Clean'

Campaign reaches out for support from public, private partners in county cleanup

(Feb. 13, 2020) Worcester County Government is calling on all community stewards as it embarks on a Keep Worcester Clean campaign.

The overall goal is to beautify Worcester County by keeping byways and unmanned recycling stations clean and litter free.

Therefore, it is reaching out countywide to establish public and private partnerships to encourage community stewardship, to increase awareness about options available to the public for properly disposing of trash and recyclables, and to discourage illegal dumping by both residents and visitors.

Incidences of individuals who illegally dump trash, household furniture and other debris at the unmanned recycling centers, along county roadways, and in other public places have increased in recent years.

Cleanup efforts require substantial time, manpower and resources, resulting in hefty costs. Ultimately, taxpayers must shoulder these costs.

Litter dumped illegally on roads, recycling centers, or anywhere in society other than designated sites, isn't just an eyesore, it's a hazard to the environment, the economy, and human health.

Those who dump litter in recycling bins spoil recycling efforts, as the aluminum cans, newspapers, cardboard, and plastics, once contaminated by litter, are no longer recyclable and must instead be landfilled.

Thus, the efforts of the county and all community stewards to limit waste through responsible reuse are thwarted.

Here are a few tips to help keep Worcester County clean.

- Dispose of only approved recyclable items – plastics, cardboard, glass, metal cans and papers/news-papers – at any of the county's five unmanned recycling stations, which are located in Bishopville, Whaleyville, Ocean Pines, Walmart in Berlin, and Public Landing.

- Hire a private trash hauler to pick up your trash or purchase a homeowner convenience center permit. For the HOCC permit cost of \$100, which is for the first two vehicles in the same household, residents and property owners may dispose of household trash at any of the HOCCs, which are located in Berlin, the Central Landfill in Newark, Pocomoke, and Snow Hill.

- Properly secure truck or cargo loads containing trash and debris.

- Report the illegal dumping of trash, household furnishings, and other debris at recycling stations and littering along county roadways to the Worcester County Sheriff's Office or your local law enforcement agency.

A 2009 "Littering behavior in America" report conducted by Keep America Beautiful found that "The vast majority of people properly dispose of trash in receptacles."

What is startling is the finding that one in five trash disposals, or 17 percent, ended up as litter that was dumped intentionally.

Worcester County Government is working to increase public awareness about littering and its damaging effects and to reduce or eliminate instances of illegal dumping and littering.

To learn more about recycling and solid waste operations in Worcester County, visit www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/waste.



MORGAN PILZ/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A fatal crash involving this flatback rollback occurred between the intersection of Routes 113 and 818 on Thursday, Feb. 6. Police are currently investigating the cause of the crash.

Fatal crash in Berlin under investigation by local police

By Morgan Pilz
Staff Writer

(Feb. 13, 2020) The driver of a \$10 Chevy pickup who was killed in a two-vehicle crash in Berlin last Thursday has been identified as Johnie Derrickson, 73, of Parsonsburg.

Although the circumstances of the accident remain unclear, what is known that his pickup collided with a large rollback truck at the intersec-

tion of Routes 113 and 818 just south of town.

The driver of the truck was Robert Kressman, 58, of New York. Kressman was not injured in the collision and refused medical treatment at the scene.

Lt. Robert Fisher of the Berlin Police Department estimates the results of the investigation take anywhere from two or three weeks, or perhaps longer.

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SALUTING VOSS

Area residents stand in memory of Lt. Colonel Paul Voss of the United States Air Force on Route 113, Tuesday, Feb. 11. His body was escorted from Dover Air Force Base and traveled through Worcester County before making its way to his hometown in Virginia under police escort.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

RECOGNITION

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City recently recognized the October Pancake Breakfast co-chairs Ed Ahlquist and Tom Southwell. Ahlquist is pictured with Kiwanis Club President Roy Foreman, who presented a Certificate of Appreciation.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

MAMMOGRAM FUNDING

The Ocean Pines Ladies Golf Association held its annual Pink Lady Golf Tournament at the Ocean Pines Golf & Country Club on Oct. 8, to raise money to help provide mammogram screenings through the Eunice Q. Sorin Women's Diagnostics Center at Atlantic General Hospital. The association raised \$1,608 this year, bringing its total contribution over the past six years to over \$8,400. Pictured, from left, are Susan Morris, OPLGA; Colleen Wareing, vice president of patient care services at AGH; Carolyn Neal, OPGLA; Michael Franklin, FACHE, Atlantic General Hospital president and CEO; Ann Shockley, OPLGA; and Don McMullen, OPMGA.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

AWARDED

The General Levin Winder Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, recently presented a Community Service Award to Margaret "Bozy" Markiewicz for her patriotic endeavors and dedication to veterans. She was instrumental in bringing "Wreaths Across America" to the Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery in Hurlock. Pictured, from left, are Pat Arata, Markiewicz and Regent Gail Weldin.



PJ DRIVE

The student council at Berlin Intermediate School coordinated the third annual pajama drive, collecting over \$650 and 85 pairs of pajamas to donate to local shelters this winter.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Realtors and representatives from local charitable organizations celebrate the Coastal Realtors Foundation's third round of grants to causes supported by Coastal members.

CAR awards \$6K in grants to local charities

(Feb. 13, 2020) The Coastal Association of Realtors (Coastal) recently announced that it has awarded \$6,000 in grants to local charities through the Coastal Realtors Foundation.

The following organizations received grants in the Coastal Realtors Foundation's latest round of funding:

Chesapeake Housing Mission, Habitat for Humanity of Worcester County, Help and Outreach Point of Entry (HOPE), Humane Society of Wicomico County, Humane Society of Worcester County, Ocean City Power Squadron, Salisbury Neighborhood Housing Services, and Worcester Goes Purple/Worcester County Warriors Against Opioid Addiction.

The Coastal Realtors Foundation is a charitable fund held by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. The association raises money for the fund through an annual charity golf tournament as well as other efforts throughout the year.

The fund is accessible to members of Coastal through an application process administered by the association and reviewed by a committee of members. Grant recipients must be 501(c)3 organizations and must be located in Somerset, Wicomico or Worcester counties.

"We've just wrapped up our first year of awarding grants to local charities through the foundation, and it's been a great experience for the asso-

ciation and its members," said Coastal President Joe Wilson. "We look forward to continuing to support the causes important to our members in the new year."

Applications are accepted quarterly, and the next deadline is Feb. 15.

For more information about the Coastal Realtors Foundation, visit www.coastalrealtors.org.

Diriker new chief strategy officer

Continued from Page 25
community outreach.

"It is an honor to join an organization that has made such a profound impact on the Lower Shore, its residents, and its nonprofit sector," Diriker said. "I look forward to working closely with our highly competent staff, engaged volunteers and dedicated partners, so that we can continue to strengthen our community."

Salisbury became home to Diriker more than 30 years ago when she and her husband, Memo, relocated from Boston.

She is a long-time donor, friend, and supporter of the foundation. She enjoys spending time with her beloved dog, Seamus, and using her love of art as a strategy for encouraging philanthropy.

As leaders, grant makers and stew-

ards of philanthropy, the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore connects people who care to causes that matter for the common good of the Lower Eastern Shore.

It is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with an inspiring history of fostering charitable endeavors and has provided \$84 million in grants and scholarships to the local community since 1984.

It collaborates with individuals, families and businesses to match their charitable interests with community needs and strengthens local nonprofits through grants and resources.

The foundation is devoted to improving its regional community and believes in the power of philanthropy.

For information, contact Victoria Kent, marketing officer, at 410-742-9911 or vkent@CFES.org.

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June 16-18	July 7-9	\$95	OP Residents
July 21-23	Aug 4-6		
10:30am-12pm		\$105	Public

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AUG 24-28

1-Day Beginners' Surf Camp Ages 6-15

July 3, 17, 31	July 10, 24	\$65	OP Residents
Aug 14	Aug 7, 21		
8:30-10am	5:30-7pm	\$75	Public

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Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HONOR ROWS RECIPIENT

The Baltimore Ravens, M&T Bank and the Governor's Office on Service & Volunteerism, congratulated Bill Noah and the Berlin Intermediate School's After School Academy on being selected as a 2019-2020 Honor Rows recipient, on Dec. 29. The students attended the last home game for the Ravens against the Pittsburgh Steelers.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

Stephen Decatur High School National Honor Society members present \$3,000 to Believe in Tomorrow after raising money from their annual gift card raffle fundraiser. Since 2005, the group has adopted the Believe in Tomorrow organization and has given nearly \$40,000 to the charity. Pictured with Wayne Littleton, coordinator for the Believe in Tomorrow Children's Foundation Beach Respite Housing Program, are National Honor Society officers Ellie Dutton, Mikayla Denault, Ella Peters, President Richard Poist and Kiley Hamby.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GEO BEE WINNERS

Eighth grader Hunter Simons, center, won the annual Worcester Prep Lower/Middle School Geography Bee, held Jan. 9. Eighth grader Vanesska Hall came in second place and seventh grader Ryan Mann took third. The three finalists competed against lower and middle school students from grades 4-8.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PROCLAMATION

The Worcester County Commissioners present a proclamation on Jan. 7, to Erica Morton of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore, Inc., recognizing January as National Mentoring Month. BBBS partners with county organizations to provide community-based mentoring programs that served 45 families last year.



PHOTO COURTESY D.J. LANDIS, SR.

APPRECIATION

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City awards monthly "Volunteer of the Month" Certificates of Appreciation. Pictured is Dave Landis, left, receiving a certificate from Kiwanis Club President Roy Foreman. Landis is the media public relations chair for the club. He, with the help of his wife, Rita, chaired the annual Toy Drive for Worcester G.O.L.D.

NOW PLAYING



ON THE EDGE

Ocean Club Nightclub: Friday & Saturday, Feb. 14-16, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

BJ'S ON THE WATER

75th Street and the bay, Ocean City
410-524-7575 / www.bjsonthewater.com
Feb. 14: Over Time Band, 9 p.m.
Feb. 15: Dust N' Bones, 9 p.m.
Feb. 19: Dust N' Bones Duo, 6 p.m.

BOURBON STREET ON THE BEACH

116th Street, Ocean City, behind Fountain Head Towers Condominium
443-664-2896 / www.bourbonstreetonthebeach.com
Feb. 14: Dave Sherman, 7 p.m.
Feb. 15: Ricky & Lennon LaRicci, 7 p.m.

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

15th St. & Baltimore Ave., Ocean City
410-289-7192 / www.captainstableoc.com
Every Friday & Saturday:
Phil Perdue, 5:30 p.m.

DUFFY'S TAVERN

130th Street, Ocean City,
Montego Bay Shopping Center
410-250-1449 / www.duffysoc.com
Every Friday: Bob Hughes, 8 p.m.

HARBORSIDE BAR & GRILL

12841 S. Harbor Road, West Ocean City
410-213-1846 / www.ocharborside.com
Feb. 14: DJ Billy T, 4 p.m.
Feb. 15: DJ Jeremy, 9 p.m.

HOOTERS

12513 Ocean Gateway, West Ocean City
410-213-1841 / www.hootersofoc.com
Feb. 14: DJ BK, 4-8 p.m.
Feb. 15: Classic Vibe, 4-8 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB NIGHTCLUB

101st Street, Ocean City
In the Horizons Restaurant, in the Clarion Fontainebleau Hotel
410-524-3535 / www.clarionoc.com
Every Friday and Saturday:
DJ Dusty, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Feb. 14-16: On The Edge, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.

OCEAN PINES YACHT CLUB

1 Mumfords Landing Road, Ocean Pines
410-641-7501 / www.opyachtclub.org
Feb. 14: Tranzfusion 6-10 p.m.

PICKLES

706 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City
410-289-4891 / www.picklesoc.com



TRANZFUSION

Ocean Pines Yacht Club:
Friday, Feb. 14,
6-10 p.m.

DJ Cruz, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.;
Nowhere Slow, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.;
Gypsy Wisdom, 10 p.m. to 1:50 a.m.
Feb. 16: Full Circle Trio, 1-5 p.m.

SKYE RAW BAR & GRILLE

66th Street, Ocean City
410-723-6762 / www.skyebaroc.com
Feb. 14: TBA, 4-8 p.m.
Feb. 15: TBA, 4-8 p.m.

WHISKER'S BAR & GRILL

11070 Cathell Road, Suite 17, Pines Plaza,
Ocean Pines
410-208-3922 / www.whiskersbar.com
Feb. 14: Karaoke w/ Donnie Berkey



JOHN MCNUTT BAND

Seacrets: Friday, Feb. 14, 5-9 p.m.



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Cuisine

Roasted vegetable-chicken frittata recipe

I scoff at my Christmas tree as I put together a frittata for Valentine's breakfast.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

I made the comment, nay, I made the commitment to leave my Christmas tree up until we had a proper snow. I certainly did not think that we would have the temperate, Carolinas-like winter season that would bind

me to a year-round Christmas tree.

And being the stubborn mule that I am, I refuse to make it an 'Easter tree', an 'Independence Day tree' or any other holiday-linked shrub. I said Christmas tree, and that is how it is going to stay.

Of course, I say that, but I am already sick of looking at the thing. It takes up that corner of the living room like a long-lost friend who comes to visit for 'a few days' and then decides to stay for a month. Whenever you look in the living room, you sigh a breath of disappointment, as you try to ignore the intruder on your way to the coffee pot, whispering "when will this all go away? Make the bad dream stop," all while hoping that your inner monologue is functional and you did not say that out loud.

As we creep up on Valentine's Day, it hits home that the tree should really come down. I know this is the case, but I guess I'm old-fashioned. There is just something about a blanket of snow with flakes still falling, the ubiquitous silence as each snowflake acts as a tiny acoustic buffer, blocking even the sounds of the big rigs as they roll up route 113. It always brings me great solace to have this visual and auditory moment. To me, that is the best part of winter.

Alas, here I am, in an awkward moment of trying to buy something nice for my Valentine while looking at a tree that reminds me of a season already past. At the end of the day, I just may have to throw in the towel and pretend that the snow is never going to come. If you can't tell, I am conflicted.

With that being said, let's discuss Valentine's Day. There are many thoughts and theories on its origin, and I won't go down that road. However, it is interesting to note that we think of Valentine's Day as a romantic holiday; one on which we give our undying love to our, well, loves.

One theory is that it is loosely based on a Russian festival that celebrated spring, rebirth and fertility. OK, now we're getting somewhere. Not with-



standing any Russian traditions, we bring the holiday to the U.S. and we see a company develop an entire industry of selling greeting cards.

According to the Fluid Marketing Agency, over 130 million V-Day cards are exchanged every year, and the company not mentioned earlier was the first to mass-produce said product in 1913. Those are staggering statistics, and one can see the power of marketing in this alone. But don't let this take away from any romantic notions that you may have. But, I digress.

On this glorious day of love and romance, think of your loved ones and what you can do to make it a special day for them. And what can be better than cooking for them? A hearty breakfast, a mimosa and a long-stem rose can start the day out great. And nothing says hearty breakfast on a cold and rainy day (as I'm sure it will be both) like a frittata. A frittata and a nap.

Roasted Vegetable-Chicken Frittata

serves 4-ish

2 Tbsp. Unsalted grass-fed butter
1 Tbsp. rendered bacon fa

t6 oz. Grilled chicken, julienne
Roasted veggie blend, as needed (recipe follows)

6 slices bacon, chopped and cooked (optional)

12 eggs

1 1/2 c. Heavy cream

1. Find a pan that is non-stick or seasoned well enough to do the trick
2. Heat it, and then add the butter and bacon fat.

3. Add the chicken and the vegetable blend, and when heated through add the bacon chunks.

4. When everything is good and hot, add the egg whites and top with your whole eggs.

5. After the egg whites start to cook, stir in the whole eggs, breaking up the yolks in the process.

6. Allow to cook for a couple minutes and then finish in an oven until cooked through. You may add cheese to this, or flip the frittata out onto a platter and top with the cheese then

7. Serve with berries, melon and lots and lots of coffee

3 oz. Exotic mushroom blend
10 Brussels sprouts, sliced
1/2 ea. Medium red onion, julienne
1/2 head bok choy, sliced
3 c. Kale, cleaned and chopped
1 pt. Grap or baby heirloom tomatoes
1 lb. Asparagus spears, cut into 1" pieces
6 cloves fresh garlic, smashed
EV Olive oil, as needed
Salt & Pepper to taste

1. Preheat an oven to Convection 400F or conventional 425F.

2. Combine all the ingredients, coating well with the olive oil and seasoning to your taste.

3. Roast until the vegetables have a lovely toast to them and allow to cool until you can handle them.

4. I like to do a big batch of this every few days and keep them in a large bag, pulling them out as needed. Otherwise, you can individually bag to portion them for the week.

— Paul G. Suplee

is an Associate Professor
of Culinary Arts at

Wor-Wic Community College.

Find his ePortfolio at

www.heartofakitchen.com.

Roasted Vegetable Blend

enough for a few breakfasts

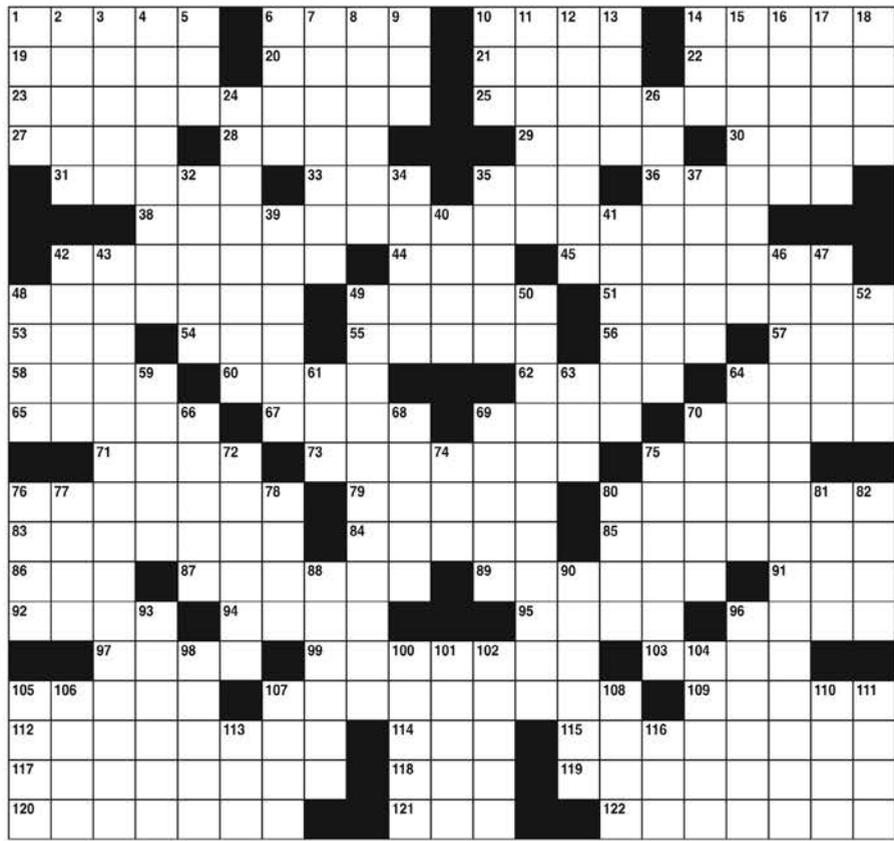
Puzzles

AUDUBON SOCIETY

BY BRIAN HERRICK AND CHRISTOPHER ADAMS / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Brian Herrick of Brooklyn does communications work for a nonprofit that funds diabetes research. Christopher Adams of Iowa City is a puzzle maker and crossword constructor. (Guess who wrote the clue for 71-Across?) They met through the Crossword Puzzle Collaboration Directory on Facebook. The idea for the puzzle's theme was Brian's. Chris added to Brian's examples. They spent an afternoon filling the grid together by email. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Part of L.G.B.T., for short
 - 6 Like wine, but not grape juice
 - 10 Chances
 - 14 Hogwarts headmaster Dumbledore
 - 19 "The Jungle Book" bear
 - 20 Part of a theater?
 - 21 Do for a few months?
 - 22 "Lovergirl" singer Marie
 - 23 "Soak Up the Sun" singer, 2002
 - 25 *Fictional protagonist who attends elementary school in Maycomb County
 - 27 Smooth over
 - 28 Onetime "Come hungry. Leave happy" sloganeer
 - 29 Tolkien trilogy, for short
 - 30 Hawk
 - 31 Pick up from school
 - 33 Nat ___ (documentary channel, for short)
 - 35 Gentle attention-getter
 - 36 Divert
 - 38 *Actress in "Alien" and "Avatar"
 - 42 Farthest orbital point from the moon
 - 44 ___ smear
- DOWN**
- 1 Amt. of cooking oil
 - 2 Bobby in the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America
 - 3 Advil alternative
 - 4 "Because I felt like it"
 - 5 Makeup of some meat substitutes
 - 6 Prefix with conservative
 - 7 Ignore orders
 - 8 Romeo or Juliet
 - 9 Mountain ___
 - 10 Covert ___
 - 11 Render harmless, so to speak
 - 12 Wasn't stiff
 - 13 N.S.F.W. stuff
 - 14 Antismuggling grp.
 - 15 Idle periods
 - 16 Elaine on "Seinfeld"
 - 17 Cry from the defeated
 - 18 Jokester Mort
 - 24 Trattoria dish
 - 26 Labors
 - 32 Rainer Maria ___, writer of "Letters to a Young Poet"
 - 34 Baked, in a way
 - 35 Herman Melville's first book
 - 37 Fracas
 - 39 "Eventually ..."
 - 40 Vittles
 - 41 Sick
 - 42 Island whose name rhymes with a popular thing to do there
 - 43 *Portrayer of Fallon Carrington Colby on "Dynasty"
 - 46 "The Silence of the Lambs" protagonist
 - 47 Like the Vietnamese language
 - 92 Costco competitor, informally
 - 94 Italian wine region
 - 95 Bottom of Britain?
 - 96 Some square-dance participants
 - 97 Bill passers, briefly
 - 99 Some woolen blankets
 - 103 Peter or Paul (but not Mary)
 - 105 Ballerina's balancing aid
 - 107 Exhibition mounter
 - 109 Anne with the Pulitzer-winning novel "Breathing Lessons"
 - 112 *First African-American U.S. poet laureate
 - 114 Uraeus, in ancient Egypt
 - 115 2017 film nominated for Best Picture ... or a hint to the answers to the eight starred clues
 - 117 Northern race
 - 118 President whose veep was Dick
 - 119 Lone female Argonaut
 - 120 "Copacabana" hitmaker, 1978
 - 121 ___ St. James, first female Indianapolis 500 Rookie of the Year
 - 122 Comes to light
 - 48 Kegger locale
 - 49 *Singer with the most American Music Awards of all time (29)
 - 50 *Janet Leigh played her in "Psycho"
 - 52 How, with "the"
 - 59 Asian island divided between two countries
 - 61 One on a bender, perhaps
 - 63 Young ___
 - 64 Arroz accompanier, often
 - 66 In the hold
 - 68 Keynote, say
 - 69 R2-D2 or C-3PO
 - 70 Overflows (with)
 - 72 "For example ...?"
 - 74 Bigheadedness
 - 75 Weapon with a lock, stock and barrel
 - 76 Passing judgments?
 - 77 ___ fide
 - 78 M.M.A. stats, for short
 - 80 Mob bosses
 - 81 Money in the Mideast
 - 82 1040 figures, for short
 - 88 Gawked
 - 90 "The Little Mermaid" villain
 - 93 Certain clouds
 - 96 Stonewall Inn, e.g.
 - 98 Make it to the podium
 - 100 App with an envelope icon
 - 101 Kind of voice or dog
 - 102 Wood that's good for matchmaking
 - 104 Word with house or high
 - 105 Hat part
 - 106 Hit musical with music by Elton John
 - 107 Swear
 - 108 ___ in three (chess challenge)
 - 110 The Father of Art Deco
 - 111 Nutrition figs.
 - 113 Guadalajara gold
 - 116 Horse's female parent



Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

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HARD - 60

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

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



Calendar

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

Thurs., Feb. 13

AN INTRO TO WATERCOLOR

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Local artist Ellie Scott leads this beginner class where various techniques are explored on small cards over a 3 week session. Supplies provided. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

AARP MEETING

Ocean City Senior Center, 104 41st St., 10:00 AM. Refreshments served at 9:30 a.m. Guest speaker will discuss Medicare. An optional luncheon will follow the meeting at The Crabcake Factory on Route 54 in Delaware. New members are welcome. Bob McCluskey, 410-250-0980

OCEAN PINES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, As-sateague Room, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. There will be a presentation by Catherine Winkler of Roots Landscaping on Secrets for Success with Succulents. Attendees will be able to make a decorated pot with a succulent inspired gift card. Materials cost is \$10. A business meeting will follow the presentation. Guests are welcome.

STORY TIME 'LOVE IS IN THE AIR'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 AM. For ages 2 to 5 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STEAM STORYTIME 'LET'S EXPLORE SHAPES'

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Shape stories and activities for young children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY: PUTTING THE PIECES OF THE PUZZLE TOGETHER

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 2:00 PM. This workshop will address some of the issues African Americans face when doing family history research. Attendees will be taught genealogy basics and resources to assist in putting the pieces of the puzzle together while doing African American genealogical research. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

WINTER RECHARGE PARTY

Mother's Cantina, 2810 Philadelphia Ave., 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Join Indivisible Worcester MD to recharge before heading into this election year. This is a social event, not a meeting. Featuring happy hour prices for food and drinks. RSVP: indivisibleworcestermd@gmail.com by Feb. 10.

LOCAL ARTISTS ON DISPLAY: ART SHOW & RECEPTION

Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 6:30 PM. An artists' reception to celebrate and meet local artists. Light refreshments

served. View artwork on display Feb. 10-15. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BEACH SINGLES

Thursdays - Harpoon Hanna's, 39064 Harpoon Road, Fenwick Island, DE, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Beach Singles, 45 years and older, meet for happy hour. Info: 302-436-9577, 410-524-0649 or BeachSingles.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Thursdays - Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11:00 AM. Coastal Hospice provides grief support and education. Participants work together to help each other navigate through grief at their own pace. Free and open to the public. Nicole Long, 443-614-6142

Fri., Feb. 14

FIBER FRIENDS

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM. Bring your lap work and join the group as they knit, crochet and embroider. All are welcome. Victoria Christie-Healy, 703-507-0708, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Inside boat show featuring approximately 350 boats, more than 140 exhibitors including more than 50 boat dealers, bass boats and accessory show specials. Admission costs is \$10 per day or \$15 for weekend pass. 410-641-5057, <http://www.ocboatshow.com/index.cfm>

FRIENDSHIP TEA

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Bring your besties to the library for an afternoon tea where there will be refreshments and fun activities. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Featuring Carravaggio by Francine Prose. Copies of books are available in advance at the library. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STEM TECH FOR HOMESCHOOLERS 'CODE IT!'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:00 PM. Come explore and experiment. For ages 4-14 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Cost is \$12 for one crab cake sandwich, green beans, baked potato and cole slaw; \$20 for two crab cake sandwiches, green beans, baked potato and cole slaw; and

\$8 for a crab cake sandwich only. Carry-outs and bake table available.

VALENTINES DAY DINNER

American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Dinner includes New York strip steak, baked potato, garlic green beans, tossed salad, roll with butter and sweetheart cake for dessert. One free drink. Cost is \$18 per person. Tickets: George Pickeral, 301-943-9722 or call the post, 410-289-3166.

Sat., Feb. 15

CRAFTY SATURDAY MAKE & TAKE 'PRESIDENTS DAY'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Crafty fun for children of all ages. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

WALK WITH A DOC

Meet at the Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, 9:00 AM. There is a short presentation by a doctor on a current health topic followed by a walk at your own pace while having conversation with the doc. Family and pet friendly event. Genie, 410-641-9268

SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Inside boat show featuring approximately 350 boats, more than 140 exhibitors including more than 50 boat dealers, bass boats and accessory show specials. Admission costs is \$10 per day or \$15 for weekend pass. 410-641-5057, <http://www.ocboatshow.com/index.cfm>

DONUT WARS

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 11:00 AM. Decorate donuts and display them for a chance to win the coveted prize of Best Library Donut. Register: 410-641-0650. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

New Hope United Methodist Church, 7338 New Hope Road, 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Menu includes mashed potatoes, greens, string beans, macaroni and cheese, beets, biscuits, dessert and coffee. Cost is \$13 for adults. Carry-outs and baked goods available. 410-543-8244 or 443-235-0251

VALENTINE BINGO & LUNCH

Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., 12:00 PM. Doors open at 11 a.m., lunch served at noon with bingo starting at 1 p.m. Admission cost is \$40 and includes homemade soups, assorted subs and homemade salads, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. Featuring 16 regular games paying \$100 each, four specials paying \$200 each, Winner Take All Jackpot, Tear Offs and

door prizes. Tickets available at Wednesday Bingo or the lodge bar or by calling 302-988-8115.

LEGO® / DUPLO® CHALLENGE 'MARBLE RUNS'

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 1:00 PM. Children 3-14 years, come flex your building skills. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Featuring live music, chef demos, children's activities and other special events. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Feb. 16

SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Inside boat show featuring approximately 350 boats, more than 140 exhibitors including more than 50 boat dealers, bass boats and accessory show specials. Admission costs is \$10 per day or \$15 for weekend pass. 410-641-5057, <http://www.ocboatshow.com/index.cfm>

BRIDAL SHOW

Lighthouse Sound, 12723 St. Martin's Neck Road, 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Complimentary admission for brides and complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a champagne toast. Ticket prices are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lighthouse-sound-bridal-show-tickets-80375153247>. 410-641-1199, <https://lighthousesoundrestaurant.com/ocean-city-maryland-weddings/>

AUTHENTIC ITALIAN DINNER

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 302 N. Baltimore Ave., 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM. Everything is carefully made following old family recipes including homemade salad dressing, pasta, Bolognese sauce and cannoli shells. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children ages 6-12 years and free to those 5 and younger. Carry out available. Advance tickets are recommended. For more information, call the church office at 410-289-3453 or email office@stpaulsbythesea.org or call 410-641-8171.

Mon., Feb. 17

CPAP MASK FITTING

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WPS GIFT DRIVE

Worcester Prep volunteers sponsored a gift drive to collect presents for Worcester County G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity), a nonprofit organization that provides financial aid to families in crisis, vulnerable adults and children in foster care.

Calendar

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 10:00 AM. Coffee served at 9:30 a.m.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM. TOPS is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Berlin group No. 169. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

DELMARVA WOMEN'S A CAPELLA CHORUS

Mondays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 239 Ocean Parkway, 7:00 PM. Come and sing. Drop-ins welcome. Carol, 410-641-6876

Tues., Feb. 18

STORY TIME 'WARM UP WITH BEACH STORIES'

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:30 AM. For children ages 2-5 years. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PLAY TIME

Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 10:30 AM. A play date for infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 PM. The group meets twice a month to discuss both classic and modern reading selections recommended by the Great Books Foundation. 410-208-4014, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

YOUTH MENTORING VOLUNTEER INTEREST MEETING

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services has recently developed a youth mentoring program

that will serve 6th graders through high school seniors. If interested in becoming a youth mentor, contact 410-641-4598 or shine@gowoyo.org.

FAMILY TIME 'CRAFTS'

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Join the group every Tuesday for Family Time. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Tuesdays - Worcester County Health Center, 9730 Healthway Drive, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and a healthy lifestyle. SLCGS@comcast.net

Wed., Feb. 19

MARYLAND VA REPRESENTATIVE

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Representative Michelle Licata is available to offer outreach services to veterans and their families on the third Wednesday of each month. No appointment necessary. 410-713-3482, <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

WITTY KNITTERS

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Knitters, crochet enthusiasts, needle artists of all skill levels are invited. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM. A play date for infant to 5 year old children. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

LAP TIME

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 AM. Songs, stories, games and finger plays for children under 2 years old.

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 11:00 AM. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research followed by a Q&A session. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

John H. 'Jack' Burbage Jr. Regional Cancer Care Center Conference Room, 9707 Healthway Drive, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Women Supporting Women/AGH Support group for women and men who are battling breast cancer (current patients and survivors). Lunch is provided. RSVP: 410-548-7880.

SIT N' STITCH

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM. Drop-in and join the group for an afternoon of knitting, crocheting and other needle arts. Bring your own materials. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

STEAM PM 'CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING'

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 3:45 PM. Children 6 years and older, drop in between 3:45-5 p.m. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

MURDER MYSTERY MOCKTAIL PARTY

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 4:00 PM. Join the group for a mocktail party with light refreshments and figure out who killed the butler. Register: 410-208-4014. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

VICTIMS AND INFORMATION RESOURCE

Berlin library, 13 Harrison Ave., 5:00 PM. A representative from the Maryland Crime Victims Resource Center will offer information and referrals for local resources to anyone who might have ques-

tions after experiencing crime. Stop in to speak with an attorney.

<http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER OP/OC

Wednesdays - Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. Doors open at 7 a.m., meeting begins at 8 a.m. 410-641-7330, <http://www.kiwanisofopoc.org>

DELMARVA HAND DANCE CLUB

Wednesdays - Ocean City Elks Lodge, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave., 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Dance to the sounds of the '50s and '60s music. A \$5 donation to benefit Veterans and local charities in the Delmarva region. Members and guests. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 410-208-1151, <http://delmarvahanddancing.com>

OC/BERLIN ROTARY CLUB MEETING

Wednesdays - Residence Inn by Marriott Ocean City, 300 Seabay Lane, 6:00 PM. 302-540-2127

WEDNESDAY BINGO

Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 13708 Sinepuxent Ave. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., other bingo supplies at 5 p.m. and bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$14 for basic package of 25 games. 410-250-2645

ONGOING EVENTS

ART LEAGUE OFFERS BUS TRIP

The Art League is sponsoring a bus trip to the Baltimore Museum of Art on April 15. The bus will pick up at the Lowe's parking lot on Route 1 in Lewes at 7:15 a.m. and at the Ocean City Center for the Arts at 8 a.m. The bus will arrive back at approximately 7 p.m. The cost is \$65 and includes the bus, entrance to the museum, water and snacks. Tickets are available at the Arts Center, by calling 410-524-9433 or online at artleagueofocancity.org/bus-trip-to-baltimore-museum-of-art/.

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5 P.M.



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 Ocean City Law firm has a position for a Real Estate Settlement Processor. Experience with the Title Express Program preferred but not required. Monday through Friday 9:00 to 4:30. Salary will be based on qualifications.
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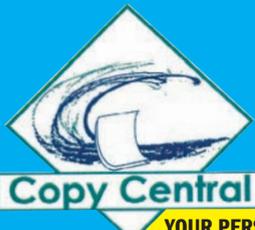
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