



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ILL WINDS

This downed tree in Berlin is just one of many that toppled on Tuesday as Tropical Storm Isaias caused damage throughout the Eastern Shore, with some areas impacted more than others. See story on page 3.

OPA annual meeting must have quorum

Representation of members needed to finalize election

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Scheduled outdoors at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial to accommodate social distancing guidelines, and contingent on attendance, the Ocean Pines Association's annual meeting Saturday will likely finalize the 2020 Board of Director election results.



Steve Tuttle

OPA Vice President Steve Tuttle said the homeowners annual meeting, assuming a quorum of 100 members is present, would serve as the official end of the current election cycle.

See QUORUM Page 8

Town steers clear of forums

Municipality can't be involved in delivering campaign messages

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Berlin citizens will vote for a mayor as well as District 2, District 3 and at-large town council seats during the Oct. 6 municipal election.

Currently, there are five candidates for mayor, two candidates for the at-large councilmember seat and one candidate for the District 2 councilmember seat.

As the Sept. 4 deadline for candidates to file for the fall election approaches, the Berlin town administrative



Mary Bohlen

not/[cannot] hold candidate forums, debates, or any other activity intended to inform the voters of candidates' positions on topics," said Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen. "Getting that information out is the responsibility of the candidates or other interested parties."

Incumbent Mayor Gee Williams said past public forums for Berlin elections were sponsored by local non-

profit organizations or local business associations and were independent of local government.

"The Town never has, [nor] should it ever, host or sponsor candidate forums for any position for our municipal elections," Williams added. "Berlin, or any other municipality, county or the state, would not do this because government-sponsored, or organized election forums would never be considered neutral or impartial."

Williams launched his campaign website on Tuesday. Voters can submit questions or comments directly to him at mayorgeewilliams.com.

See IT'S Page 2

Assessments checks better than expected

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) After granting property owners a 90-day extension to pay annual assessments due on May 1, the Ocean Pines Association remained roughly \$1.1 million short of more than \$9 million due from membership by the Aug. 1 deadline.

OPA Treasurer Larry Perrone said about 87 percent of approximately \$9.4 million due in assessments was received as of the final day.

"It's actually better than we thought it would be," he said.

Perrone said the number of association members pur-



Larry Perrone

suing payment plan options remains unknown.

"We're expecting that more people will get onto the payment plan or ... just haven't gotten around to paying it," he said. "I'm still checking into see how many people have applied for payment plans."

Perrone said interest charges would begin accruing on the unpaid assessments starting Aug. 2.

"The interest rate is at 6

See OPA Page 2

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JOSH KIM/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

IN THE BAG

During the 12th annual Peach Day in Berlin, visitors could purchase bags of peaches for \$8 on the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum lawn.

It's up to voters to question candidates on their positions

Continued from Page 1

Jack Orris, who has filed for the District 2 Council seat, also has a website, orrisforoffice.com, to inform Berlin citizens about the list of issues he will focus on if elected.

Photographer Tony Weeg, who is running for the at-large councilmember seat, can be contacted about his platform at tonyweeg@gmail.com. Or, voters can visit his website at elect.tonyweeg.com.

Councilman and mayoral candidate Zackery Tyndall recently hosted a series called "Ask Zack" to address questions about public safety. He also has a political Facebook page titled Zack Tyndall and a website, www.zacktyndall.com, to learn more about his campaign.

In addition, Berlin citizens can contact mayoral candidate Jennifer Allen via email at jenniferforberlin-mayor@gmail.com.

The deadline for write-in candidates is Sept. 29 at 5 p.m. Those candidates will not appear on the ballot.

Polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Oct. 6. Voters in Districts 1 and 2 will vote at Buckingham Presbyterian Church at 20 S. Main Street and voters in Districts 3 and 4 will vote at the Berlin Police Department at 129 Decatur Street.

However, absentee voting is encouraged for this election amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Applications for absentee ballots will be available on Sept. 3 on the town's website or by contacting Bohlen at mbohlen@berlinmd.gov. Applications will be accepted from Sept. 4-29 by mail. Applications returned in person are due on Oct. 2 at 5 p.m.

Berlin citizens must be registered with the Worcester County Board of Elections to vote. Berlin does not have a separate registration. To register, call the Worcester County Board of Elections office in Snow Hill at 410-632-1320.

For more information, visit berlinmd.gov.

OPA assessment revenue better than anticipated

Continued from Page 1
percent by our bylaws," he said.

The remaining million plus dollar deficit for annual assessment fees represent a larger shortage than in previous years.

"It's close, but we're normally around 99 percent so it's a little bit of a gap," he said.

Perrone said in light of health-safety mandates imposed because of covid-19, and with more members likely to make use of payment plan options, firmer figures are anticipated by the fall.

"We're really not even trying to forecast at this point what's going to happen until after the season's over," he said.

Perrone said once warm weather revenue figures for amenities are in hand any remaining gaps in assessment dollars could be reexamined for bottom line impacts to the OPA annual budget.

"I'm hesitant at this point to analyze any of that because it's still too volatile at this point," he said. "We've got another month and a half before we even look at it."

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Tropical Storm Isaias impacts Berlin Tuesday

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) The Town of Berlin personnel spent Tuesday afternoon cleaning up from the quick but violent visit by Tropical Storm Isaias that morning.

Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said about six large trees fell, along with countless limbs and branches.

As a result, the Berlin Public Works Department is holding a special yard collection on Aug. 11 for occupied residential properties.

Berlin citizens can place debris such

as leaves, pine needles, cones and other vegetation yard waste in a paper or plastic bag on the curb by 6 a.m. on Aug. 11.

Tree limbs or brush must be cut into 4-foot pieces and bundled no larger than 18 inches in diameter.

The town also experienced power outages on and off throughout the day, but the power was restored fully about 2 p.m., Fleetwood said.

"No customer has been more than a couple hours without power," he added, as he expressed gratitude to Tim Lawrence and the Electric Department.

The Electric Utility also replaced a damaged pole on Assateague Road.

The town received less than one inch of rain from the storm, and no flooding occurred.

Before the storm's arrival, the town provided sand bags for citizens at the power plant on William Street.

Ivy Wells, the town's economic and community development director, said businesses were instructed to bring in flags and sandwich board signs to prepare for powerful wind gusts.

Fleetwood applauded Main Street merchants for taking in sandwich

boards, furniture and flowerpots before the storm.

The damage downtown was minor. Fleetwood said two windowpanes blew out of a building across from Town Hall and the owner has been made aware of the need for repair. Another store's awnings suffered slight wind damage.

Several businesses, such as Island Creamery, Burn Wood Fired Pizza and Blacksmith Bar and Restaurant delayed their openings until the later afternoon on Tuesday to ensure the safety of employees and patrons. Beach Memories on North Main Street closed for the day.



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PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

Mother Nature's fury was on display on Tuesday as a tropical storm passed over Worcester County leaving some pathways temporarily impassable from fallen trees in Ocean Pines.

'Sting jet' and high winds from Isaias leaves OP shaken

(Aug. 6, 2020) It was a wild, windy day in Ocean Pines because of Tropical Storm Isaias, with dozens of trees falling all over the community and Police and Public Works crews working throughout the morning and afternoon to keep up.

Only about an inch of rain fell in the community and it seemed the worst had passed by around 10 a.m., when a "sting jet" manifested and caused havoc with high, damaging winds.

According to the Washington Post, a "sting jet forms in rapidly deepening low-pressure systems when a band of precipitation wraps back along a cold conveyor belt in a region of exceptional wind energy ... When it occurs, very fast winds from the mid-levels of the atmosphere can descend to ground-level."

The name comes from the shape, which resembles the stinging tail of a scorpion.

"We thought the worst of the



PHOTO COURTESY OCEAN PINES ASSOCIATION

Extreme weather on Tuesday morning from Tropical Storm Isaias rocked boats and watercraft moored to bulkheads in Ocean Pines.

storm had passed us early on, but the wind picked back up and that caused lots of downed trees," General Manager John Viola said. "The biggest thing is there were no injuries that we know of. Ocean Pines Police and Public Works did an excellent job today and there was a lot of work to be done."




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Berlin undergoes roadway projects after inspections

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Streets throughout Berlin are being paved as part of a road improvements project based on inspections by Davis, Bowen & Friedel Inc. in summer 2017.

The repaving began in July and is expected to be complete by the end of August, weather permitting.

"[We] ask all affected citizens to please be patient as we work through this project," said Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood. "I am in hopes that everyone will fully appreciate the much needed work that is being done once work is completed."

Current street projects are Harrison Avenue, Bottle Branch Road, Flower Street, Showell Street, Railroad Avenue, East Burley Street and Cape Circle.

Within the next few weeks, Germantown Road, Flower Street in front of Dr. William Henry Park, Upshur Street, Tingle Road, Middle Street, Branch Street, Evans Road and Buckingham Road will be resurfaced as well.

In addition, more concrete work will be completed on Commerce Street, Pitts Street and in Walnut Hill.



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Tingle Road and Buckingham Road will be repaved in the coming weeks after a 2017 inspection of Berlin roadways by Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc. determined they needed repairs.

According to the Town of Berlin Roadway Evaluation 2017/2018 Report, Berlin has about 81 roads in Berlin.

The report stated the 10 worst condition roads were Baker Street, Bottle Branch Road, Grace Street, Harrison Avenue, Showell Street, Stevenson Lane, Tingle Road, W. Branch Street, the northern section of Decatur Street and the section of Flower Street near Dr. William Henry Park.

Distress criteria include potholes, patches, riding quality, deficient drainage, curb and gutter and sidewalks.

The estimated cost off the work is: overlay at Bottle Branch Road,

\$47,177.17, rehabilitation at Harrison Avenue, \$372,954.66, mill and overlay plus partial rehabilitation at Showell Street, \$73,480.66, mill and overlay at Tingle Road, \$37,968, mill and overlay at West Branch Street, \$78,215.22, overlay at East Burley Street, \$9,900, mill and overlay at Cape Circle, \$12,705.45, rehabilitation at Flower Street (Henry park), \$97,895.99, overlay at Germantown Road, \$9,370.81, and overlay East Railroad Avenue, \$19,699.37.

"The funds are being used from our FY20/FY21 highway user fees and some of the funding coming from impact fees for the areas where development has impacted the repaved streets," Fleetwood said.

OP will celebrate National Farmers Market Week, Sat.

(Aug. 6, 2020) Ocean Pines is celebrating National Farmers Market Week from Aug. 2-8, as the bayside community shows appreciation for the market, which has run for nine years from its White Horse Park location.

National Farmers Market Week is observed every August, and Gov. Larry Hogan declared Maryland Farmers Market Week to coincide with the national observance.

The local market is open every Saturday, year-round, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Farmers markets are a unique incubator of small local businesses that allow for shoppers to circulate dollars within their community," Market Manager David Bean said. "The Ocean Pines marketplace is a special event market meant to demonstrate all of the impacts that community-based farmers markets can have on local communities."

For more information on the Ocean Pines Farmers and Artisans Market, visit

<https://oceanpines.org/web/page/s/farmers-artisans-market>.

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Ocean Pines sources new police chief from old guard

(Aug. 6, 2020) Ocean Pines Police Department veteran Lt. Leo Ehrisman took over the reins of the department officially last Saturday, succeeding retiring Police Chief David Massey and becoming the first home-grown officer to climb the ranks to the top.

A native of the Pittsville area, Ehrisman began his policing career as a patrol officer in 1986, after a stint as a professional musician who toured all over the U.S.

“I was actually on the road when my daughter was born,” he said. “When she was born, we knew something was wrong, but we didn’t know what. And it turned out to be cerebral palsy. So, my traveling days were done. I got on a plane and came home, left everything I owned on a bus, and I had to find a job.”

Ehrisman started at the Ocean Pines department as a part-time dispatcher, filling in while another worker was on maternity leave, and never left.

“I was hired here by Chief [Rod] Murray in 1986 and he sent me to forensic school and to CSI school. I became a forensics investigator and a crime scene investigator,” he said.

Ultimately, he took over running the department’s criminal investigations arm before becoming Massey’s designated successor.

Ehrisman said the transition from drummer to police officer wasn’t too awkward, largely because of his prior experience as a firefighter.

“Some cops can say, ‘My uncle was a police officer, my grandfather was a police officer, my dad was an officer’ – I didn’t have any of that,” Ehrisman said. “All my family were fire and EMS. I’ve been in fire service since I was a cadet at 13 and went in to be a medic, and then went directly into the department at 18.”

He put in 30 years as a volunteer in Pittsville, before moving to Ocean Pines about nine years ago. He now volunteers for the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department.

Policework in Ocean Pines, according to Ehrisman, includes residential crimes against people and property.

“It’s very unique being in Ocean Pines, because it’s 99% residential – we don’t have businesses, we don’t have bars, we don’t have hotels. So, most of our crimes are against residential properties or the common domestic disturbance,” he said.

Because of the resort nature of the community, police also deal with a healthy population of tourists.

“Criminals like to go on vacation too,” Ehrisman said. “It’s nothing for us to pull someone over on a traffic stop because

they have a headlight out, to find they’re wanted in Montgomery County or Pennsylvania or New Jersey. We get a lot of that,” he said.

In his current role, Ehrisman also serves as a coordinator with multi-jurisdictional task forces from county, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

“To be able to have a relationship with outside agencies is really beneficial,” he said. “We have a great relationship with the state police, with the sheriff’s office, with Ocean City – with all the neighboring agencies. We’re very much a part of that multi-jurisdictional partnership.”

Ehrisman said he also believes in the importance of community policing.

“I don’t let my guys go out there and be G.I. Joe – I don’t want them out there with combat gear and Kevlar and night vision goggles. When Mr. Jones calls and he wants a police officer, he expects to see a uniformed police officer come and assist him – he doesn’t want a soldier coming to his front door,” he said. “I think that means a lot.”

To new officers, Ehrisman says, “Don’t come in here and tell me how
See EHRISMAN Page 7



Leo Ehrisman

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Sweet Shack offers array of frozen treats in Ocean Pines

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Things got a little tastier in Ocean Pines last month following the opening of Sweet Shack ice cream and frozen yogurt shop in the Manklin Creek Shopping Center.

Since launching the family-owned and operated business on July 17, Michelle Dell'Aquila-Reed said the reception has been beyond expectations.

"It's been pretty good and probably even better than I expected," she said. "I've gotten a lot of positive feedback."

Dell'Aquila-Reed, along with her husband, Matt Reed and daughter, Madeline, are open Monday through Thursday from 11a.m.-9 p.m., with closing time extended to 10 p.m. both Friday and Saturday. Sunday hours of operation are from noon-9 p.m.

Since relocating to the Eastern Shore from New York City in 2010,

Dell'Aquila-Reed, who previously worked managing resort restaurants, was dealt a life-altering blow after being diagnosed with stage four cancer several years ago.

"I'm living through my own thing," she said.

Earlier this year following the covid-19 outbreak Dell'Aquila-Reed said her family decided to actualize a long-held dream with the new business venture.

"I always liked this spot since I moved down here," she said. "When it came up for rent I said, 'Lets try to go for it.'"

Living out a childhood dream, Dell'Aquila-Reed said the goal is to leave Sweet Shack customers savoring quality soft serve and hand-dipped ice cream, sundaes, milk shakes, frozen yogurt, gelati and Italian ice.

"We do 24 flavors of soft serve and frozen yogurt," she said. "They're all made with essential oils."



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Sweet Shack ice cream and frozen yogurt shop proprietors, Matt Reed and Michelle Dell'Aquila-Reed, with daughter, Madeline, are serving up a wealth of flavor options at their location in the Manklin Creek Shopping Center in Ocean Pines.

The recently opened Sweet Shack is the realization of a youthful fascination with a comparable operation in the Catskills.

"Growing up, my parents had a summer home in Pennsylvania," she said. "There was a little ice cream spot in the middle of nowhere that had 24 flavors."

The warm weather visits to the ice cream merchant left an indelible impression.

"I always thought it was fascinating the way they made them," she said.

The quality offerings were flavorful enough to linger in Dell'Aquila-Reed's consciousness until eventually helping motivate the family to provide a similar aesthetic in Ocean Pines.

"How can you not have 24 flavors of soft serve near the beach?" she said.

Higher quality ingredients are also
See SWEET Page 11

Ehrisman ascends to top position

Continued from Page

many tickets you've written - don't come in here and tell me what you've done, unless you can tell me you helped Mrs. Smith when she was locked out of her car."

Along with policing and service with the fire department, Ehrisman also has been involved with the community through Little League Baseball. He is the District 8 Administrator and the Maryland State Director for Little League International Baseball/Softball in the Eastern Region.

Ehrisman said he and Massey first

spoke about the possibility of a further promotion about four years ago, when Massey asked what his intentions were.

"I've got over 30 years here and, I'll be honest, I wasn't pulling any punches. I really wasn't ready to work for another new chief and to spend two or three years teaching another person about the area," he said. "When Massey came here, I was not prepared to be a chief, but he has made it his mission to prepare me for his chair before he left."

Ehrisman also plans to promote a potential successor right away, nam-

ing Sgt. Shakhan Toppin to lieutenant in his old slot.

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Quorum key to annual membership meeting

Continued from Page 1

"We have to have a forum, which means we have to have 100 eligible voters present," he said. "That means people who have paid their assessments by close of business on July 1."

Tuttle fears an array of factors could prevent the assigned mark from being reached.

"I don't want to be pessimistic ... but I wonder if we will get 100," he said. "We sometimes struggle getting a forum even when it's in the As-sateague Room."

Besides coronavirus concerns, Tuttle said attracting a crowd to an outdoor meeting during the height of summer could be difficult.

"We don't have a lot of choices," he said. "We're required to at least try and have an annual meeting."

If the weather isn't conducive to meeting outdoors, the annual meeting will be cancelled.

"We're kind of caught between a rock and a hard place as far as getting this thing done," he said. "There was no indoor space big enough to accommodate a quorum or 100 people if that many showed up."

Tuttle stressed that facemasks must be worn by everyone attending.

"They really want to be careful that we follow the CDC and Gov. [Larry]

Hogan's guidelines," he said.

Health safety procedures will include setting up 100 chairs spaced six feet apart on the grass field by the Worcester County Veterans Memorial.

"If you come there as a couple, you'll still have to sit apart at the time of the meeting," he said. "We're not going to allow you to move two chairs together."

Tuttle said members are requested to leave chairs where they are positioned.

"It's just clear that to keep everybody separate makes sense," he said.

Other safety adaptations include a two-tiered check in process.

"They will be required to sign in when they come at one table," he said.

The initial sign-in process is to collect data to allow contact tracing if a coronavirus outbreak occurs following the meeting.

"Once they sign in, depending on their name in the alphabet, they'll go to one of the appropriate tables to check in with the Elections Committee, who will verify they're on the list as an eligible voter," he said. "They will be tabbing that as we go so they will know when we reach 100 [or] if we do."

The Elections Committee will try

to confirm the quorum count by the meeting's scheduled start time of 9 a.m. on Saturday. Members are requested to bring ID to assure verification.

"They will signal to [OPA] President [Doug Parks] that we do or don't have a quorum," he said.

At that point, the meeting will proceed if the prescribed attendance is reached.

"If there is not a quorum then the board will hold a special meeting at a later date," he said.

Either on Saturday, or a yet to be determined date in the immediate future, vote totals will be officially recorded, but results for the 2020 OPA Board election will be tabulated and announced this Friday.

"They're already validated at the end of the [ballot] count on Friday, but the board receives them and then it becomes an official end of the election, if you will," he said.

Tuttle said to support full transparency the OPA resolution governing elections and referendums was amended to allow vote counts to be announced just prior to the annual meeting.

"That was just a little bit awkward holding onto that information once its been done, so we modified [the resolution] to allow announcing the

results of the election as soon as the ballots are counted," he said.

In addition to providing vote totals to candidates and board members on Friday, information will be posted on the OPA website with email blasts sent to members.

Tuttle said the ballot count, which will take place starting at 10 a.m. on Friday in the East Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center, is open for interested parties to observe.

"Usually not many people show up, and it should be enough space in there for social distancing," he said. "If 50 people show up, we're going to have a problem."

In addition to making two selections among three board candidates vying for a pair of open seats, OPA voters are also replying to a survey question gauging support and opposition to the use of electronic voting in future election cycles.

In addition to election validation, the annual meeting agenda also includes the annual Sam Wilkinson Volunteer Award presentation, along with reports from General Manager John Viola, OPA Attorney Jeremy Tucker, OPA President Doug Parks and Auditor Paul Shifrin. The meeting will close with a public comment period limited to five minutes per individual.

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PHOTO COURTESY LORI THOMPSON

Wild Horse Cabanas, offering custom, private beach set-ups, began operations at Assateague Island National Seashore last month.

Wild Horse Cabanas rentals opens

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) After spending a lifetime enjoying the aesthetics of Assateague Island National Seashore, the proprietors of Wild Horse Cabanas have turned passion into profit.

Owners Lori Thompson and Gina Servant launched the cabana and beach rental company last month.

"We officially opened the weekend of July 11-12," Thompson said. "We started the process with the National Park Service at the end of December."

Among the options Wild Horse

Cabanas offers Assateague visitors are private set-ups to accommodate up to a half-dozen guests, with tent sizes ranging from 13 x 13 feet up to 13 x 26 feet. The packages include chaise lounges, bistro table and chairs, beach towels, throw pillows,

See ASSATEAGUE Page10

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Assateague fans open business

Continued from Page 9
 greenery, an outdoor rug and cooler with ice.

Thompson attributed the business's genesis to a reverence for Assateague Island dating back to childhood.

"Literally, I spent the last 40 years of my life visiting since I was 12 years old," she said. "Our family grew up on Assateague."

Thompson said in addition to paying typical park entrance fees, Wild Horse Cabanas clients are advised about the perks of park membership.

"One of the things that we encourage every single person that visits the park is to pay for a yearly pass," she said. "We want to encourage them to come back because that's revenue for the park."

Before opening last month, Thompson said the couple completed a lengthy approval process with the National Park Service.

"We started the process at the end of December and paid our initial fees in January," she said. "We had to present them with a complete basic understanding of how our business would run and how we would make sure we took care of the island's natural resources and wildlife."

Liz Davis with the National Park Service said Wild Horse Cabanas was approved for a "commercial use authorization" after completing the required vetting process.

"Their CUA was approved this spring and will expire at the end of 2021," she said.

Davis, Assateague Island National Seashore's Chief of Interpretation and Education, said the park service authorization functions as a business permit for individuals, groups or entities to pursue commercial ventures related to visitor services.

"We currently have about 35 CUAs, which are good for two years," she said. "They may or may not be renewed, but a new application is required to renew."

During the approval process Thompson learned the National Park Service began issuing business licenses in the 1870s.

"It's certainly not anything new," she said. "There's a long history of individuals working with our National Parks to offer amenities for visitors."

Thompson said in addition to giving a business plan with park officials, the couple was required to outline pandemic preparations.

"We had to develop a covid response and how we were going to make ... a safe offering to people," she said. "Right now, it's vitally important that we have it."

Wild Horse Cabanas joins other entities already operating on Assateague Island.

"We have a park concession operating the Beach Hut and Assateague Outfitters rentals," she said.

Before issuing business permits for commercial activities, the Na-

tional Park Service assures proposals are minimally invasive without affecting natural resources.

Davis said permits are only approved if proposals are determined to be an appropriate use of Assateague Island National Seashore.

Wild Horse Cabanas' approach is centered on island preservation.

"With us, we do all the work, so we ensure when they leave everything is cleaned up," she said. "No holes left on the beach or burning firewood left in the sand."

Feedback from clients and park rangers has been positive to this point.

"They're quite pleased, because we leave the beach better than we found it when we are finished," she said.

When guests arrive, the first step involves an educational component.

"We actually have welcome packets in all of our cabanas that we go over verbally with our guests," she said. "We give them strict instructions about the horses [including] staying 40 feet away and protecting their food."

Thompson said the goal is to provide clients with a superior ecological perspective.

"They're actually getting one on one instruction and ... interaction about how important it is to preserve the wildlife and ... the beauty that is Assateague," she said. "We are making sure that they leave only their footprint."

Thompson and Servant exchanged wedding vows on Assateague in 2013 after Maryland legalized same-sex unions.

"That many times was our refuge to go out to Assateague," she said. "The absolute last thing that we would want to do is ... anything that would hurt the island."

The couple is taking measures to protect the island and its inhabitants, and that includes fostering several ponies through Assateague Island Alliance.

"We want to do our part and then some," she said. "Most people will find we're here to be advocates of the island [and] not here to make millions of dollars on the backs of the ponies."

Thompson said the new venture was met with skepticism and suspicion by some residents, while others have embraced the concept.

"As many locals that are unfortunately up in arms about it, we have just as many locals that are ecstatic about our service," she said. "We probably rented to more locals so far than out-of-towners."

Thompson said the fledgling business booked 20 rentals and catered to more than 50 guests through the end of July.

"We are a mom-and-mom business," she said. "We're not a corporation [and] we don't own 45 blocks of Coastal Highway."

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Recovery program gives Wor. Arts Council benefits in July

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) The Worcester County Arts Council was one of five nonprofits to be selected for \$1,000 of customized consulting and benefits geared toward pandemic recovery through the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore's new Nonprofit Pandemic Recovery Technical Assistance Program announced on Facebook on July 22.

The pilot program offers technical assistance for small to mid-sized nonprofits with budgets of less than \$400,000.

Eligible nonprofits can receive benefits such as one-on-one consulting with experts, Maryland Nonprofits membership underwriting, Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore tutorials for remote work scenarios, grant funding research, grant application review and virtual webinars and trainings on various topics including pandemic recovery.

"[The award] provides one full year of Maryland Nonprofits Mem-



Anna Mullis

bership (value \$400) as well as one-on-one expert consultation and guidance from the Maryland Nonprofits to assist our organization with transitioning our operations and adapting to the pandemic circumstances," said Anna Mullis, executive director of The Worcester County Arts Council.

Applications for the selection process are due the first of each month from June to October.

To be eligible, an organization must be registered as a local nonprofit before January 2018, must have a good standing with the state of Maryland, must have an annual budget less than \$400,000, must be located in Worcester, Wicomico or Somerset counties and must be providing direct programs and services to local residents.

For more information, visit cfes.org/covid19.

Sweet Shack stresses quality

Continued from Page 7

the focus for soft serve production.

"They're actually essential oils you add into the ice cream with no added sugars, just the flavor," she said. "You mix it with either vanilla or chocolate as the base and then press it down back into the soft serve shape."

Besides two-dozen soft serve flavor options, hand-dipped ice cream, milk shakes, gelati and Italian ice, Dell'Aquila-Reed said personalized ice cream cakes would be added to the menu soon.

"I love cakes and decorating cakes," she said.

Regardless of starting a new business with challenges beyond the typical hurdles during the coronavirus pandemic, the reception was strong, Dell'Aquila-Reed said.

"It was kind of a soft opening," she said. "I didn't really put it out there but everybody came."

To learn more look for Sweet Shack on social media, including Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat.

"We're working on a website" she said.

Winding out the first month in business, despite the extraordinary times, Dell'Aquila-Reed said the rewards of satisfying consumers have outweighed other obstacles.

"It's been a bit of a challenge with some things," she said. "Out of all this craziness I wanted something good to come out of it."

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Project halted for buildings on Pitts Street in Berlin

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Plans for renovations on building facades in downtown Berlin have been dropped by Fisher Architecture, which reportedly decided not to sign a contract because of unforeseen costs of the project.

Mayor Gee Williams said he learned on July 24 that the Salisbury-based company did not want to purchase and renovate the properties owned by Jack Burbage. The properties included storefronts on Pitts Street and Main Street.

“It was obvious from conversation that the financial numbers didn’t work out for the potential investors, who were going to totally renovate the property,” Williams said. “They have to take in account the cost of purchasing the property plus the cost of revitalizing it.”

The Berlin Historic District Commission approved the proposal presented by Frank Willing, Chris Davis and other representatives of Fisher Architecture, after a compromise on June 3.

During the meeting, the commission voted to approve the project provided



PHOTO COURTESY BERLIN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Representatives of Fisher Architecture have decided not to move forward with purchasing and renovating properties on Pitts and Main streets in downtown Berlin after unforeseen expenses.

that the Pitts Street corner included as much brick as possible, was reduced a foot in height and included more cornice detail to fit the style of the town.

“I think the folks proposed a very practical and beneficial plan, and I do believe this will happen sooner or later,” Williams said. “Quite frankly, I think most citizens of Berlin would obviously like to see it hap-

pen as soon as possible. I do think it will, but like anyone else, I’m not sure when.”

Williams said he is interested in seeing the project proceed, whether it be with Fisher Architecture or other investors.

“In the long run, it’s certainly to the community’s benefit, to see this last major revitalization project be completed,” he said.

Assisted living staff members help with video, phone calls

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Local assisted living facilities have created new approaches to help their residents and families stay connected despite all the social distancing restrictions.

Pamela Schaffer and her brother Steven Bloyd, who own Catered Living in Ocean Pines and Chesapeake Manor Assisted Living in Willards, Maryland, have taken safety precautions, such as prohibiting visitors inside the facilities, to maintain the health of their residents.

Schaffer said residents at her facilities stayed connected to family members via FaceTime in the beginning.

“Another way is a lot of family members started bringing chairs and sitting outside of their windows,” Schaffer said. “We just were cleared by the State of Maryland to allow the family members and the residents to visit outside six feet apart.”

At Catered Living, residents and their family members visit underneath a pergola while maintaining the required distance of at least six feet.

There are two facilities at Catered Living, each which accommodates 16 residents.

No residents at Catered Living, 1135 Ocean Parkway, have contracted the coronavirus, Schaffer added.

“Temperatures are taken,” Schaffer said. “We do everything we can to protect the residents.”

Director Tracy Creek added that weekly testing for coronavirus is being conducted. At this time, all the tests have been negative.

According to Catered Living’s website, residents receive three homemade meals daily, assistance with daily activities and medication management and administration.

See FACILITIES Page 13



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Facilities employ virtual modes of communication

Continued from Page 12

Housekeeping and laundry services are offered as well.

The monthly fee also includes emergency on-call system, cable television, activity programming, transportation, kitchenette with refrigerators in each room, snacks, handicapped accessible baths in each room.

The Woodlands of Ocean Pines, which is located next to Catered Living on Ocean Parkway, is an independent and assisted living condominium community that offers medication management and disbursement, three meals a day plus snacks, activities, cleaning of apartments twice a week and laundry service. The staff also helps residents with showering and dressing if necessary.

The Woodlands opened in 2007 and is owned by Dr. Richard Handelman.

Currently, there are 27 residents in assisted living. Jackie Flora, the business and marketing manager for Catered Living and The Woodlands, said The Woodlands facility is likely to have up to 49 residents in assisted living.

Between the total 57 residents at The Woodlands community and the 40 employees, there has not been any cases of covid-19.

"We're very, very proud of that," Flora added.

Residents at The Woodlands were quarantined for about four months.

"Our independent and assisted living residents said although it was very difficult, they wouldn't want to have been any other place than here," Flora said. "They felt extremely safe."

The Woodlands has adapted health safety practices, including social distancing guidelines, to protect the residents and the employees.

"We have a large dining room, and each of our residents has their own table six feet apart," Flora said.

Residents also have to wear masks when moving around the facility.

Throughout the building, there are about 12 hand sanitizing stations, Flora added.

Flora said the facility is allowing visi-



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Macky and Pam Stansell House of Coastal Hospice in Ocean Pines is allowing two visitors per resident and encourages other means of communication with family members during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

tors outside at this time.

"No one is allowed in the building, but they are allowed to visit [outside] with social distancing of six feet apart," Flora said. "Plus, residents and visitors must wear masks at all times."

In addition, The Woodlands staff helps residents make FaceTime and regular calls to their loved ones.

Chesapeake Cottage, a family-owned assisted living facility at 6625 Whitesburg Road in Snow Hill, is permitting family members to visit residents outside while the residents stay on the porch at this time, said owner Seth Underwood.

"We have also had many 'window visits,' phone calls and emails to keep them in touch with their families," Underwood said. "Visitors are not allowed in the facility at this time unless it is an emergency."

Chesapeake Cottage is utilizing PPE such as face shields, masks, gloves and gowns as part of new safety measures. Covid-19 tests are also administered frequently.

"Thankfully, we have been extremely lucky and none of our residents or staff have contracted the virus," Underwood said. "We currently have 13 out of 16 maximum residents. We have been extremely cautious admitting new resi-

dents because of the virus. New residents must have a negative covid test and be quarantined for 14 days if admitted but at this point keeping our current residents and staff [safe] is our top priority."

Chesapeake Cottage offers 24-hour care with all meals provided as well as social, educational, fitness and cultural programming.

The Macky and Pam Stansell House of Coastal Hospice in Ocean Pines is still allowing visitors inside the building because all patients are terminally ill, said Bob Miller, the senior director of business development.

"Typically, [patients] will come up with a list of two visitors, who are allowed to visit regularly," Miller said. "If or when our patient begins to go into active dying, then we are able to make some other arrangements so that we can accommodate the family visiting their loved one."

The two permitted visitors per patient must consistently be the same two visitors to limit exposure to the virus, Miller added.

The Stansell House opened in June 2019 at 1500 Ocean Parkway, becoming the first hospice home for the lower shore with the primary goal to offer patients comfort at the end of their lives,

according to its website.

The facility's amenities include a meditation room, a labyrinth meditation garden, community room, space for families to gather and dine together, 12 private patient rooms, a porch and veranda with rocking chairs and a library stocked with resources for families.

Patients in hospice receive care from doctors, nurses, social workers, spiritual counselors, therapists or nursing aides.

Miller said social distancing guidelines have been enforced at the facility.

Staff members are tested weekly for covid-19. During last week's testing, all staff members' tests were negative.

The Stansell House is utilizing in-house testing as well as other testing stations in the area.

"Any visitor that comes here and all of our staffing wears PPE," Miller said. "Any visitor that comes in, they are screened. Their temperature is taken, and they are given PPE face masks to wear if they don't have their own."

Staff members can also help patients with virtual visitations over Skype or Zoom.

Miller added that the facility encourages letter writing and phone calls, especially during the pandemic.



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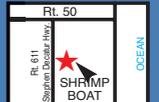
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Private schools to start on campus in Sept.

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Gov. Larry Hogan issued an amended emergency order on Monday to ensure that local schools retain the primary authority to evaluate when to reopen their facilities for in-person instruction with guidance from CDC and the state.

"To be clear, Maryland's recovery continues to be based on a flexible, community-based approach that follows science, not politics," Hogan said in a statement after signing the amended order. "As long as schools develop safe and detailed plans that follow CDC and state guidelines, they should be empowered to do what's best for their community."

The Worcester County Public School system will begin its year with distance learning, or Stage One, of its "Responsible Return" model, Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor announced at an afternoon press conference on July 30 at the board of education offices in Newark.

"We recognize the significant challenges that distance learning poses for many of our students' academic and social emotional development, which is why we intend to re-evaluate conditions every two weeks," he said. "As those conditions allow, we hope to move into Stage Two by Monday, Sept. 28, which will welcome back into our buildings



John McDonald

small groups of identified students for face-to-face instruction."

In what appeared to be a show of support for the decision, also present at the conference were board of education members, the county commissioners, representatives of the county health department, the Worcester County Teachers Association and the Worcester County Educational Support Personnel Association.

Taylor thanked these organizations for their partnership and guidance in the "Responsible Return" model and the decision to return to school on Sept. 8 with virtual instruction.

The school system also received feedback from more than 2,200 people about the four-stage "Responsible Return" model in one day through surveys, according to a Facebook post.

The model calls for — Stage One: distance learning; Stage Two: hybrid learning with a tiered support model; Stage Three: hybrid learning with an alternating week model and Stage Four: face-to-face learning.

In the second stage, students who require school-based Tier 2 and Tier 3 support will be targeted to receive face-to-face instruction.

Currently, the schools have been bringing small groups of students to the



Lou Taylor

classrooms for summer academy programs. Stage Two will build on this structure. In compliance with Gov. Larry Hogan's orders, there will be a 15-person limited occupancy in each room.

The school system hopes to begin the second stage in early or mid-September.

Stage Three will aim to bring back as many students as possible to in-person instruction on an alternating weekly schedule.

When in the classroom, according to the model, students should have assigned seating, and schools should develop plans to enforce social distancing guidelines.

Lastly, Stage Four would involve all students returning to in-person instruction with new safety requirements.

"We have received an enormous amount of input from our families, faculty, and staff," Taylor said, referring to the thousands of survey responses, emails and messages school officials have received over the last several weeks. "I am confident that today's decision is the right one for our community."

Taylor also announced that families could choose to keep their children in distance-learning when students are

able to return to the classroom.

"We recognize the fear that many families have at this tenuous time, so to ease those fears, Worcester County Public Schools will continue to offer a choice of distance-learning for any families that do not wish to physically send their child back to school," Taylor said. "Parents will be able to exercise this option as schools reach out to invite their child back to the classroom."

The decision to go slow places Worcester's public schools in line with more than 75 percent of the state's 24 school districts, which will begin the year with online learning. That list includes Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Montgomery, Carroll, Prince George's, Somerset, Dorchester, and Wicomico counties.

Local school districts have until Aug. 14 to submit their 2020 reopening plans to the state.

After many school districts in the state decided to begin the academic year with virtual learning, The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association announced on Monday that it would postpone the 2020 high school fall and winter competition season during the first semester.

A hybrid two-semester plan is being finalized, which will focus on modified competition seasons for all sports during the second semester. More details

See WCPS Page 15

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WCPS to return virtually in fall

Continued from Page 14
about the hybrid plan will be announced before the beginning of the school year.

Worcester Preparatory School on South Main Street in Berlin is expected to begin with in-person instruction and a modified athletic program with the assistance of the Eastern Shore Independent Athletic Conference.

“Worcester Preparatory School is planning for students to return to campus on September 1. They will follow a traditional schedule that incorporates protocols for social and physical distancing, sanitization and the use of PPEs,” said John McDonald, Jr., who became the Head of School last month. “Classrooms have been measured and set up so that desks are at least six feet apart and each desk contains a personal space desk divider, which were donated by our Parent Association. The Parent Association is also providing six-foot plexiglass barriers for all of our teachers. Our students and staff will be required to wear masks. In addition, a generous Trustee has donated air scrubbers for every classroom, and we have also implemented a thorough plan for cleaning and sanitizing at the end of the day.”

McDonald added that the school’s task force is also making plans for virtual learning to implement in the future if necessary.

Seaside Christian Academy, located at 12637A Ocean Gateway in Ocean City, is also planning to return to campus full-time for all students on Sept. 8. According to its recovery plan, the school is preparing to reopen in either Phase 2 or Phase 3.

If Maryland remains in Phase 2 by the start date, Seaside Christian Academy will offer on-campus instruction with enhanced sanitation procedures, modified chapel services to limit large gatherings, temperature and health screenings and limits on visitors entering the building. In addition, students must bring masks to school to wear if needed.

If the state enters Phase 3 by Sept. 8, then the school will offer on-campus instruction and maintain enhance sanitation. Chapel services will proceed as normal, masks will be optional and health screenings will be conducted at

home. Additional safety measures will be taken as necessary.

Social distancing will be practiced when feasible for grades K-12 in classrooms and hallways, but not at recess. However, in Phase 2, the recess schedule will permit one class on the playground at a time.

At this time, Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School will begin the school year on Sept. 8 with in-person instruction five days a week and accommodations to ensure the safety of students, teachers, staff and families, said Amanda Evans, director of Admissions and Advancement.

“Students in each classroom will be seated six feet apart,” Evans said. “The occupancy of each classroom has been changed to reflect the new spacing. Everyone in our school will be required to wear fitted masks indoors while traveling through the hallways and in situations where social distancing is not achievable. Grades 3-8 will wear their mask indoors at all times, other than while eating. Our teachers will wear shields while instructing or allow for better communication with students.”

She added that an enhanced sanitation process will be implemented as well as better hygiene practices, including frequent hand washing and more time spent outdoors.

“New sensor operated hand sanitizer stations are being installed throughout our school,” Evans said. “All of our air filters meet the appropriate standards and windows will be opened to increase air flow throughout the building. Students will come into the school at the entrance closest to their pod to eliminate any potential overcrowding and will remain with their homerooms throughout the day ... Markers are being installed on our floors and outside to give our community a visual display of proper social distancing.”

The school on Racetrack Road in Berlin is also limiting enrollment to under 200 students to allow for new capacity restrictions in classrooms.

Currently, a decision has not been made regarding fall and winter athletics programs.

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Md. Coastal Bays applying for federal estuary grants

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) The Maryland Coastal Bays Program is applying this week for a Coastal Watersheds Grant through the National Estuary Program.

Executive Director Kevin Smith said Restore America's Estuaries administers the funding stream provided by the Environmental Protection Agency for the National Estuary Program.

"We're putting in three proposals," he said. "Right now, the letters of intent are due at the end of this week."

The grant program is intended to protect and restore water quality and ecological conditions of 28 estuaries nationally.

Smith said the 2020 request for proposal would be due in full by later this fall.

"We're putting that together and seeing if we get invited to put in a bigger proposal," he said.

Notification of awards would begin in early 2021.

"That money, hopefully, would be available sometime after the beginning of the calendar year," he said.

Established through the Clean Water Act in 1987, the nationally competitive Coastal Watersheds Grant Program backs projects aimed at remedying conditions that threaten the environmental health of coastal regions and estuary areas.

"Obviously, any opportunities to improve water quality, treat stormwater or improve habitat we're going to take advantage," he said.

Among the congressional environmental priorities the Coastal Water-



Kevin Smith

sheds Grant Program addresses are: habitat loss that impacts water quality or fisheries, reducing detrimental algae blooms, limiting invasive species that impact water-based recreation or inhibit wastewater treatment plants, coastal erosion from flooding and sea level rise, nutrient runoff impacts and emerging waterway contaminants.

Smith said the letter of intent filed on Friday would target three undertakings.

"We've got some additional stormwater work in Ocean Pines that we'll be applying for," he said. The second proposal is to enhance stormwater treatment quality in the southern bays near Chincoteague.

"The last one is a proposal for enhancing and restoring some of the colonial bird nesting habitat in the coastal bays," he said.

In recent years a precipitous decline has been observed in migrating bird species traditionally spotted on the Eastern Shore.

Smith said shifting environmental factors could adversely affect ecotourism that has grown on the Eastern Shore in recent decades.

"Things like the Delmarva Birding Weekend has turned into a pretty big deal," he said. "We're really focusing a lot of energy on trying to figure out how we can stem that decline and restore some of these habitats that these birds, like the black skimmer, can continue to nest in the area."

Annual Fiddler's Convention canceled due to coronavirus

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) The 28th annual Fiddlers Convention scheduled for Sept. 25-27 in downtown Berlin has been canceled due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis, according to a post on the Berlin Maryland Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

"This event has been a favorite of visitors and locals for almost 3 decades and will be sorely missed by all," the post stated.

The Fiddlers Convention is a free three-day event of bluegrass, Cajun and Celtic music in downtown Berlin, where musicians from across the country compete for thousands in cash prizes in adult and youth fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin and bluegrass band contests.

The chamber of commerce stated that it was unfeasible to host a large-scale event and ensure the safety of all present with the narrow streets that do not allow for social distancing.

The Town of Berlin has canceled many events to prevent large gatherings until after Labor Day, including the annual Bathtub Races, Memorial Day Parade and July 3 fireworks.

In addition, the monthly concerts on the lawn have been canceled as well as live music during the farmers market on Sundays.

Last Saturday, the annual Peach Festival proceeded with a modified celebration that prohibited craft vendors and encouraged social distancing throughout downtown Berlin.

John Fager, who operates The Atlantic Hotel, has canceled the Small Town Throw Down scheduled for Sept. 12, said Ivy Wells, the town's economic and community development director.

At this time, Berlin Oktoberfest is still scheduled for Oct. 17. Wells said a determination on that event will be made in September.

Chamber Music by the Sea hosts Zoom shows

Fifth annual festival lineup includes virtual concerts by classical instrumentalists

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) The fifth annual Chamber Music by the Sea series will return Aug. 18-22 virtually via Zoom. Chamber Music by the Sea, which was established by Elena Urioste in 2016, is the first classical music festival in Berlin and Snow Hill.

“This place has everything... except a chamber music festival!” was a thought that ran through my mind over 17 years ago when I first visited Berlin, Maryland,” Urioste said.

“The stunning beauty of the Assateague Island National Seashore, picturesque charm of the towns of Berlin and Snow Hill, delicious local food, a real appreciation for art of all varieties — it seemed like an ideal lo-

cation to set up a summer chamber music festival,” she added.

The summer concerts are usually held at venues in Berlin, South Point and Snow Hill, but this year musicians will perform live from their own homes around the world.

“In the past, we’ve sold up to 500 tickets across the entire festival week, but we’re hoping that because travel is no longer a restriction this year, many more people will want to tune in and hear this group of phenomenal musicians play right from their own homes around the world,” Urioste said.

The 2020 festival lineup features internationally acclaimed artists Elena Urioste on violin, Grace Park on violin, Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt on viola, Xavier Foley on double bass, Brook Speltz on cello, Tom Poster on piano, Juan-Miguel Hernandez on viola, Laura van der Heijden on cello, Rosalind Ventris on viola and Jonathan Biss on piano.

“We’ll have musical contributions from artists in London, Montreal, Los Angeles, Philadelphia ... and even one who’s currently based in “the other Berlin” – Germany,” Urioste said.

The 2020 festival is presented in part by Worcester County Education Foundation, Paul M. Angell Family Foundation and Worcester County



Elena Urioste

Arts Council.

All festival ticket sales benefit the Worcester County Education Foundation and support year-round arts initiatives in Worcester County Public Schools.

According to a press release, a grant from the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation will allow for a new initiative called Virtual Visiting Artists, which will enable acclaimed musicians to interact directly with students in live virtual sessions this school year.

A short family concert will take place on Saturday, Aug. 22 at 10:30 a.m. It is a free show and will be broadcast on Facebook and YouTube.

Viewers are encouraged to bring paper and coloring tools for a draw along with the live performance.

CHAMBER MUSIC BY THE SEA 2020 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE:

Aug. 18 at 7 p.m.: the music of Grieg Sonata and a #UriPoste-Jukebox-style set via Zoom

Aug. 20 at 7 p.m.: the music of Schubert String Trio and a selection of popular favorites by Tom Poster via Zoom

Aug. 21 at 11 a.m.: free yoga for musicians workshop via Zoom

Aug. 22 at 10:30 a.m.: a family-friendly concert and draw-along via Facebook and YouTube

Aug. 22 at 7 p.m.: the music of Lila Wildy Quillin and Dvorak’s Piano Quartet in E-flat Minor

Ticket options for the other shows this year are: \$20 for a single concert event on Zoom, \$40 for a single concert event as well as VIP pass for a 45-minute meet and greet with the musicians before the start of the show and \$100 for a full week VIP pass, which includes access to three ticketed events and time with musicians before each show.

For more information about the festival and to purchase tickets, visit www.chambermusicbythesea.com or www.wced.foundation.

Alternative ideas as senior centers remain shuttered

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) Forced to shutter senior centers in Berlin, Ocean City, Snow Hill and Pocomoke because of the coronavirus, the Worcester Commission on Aging adapted programs to continue providing essential services to elderly residents who frequented the locations.

Executive Director Rob Hart said the four senior centers in Worcester County were ordered closed by state officials because of the pandemic with no firm reopen date in sight.



Rob Hart

“We’ve been trying to reach out to all members of our senior centers by phone just to check on them weekly,” he said.

The check-ins, in many instances with Ocean Pines residents, have also served to inquire if seniors are in need of food, medicine or household supplies.

“We made sure we got it to them,” he said. “We had either our Meals on Wheels people deliver it or we have a Community For Life group that delivered it to them.”

The unusual times have also caused the daily number of individuals assisted by Meals on Wheels to skyrocket.

“Meals On Wheels are up from about 75 to the peak of about 125,” he said. “It nearly doubled and we’re seeing an increase right now.”

See SENIOR Page 19

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Opinion

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

Not 'what' but 'how' is question to ask

The Town of Berlin will have one of its busiest elections ever two months from now, as a full roster of candidates with varying viewpoints seeks the opportunity to put their ideas into practice.

Those ideas, however, have yet to be refined beyond what these candidates want to do down to the essential matter of exactly how they propose to do it.

It isn't that easy to produce a detailed plan either, as the municipal budget and the operations it represents are like a set of building blocks, the shape and substance of which can't be changed without having some degree of influence on the other.

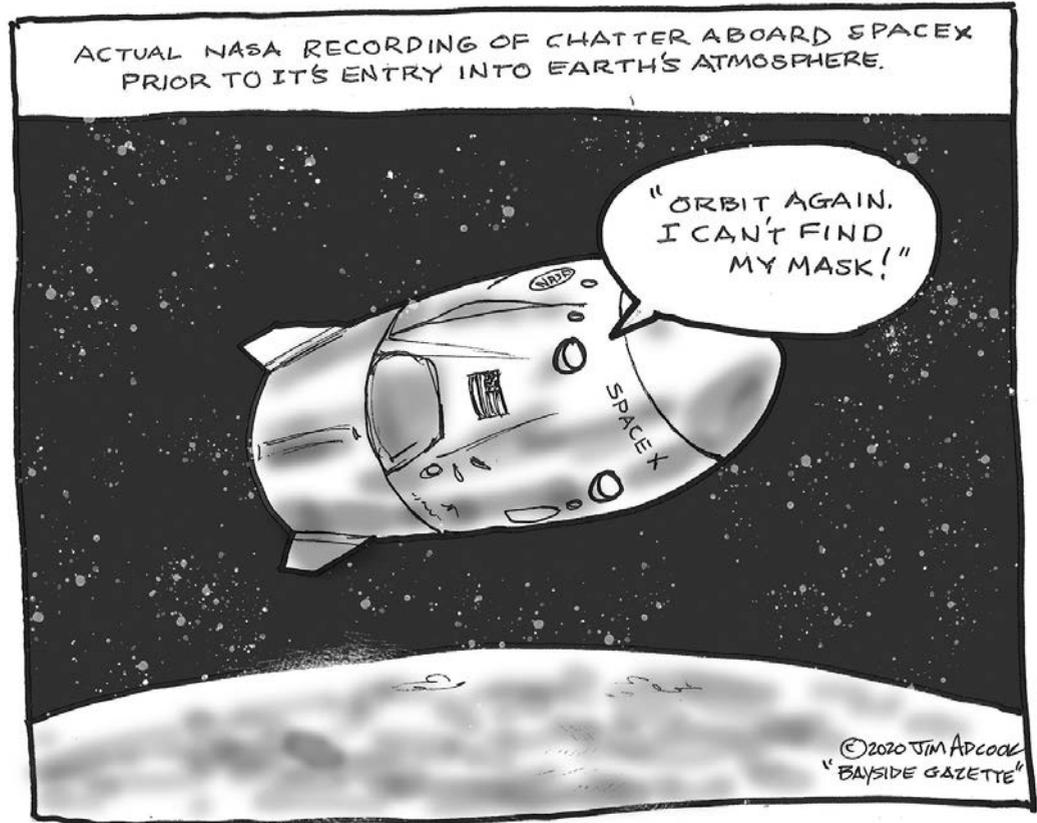
It's like physics, only this involves intangibles, such as policies and operations and how they all are bound to the ledger. For every action, there's a reaction.

A pledge to keep taxes stable, for example, is a standard political assertion that sounds good. But from a practical standpoint, it represents only half a plan.

As a major source of town revenue, restricting taxes to a certain level would result in one of two things: either another dependable source of income must be found, or payroll, projects, supplies, equipment and other expense-generating pursuits would also remain in stasis, which would be close to impossible, until some sort of revenue change is made.

The candidates then face two questions: which course would they pursue: freezing government costs or finding another realistic and dependable source of income?

As this impressive candidate lineup begins to campaign and tell voters who they are and what they stand for, voters should respond by asking not just what they want or intend to do, but how they plan to do it and what the effect will be in every other link in the chain.



Worcester Aging responds to needs

County agency helps install ramp to assist centenarian Munro

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Aug. 6, 2020) The Worcester Commission on Aging did what it could to make life more comfortable for Les Munro during his final days by installing an access ramp at his residence shortly after his 108th birthday on June 15.

That day was marked by a parade in his honor at the Snow Hill home of his caregiver where the Ocean Pines resident spent his final days. Two weeks later, Munro passed away.

Shortly after the parade, however, his caregiver, Ruth Wright, told Munro's friends, "We're having a terrible time getting him out of the house. Do you know anybody that could build a ramp?"

His friend Jeffery McArthur began making inquiries, which took him to Worcester Commission on Aging Executive Director Rob Hart.

"Rob went over there and then the next day they in-

stalled the ramp," he said. "That's the fastest government service I have seen in my life."

Hart said the home improvement assistance was provided through the commission's Community For Life program that seeks to help seniors maintain independence.

"Anyone that's in the Community For Life program ... or anybody like Mr. Munro at age 108, that we can help get out of their house for a doctors appointment or an emergency," he said.

In addition to regular phone calls, rides to doctors' visits or grocery stores, the Community For Life program also provides handyman services.

"We have about six ramps we can put up that we usually set up [for] a three-month period," he said. "The idea is it fills their immediate need now but we also look for a permanent solution."

Hart said help in that direction is provided by Chesapeake Housing Mission, a Christian-based nonprofit that has helped nearly 400 lower Eastern Shore

families since being founded in 2009.

"In Mr. Munro's situation, his deck was only 18 inches off the ground," he said. "We have a couple of ramps that are one piece so all we had to do was carry it over there, screw it into his deck and he was ready to go."

Hart said the temporary ramp installed at Munro's caregivers' residence has already been moved and is now assisting a retired military veteran living near Showell who has trouble walking.

Hart said another elderly resident in Newark with comparable mobility challenges living in Newark also had a temporary ramp upgraded by the housing mission recently.

"There was a gentleman that goes to dialysis and we were able to put a ramp up for him," he said. "Now Chesapeake Housing Mission has gone and built a permanent one so we took ours and moved it somewhere else."

For more information about the Community For Life visit worcoa.org/services/community-for-life/ online or call 410-251-0140.

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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- EDITOR Stewart Dobson
- MANAGING EDITOR Lisa Capitelli
- STAFF WRITERS Greg Ellison, Joshua Kim,
..... Elizabeth Bonin, Ally Lanasa
- ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Elaine Brady
- ACCOUNT MANAGERS Mary Cooper, Vicki Shrier
- CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS MANAGER Nancy MacCubbin
- SENIOR DESIGNER Susan Parks
- GRAPHIC ARTISTS Kelly Brown, Kyle Phillips
- PUBLISHER Christine Brown
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Gini Tufts

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Fun, instructional tennis classes offered in OP

Bill Gilroy to teach course about basic techniques of sport to players next week

(Aug. 6, 2020) Ocean Pines will offer a four-day instructional tennis class for adults from Aug. 10-13 at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on 11443 Manklin Creek Road.

Classes will start at 9 a.m. each day and focus on basic tennis strokes, including forehands, backhands, overhands, serves and volleys.

Each class will run about an hour and include drills and exercises designed to help beginners learn the game of tennis.

Ocean Pines tennis pro Terry Underkoffler said instructor Bill Gilroy came up with the idea and will teach the course. Gilroy is a professionally licensed tennis instructor and taught similar classes at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

"It's designed for people who want to learn how to play tennis and it's a great way to get people over to the ten-

nis center," Underkoffler said. "He's going to be doing the initial phase of this and, if it grows in popularity, I'll be teaching it as well."

Underkoffler said the course was so popular at the Naval Academy that the same group of six women signed up multiple times, "because they were learning so much."

"Players who take this class will come away with some of the basic techniques of playing tennis," he said. "They'll have an awareness of forehand and how they should move, and aware-

ness of backhands, an awareness of how to serve, and an awareness of where to be on the court. It will give them a little bit of confidence and help them get started to play."

Underkoffler said the class is open to all ages.

"This is a great time in people's lives to learn to play a lifetime sport, especially in the situation we're in right now where team sports are so limited because of the pandemic," Underkoffler said. "Tennis and golf are two really good lifetime sports that we offer here in Ocean Pines. John Malinowski is a great instructor [of golf] and we've got great instructors over here at the racquet center. There's no better time to learn these things!"

The deadline to register is Aug. 8 and the cost is \$140. Classes are limited to no more than six people.

The Ocean Pines Racquet Center also offers a "stroke of the day" clinic every Wednesday morning at 8 a.m., free for racquet sports members, as well as a junior tennis academy every Thursday night. The junior tennis academy is open to two age groups, elementary and middle schoolers, and the cost is \$130.

For more information or to register for Ocean Pines Racquet Sports classes, call Underkoffler at 215-808-6457 or email optennistraining@gmail.com.

Senior centers reopenings vague

Continued from Page 17

Speaking on Monday, Hart said with emergency storm warnings in place preceding Tropical Storm Isaias, which made landfall in North Carolina later that night, the meal counts were further boosted.

"We delivered two days of meals and one emergency meal to everybody that we had on our roster [today] in case tomorrow we couldn't get out to them," he said.

Besides providing food, the program is helping to fill the activity void for members.

"We have YouTube videos for the seniors ... and every time we create one, we send a link to members," he said.

In many instances, the online content offers exercise routines to help elderly members maintain flexibility.

Other alternatives are provided for those without Internet access.

"We do telephone bingo for them to try and keep them involved," he said.

Hart said despite the centers being closed, another alternative offering provides a reason for still visiting the site.

"We started a bookmobile where we're actually at our senior centers," he said.

The bookmobiles are situated on site at senior centers, but outside of structures.

"We have a large bus that we can have two to three people in at a time and maintain social distancing," he said. "It's a bigger bus that we used for outings and, of course, we aren't doing outings right now so we wanted to continue to use it."

Besides meeting literary needs, the bookmobiles offer an opportunity for socializing.

"I'm sure that it's more than just picking up a book," he said. "It's the idea that they get to talk to someone that they haven't seen."

Hart said the pandemic restrictions have thrown the Worcester Commission on Aging's entire mission for a loop.

"Before all this happened, our job

was to help get socialization to the seniors," he said. "When this happened, we turned a whole 180 degrees to isolation."

Shifting focus away from encouraging elderly members to interact has been a challenge.

"It's been a very tough experience for us because we're used to trying to get them out, until we had to stay please stay home don't come out," he said. "It's kind of a weird turn."

Hart said, for now, there are few answers to the deluge of daily phone calls inquiring about dates for re-

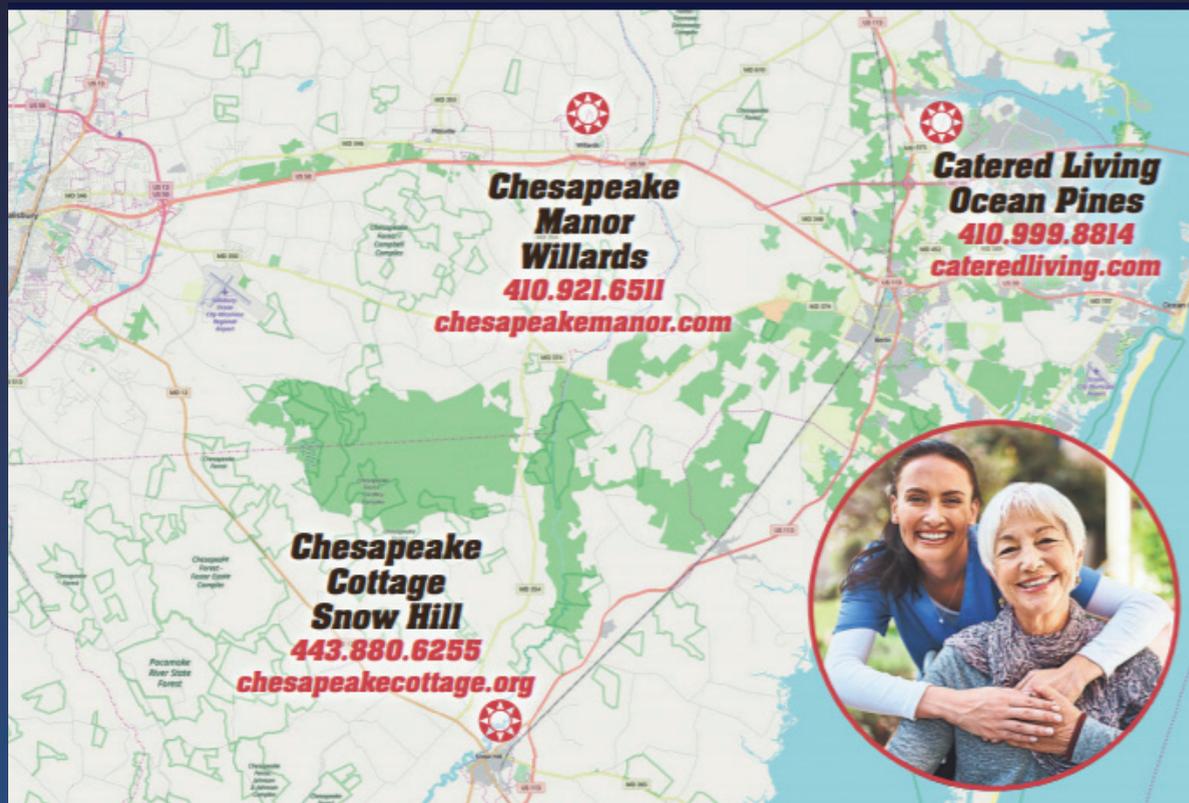
opening senior centers.

"We're under mandate from the governor that we cannot open until the state of emergency ends," he said. "We have not heard anything from anybody up above giving us any dates."

Until further notice, senior centers and adult day care are closed, with Meals On Wheels remaining in operation at heightened capacity. To learn more about services provided by through the Worcester Commission on Aging call 410-632-1277.

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Jennifer Keener named as deputy director for DRP

Commissioners appointed her to new role last month

(Aug. 6, 2020) The Worcester County Commissioners named Jennifer Keener as the new deputy director of Development Review and Permitting.



Jennifer Keener

Keener joined DRP in 2006, serving as a specialist until being promoted to zoning administrator in 2009.

"I look forward to working more closely with Jennifer," DRP

Director Ed Tudor said. "I know she will be of immense help to me in administration of the department and congratulate her on her achievement."

Keener, a member of the American Planning Association (AICP) and a certified planner, brings 15 years of experience in planning and site plan review to this position.

In her role as zoning administrator, Keener had oversight of the Technical Review Committee, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as review and approval of commercial site plans.

She reviewed and issued commercial and residential permits, conducted commercial zoning and nuisance inspections, and helped develop local legislation in response to changes in state planning and zoning laws.

She earned a Bachelor of Science in geography and environmental studies, with a minor in sociology and geology, from Gustavus Adolphus College in 2005.

In 2008, she earned a Master of Science in environmental management from the University of Maryland University College, and in 2018 she earned AICP certification.

Keener will take over for Deputy Director Phyllis Wimbrow, who will retire Sept. 18 after 36 years of service to Worcester County.

"I would like to thank the County Commissioners for this new and exciting opportunity," Keener said. "I look forward to further expanding my planning knowledge and experience in this position."

The DRP deputy director is responsible for assisting the director with all aspects of development, review, permitting, and other functions, including staff supervision.

Keener also serves as a member of the Planning Commission for the Town of Pittsville, where she resides with her husband, Dennis, and daughter, Quinn.

For additional information, contact Public Information Officer Kim Moses at 410-632-1194.

Charity pickleball tournament in OP

(Aug. 6, 2020) Hoping to make up some fundraising ground lost to covid-19 postponements, the Mary Mac Foundation announced plans for a charity pickleball tournament, scheduled next month in Ocean Pines.

Foundation co-founders Tim and Don McMullen previously announced the cancelation of the ninth annual charity golf tournament, because of the pandemic. However, the McMullens said they still hope to raise \$30,000 to keep their pledge to area youth groups, who annually receive donations from the Mary Mac Foundation.

Enter pickleball tournament organizers Daryl and Cathy Noble, and Frank Kramer, who came up with the idea for the inaugural "Mary Mac Foundation Pickleball Beach Fest."

"We had made \$30,000 in commitments to youth groups, and the [foundation] board of directors met and decided we still have to fulfill their commitments," Tim McMullen said. "And, on their own, Daryl, Cathy and Frank stepped up with the idea for the tournament ... I was deeply humbled."

The Mary Mac Foundation each year raises funds for local and regional youth

programs to honor Mary McMullen (1948-2012), a special education instructor at Severna Park High School and Ruth Eason School in Millersville, Maryland.

During the 1970s, she also helped established the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department.

Programs supported by the foundation include Camp Barnes, a residential camp in Frankford, Delaware, for low-income children, and Camp St. Vincent de Paul in Baltimore, an organization offering eight-week summer camps for homeless children.

The foundation also supports summer youth recreation programs in Ocean Pines.

The Mary Mac Foundation Pickleball Beach Fest is scheduled Saturday, Aug. 8 beginning at 8 a.m. The deadline to register is Friday, Aug. 7. Scattered start times are possible and the rain date is Sunday, Aug. 9.

The tournament will have a round-robin format based on skill level, with alternating partners.

The cost to enter is \$30, per person.

For questions or to register, email OPSummerClassic@gmail.com. Checks

may be made payable to: Mary Mac Foundation, 174 Nottingham Lane, Berlin, Maryland 21811.

To pay online, visit marymac.org.

Along with the pickleball tournament, McMullen said members of the Ocean Pines Golf and Racquet Sports community, upon hearing news that the annual golf event was canceled, have already pledged to aid the foundation.

That support, he said, should help the foundation come close to its fundraising goals, despite not being able to host what has become its signature event.

"It's because of the generosity of this great community that we are going to be able to fulfill many of our commitments," McMullen said. "I just think it's fantastic, and it means that people understand that the purpose of the foundation is to help homeless and low-income kids. It's always a problem within our society but, now, with the pandemic, it's more important than ever."

"All of this is just a testament to the fact that this community that we live in is so special. It's full of wonderful people and it's just a great community to live in," he added.

Community Briefs

Optimist Club awards



G. Wolf



H. Wolf



M. Birckett



B. Manuel



P. Patel



M. Wrench

Ocean City-Berlin Optimist Club recently gave away \$34,000 in scholarships to several Stephen Decatur High School graduates.

Since the start of the scholarship program in 1989, the club has awarded over \$2 million in scholarships.

Students who received scholarships are: Grayson Liam Wolf, University of Maryland College Park, \$8,000; Hunter Sabastian Wolf, UMBC, \$7,000; Madison Birckett, Penn State University, \$5,000; Brandon Manuel, Towson University, \$5,000; Prutha Patel, University of Maryland College Park, \$5,000; and Matthew C. Wrench, Towson University, \$4,000.

Scholarship

Craig Birkhead-Morton, a Snow Hill High School graduate, was selected as a National Honor Society Scholarship semifinalist.

Birkhead-Morton was chosen from nearly 7,000 applicants and will receive a \$3,200 scholarship toward higher education.

Birkhead-Morton is an Eagle Scout, he served as a page for the United States Senate in Washington, D.C. and the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis. He is also a Ben Carson Scholar.

At Snow Hill High School, Birkhead-Morton was the secretary in the National Honor Society and a member of Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society.

He was a member of the school's track team, marching band, legal intern and Future Business Leaders of America. He is also involved in the Appalachia Service Project and Adopt-a-Highway program.

This fall, Birkhead-Morton will attend Yale to study Political Science and Economics.

Attends conference

Lindsay Birkhead-Morton of Snow Hill High School, was one of more than 200 diverse sophomore student leaders representing all Maryland counties during the 41st annual Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Maryland Leadership Seminar held June 19-21.

The three-day virtual seminar brings together a select group of students (HOBY ambassadors) to interact with distinguished leaders in the business, gov-



C. Birkhead-Morton

ernmental and educational arenas to discuss relevant present and future issues.

Following the seminar, HOBY ambassadors are challenged to return to their respective cities and participate in community service projects where they are to perform at least 100 hours of community service within the year.

Graduate

Marley B. Rakow, daughter of Steve and Kelley Rakow, of Bishopville, recently graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) at Kings Point, New York.

Rakow earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a commission in the U.S. armed forces. She also earned a Merchant Marine officer license, qualifying her to serve as an officer on any ship in the U.S. flag merchant marine.

Rakow is a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School.

The United States Merchant Marine Academy is a federal service academy that educates and graduates licensed Merchant Marine officers. In addition to the rigorous academic and physical requirements for admission, applicants must be nominated by their Congressman or Senator. Rakow was nominated by Sen. Ben Cardin and Congressman Andy Harris.

As part of her four year education, Rakow spent one year training as a cadet aboard ocean going vessels. Rakow will be going to sea aboard merchant ships as a third officer.



M. Rakow



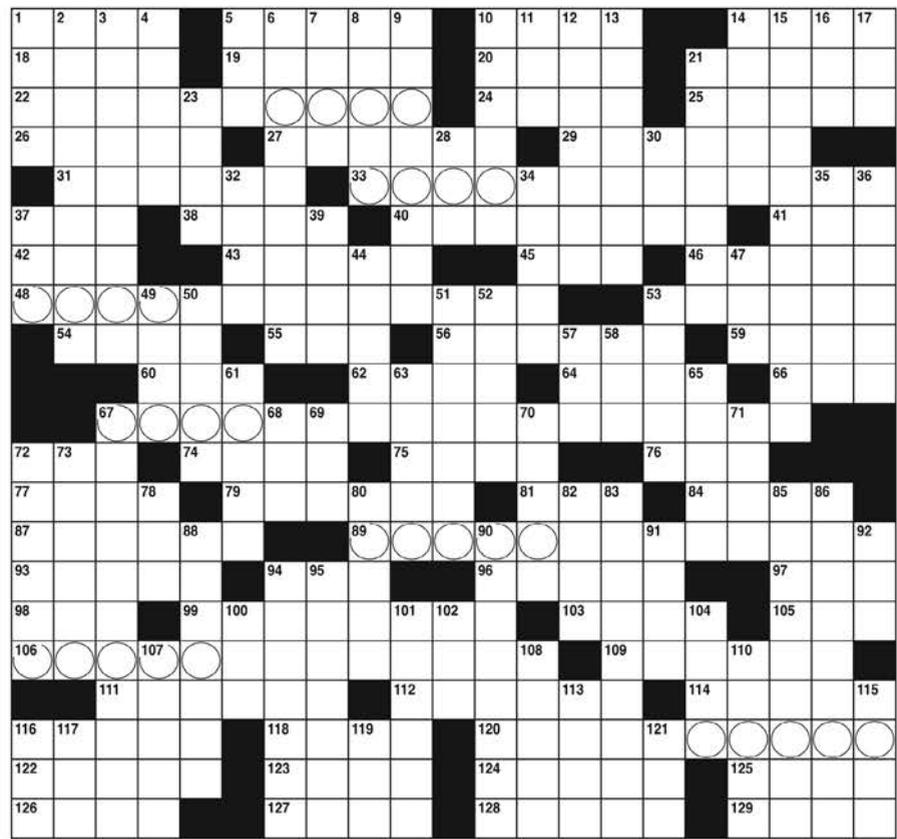
L. Birkhead-Morton

Puzzles

MADE TO ORDER BY TRENTON CHARLSON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Trenton Charlson, 24, is a crossword constructor and Scrabble aficionado from Columbus, Ohio. The North American Scrabble Players Association currently ranks him No. 213 among all players and No. 5 in his state. Trenton's Twitter page declares that he's the founder of Z.J.X.Q. — Americans Against Accurate Acronyms. This is his 23rd puzzle for The Times. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Miss
 - 5 More than excited
 - 10 Grub for a grub
 - 14 Elliptical
 - 18 Where a phone might be tapped
 - 19 Last Oldsmobile model
 - 20 Site of the Bocca Nuova crater
 - 21 Regional flora and fauna
 - 22 Facial feature of a Lego man?
 - 24 Sparkling Italian wine
 - 25 With 81-Across, flashy basketball play
 - 26 Completely remove
 - 27 Blew off steam?
 - 29 "Hold your horses"
 - 31 Word before job or joke
 - 33 M.C. during a power outage?
 - 37 Regulus is its brightest star
 - 38 Small change?
 - 40 Most eccentric
 - 41 Formerly
 - 42 What means most in the end?
 - 43 Some somber music
 - 45 "So what?"
 - 46 Tailor's measurement
 - 48 "The elite fighter pilots may skip the rest of the lecture"?
 - 53 New Cub Scout
- DOWN**
- 54 Hairy hunter of Genesis
 - 55 Looney Tunes devil, for short
 - 56 Hostile declaration
 - 59 Decision
 - 60 Expense for a political campaign
 - 62 List of available courses
 - 64 What the abscissa and ordinate are measured from
 - 66 Take in
 - 67 Drive a getaway car through Australia's outback?
 - 72 Cousin ____ ("Jimmy Kimmel Live" regular)
 - 74 Major account
 - 75 Nickname of a 2010s pop idol, with "the"
 - 76 Bird in Liberty Mutual commercials
 - 77 Work mates
 - 79 Answer
 - 81 See 25-Across
 - 84 When Caesar is told to "Beware the ides of March"
 - 87 Give in
 - 89 What you might do after the movie previews are finally over?
 - 93 Yeshiva instructor
 - 94 Civil War side: Abbr.
 - 96 Group who ought to know better?
 - 97 Rx prescribers
 - 98 Pioneering programmer Lovelace
 - 99 Fish whose name means "very strong" in Hawaiian
 - 103 Put away
 - 105 "The devil's lettuce"
 - 106 Where spaghetti and orzo rank in terms of their suitability for making necklaces?
 - 109 Resident of Japan's "second city"
 - 111 ____ Mendeleev, creator of the periodic table
 - 112 Martin ____, star of 1960s TV's "Route 66"
 - 114 Opera singer Fleming
 - 116 Play with, as a toy mouse
 - 118 To boot
 - 120 One who believes exclusively in a sea god?
 - 122 Political columnist Molly
 - 123 Noted Christian
 - 124 Role in the 2005 hit musical "Jersey Boys"
 - 125 Electric-flux symbols
 - 126 "Pretty please?"
 - 127 Like child's play
 - 128 County on the Thames
 - 129 Legal postponement
 - 8 Source of the word "galore"
 - 9 Xbox and GameCube
 - 10 Cause
 - 11 Long-distance travelers, informally
 - 12 Composer Dvorak
 - 13 Passed out
 - 14 De-squeaked
 - 15 Thick cloud above a peak
 - 16 Took in
 - 17 ____ of the land
 - 21 System used in computer code
 - 23 Frist's successor as Senate majority leader
 - 28 That, in Spanish
 - 30 Quizzical utterances
 - 32 Actress Conn of "Grease"
 - 34 Popular tablets
 - 35 Antique-shop deal
 - 36 Stovetop item
 - 37 Where a herd might be heard
 - 39 Aretha Franklin's Grammy-nominated sister
 - 44 Thingamajig
 - 47 Kind of order for the circled letters in this puzzle
 - 49 Swedish Air Force supplier
 - 50 Guys
 - 51 Making a clerical error?
 - 52 Exercise in dexterity
 - 53 Grease
 - 57 Cry from a nursery
 - 58 The king of diamonds carries one
 - 61 It might be glassy or icy
 - 63 Ragtime great Blake
 - 65 Shrub that produces a crimson-colored spice
 - 67 Two-time Emmy winner for "30 Rock"
 - 68 Common thing to lie about
 - 69 Rule that ended in 1947
 - 70 Prime cut
 - 71 "____ is life"
 - 72 Carving in a cartouche
 - 73 Business whose patrons are often fighting
 - 78 Entanglement
 - 80 No. 44
 - 82 Completely embarrasses, slangily
 - 83 Piece of music that evokes the countryside
 - 85 Certain percussion player
 - 86 Home of the Komodo dragon
 - 88 Knuckleheads
 - 90 *Swoon*
 - 91 Southwestern ski resort
 - 92 Prime meridian std.
 - 94 Absurd pretense
 - 95 20-Across's island, to locals
 - 100 Sum total: Abbr.
 - 101 Storehouse
 - 102 ____ polloi
 - 104 Voting district
 - 107 Like the newspaper Al-Shabiba
 - 108 Ancient empire builders
 - 110 Something to play for
 - 113 Some are shockers
 - 115 Online handicrafts marketplace
 - 116 Part of many a postcard, briefly
 - 117 Gardner of old Hollywood
 - 119 Nine-symbol message
 - 121 Word often spoken in pig Latin
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



- 63 Ragtime great Blake
- 65 Shrub that produces a crimson-colored spice
- 67 Two-time Emmy winner for "30 Rock"
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su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 35

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

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

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

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., Aug. 6

PLANT CLINIC (ADULT)

Ask Master Gardener Ginny Rosenkranz your questions and even show her your plants via Zoom, 3:30 PM. Participants can also call the first phone number on the Zoom link to listen in. Registration closes 24 hours before the event begins. Register: <https://worcesteralibrary.libcal.com/event/6779355>.

47TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Featuring the world's largest billfish tournament. A new family-friendly viewing experience will be located that the Third Street Bayside Ballpark where people can cheer on the boats as they head to Harbour Island, view a live stream of the weigh-ins, shop vendor booths and purchase concessions and official White Marlin gear. Gates open at 3 p.m. The entire event will also be live-streamed daily at <https://whitemarlinopen.com>. Info: 410-289-9229.

FREE FAMILY BEACH GAMES

Carousel Resort Hotel and Condominiums, 11700 Coastal Highway, 6:30 PM. Held Thursdays through Aug. 27. Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. <https://ococean.com/events/family-beach-games2020Hel>

MISTER DON THE MUSIC MAN (YOUTH)

Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 7:00 PM. Have scarves and noisemakers handy as you sing and dance with Mister Don. See it Drive In style, register to see the show on Zoom or watch the recording on the library's Facebook page from Aug. 7-10. <https://worcesteralibrary.libcal.com/event/6780553>

SUNSET PARK PARTY NIGHTS

Sunset Park, 700 S. Philadelphia Ave., 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Grab a bite to eat from the food truck and enjoy music by "British Invasion Experience" (Beatles and other British bands tribute). Admission to the park is free, while beverages, including beer, are available for purchase. It is recommended to bring your own seating. Partakers must adhere to State guidelines in practicing physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. 410-289-2800, <https://ococean.com/events/sunset-park-party-nightso20>

FREE CONCERT IN THE PARK

Cypress Park, 7 Bridge St., 7:00 PM. Music provided by "Mercy for the Mockingbird," featuring alternative rock. Pack a picnic, bring lawn chairs and practice safe social distancing. The CDC requires a list of attendees. Email your name and phone number to karah@pocomokemd.gov if you plan to attend. 410-957-1333, Ext. 111,

<http://DowntownPocomoke.com>

FREE OC BEACH DANCE PARTY

Caroline Street Beach, 8:30 PM. Each week a new DJ hits the Caroline Street Stage where participants can dance under the lights on the beach. This week features "DJ Kutt Premiere DJ." The event leads into the fireworks at 10:30 p.m. Partakers must adhere to State guidelines in practicing physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. <https://ococean.com/events/oc-beach-dance-party2020>

THURSDAY'S DOWNTOWN BEACH FIREWORKS

Talbot Street Beach, 10:30 PM. Partakers must adhere to State guidelines in practicing physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. 410-289-2800, <https://ococean.com/events/thursday-s-downtown-beach-fireworks>

Fri., Aug. 7

47TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Featuring the world's largest billfish tournament. A new family-friendly viewing experience will be located that the Third Street Bayside Ballpark where people can cheer on the boats as they head to Harbour Island, view a live stream of the weigh-ins, shop vendor booths and purchase concessions and official White Marlin gear. Gates open at 3 p.m. The entire event will also be live-streamed daily at <https://whitemarlinopen.com>. Info: 410-289-9229.

VOTER'S REGISTRATION SIGN UP

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St., Berlin, MD, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Held outdoors on the church premises. Remember that in Maryland, if you have been convicted of a felony and have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, you are eligible to register to vote. Info: NAACP President Ivory Smith, 443-944-6701.

FIRST FRIDAY ART EXHIBIT

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 5:00 PM. The Art League of Ocean City will premiere an online video with a sampling of artwork from several new shows. The exhibits will also be physically on display in the galleries of the Ocean City Center for the Arts through Aug. 29. The event is free and open to the public on the Art League's Facebook Live page and at www.ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org. Info: 410-524-9433.

FREE MOVIE ON THE BEACH

27th Street Beach, 8:30 PM. Sit in the sand and enjoy a free movie. Featuring "CoCo." Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. All titles are subject to change without notice. All



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SUCCESS AWARD

The Republican Women of Worcester County's "Future Success Award" was presented this year to Dewayne Ballard, a 2020 graduate of Snow Hill High School. Pictured with Ballard is Assistant Principal Dr. Scot Tingle, who nominated him for the award. It is bestowed each year to a graduating senior from Worcester County schools for personal and academic achievements during his/her tenure in high school.

movies are weather permitting. Attendance is at your own risk. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>

GREEN MARKET

Fridays through Nov. 20 - Trimper Rides under the Ferris Wheel, 600 S. Atlantic Ave., 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Local Farmers Market featuring fresh everything and more from our local farmers. The market is agriculture based only. There will be live music and weekly drawings. Sally Kneavel, Sally@Trimperrides.com, 4102898617, <http://TrimperRides.com>

Sat., Aug. 8

MARY MAC FOUNDATION PICKLEBALL BEACH FEST

The tournament will have a round-robin format based on skill level, with alternating partners. Scattered start times available beginning at 8:00 AM. Cost to enter is \$30. Register: OPSummerClass@gmail.com. Pay online: marymac.org. Rain date is Aug. 9.

47TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Featuring the world's largest billfish tournament. A new family-friendly viewing experience will be located that the Third Street Bayside Ballpark where people can cheer on the boats as they head to Harbour Island, view a live stream of the weigh-ins, shop vendor booths and purchase concessions and official White Marlin gear. Gates open at 3 p.m. The entire event will also be live-

streamed daily at <https://whitemarlinopen.com>. Info: 410-289-9229.

OCBP PRE-EMPLOYMENT TESTING

Ocean City beach at Dorchester Street, 9:00 AM. There are no pre-certification requirements and experience in ocean rescue is not necessary to apply. On the day of testing, each candidate must have a mask and proper proof of age. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged by visiting www.ococean.com/ocbp. Info: 410-289-7556.

OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL CREW COMPETITION

North Division Street Beach, 6:45 PM. Watch the Ocean City Beach Patrol lifeguards compete against each other in events and demonstrate their athletic skills. KJoson@oceancitymd.gov, 410-289-7558, <https://oceancitymd.gov/oc/departments/emergnecy-services/beach-patrol/>

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

Saturdays - White Horse Park, 239 Ocean Parkway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Shop for everything from fresh local produce to unique handmade artisan goods. Open to the public.

Sun., Aug. 9

47TH ANNUAL WHITE MARLIN OPEN

Featuring the world's largest billfish tournament. A new family-friendly viewing experience will be located that the Third Street Bayside Ballpark where

Calendar

people can cheer on the boats as they head to Harbour Island, view a live stream of the weigh-ins, shop vendor booths and purchase concessions and official White Marlin gear. Gates open at 3 p.m. The entire event will also be live-streamed daily at <https://whitemarlinopen.com>. Info: 410-289-9229.

SUNDAES IN THE PARKS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, MD, 7:00 PM. Featuring free music by "Vertigo Red" (party rock cover band) and various free activities and entertainment for children. Prepackaged ice cream will be available for purchase. Take a picnic basket and beach chairs. The night will end with a fireworks display at 9 p.m. Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. 410-289-2800 or 800-626-2326, <https://ococean.com/events>

THE BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays through Aug. 30 - Located on Pitts Street and Main Street, 9:00 AM - 1:00 pm. Special senior shopping time from 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM. www.berlin-mainstreet.com

Mon., Aug. 10

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

The meeting will be held via conference call, 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Dial 605-472-5789, wait for voice command, then press 944874. TOPS is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. Berlin group No. 169. Rose Campion, 410-641-0157

FREE DRIVE-IN MOVIE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8:00 PM. Featuring "Finding Dory" (97 minutes). Movie audio is via FM radio frequency (monitor your car's battery). Participants are reminded to stay inside their vehicle unless using available amenities. Portable restrooms will be available. All movies subject to weather-related conditions. 800-OC-OCEAN or 410-289-2800, <https://ococean.com/events/drive-in-movies2020>

Tues., Aug. 11

SEAFOOD NIGHT

Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Call the Knights of Columbus at 410-524-7994 between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays to place a take away order of steamed crabs, steamed shrimp and more.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Now meeting via video call, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Group provides discussions and mutual support, as well as education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-

4765, <http://www.delmarvaparkinson-salliance.org>

VIRTUAL SCAVENGER HUNT (YOUTH)

Beginning at 10:00 AM. It's a race to find things you usually have in your house. Register: <https://worchesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6865052>.

YOGA FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join Natalie Bennett for a 3-part yoga series designed for positive aging, 5:00 PM. Register: <https://worchesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6886338>.

FREE FAMILY BEACH GAMES

27th Street Beach, 6:30 PM. Held Tuesdays through Aug. 11. Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. Attendance is at your own risk. <https://ococean.com/events/family-beach-games2020Hel>

FREE DRIVE-IN MOVIE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8:00 PM. Featuring "Now You See Me" (115 minutes). Movie audio is via FM radio frequency (monitor your car's battery). Participants are reminded to stay inside their vehicle unless using available amenities. Portable restrooms will be available. All movies subject to weather-related conditions. 800-OC-OCEAN or 410-289-2800, <https://ococean.com/events/drive-in-movies2020>

Wed., Aug. 12

ARTISTS PAINT OC: PLEIN AIR EVENT

Watch artists at work as they set up their easels along the Boardwalk, bayside and beaches. 410-524-9433, <https://artleagueofoceancity.org>

ANDY AND JUDY: MUSICAL DUO (ADULT)

Andy and Judy play guitar, mandolin, banjo, ukulele and other instruments, 3:00 PM. Register: <https://worchesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6867352>.

SIT 'N STITCH (ADULT)

Join the group virtually for an afternoon of knitting, crocheting and other needle art, 3:30 PM. Register: <https://worchesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6870352>.

VIRTUAL PET SHOW (YOUNG)

Everyone will have a few minutes to show and tell what is special about their pet, 7:00 PM. Register: <https://worchesterlibrary.libcal.com/event/6865014>.

FREE MOVIE ON THE BEACH

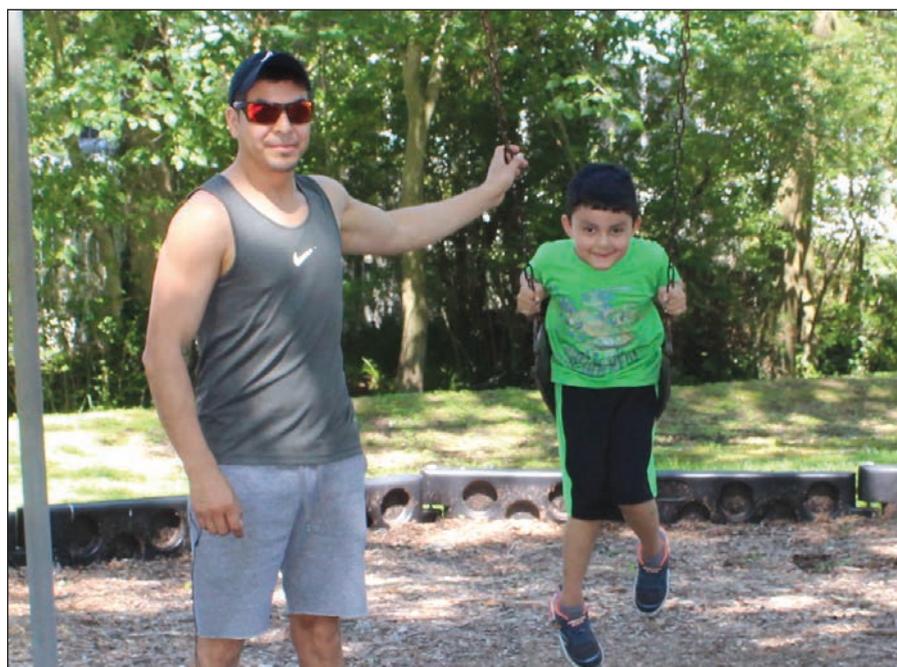
Carousel Resort Hotel and Condominiums, 11700 Coastal Highway, 8:30 PM. Sit in the sand and enjoy a free movie. Featuring "Jumanji: The Next Level." Participants are asked to practice physical distancing. All titles are subject to change without notice. All movies are weather permitting. Attendance is at your own risk. Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SKATE SESSION

Brendan Hutchinson gets some air while catching up on boarding pursuits at the Ocean Pines Skatepark last month.



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FAMILY FUN

Berlin resident Antonio Andrade pushes his 6-year-old nephew, Luis, on the swing set at Stephen Dectaur Park on Tripoli Street, July 12.



PHOTO COURTESY DAWN MARIE BATES DERN

WINNER

Dawn Marie Bates Dern earned \$100 in Berlin bucks to use at any of the downtown shops and restaurants after being randomly selected as the winner of the Berlin MASKerade Photo Contest. She posted this photo of her husband on Facebook with the #BerlinMASKerade hashtag.

CALL
410-723-6397
BY MONDAY
5 P.M.



MARKETPLACE CLASSIFIED

Classifieds now appear in Ocean City Today & the Bayside Gazette each week and online at oceancitytoday.com and baysideoc.com.

HELP WANTED



Castle in the Sand
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Castle in the Sand Hotel is hiring for immediate start:

- FRONT DESK ASSOCIATES
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Pay Starting at \$11-\$14/hour
 Outstanding working environment.
 Come join our family!

Apply in Person. Ask for Bob or Tanya.
 37th Street & Oceanfront, Ocean City, MD

Maintenance Technician
Competitive Salary: \$17 - \$20/hr. depending on experience.

- Help build and maintain Delaware and Maryland's fastest growing restaurant group
- Perform interior and exterior finish work, such as drywall, painting, paneling, ceiling and floor tile, plumbing repairs, heating and air conditioning system repairs
- Perform routine and emergency repairs on restaurant equipment, including diagnostics on electrical and refrigeration components
- On call on a rotating emergency schedule for weekends and holidays
- Basic skill sets must include some Electric, Plumbing, Carpentry, Refrigeration

Benefits: Health Insurance, 401K, Sick Leave
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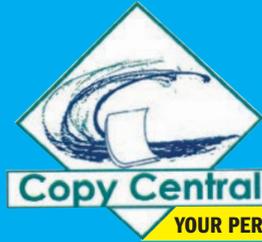


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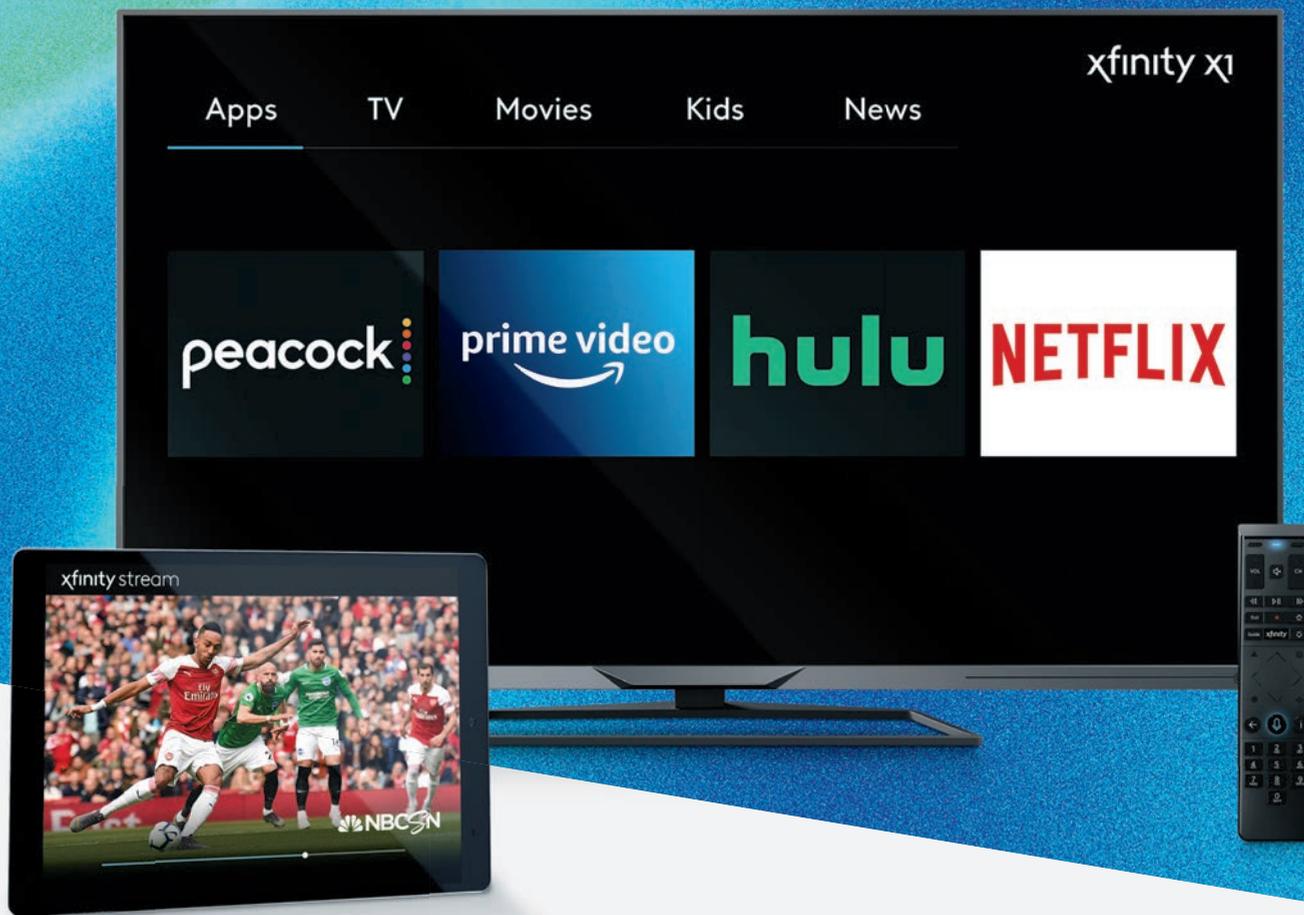
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