



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

FINE FALL DAY

Boys and girls fill swings and slides at the White Horse Park playground in Ocean Pines during an unseasonably warm afternoon on Sunday.

Merchants get lowdown from Mayor Tyndall

Concerns about changes alleviated during meeting

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Berlin Mayor Zackery Tyndall has alleviated some of merchants' concerns about marketing for activities during the ongoing pandemic.



Steve Frene

Last week, some Berlin merchants met with the mayor and Councilmember Jay Knerr at Sisters on North Main Street to ask about the removal of the Lord's Prayer at the beginning of meetings, the removal of the "America's Coolest Small Town" from the title of town

See TYNDALL Page 4

Berlin backs energy cap bill

Town will contribute to cost of lobbyist for municipal utilities

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) The Berlin Mayor and Council on Monday agreed to play an active role in advancing Senate Bill 0677 and House Bill 1392 and provide a financial share for a lobbyist to help pass legislation to cap the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards for the five municipal electric utilities.

"There was a Senate Bill, Senate Bill 0516, that went into effect that had some impact on our electric utility," Mayor Zackery Tyndall said. "What that bill has done is place a standard of renewable

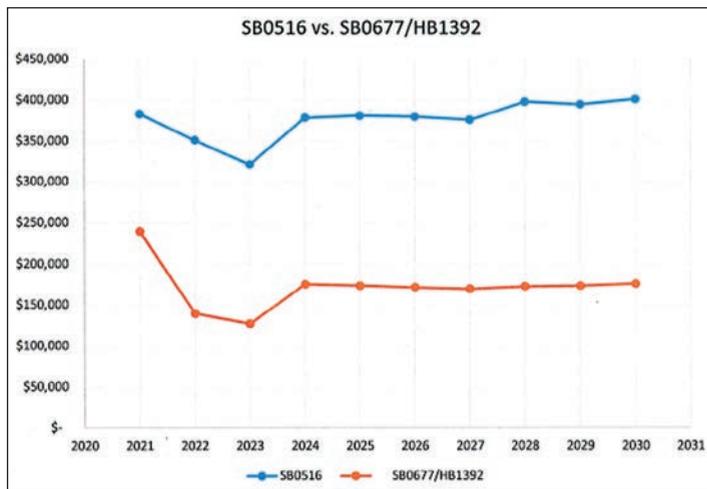


CHART COURTESY TOWN OF BERLIN

This chart demonstrates how Senate Bill 0516 poses a significant cost increase for Berlin electric utility customers. With the Berlin Mayor and Council supporting the advancement of Senate Bill 0677 and House Bill 1392 in conjunction with four other municipal electric utilities in Maryland, Berlin could possibly save \$2,044,504 from 2021 to 2030.

energy portfolio credits that need to be satisfied by each electric utility, and there are

five municipal electric utilities in the state, Berlin being

See BILL Page 2



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Enhanced signage to discourage people from offering food to resident Canada geese propagating at the South Gate Pond in Ocean Pines has been proposed by the Environmental and Natural Assets Committee.

Pines geese could see more humane tactics

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Looking to encourage humane treatment of resident Canada geese propagating at the South Gate Pond, the Ocean Pines Environmental and Natural Assets Committee is propos-

ing enhanced signs to discourage people from feeding the growing flock.

Environmental Chairman Ken Wolf said the committee has developed language to outline the importance of avoiding altering dietary

See DON'T Page 4

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Pines Golf Club announces promotion and new assistant

(Nov. 12, 2020) Ocean Pines this week announced the promotion of Justin Hartshorne to golf superintendent, and the hiring of Kurt Joseph as assistant golf superintendent.

Hartshorne and his wife, Justine, are both originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The couple have two young children: a 2-year-old son, Aiden, and an 8-month-old daughter, Paisley. They also have a "big Burmese mountain dog," Hartshorne said.

Hartshorne graduated from Penn State University with a bachelor's degree in turf grass science. His Maryland certifications include a pesticide applicator's license and a fertilizer applicator's license, and he recently completed Links "level two" irrigation software training.

"I've also been doing golf maintenance for 18 years now, so I have a lot of experience there as well," he said.

Hartshorne and his wife moved to the area about four years ago, and he initially worked at the Cripple Creek Golf and Country Club in Dagsboro,

Delaware. Last September, he was hired as the assistant superintendent at the Ocean Pines Golf Club.

As the new superintendent, Hartshorne will help oversee the entire golf operation. His duties include managing the staff and budget, supervising chemical and fertilizer applications, and maintaining the irrigation system.

"All of that is part of the day-to-day of working on the agronomic aspect of maintaining the golf course," he said.

Hartshorne said the Ocean Pines course is particularly challenging, because of its geographic location.

"Being in a transition zone, the weather certainly creates some issues," he said. "And almost the entire course is tree-lined, which is definitely challenging when you have those shade and air-movement issues. It certainly keeps us busy."

See KURT Page 3



J. Hartshorne

Bill would save town millions

Continued from Page 1

one of those. If you don't satisfy the tier requirements, there's something called an alternative compliance payment that you have to pay."

As a result of Senate Bill 0516, Berlin electric utility customers have experienced higher rates.

The comparison of Senate Bill 0516 and Senate Bill 0677 and House Bill 1392 shows a distinct cost difference for electric utility customers.

Senate Bill 0677 and House Bill 1392, which were cross-filed in the Maryland General Assembly during the 2020 session, were advanced by Sen. Adelaide (Addie) Eckardt (R-37) and Delegate John (Johnny) Mautz IV (R-37B).

"With the legislation that's being advanced, we hope that if it were to be successful that the town of Berlin could save a possible \$2,044,504 from 2021 to 2030," Tyndall said.

House Bill 1392 progressed through the House Committee on Economic Matters and made it to the floor of the House of Representatives for a vote, where it passed (108-27). The legislation has not made it any further because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Tyndall added that he, Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood and Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence have been participating in Zoom conferences about the legislation.

"The town of Berlin last cycle took a stance of support for Senate Bill 0677 and House Bill 1392, and we're looking for that same encouragement and support from the town and the

council along with the fact that Easton Utilities has gone forward with hiring a lobbyist from Old Line Government Affairs," Tyndall said. "His name is Brett Lininger."

The total cost for the lobbyist is \$45,000.

"Easton has taken on the additional contract of Old Line Government Affairs, but they have said if the other municipalities would like to chip in, you have some skin in the game," the mayor said. "It's a nice advocate resource for us as an electric utility, and that cost breakdown has been adjusted based off of the way renewable portfolio standards are calculated, so that's based off of the load of each utility."

The town's share would be \$2,858, which is in the spending limit of the mayor or town administrator. However, to show a united front, Tyndall sought the approval of the council for the expenditure.

Fleetwood said former Mayor Gee Williams had sent a letter to Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-38) asking for her support of the legislation before leaving office.

"What we will be doing if the council chooses to move forward with this is updating that letter to reflect the new change in administration, to reflect the new members of the council just so that our representatives do see a united force if that's what the council chooses to do," Tyndall said.

The council unanimously agreed to support the advancement of the legislation.

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Kurt Joseph joins golf operations as assistant super.

Continued from Page 2

What makes the course a pleasure to work on, he said, is the timeless Robert Trent Jones design.

"He's obviously a fantastic architect and designer, so it's just kind of a unique property with a great design and a great layout. It's very cool," Hartshorne said.

Joseph is originally from Wheeling, West Virginia. He began working at Oglebay Resort Golf in Wheeling in 2003 and later moved locally, to work at the Lighthouse Sound golf course in Ocean City.



Kurt Joseph

He previously worked at the Ocean Pines Golf Club, but had to leave 18 months ago to help with family issues back home. Just a week ago, he moved back to the area and rejoined the team in Ocean Pines. He also brought his black lab, Bo, who can often be seen working alongside him.

Joseph said the assistant superintendent's job is to "basically put out all kinds of fires."

"I'm Justin's eyes when he can't be somewhere," he said. "Everything that he does, I try to make it easier for him."

Joseph said he's very happy to be back in Ocean Pines.

"I think we have a good crew. We have a lot of experience, including a couple guys with 16 years' experience," he said.

"It's a very challenging course, because there's a fine line of watering here, compared to other courses. And then you've got the breeze off the ocean," he continued. "But I think we're really going to get a good grasp on the course, and I think Justin and I are going to work really well together and get the course back where it needs to be."

General Manager of Golf John Malinowski said both men bring an important amount of experience to Ocean Pines, which should benefit the course for many years to come.

"We want everyone to know that, with the team we've assembled, the condition of the course is in very good hands. Justin is a very capable superintendent and he's very experienced. He also knows a lot about our particular golf course," Malinowski said. "Kurt's also got a lot of experience and knowledge of our golf course. He was here before for almost a year, so he really knows everything we have going on."

"I'm looking forward to seeing good things here, and I think the conditions are only going to get better and better," he added.

For more information on the Ocean Pines Golf Club, visit www.ocean-pinesgolf.org.

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Tyndall allays merchant's concerns

Continued from Page 1
letterhead and Tyndall's business cards and marketing of upcoming events.

Steve Frene, president of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce, and Larnet St. Amant, the executive director of the chamber, attended the Berlin Mayor and Council meeting on Monday to ask for further explanation.

"In the future, we'd like these meetings to go through the chamber of commerce, so that we may organize them a little bit better," Frene said. "There were some people that wanted to be there that couldn't be there."

In response to the request of shop owners to reconsider his decision to not allow banners promoting the Nov. 27 Ice Ice Berlin Art Sculptures Stroll & Holiday Shop Night, Tyndall said the banners are in the draft phase and will be going up.

Tyndall previously told the business owners that he would contact the Worcester County Health Department about offering free carriage rides for the event.

"The health department dissented on the carriage rides," the mayor said. "Ivy Wells, our economic and community development director, sent in a covid plan for that carriage ride activity. For the health department's dissent, they said we could do it as long as the carriage company helped enforce social distancing along with some criteria as to who can sit on the carriage at the same time, and that's going to be the responsibility of the carriage company."

For Ice Ice Berlin Art Sculptures Stroll & Holiday Shop Night on Nov. 27, the carriage rides will move to Baker Street. Then, the carriage rides on weekends will be moved back to Pitts Street, Tyndall said.

Frene said many of the town merchants depend on promotions of events, especially during the pandemic as businesses suffer from decreased sales.

"They want, I guess, a clear understanding of what things the town is going to continue to do like brochures, social media posts, any paid advertising – what is the town able to do and willing to do promo-

tional-wise?" Frene asked.

Tyndall said paid advertisements will come through the economic and community development office.

"The same direction that I gave the night of the merchant meeting is the same path that we're going to continue down, which is the advertising that businesses will be open late, that you can take in the shopping and the lights and the ice sculptures that evening for the Ice Ice event," Tyndall added.

He also said that the town will post on social media information about Small Business Saturday and 2nd Fridays.

"Even today we were meeting with merchants trying to make sure that things go off without a hitch and that everybody's safe and able to enjoy the shops because we do want people to come and shop in our small businesses," Tyndall said. "It's been a hard time for everyone. It's especially hard for those that make their living with a storefront. The businesses have been great to work with. So, I don't see any reason why that would change moving forward."



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Don't feed geese, discourage them

Continued from Page 1
habits for wildlife.

"I sent the script for the sign we would like that goes into all the reasons not to feed the geese," he said.

Wolf said the advisory committee is hoping the OPA will concur with the suggestion.

"We will try to get Ocean Pines to make the signs and will post them at the pond," he said.

The language recommended by the Environmental Committee asks to "help conserve wildlife in their natural habitat."

The text also states, "feeding geese, ducks and wild animals can cause the following harmful effects: overcrowding, poor nutrition, spread of disease, unnatural behavior, pollution, delayed migration, safety concerns and dependency on humans."

Canada geese, nests and eggs, are protected under federal law by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which prohibits capturing or killing except during legal hunting seasons.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources attributes the increase of non-migratory Canada geese in the region to the release of decoy flocks and stocking programs conducted during the 1930s.

The DNR website states the first recorded Canada goose stocking in the state took place in 1935, when more than 40 were transplanted to Dorchester County's Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, which was created just two years earlier.

Wolf said the educational campaign is intended to teach the public that feeding waterfowl does more harm than good.

"I'm harming the geese by feeding them, not helping," he said. "The goal is to educate people to that fact."

Wolf said in the long term one likely means to reduce the presence of geese at the South Gate Pond would be to refrain from manicuring grass and bushes located just offshore.

"The geese want to get out of the water and be able to walk on land," he said.

Wolf said undergrowth that blocks pathways from ponds or other water bodies typically raise the specter of hidden predators, which tends to discourage grazing by geese flocks.

"That's the overall solution, because if you do that, the geese will not stay there," he said. "If you let the grass grow, then the geese go away."



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OP Executive Council talks strategic plans

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Before hearing annual reports from committee representative last week, the Ocean Pines Association Executive Council discussed revived attempts at strategic planning.

The executive council, which is comprised of advisory committee chairs, opened its meeting last Wednesday by examining progress on the reestablished Strategic Planning Committee.

Strategic Planning Chairman Moe Delcher said an email invitation was sent to other committee chairpersons to attend the groups next meeting on Nov. 19.

"It's relatively all new members, including myself," he said. "We need input from the committees to see what else is out there."

Delcher said the six-member group, which is still seeking participants, has already held a pair of initial meetings.

"We can investigate initiatives ourselves but also need input," he said.

Expressing hesitancy was Environmental and Natural Assets Chairman Ken Wolf, who noted a comparable attempt was made more than a half dozen years ago.

"The environmental committee spent a tremendous amount of time putting together a document that we researched," he said. "Nobody paid any attention to it [and] we never got one word of feedback."



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The newly revived Strategic Planning Committee dominated initial discussions during the Ocean Pines Association Executive Council meeting on Nov. 4.

Calling the past experience a wasted effort, Wolf questioned investing further time to develop proposals that may fail to gain traction.

OPA President Larry Perrone said the board's composition has gone through several turnovers since the past failed attempt.

"I can tell you this board is committed to the strategic planning process," he said.

In terms of environmental topics, Perrone said the board has made a financial commitment to the ongoing Bainbridge drainage project.

"From a budgetary standpoint, we are looking to address that yearly as we go forward," he said. "Right now we're probably looking at pumping another \$300,000 into drainage for next year."

Wolf said the environmental committee was instrumental in forming close ties with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and Worcester County officials to help secure more than a half million in state grant funding for the Bainbridge project.

"It all came from us and our work," he said.

"We built a relationship and brought

it forward."

Perrone concurred with that assessment.

"That's what these committees are about: is for stuff to percolate from the bottom up," he said. "I feel sorry that eight years ago you felt ignored."

Wolf said the initial information provided by Delcher as the committee takes flight again has been realistic and practical.

OPA Vice President Dr. Colette Horn said while there are obvious reasons strategic planning would seek other

See OPA Page 6

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Pines committee examines virtual project

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Since hitting the brakes on meetings following the coronavirus outbreak, the Ocean Pines Association Communication Committee is looking to develop an online “virtual resident’s academy.”

Committee Chairwoman Jenny Cropper Rines said the group discussed the matter during its last in-person gathering in March.

“When covid happened, things got derailed,” she said.

Despite having yet to reconvene, Rines said committee members hope to launch the effort again.

“The committee figured the situation was ideal to work on this concept in a virtual capacity,” she said.

Rines said based on previous input from the board of directors, the hope is



Jenny Cropper

further refine the concept.

“There were some good suggestions that came back,” she said.

The absence of recent meetings has added challenges.

“We would like to see the project get going [but] it’s been hard to garner peoples’ attention to focus on it,” she said.

The online program would be a modernized version of a previous Ocean Pines resident’s academy.

“There’s an outline of content,” she said.

During the committee’s meeting in January, the existing template was employed to develop chapter headings.

“It was broken down to park and recs ... public works, finance, [advisory]

committees and the board,” she said. “There’s sort of the skeleton of that breakdown on the website.”

Rines said creating short videos to highlight areas of importance for community members is being considered as well.

“The more people know, the less misunderstandings,” she said. “Short videos that would be available to anyone in Ocean Pines would be good.”

The intent is to increase knowledge of the inner workings of the Pines.

“There’s some lack of general understanding of how the community operates and who does what,” she said. “If you need something, who do you call?”

Rines said the in-person resident’s academy had been highly instructive.

“In the past, over several weeks, people went to various sessions,” she said. “At the end of the session, you would

know pretty much what there is to know about the community.”

Rines said part of the earlier resident’s academy involved visiting Pines amenities.

“There are things that people don’t even know we have,” she said.

Regardless of online content, some sentiment exists to retain face-to-face interactions.

“The board thought it would be valuable to have some in-person parts,” she said.

Networking aspects are also a consideration, with the potential to find candidates for advisory committees or board positions.

“It could be a wonderful resource,” she said. “We need recruiting mechanisms, because it’s hard to keep people on committees.”

Rines said while offering criticism online is common, following through with potential solutions happens far less.

“Social media has changed how people voice their concerns, but it doesn’t get them any more involved it just gives them a platform,” she said. “You have to get involved to effect change.”

OPA Exec. Council meeting looks at strategic planning

Continued from Page 5
committee’s perspectives, suggestions would also be forthcoming from the board based on community opinion.

“You are viewed as the resident experts in your area,” she said.

OPA Secretary Camilla Rogers said the larger concern is charting plans in accordance with residents’ sentiments.

“How do the initiatives that are bubbling up or ... back down fit in with the overall expectations of the community,” she said.

While enthused by the still evolving strategic planning process, Rogers noted the importance of gauging community satisfaction.

Perrone said the function of the strategic planning committee is not to approve future initiatives.

“They’re there to gather the information and see if it fits the overall strategic plan,” he said. “The responsibility for planning this falls to the general manager.”

Perrone and Horn have already consulted with General Manager John Viola about the still developing planning process.

The picture is being split between long and short-term concerns, Perrone said.

“Smaller issues that can be dealt with immediately or [the] near future become more John’s responsibility to deal with on an operational level,” he said. “Ultimately, the board has a say in that ... all the committees should have a say, as well as the community.”

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Current tattoo moratorium extended two yrs.

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) The Berlin Mayor and Council on Monday agreed to extend the town's current tattoo moratorium to Nov. 18, 2022 and to reconvene the Tattoo Ordinance Committee.

Town Attorney David Gaskill said in 2017 town officials learned they had no regulations for a tattoo parlor in the Berlin town limits.

"I was instructed to draft an ordinance outlawing tattoo parlors within the town limits," Gaskill said.

A Tattoo Ordinance Committee was formed that included Mayor Zackery Tyndall and Councilmember Dean Burrell in fall 2017. Its creation was in response to community concerns that a proposed emergency ordinance was out of date and not in the best interests of the town.

The Tattoo Ordinance Committee met with representatives from the Worcester County Health Department, researched licensing options and determined the support from the health department was vital for the health and safety of tattoo parlor customers in Berlin.

The committee also recommended changes to the ordinance and requested that the mayor and council ask the Worcester County Commissioners to modify their code to permit tattooing in Berlin on May 14, 2018.

Then-Mayor Gee Williams sent a letter to the county commissioners on May 25, 2018. The county commissioners responded on Aug. 23, 2018.



Matthew Amey

"It was determined that the county health department either would not or could not help us to ensure that if a person opened a tattoo parlor within the town limits that their proper safety protocols would be in place," Gaskill said. "That's how this moratorium was born."

If the town proceeds to license tattoo parlors, the county would respond to complaints. The county is legally obligated to do so under Maryland State Law.

The staff recommendation was to enable the Tattoo Ordinance Committee to finish its work on the draft ordinance to allow tattooing in the town and to continue the moratorium until the town obtains the support it seeks from the Worcester County Health Department.

Members of the Tattoo Ordinance Committee, Matthew Amey and Dana Helmuth, attended the meeting to share their opinion.

"Dave is correct in everything that he stated," Amey said. "Basically, the barrier that we ran into was discussing with the health department the need for in-

spection for these types of establishments."

Amey said he and Helmuth believe that tattooing is a viable industry and would like to move forward with the ordinance.

"We believe that regulations are necessary, whether or not the health department inspects and verifies that these locations are up to their standards," Amey said.

He added that tattoo parlors in Wicomico County function as a complaint-based industry.

"There is no oversight unless there is a complaint that is submitted," Amey said.

He continued that Worcester County overregulates tattooing, prohibiting decades-long professionals from working in their craft.

"There are stipulations within the county code that stipulates that their regulations apply to all lands lying outside of incorporated townships, which means that each incorporated township must develop their own regulations lest they have none," Amey said.

Amey added that in 2017 someone wanted to open a microblading studio in Berlin.

"The town didn't know what microblading was," he said. "The health department came back and said 'Microblading is a form of cosmetic tattooing. You don't have tattoo regulations on your books.

Here's ours. Go ahead and use those. That'll cover you."

Amey is hopeful that the Tattoo Ordinance Committee can reconvene with a new member to replace Tyndall.

Responding to Councilmember Jay Knerr, Gaskill said the moratorium is necessary to avoid inexperienced tattoo artists opening studios in Berlin without any oversight.

"We're not covered by the county regulations," Gaskill added.

Amey said in Wicomico County there have been issues with diseases being transmitted based on the complaints that were filed.

"We would like regulations that we follow," Amey said. "Regardless of the municipalities where we work, we follow these because it's not only our clients' safety, it's our own safety that's on the table."

Responding to Councilmember Jack Orris, Amey said the Tattoo Ordinance Committee has not met in over a year.

"The issue that we've run into is at the county level, specifically with the county health department and the lack of inspection oversight that is offered from the county health department," Amey continued. "The county health department currently has an inspection mechanism for body piercing studios that exist on the Boardwalk. They do not have anything in their tattoo establishment

See COMMITTEE Page 8

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ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE
 Mayor Zackery Tyndall, right, presents Berlin's Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence with two awards from American Municipal Power, Inc., including an Electric Safety Award for no reported injuries in 2020 with 16,640 reported work hours.

Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence awarded by AMP

By Ally Lanasa
 Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Berlin's Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence has again won awards from American Municipal Power Inc.

Lawrence was presented the Electric Safety Award during the Berlin Mayor and Council meeting on Monday.

"This is the third year that Tim and his group have received the Electric Safety Award," Mayor Tyndall said. "We're talking about 16,640 reported work hours with no reported injuries in 2020."

The award is for the transmission and

distribution side of the electric utility department.

Lawrence also received an award for the upgrade to a natural gas engine from the diesel generator at the Berlin Power Plant on William Street.

"The new generator will save the taxpayers approximately \$200,000 annually, reduce our carbon emissions, which means 30 percent less carbon dioxide being emitted in the environment when compared to our diesel generator," Tyndall said. "There's some less maintenance, and they're much more efficient."

Lawrence said that project took about 15 months.

Committee seeks new members

Continued from Page 7
 regulations stipulating inspections by the health department for tattoo establishments. What we were hoping was that we could suggest or we could submit our regulations to the health department, and the health department would write a line item that would offer inspections for tattoo establishments that exist within Berlin."

Gaskill said the county commissioners would have had to amend their ordinance to authorize the county health department to perform inspections of tattoo parlors within the Berlin limits, and they declined to do so.

Gaskill added that the Tattoo Ordinance Committee researched private companies to provide the inspections.

"We found a couple, but they were very expensive," Amey said. "That was where the prohibited cost of that option was not an option."

He continued that the county has inspection services for body piercing shops on the Boardwalk that use the same equipment as tattoo parlors.

"The only difference is the process," Amey said. "In fact, body piercing is more invasive than tattooing. We create

abrasions on the skin. Body piercing is piercing through the skin."

Amey has not had this argument with the county commissioners because the information was related to them in a letter from Williams.

"I think [Williams] asked to get on the agenda and was told no," Gaskill said. "You can only speak down there in Snow Hill if you get permission."

Tyndall said the regulations discussed on Monday are only for the Berlin municipality.

He further explained that the Worcester County Commissioners function as the Worcester County Board of Health.

"I think it's pretty clear from the discussion that we really need to extend this," Gaskill said. "I think it's a viable project that we undertook."

Amey agreed that he wanted to extend the moratorium for two years and reconvene the Tattoo Ordinance Committee with new members.

Orris made the motion to approve the moratorium extension and reconvene the committee. It was unanimously passed by the council with the absence of Councilmember Shaneka Nichols.



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Berlin HDC OKs fence, dumpster placement

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) The Atlantic Hotel dumpster can remain behind the hotel's warehouse on Gay Street, the Berlin Historic District Commission decided last Wednesday.

Hotel manager Laura Stearns, a member of the commission, recused herself from all aspects of the consideration.

A wooden fence that replicates The Globe's fence would camouflage the dumpster, said hotel operator John Fager.

"You've got the building on one side and then coming out from the building on a right angle would be a fence and then down the street would be a fence, so the only side that would be open would be the side ...where they're going to come in to pick up," Fager said, referring to the side on the west between the fence and the building for the trash truck's entry.

The commission also approved the installation of a four-foot wooden fence by McGee Fence in the rear of 507 S. Main St., which is owned by Steven and Berkleigh Diaz.

Before the meeting adjourned, Ron Cascio from the Berlin Planning Commission introduced new homeowners Glenn and Cindy Davis of 200 S. Main St. on the corner of Main Street and

Washington Street.

Cascio is serving as the construction manager for the Davis family. Bob Purcell from Beachwood Homes is the general contractor for the restoration project.

Joe Hill of Traditional Design Services in Berlin will complete the design drawings.

"There's an addition on the back that was done some time that is clearly not in compliance with the historic home values of the town," Cascio said.

He added that a formal submission regarding renovations and materials will be made in the near future.

Glenn Davis said it will be their permanent residence.

"Before he put in an offer and before he moved to closing on the house, he asked about our process and the kind of things to look out for," said Dave Engelhart, the town's planning director. "I know Ron's a good person to guide you through that."

Glenn asked about materials for replacement windows.

"We've got two or three different options on how we do the replacement windows," Glenn said. "One of them is just a simple vinyl window that would fit in the opening and we keep the trim and everything at least the same if not just a little bigger."

He asked the commission what its



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Historic District Commission approved the permanent placement of the Atlantic Hotel dumpster behind the hotel's warehouse on Gay Street during its meeting last Wednesday.

opinion was of a vinyl window versus a fiberglass window insert.

"The vinyl windows are a little bit thicker," Glenn said. "They're wider on the perimeter, so we wanted to get some feedback on how you felt about that before we got too far into that process."

Chairwoman Carol Rose suggested the couple go with Ron to a nearby house with vinyl windows.

Glenn added that some of the exterior siding will have to be replaced.

"As far as the siding's concerned, I mean, as long as it's going to look like a period effect, it doesn't matter the type of material practically as long as it has

the appearance," said Vice-Chairman Robert Poli.

Glenn also asked the commission about replacing the existing wood railings on the porches with a similar composite railing for safety because they are rotten.

In addition, the home has two large double-hung windows that do not work and cannot be replicated, Glenn said.

"There are only a few windows in the house that have mullions," Cascio said. "They are some stained-glass windows, which we intend to keep and reuse. None of the other windows have mullions originally."

See MAIN Page 10



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Berlin receives federal reimbursement check

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Berlin's check for \$171,033 in federal CARES Act funding dispersed by Worcester County is the maximum amount it could receive, Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said to the mayor and council Monday.

"That is a reimbursement check," he added.

Fleetwood also said the period of eligibility for funding is from March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020 but the town had expenses that exceeded the awarded amount well before the ending eligibility date.

Fleetwood and the town staff recommended that the Berlin Mayor and Council establish a separate account at the Bank of Ocean City to create a stabilization reserve fund with the check.



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Berlin Mayor and Council agreed to establish a new account at the Bank of Ocean City for the \$171,033 the town received in CARES Act funding, which will help create a stabilization reserve fund.

"I'd like to put that money away, so that we can get started on this stabilization reserve that we talked about four or five months ago," Fleetwood said.

Councilmember Dean Burrell asked why not use the check for the funds that had been expended since the pandemic began.

"The overwhelming majority were already planned," Fleetwood said because they were payroll dollars. "They were already budgeted."

By establishing the money as a reserve fund, it could be used for covid-

19 emergencies.

"If the town occurred any further expenses as a result of covid-19, this is some funding that, once it's placed in that fund, will allow us to have that ability to pull from," Mayor Zackery Tyndall said.

Fleetwood added that the account would not be set up with checking.

Councilmember Troy Purnell made the motion to establish the account with a second from Burrell. The council agreed unanimously with the absence of Councilmember Shaneka Nichols.

Main St. house to be renovated

Continued from Page 9

Glenn added that the roofing would be replaced with architectural roofing shingles.

Engelhart advised the homeowners to bring as many samples as he could to the meeting they are assigned.

The homeowners plan to have their application ready for the December commission meeting.

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ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood discusses the four options for the transfer of the Maple Avenue property with the Berlin Mayor and Council on Monday.

Berlin Mayor and Council Briefs

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) The following occurred during the Berlin Mayor and Council meeting on Monday:

Maple Avenue property

Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said Ingerman Inc. has agreed to install a concrete sidewalk from Elizabeth Street into the Willows at Berlin for the transfer of an 11,000-square-foot property on Maple Avenue. Ingerman also agreed to pave Maple Avenue from the Willows at Berlin to Flower Street.

“We estimated the value of that 11,000 square feet of property. It will be approximately \$10,000,” Fleetwood said. “And the work that they’re going to do with the sidewalk and street is estimated at about \$28,000.”

On Nov. 23, a representative of Ingerman will be present for the public notice.

The Berlin Mayor and Council will make the decision at the meeting whether to give Ingerman the property, sell it to the company, barter for the transfer of property or have the site plan redesigned to make the project fit on the land Ingerman will own when the deal closes next month.

Bulk waste collection

Fleetwood said the bulk waste collection for Tuesday and Wednesday customers on Nov. 4 went smoothly.

Fleetwood said five tons of waste were picked up on Nov. 4, 2020, in comparison to 13 tons last year on the same date.

The bulk waste collection for Thursday trash customers will take place on Nov. 18. Berlin residents must complete a request for bulk collection prior to their collection date.

The free waste collection is limited to four items per household per collection date.

To review the special collections policy and submit a request form, visit berlinmd.gov/special-collections-policy/.

Tennis

Worcester County Recreation and Parks completed its tennis programming at Stephen Decatur Park several weeks ago, said Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen. Despite restrictions for the covid-19 pandemic, the turnout for drop-

in tennis evenings and the tennis clinic were successful.

“We’re looking forward to continuing those kinds of programming with Worcester Recreation,” Bohlen said. “It’s definitely an asset for the town.”

Water tower

Fleetwood said the painting of the water tower on Route 346 was completed on Monday. “The lettering has been put back to the original color,” he added, from black to blue.

Grants

Electric Utility Director Tim Lawrence is pursuing a grant to install a rooftop solar system, which will be a 23kW system, on Schoolfield Street.

Ivy Wells, the town’s economic and community development director, is also applying for a covid-19 relief grant through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to receive funding for the Berlin Main Street Program and all the downtown businesses.

Police reports

Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing said there were no incidents on Halloween.

In addition, he met with the Worcester County Board of Education last Friday before more students returned to campuses on Monday.

Downing said with many Worcester County Public Schools located in Berlin, there has been an influx of traffic. The police are working to help prevent long lines.

Lastly, the police academy is now in full training mode after the covid pandemic postponed training earlier this year.

New police officer

Patrolman First Class Anthony Rhode began his first night shift in Berlin on Monday after meeting the Berlin Mayor and Council.

Rhode is from Worcester County and currently lives in the Berlin area. He is also an alumnus from Stephen Decatur High School, Class of 2000.

“We’re proud to go ahead and have him as part of the Berlin Police Department,” Berlin Police Chief Arnold Downing said. “He just completed his acclimation period.”


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WCPS admin. address positive covid cases

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Stephen Decatur High School on Seahawk Road in Berlin has transitioned to distance learning on Wednesday until Nov. 30 after three individuals tested positive for covid-19 in the school within 24 hours.

"We know that news of this transition is likely to heighten anxieties across the school system, but please rest assured that tonight's decision and all of our protocols we have in place are further evidence that we remain dedicated to keeping our students and staff safe," Worcester County Public Schools Superintendent Lou Taylor wrote to parents on Tuesday.

The county school system released a covid-19 update on Monday after school officials were notified of two positive cases within the same classroom at Stephen Decatur High School. The single classroom transitioned to distance learning on Tuesday.

For more information from Principal Thomas Sites about those cases, visit www.worcesterk12.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_577356/File/District%20Leadership/Responsible%20Return/COVID-19%20Notifications/20201109%20%20SDHS%20COVID19%20Notification.pdf.

The third positive case at Stephen Decatur High School was outside of the classroom outbreak, Sites wrote in a letter to parents.

In addition, Worcester County Public Schools was made aware on Monday of one positive case of covid-19 within an early childhood classroom at Showell Elementary School. Carrie Sterrs, coordinator of public relations and special programs for the county school system, said that out of an abundance of caution, this classroom also returned to virtual learning.

For more information from Principal Diane Shorts, visit www.worcesterk12.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_577356/File/District%20Leadership/Responsible%20Return/COVID-19%20Notifications/20201109%20%20SES%20COVID.pdf.

Last week, Taylor said he was aware that two school bus drivers had positive covid-19 tests, and county school system had a protocol in place of sending out letters identifying those who would go through a contact tracing process.

In a letter to public school families on Tuesday, Taylor said the school's contact tracing protocol has been expanded.

"Our protocol calls for us to notify any individuals in the affected cohort of the case," he wrote. "To illustrate with an example, should we have a case in a

classroom, the entire class and if the child rode a bus, those groups would be notified of the case, but the communication will differ based on whether they were a close contact or not. This process is one that the Health Department has affirmed as the appropriate way to notify while still respecting the privacy of the ill individual."

The county school system has been welcoming more students back to the classroom in waves. Additional students have been brought back to schools every two weeks in the fall. As of Tuesday, another wave of students returned to the county schools.

As a result, educators are challenged with managing students there while continuing to offer virtual instruction to those that opt for distance learning for the remainder of the semester or for the remainder of the 2020-21 academic year.

Recently, an opt-out form was sent to parents of public school students to keep children in distance learning.

"We need to have an idea of what kids were coming back and were not coming back, so that we can plan in our facilities for the six-foot distancing," Taylor said. "Right now, the main purpose of the opt-out form is for planning purposes and that's planning in our buildings for spaces for our kids to return and be in a safe environment."

A percentage of students remaining in distance learning has not been confirmed because it is an ongoing process.

"A preliminary snapshot of the data as it currently stands has 464 opt-outs completed at this time," Sterrs said. "This is inclusive of both semester one opt-outs and full-year opt-outs."

In the opt-out form from Stephen Decatur High School, Principal Thomas Sites said students who continue in virtual learning will participate in fewer Zoom sessions and more "asynchronous work," or assignments without instruction from a teacher in real time.

"It is not as good as we would like it under normal circumstances," Taylor said. "There are some challenges with distance learning. There are some challenges with in-person learning."

The county's 14 schools have flexibility about when to bring more students back in based on space issues.

"We try to meet the needs of every kid in every school," Superintendent Lou Taylor said last week. "What I've asked my building-level principals to do is to break it down to every child and see how we can best serve that individual. We don't like to make decisions based on the mass. We like to make them based on individual needs."

He added that principals have to be creative about using spaces throughout the building, not just traditional classrooms, to accommodate physical distancing.

"We've got challenges there, but we're going to do the very best we can to make it happen for those kids who want to get back," Taylor said.

Teachers are struggling to balance both models of instruction simultaneously, but Taylor said he and his staff believe a high quality of education is still being offered to all public school students.

"This is very tough on our teachers, and I complement our teachers across this county," Taylor said. "They're doing work like they've never done before, and my heart goes out to them because they are stretched to the limit. But everyone that works in our school system right now is stretched to the limit."

Taylor added that he tries to give educators a break whenever possible. Last Tuesday, he lightened the load of professional development countywide, so teachers had more free time to complete instructional work.

Taylor said he is also very cautious about mental health for staff and students.

"Yes, the covid virus is something that is very dangerous, we recognize that, but we've also got some other issues we have to look at, such as the mental health issues of our kids," Taylor said. "There's research out there that says the more we keep kids out, the more damaging it is for their mental health. I receive several emails daily from parents telling me that they're

See TAYLOR Page 13

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Taylor, Sterrs respond to connectivity issues

Continued from Page 12

seeing these things from their kids at home and to please allow them to come back to school.”

He added that from data collected throughout the summer and fall, the majority of families favor having students back in schools.

Every morning, students or their guardians are responsible for filling out a covid-19 screening form before students enter the school buildings.

“We have protocols in place. I have a team of people, who monitor those protocols [and] who review them with our principals daily,” Taylor said. “We have two or three check points in place, but one of the most important things that we do is to follow the protocols to keep our kids and our staff safe. So, that is a priority each and every day in our schools.”

Taylor also said the safety protocols for the county’s schools have been reviewed by his executive level staff and health officials in the county.

The covid-19 response protocols and covid-19 screening form are available on worcesterk12.org.

As Gov. Hogan continues to warn Marylanders about the rise of coronavirus cases across the county, Taylor admits he is concerned about the health of students and staff.

“What I feel good about is the protocols and the plan that we have in place to identify issues as they arise,” he said. “We re-evaluate that plan on a

regular basis to make sure that we are meeting the health needs of all those who are involved in Worcester County Public Schools.”

Taylor added that his staff is in constant communication with Health Officer Rebecca Jones at the Worcester County Health Department.

Taylor also provided an update about the internet connectivity on Tuesday after issues persisted for two weeks, interrupting distance learning for public school students.

“That our internet connectivity experienced outages and slow speeds last week and the week prior was unacceptable, and I genuinely cannot express how sorry we are for the frustration everyone has felt as a result of it,” Taylor wrote in a letter to parents. “While we believe that this particular outside issue with our provider networkMaryland is near being resolved, this process of investigation has exposed some opportunities for us to further stabilize our technology infrastructure, and we are working hard to design a long-term solution.”

Virtual learners worked on assignments on their own during the issues.

Taylor updated families last Monday on the school system’s website, apologizing for the technology issues.

“After a thorough investigation and consultation with several outside vendors, we narrowed the problem to an internal hardware issue,” Taylor said. “We have repaired this hardware and

tested it to ensure stability. We hope that this issue has now been resolved.”

Sterrs said the piece of hardware is located at the central office in Newark.

In the video update, Taylor added that the internet connectivity was expected to be fully functioning when instruction resumed on Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Public schools were closed last Tuesday for Election Day and professional development.

The internet connectivity was intermittent last Wednesday, Taylor said at the Worcester County Commissioners meeting that morning.

He also said internet connectivity has been an issue across the state.

Last Thursday the county school system released an update on its Facebook page, stating, “We are sorry to share that we are experiencing some

slow-downs and sporadic outages with our network at this time; however, hotspots have been deployed at all of our schools as a stopgap measure while this issue is being resolved. Your child’s school or teacher will be in contact with distance learners should there be any changes to synchronous learning today.”

Sterrs said the internet connectivity was restored last week, but as the school system’s provider, network-Maryland, continues work on its end, there have been infrequent momentary slowdowns in internet speed.

“Synchronous learning was occurring for many of our classes even during the outages through the use of deployed hotspots and other creative means,” Sterrs said. “Our connectivity, however, has been relatively reliable since [last] Thursday.”

Boating safety course offered

(Nov. 12, 2020) The US Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering a virtual Maryland Basic Boating Safety Course, Nov. 16-18.

The Maryland Safe Boating Certificate is required for all boat operators born after July 1, 1972, and is awarded after successful completion of the course.

The class, held from 6-9 p.m. each night, includes information about piloting in local waters, tying nautical knots, foul weather tactics, legal is-

sues, updated Maryland regulations and common marine maintenance.

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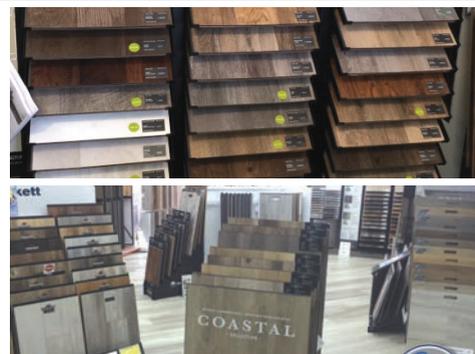
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COMMENDED STUDENTS

Head of School Dr. John McDonald, left, and Assistant Head of School and Head of Upper School Mike Grosso, congratulate Worcester Preparatory School Commended Students, from left, Daniel Chen, Sophia Ludt, Summer Walke, Waverly Choy, Hannah Perdue and Joseph Schwartz.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation held its 2020 Robert E. Warfield Memorial Tournament on Sept. 24 at Ocean City Golf Club. Nearly 200 golfers participated and \$80,000 was raised for the Atlantic General Hospital Foundation. Proceeds enable Atlantic General Hospital, a not-for-profit healthcare organization, to advance the health of the residents and visitors of the community through a coordinated care delivery system that provides access to quality care, personalized service and education. (Left) The winning team on the Seaside front/Newport Bay back course was Danny Parker, Penny Parker, Buzz Taylor and Lou Taylor. (Right) The winning team on the Newport Bay front/Seaside back course was Jac Stanton, Dean Mantzouris, Fred Cheek and Jeff Shields.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

PROCLAMATION

During the Worcester County Commissioners' meeting on Oct. 6, Commissioner Chip Bertino, left, presents a proclamation to Fire Marshal Jeff McMahan, recognizing Oct. 4-10, 2020 as Worcester County Fire Prevention Week and October as Fire Prevention Month, with the theme "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen."



KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City installed new officers and celebrated its 40th anniversary on Oct. 1. Outgoing President Roy Foreman, left, presents the gavel to Incoming President Steve Cohen in the Pavillion in White Horse Park in Ocean Pines.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Co. Board of Edu. election winners projected

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Based on the election results as of Tuesday, Donald Smack Sr. and Dr. Jon Andes will join incumbent Elena McComas on the Worcester County Board of Education.

Because mail-in ballots are still being counted, they can't be declared the official winners until the final tally is completed on Nov. 13.

McComas has received 98.9 percent of the votes for District 5 so far with 1,974 votes from in-person early voting, 529 votes on Election Day and 971 votes by mail-in ballots.

About 1 percent, or 38 votes, went to write-ins.

"I'm thankful and excited to be back on the school board again, and I'm very appreciate of 98 percent of the vote. That's amazing," McComas said.

McComas, 73, has been on the board for the past four years.

She has spent 25 years as a public-school science teacher in Maryland and California, with five years at the university level as a science education instructor and student teacher supervisor.

McComas also serves on the Maryland Association of Boards of Education's Legislative Committee. Starting in January, she will go to Annapolis once a month to learn about what the state is doing about education.

"I really feel we need to focus on our local issues," McComas said. "I'm very proud of our school district for how well it has handled [opening during the pandemic]."

As a former teacher, McComas understands the challenges faced by educators in the county school system as well as families.

"Thank you for being so supportive," McComas said to voters on Wednesday. "I'm here if anyone has any questions or needs to talk concerning the school district. I'm certainly open to that and have been."

Smack, who is running for the District 2 seat, received 1,561 votes, equaling 61.9 percent of the votes, as of Tuesday. He received 639 votes from in-person early voting, 664 votes on Election Day and 258 votes by mail-in ballots so far.

Smack, 70, served the Worcester County Public Schools system for 30 years. He retired from the position of head custodian at Ocean City Elementary School in 2017.

He is also a member of the of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association as well as the Worcester County Education Support Personnel Association.

In addition, Smack is a descendant of the original Briddell family in Bridgetown, a historical Black community in Berlin. He is the son of Sarah Briddell Smack and Neil "Carlton"

Smack.

Smack is involved in the American Legion Duncan-Showell Post #231, King David's #284 Consistory and Abu Lahab Temple #206 Shriners of North and South America.

Since 1976, he has been a member of the Lincoln Lodge #53 in Berlin.

Smack is active in St. Paul United Methodist Church, 405 Flower St.

He is the past president of United Methodist men at his church. Currently, Smack serves as the chaplain of men's ministry in addition to being a men's choir member and the treasurer of the trustee board at the church.



Donald Smack Sr



Dr. Jon Andes



Elena McComas

Smack's opponent Rodney Bailey has received a total of 940 votes so far, and another 22 votes went to write-ins. Former Superintendent of Worcester County Public Schools Dr. Jon Andes is winning the District 3 seat with 2,613 votes, equaling 73.9 percent of the votes. He received 1,586 votes from in-person early voting, 601 votes on Election Day and 426 votes by mail-in ballots so far.

"I feel very privileged and honored to have the confidence and support of the voters and the citizens of District 3," Andes said on Wednesday.

His opponent Anjali "Angie" Phukan-Chatelle has received a total of 909 votes so far, and another 14 votes were counted for write-ins.

Assuming his election is validated, Andes, 66, said he will prepare to take office officially in 2021 by attending the Maryland Association of Board of Education's seminar for new board members and speaking with Taylor to better understand his priorities for the county school system.

Currently, Andes is a professor of practice in the Department of Educational Leadership and Graduate Studies at Salisbury University.

He also serves as the executive director of the Eastern Shore of Maryland Educational Consortium.

Andes' extensive educational and administrative career involves teaching social studies at Harford County

See FINAL Page 16

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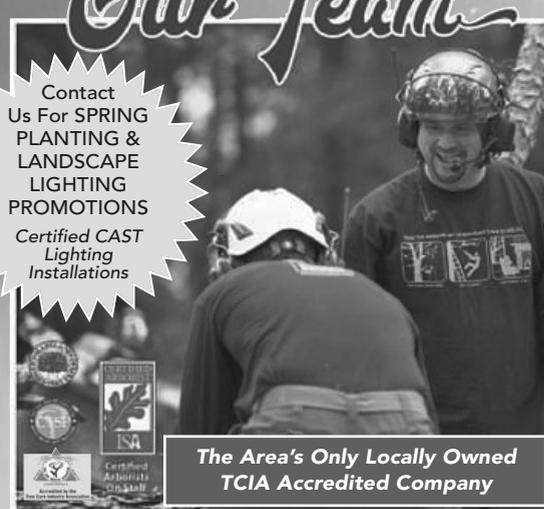
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CES respond to heating oil spill on Berlin's West Street

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) A heating oil tank at 107 West Street in Berlin spilled on Oct. 30, causing damage to the driveway of 105 West Street and the surrounding area.

JeriLyn Holston Andrews, the homeowner of 107 West Street, said the house has been a rental property for nearly a decade.

Andrews added that the heating oil tank was not used because the house has an HVAC system.

"We didn't want the tank, so someone was interested in taking it," she said.

The 2,440 square-foot property is currently on the market and is listed by Alexander Piela at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' Ocean City office. The two-bedroom, two-bathroom Victorian home is for sale for \$452,000.

Piela said he had spoken to several people who expressed interest in taking the oil tank. He planned to be at the property with the buyer of the tank for its removal. However, Piela is not sure who attempted to move the tank on Oct. 30 because he was never consulted.

"We don't really know how it happened," Andrews added. "It seems

like – and I say it seems like because I don't really know, I was not there – that they tried to drag the tank off the property and the oil in it spilled."

Brad Conlan, the homeowner next door, said a police officer noticed the handle on the tank had broken on the side of the tank.

The individuals who attempted to take the oil tank and caused the spill have not been identified.

"I'm not a happy camper 'cause it's costing me a lot of money, and I didn't cause it," Andrews said.

She and her husband are not taking any legal action at this time.

Conlan said when he arrived home on Oct. 30 about 7 p.m., he saw the oil tank laying on its side in his driveway.

"It was approximately half full of oil still," Conlan said.

He called the Berlin Police Department. When an officer arrived, he called the Berlin Fire Company. The fire company then notified the Worcester County Special Hazards Response Team.

"They came out and drilled a hole in the side of the tank, pumped out approximately a hundred gallons of oil into barrels," Conlan said.

Andrews and her husband live in Ocean City and were notified by the



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Chesapeake Environmental Services clean up an oil spill on the driveway of 105 West Street in Berlin that occurred on Oct. 30.

police late in the evening on Oct. 30 of the oil spill on the property. Her husband then went to West Street in Berlin.

Worcester County Emergency Services called Chesapeake Environmental Services that night and they came to clean up the spill.

Chesapeake Environmental Services removed the empty oil tank and spread absorbent socks onto Conlan's driveway and where the oil tank previously sat on the property of 107 West Street, then covered it with plastic, Conlan said.

"When somebody spilled the oil and they obviously just left it there, they at least put some kitty litter down on my driveway and in that area," he added. "So, later in the evening when I was walking my dog, I noticed that there was kitty litter all around the storm drain."

Oil went into the storm drain but has been extracted, Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood said.

Fleetwood added that residue in the ditch that runs from West Street to Main Street is being soaked up with absorbent socks.

Conlan said a portion of his garden had to be dug out because there was oil in the soil.

"As of right now, Chesapeake Environmental [Services] has the topsoil back down. It is grass seeded, and I hope they are coming out today with some stone for the driveway," Conlan said on Monday.

Last Wednesday, town officials posted on the Town of Berlin Maryland Facebook page, "A number of calls have come in regarding contractor activity on a private property on West Street. The town is aware of the

See RESIDUE Page 17

Final results posted Nov. 13

Continued from Page 15
Public Schools, serving as the assistant principal, then principal of Havre De Grace High School and serving as assistant superintendent for personnel and staff relations in

Harford County Public Schools before coming to Worcester County Public Schools in 1996.

The elected board members will be sworn in at the regular board meeting on Jan. 19, 2021.

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Just Walk fall scavenger hunt this weekend

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) The Worcester County Health Department is inviting people to participate in the free “Just Walk” fall scavenger hunt on Nov. 14-15 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

“[Walking is] a great way to get the physical activity needed to reach your health goals,” said Crystal Bell, the chronic disease and tobacco supervisor at the health department. “It does-



Crystal Bell

n’t require special equipment or skills and no gym membership is required. It’s also great for our mental health. Walking can improve sleep, memory, and the ability to think and learn, and it also reduces stress and anxiety.”

Walkers can choose between Byrd Park in Snow Hill, Cypress Park in Pocomoke and Stephen Decatur Park in Berlin.

Participants will walk through a park, searching for 20 “Just Walk” wellness rocks.

“A total of 60 rocks were created

with messages that relate to physical activity, healthy eating, stress management and covid-19 safety tips,” Bell said.

The scavenger hunt is a self-directed event and social distancing and CDC safety guidelines should be followed.

“The Berlin Fall Walk was canceled this year due to covid-19,” Bell said. “This walk is something that was added to encourage residents to be physically active during these unprecedented times.”

Participants are encouraged to report to Bell how many wellness rocks they found with photos of them walking to be included in a raffle drawing.

The prize is a wellness basket with a cookbook, water bottle, T-shirt and hat.

The scavenger hunt was organized through the Worcester County Health Department.

“We collaborated with the town of Berlin, Pocomoke City and town of Snow Hill to make this event possible,” Bell said. “We appreciate their continued support and partnership.”

To register, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-just-walk-scavenger-hunt-tickets-127743882391 or worcesterhealth.org.

For more information, call 410-632-1100, Ext. 1108.

Residue in ditch being absorbed

Continued from Page 16

activity and the contractor is performing the job for which they were hired appropriately. The contractor has been hired by the property owner and is not working for, nor at the request of, the Town of Berlin.”

David Banks, owner of Chesapeake Environmental Services, said remediation has continued since Oct. 30 and the environmental services is working under the guidance of the Maryland Department of the Environment.

“I’m very glad that the townspeople and the emergency services have really helped out,” Conlan said.

Applications sought for art exhibits

(Nov. 12, 2020) The Worcester County Arts Council is accepting exhibit proposals from local and regional artists, 18 years and older, for the 2021 exhibition season at the gallery located in the Berlin Library branch.

Exhibits run for the period of two months, beginning in February, with two artists featured during each exhibiting period. Artwork will be available for sale.

Exhibit promotions/advertisements and sales will be handled by the Arts Council.

This call is open to two-dimensional art formats. Entry proposals should include: artist’s biography, contact information, and five images (jpg files) that are representative of artist’s body of work.

The images must include medium and size of the artwork. All written materials should be submitted in

PDF format.

Proposals will be reviewed by the gallery review panel for acceptance.

Entry proposals should be sent by email to anna@worcestercountycouncil.org. Proposals must be submitted by Nov. 30, to be considered.

Selected artists will be notified in December. For more information, contact the Arts Council at 410-641-0809.

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AGH Penguin Swim adjusts event for covid

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Looking to maintain a nearly three-decade-old New Year's Day tradition during the coronavirus pandemic, Atlantic General Hospital Foundation's annual Penguin Swim in 2021 will involve a larger outdoor footprint and no inside activities.

OC Ravens Roost #44 Penguin Swim team member Gary Miller, who has taken the icy dip for the last dozen plus years, said despite the 27th annual Penguin Swim taking place on a Friday, organizers are anticipating a minimal crowd to gather outside the Princess Royale on 91st Street.

"In normal years, that would be a huge turnout," he said.

Kam LaBrunda, AGH Foundation development coordinator, said 28 participants had registered online for the Penguin Swim as of this Monday as compared to 32 at this point in 2019.

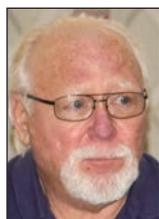
"We have no idea what to expect this year," she said. "Most people wait until the last minute."

In 2016, the most recent occasion when the event was held on a Friday, the Penguin Swim attracted a record-breaking 1,035 people, with 60 teams and 46 sponsors raising more than \$106,000 for the hospital.

The fundraising goal is set a bit lower this year at \$80,000 with just

over \$10,000 raised at this point.

LaBrunda said the event's largest annual supporter, Bull on the Beach, 94th Street, and sister restaurant Crab Alley in West Ocean City, has been unable to hold an associated golf tournament, as well as its annual bull roast and crab feast because of the ongoing pandemic.



Gary Miller

During the event's first quarter century, the annual frozen dip has raised more than \$1.4 million to support the AGH Foundation. LaBrunda said roughly \$600,000 of that sum has been generated through the efforts of Bull on the Beach.

LaBrunda said in addition to nearly \$30,000 each year from Bull on the Beach, OC Ravens Roost #44, which was the top-earning community team in 2019, has raised nearly \$127,000 over the past decade.

"Bull on the Beach hasn't been able to hold their fundraisers and the Ravens Roost haven't been able to do fundraisers," she said.

Miller said although efforts to obtain financial backing this year have been limited, the Ravens Roost did get a boost from the Shrimp Boat in West Ocean City and owner Joe Crocetti

who donated a percentage of proceeds from a swim team appreciation event last weekend.

"Joe at the Shrimp Boat has been extremely generous," he said. "This is the second year and he has been a big supporter."

Miller said another revenue producer retained this year is the Ravens Roost annual raffle ticket drawing on New Years Day.

First prize includes \$100 gift certificates for a handful of area dining establishments, including the Ocean Pines Yacht Club, Coastal Salt, Hoopers Crab House, Embers/Blu Crab House and Ruth's Chris Steak House.

Second prize includes an in-home seafood dinner for six people catered by the Shrimp Boat.

Third prize nets a large basket of adult cheer, including beer, liquor and wine.

Tickets cost \$10 each or three for \$25 and can be purchased by emailing Miller at Garywm1952@gmail.com or AGH Event Coordinator Joyce Stokes at jstokes@atlanticgeneral.org.

"Unfortunately, it isn't going to be the normal big celebration inside [the Princess Royale] but the hospital is still hoping we can raise some money, because with covid there's been a big need," he said.

Miller said the Ravens Roost would

not sponsor a hospitality room inside the hotel as has been past tradition.

"My team didn't feel comfortable with the hospitality suite," he said.

LaBrunda said the covid-altered event would abandon all inside activities.

"The entire event will be outdoors," she said. "It's really going to be come pay your registration fee, get a T-shirt, stand on beach till countdown then run into the water come out and dry off."

Miller said all attendees would be required to wear masks except when in the water.

"The AGH Foundation is working closely with Ocean City to make sure this all stays safe," he said. "Everyone will have to wear masks on the beach."

To permit social distancing, the event's beach area has been expanded.

"They are expanding the beach area, which is normally just in front of Princess Royale, to 94th Street," Miller said

LaBrunda said markers would be set up on the beach to aid participants in social distancing.

"We'll have volunteers doing crowd control and helping direct people to their marker on the beach," she said.

While a glut of online Penguin Swim entries typically pour in during

See INSIDE Page 19

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OP turkey day family walk helps youth, pets

By Greg Ellison

Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Supporters of two Worcester County nonprofit endeavors will be able to get outdoors for fresh air and exercise before tying on the holiday feedbag when the inaugural Thanksgiving "Family Gobble Wobble" stroll takes place around the South Gate Pond in Ocean Pines starting at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 26.

The event is being organized through the Facebook group, Local Help For You, Worcester County, which is asking participants to consider bringing along toy donations for youth or pet supplies for furry friends.

Teaming up to arrange the free walk, which is intended to solicit support for the Worcester County Humane Society and local Christmas toy collections, are Colby Phillips, Kathy McDaniel and D.J. Donnie Berkey.

"We're asking if people can bring an unwrapped toy and or something for the Humane Society for the dogs and cats," Phillips said.

Unwrapped toys and gifts will be distributed to area children who might otherwise get skipped by Santa, while dog and cat food donations will aid animals being cared for by the Worcester County Humane Society.

Phillips said the outdoor event would be conducted in accordance with coronavirus health safety mandates currently in place.

"We ask people to wear masks and socially distance with their families,"

she said.

Phillips said attendees should wear masks in areas they are around people outside of their immediate group.

Phillips said "gobble wobble" participants could walk whatever number of laps around the South Gate Pond they elect, with each totaling about three quarters of a mile.

"They can walk one or multiple laps around the pond," she said. "Four laps would be three miles."

To get the blood pumping further,

organizers will also have exercise stations set up at various points along the trail.

The optional stop-off areas will be staffed and feature exercises for all ages like jumping jacks and squats.

Phillips said volunteers are being sought to oversee the exercise areas.

"If there's any local kids that are looking for service hours they can email," she said.

Inquiries should be sent to, local-help4youwc@gmail.com.

Music accompaniment will be provided during the event to heighten the festivity.

"DJ Donnie will be spinning tunes as you walk," she said.

To this point, the event posting on the Local Help For You Worcester County Facebook page has about 20 people attending and nearly 100 interested.

Phillips said the charity walk would also be contingent on Mother Nature. "If it rains, it will be postponed," she said.



Colby Phillips

MCBP offers youth virtual program

By Elizabeth Bonin

Staff Writer

(Nov. 12, 2020) Youth will have the chance to learn about Maryland's inland bays through an interactive, virtual watershed experience developed by the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays for children ages 8 through 13.

Liz Wist, education coordinator for the Maryland program, said that the idea behind the free program was to provide a learning opportunity for youth who can't travel to the bay because of the coronavirus pandemic. To make it interactive, participants will

receive an activity box in the mail.

"The materials in the activity box will complement those lessons," Wist said. "When they get their box in the mail, it's going to contain a whole assortment of items from nature journals to magnifying glasses and then materials for two specific lessons that we'll be running with each age group."

Participants will log on to a Zoom call for an introductory lesson and then will have breakout rooms for following lessons.

"They're going to learn about both the Maryland coastal bays and Delaware's inland bay and the unique

attributes each, short and brief," Wist said. "Then we're going to go into lessons about observations and different ways students can observe different things in their surroundings."

The introductory lesson will have several short videos and a presentation, and then the lessons following will use the items in the activity box.

"We are going to focus on marsh filtration, the benefit of marshes and the environments that we live locally," Wist said. "Then we're also going to do a lesson about animal adaptations."

She said she thinks the activity box

See LESSONS Page 21

Inside activities canceled this yr.

Continued from Page 18
the final weeks leading up to the event, a deadline of Dec. 10 has been established this year to spur advance registrations.

LaBrunda said participants meeting the deadline would be guaranteed a commemorative T-shirt, which features a trio of socially distancing penguins holding a facemask.

"We do get a ton the night before because registration turns off at 7 a.m. on New Year's Day," she said.

LaBrunda said AGH is relying on residents to help pick up the financial slack this year.

"We don't expect to get too many out-of-town people coming in for the event this year," she said. "We definitely want to encourage our local population to come out and support their health care heroes."

To learn more or register for the Penguin Swim, visit aghpenguin-swim.org/

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Opinion

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

Wear masks to protect health of others, selves

The temporary closing of Stephen Decatur High School this week to protect students from covid-19, along with Gov. Larry Hogan's re-imposed restrictions on restaurant and bar capacities and social gatherings signals another difficult time ahead.

How difficult and how long a period this might be are the questions no one can answer. One answer, however, was delivered this week by the CDC, which said its analysts have found that, contrary to previous beliefs, wearing a mask protects the people around the wearer AND the wearer as well.

With the local economy wobbling after one of the worst summers in memory, it's time to do everything in our power to ensure that it doesn't happen again next year.

By that, we mean let's not get hung up on how we go about it. For instance, asserting that individuals should exercise personal responsibility in protecting themselves and others from covid-19 sounds right, but expecting them to act responsibly is naïve.

As people of a certain age will recall, the arguments against wearing face masks are echoes of what many people said in the 1980s about mandatory car seatbelt use — it was a government intrusion on our personal liberties. The same thing was said again in the early 1990s by motorcycle enthusiasts when the helmet law was enacted.

Now, 90 percent of motorists in this state wear seatbelts without complaint and bikers routinely put on their helmets because they make sense — even if most people didn't believe it at the time.

As was argued when the idea of seatbelts was proposed, we all pay for the "personal freedom" of those that refuse to go along with the program in higher health care costs. But now, we also have to make sure that business and job losses don't occur as well.

Let's not argue about or discuss what should be done, let's just do it. Our residents, visitors, workers and businesses are depending on government and people to do the right thing.



"Covid has given our corporation an opportunity to help our bottom line. Rather than pay our people to sit at home and answer Consumer Service calls we have terminated all but one of those people and the computers will answer the rest of the calls. This will ensure that our Holiday Bonus structure stays intact!"

Letters

WCPS addresses covid-19 protocols

Editor,

Over this past week, I have felt compelled to reach out to our school system family.

To me, that always includes our students and their families, our teachers and staff, their families, and our Worcester County community at large.

I also felt this open letter was the best way to do so, as I wanted to be sure you were receiving my whole message, not just a small sound bite, quote, or social media post.

We know the past few weeks have shined a harsh spotlight on our school system, and for many of you, that has meant that the trust we have tried so hard to build with you has been tested like it never has been before.

Worcester County Public Schools is under this microscope because we find ourselves in the unique situation of remaining open for in-person learning while school systems all around us are closing due to covid-19 community metrics.

This comparison to those

around us has led to speculation that we are not being transparent about coronavirus in our schools.

As a teacher at heart, I believe the best way to address rumors and speculation is with education based on fact, so I want to take this time to explain the protocols and notification procedures we have established in consultation with health officials and by using guidance from the Centers for Disease Control.

First and foremost, we value the health and safety of our students and staff above all else. Period.

The suggestion that we are not carrying the weight of keeping the thousands of students in our care and the nearly 1,200 employees across our county safe during a pandemic is wholeheartedly not true. However, we know that it is possible to keep our students and staff safe while still providing our families with the option of in-person learning.

To continue to do this, we must rely on everyone to do their part. Stopping the spread of covid-19 isn't just the work of the school system; it is the responsibility

of every single person in our community.

To keep one another safe, we all must commit to the four preventative practices that keep our schools and community safe: wearing face coverings, maintaining physical distancing whenever possible, checking for symptoms each and every day, and staying home when you're sick.

These four practices are the pillars that have helped protect our students and staff from being exposed to covid-19 within our schools.

We have ensured that all instructional spaces are designed with physical distancing in mind. This coupled with our daily screening tools for students and staff and the mandatory use of face coverings have largely minimized exposure within our schools.

However, we know we are not immune to this pandemic. As students or staff report covid-19-like illness or symptoms, we continue to conduct thorough contact tracing.

Should a positive test result occur, we can readily assist the Health Department

Continued on Page 21

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

P.O. Box 3500, Ocean City, Md. 21843
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The Bayside Gazette is published weekly by FLAG Publications, Inc. at 8200 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Md. 21842. The Bayside Gazette is available by subscription at \$75/year or \$40/6 mos. Visit us on the Web at www.baysideoc.com. Copyright 2020

Letters

Continued from Page 20

in their tracing efforts with accurate and specific data.

Additionally, by following our contact tracing protocol, we have been able to pinpoint any exposures, enabling our schools to remain open.

As we continue to navigate this new landscape, I want to address what seems to be at the top of everyone's minds: our notification procedures for covid-19 or covid-19-like illness (CLI) in our schools.

Just as we protect the health and safety of our students and staff, protecting their privacy is also a top priority. To expand on our contact tracing protocol above, our notification process goes beyond notifying those close contacts.

Our protocol calls for us to notify any individuals in the affected cohort of the case. To illustrate with an example, should we have a case in a classroom, the entire class and if the child rode a bus, those groups would be notified of the case, but the communication will differ based on whether they were a close contact or not.

This process is one that the health department has affirmed as the appropriate way to notify while still respecting the privacy of the ill individual.

If you have any questions about our covid-19 response protocols, please visit our website homepage, www.worcesterk12.org, which we have redesigned to put information on our protocols right at your fingertips.

Now, I would like to address the concern that has plagued our school system for a significant period of time over the past two weeks: our connectivity.

That our internet connectivity experienced outages and slow speeds last week and the week prior was unacceptable, and I genuinely cannot express how sorry we are for the frustration everyone has felt as a result of it.

While we believe that this particular outside issue with our provider network Maryland is near being resolved, this process of investigation has exposed some opportunities for us to further stabilize our technology infrastructure, and we are working hard to design a long-term solution.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank our teachers.

As I often share with them, I have never been so proud of our educators as I am today. They are working harder than ever; they are bridging the divide between our students in-person and those learning from home.

They are investing so much of their personal time to better their professional practice, so our students get the very best education possible. They are a source of comfort and stability for our students.

They are a voice of reassurance for families. In a word, the teachers in Worcester County are extraordinary.

Next week is American Education Week, a week when we normally celebrate the incredible work of our public schools and teachers nationwide. It also marks the opening of nominations for our annual Teacher of the Year program.

So while we are not able to physically welcome you into our schools to celebrate American Education Week, you can show our teachers that you see the challenges before them, that you believe in them, and that you care for and support them. So please, take a moment and celebrate our teachers, during American Education Week, and every day beyond that. They deserve it.

Thank you,
Louis H. Taylor
Superintendent of Schools

Lessons explore water movement

Continued from Page 19

is the program's unique element.

"We're engaging with the student and [have] active attention on them rather than it just be a lecture," Wist said.

Another part Wist is excited about is teaching about both the coastal and inland bays.

"We [Maryland and Delaware] share a bay and not a lot of people realize that," Wist said. "We do have a lot of local youth signed up. It'll give them an opportunity to learn about a shared estuary system and how impacts in both states can impact coastal waterways."

She added that she's exciting to have the opportunity to continue teaching as covid-19 has presented a learning curve for all educators.

"We can't bring them outside, but we can try to bring the outside to them - teach them how to engage in their own environment outside in their neighborhood," Wist said.

Youth ages 8-10 are scheduled for Monday, Dec. 7 and youth ages 11-13 will be on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Both age groups can choose 9-11:15 a.m. or 3:30-5:45 p.m.

There are 10 spots for each time slot. Registration closes Wednesday, Nov. 18. Register at mdcoastalbays.org/the-programs/education/community-programs-and-resources/community-workshops-and-events/?fbclid=IwAR2gxfBUqJoZ7ZKW7Lh4bDHb5D8TFJOW6aJa7o9vR5BF7BjqHx8H3kAfl.

OPEN HOUSES NOV. 12 - NOV. 18

DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Saturday, 11am-1pm	53 Wood Duck Dr., Ocean Pines	5BR/4BA	Single Family	\$749,900	Power of 2/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday, 12-2pm	774 Ocean Pkwy., Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$329,900	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday, 2-4pm	12 41st St., Surf Watch #405	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$439,900	Lauren K. Smith/Keller Williams



Cuisine

Roquette with blueberry-orange dressing

Salads, oh sweet salads. These are new favorites of mine, despite the fact that I was raised in a salad household.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Unlike my parents, notably my mother, I always had more of an affinity for meat and potatoes. But, salads? They just never did anything for me.

And I know that I've shared the story before about my avant garde mother picking dandelion greens from the yard in an effort to stretch out her salads. In modern times, she would be considered a great culinary mastermind, but back then it was just strange.

Regardless, my opinion on salads changed about 14 years ago, as I traveled through Napa Valley on a food and wine trip with some fellow chefs. The array of flavors that found their way to our salad plates over those five days was a wakeup call for me. At this point, I had worked for the late Michel Richard (arguably one of the best French chefs in the world), Harold Marmelstein, Allison Dugdale et al, and, of course, salads had to be an impressive mainstay on their menus.

I just never gravitated toward them. I was that old-fashioned, give me a big steak and some mashed potatoes kind of guy. But, not anymore.

There is something so refreshing about a flavorful salad, and not just in the summertime, but as a precursor to a fine meal. They can even be meals unto themselves. Even if just by adding something as simple as fried tofu or grilled chicken or perhaps even a crab cake, you now have a proper meal.

This salad is one of my favorites for a few reasons. First, I love Roquette (Fr), also known as Rocket (Australia and some European countries) and Arugula to us lowly Yankees. There is so much flavor in this little green and I levitate toward it often.

Another thing that I love about this salad is the classic combination of Kalamata olives and orange. This combination is quite popular in Greek cooking and ties everything together. Not as salty as other olives, the Kalamatas add a nice savory depth to the plate that is countered by the sweetness of the oranges, in this case in the shrub.

And finally I get to talk to you



about shrubs. I'm trying to remember when the last time was that I wrote about them. They are great additions to your pantry (or icebox shelf) and work wonders in salads, sauces and cocktails. A shrub is a fine vinegar that has been sweetened and fortified with sugar and natural fruits. If you think bergamot, hibiscus, blood orange et al, you can imagine the potential for shrubs in elevating flavors to the nth degree.

They are simple to make and add robust and sweet flavors. And at the end of the day, they are simple. I like simple. In fact, every one of the best chefs that I ever worked for preferred simple, as long as the guest was happy. And now I can attribute a great deal of that to salads.

Roquette, Blueberry-Orange Shrub Dressing, Feta

serves 6

- 1 ea. English Cucumber
- 1 ea. Vidalia Onion
- 1/2 c. Kalamata Olives, seeded & smashed
- 2 plum tomatoes, seeded & diced
- Roquette(arugula), as needed
- 1/2 c. Good feta cheese
- 1 c. Orange Shrub Dressing (recipe follows)

You do not need to peel English Cucumbers. Simply have and seed

(optional), then cut into half moons.

Peel and julienne the onion and set aside.

When ready to assemble, simply place everything into a bowl large enough to mix.

Add the dressing until the salad is coated, but not drenched. You may have some leftover dressing, so you can save that for another day.

Serve immediately so as to prevent the greens from wilting.

Blueberry-Orange Dressing

makes about 2 cups

- 1 c. Blueberry-Orange Shrub (recipe follows)
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp. Minced basil
- 1 Tbsp. Finely minced raw garlic
- 1/2 Light oil such as grapeseed

Combine everything except for the oil in a blender.

With the blender turned on, slowly drizzle the oil in until you have a smooth dressing. Adjust the seasoning with some salt and pepper and set aside in the refrigerator until ready to use.

Blueberry-Orange Shrub

makes about 1 quart

- 3 c. Good quality red wine vinegar

2 c. Oranges, cleaned of membrane

1 c. Fresh blueberries, lightly smashed

1/2 c. Sugar, or as needed

Combine all ingredients in a stainless, non-reactive bowl, stirring thoroughly.

Place in a glass jar and set in the icebox for anywhere from 24 hours to two weeks.

Taste and adjust the flavor profile to suit your preference.

When you are ready to use, strain through a fine sieve first to remove larger chunks.

After this step, run your shrub through a coffee filter. This can take a while and you might have to go through a few filters. An alternative would be to purchase what's called a Super Bag which is a microfine cloth bag that you can use for straining out your culinary creations.

Keep your shrub refrigerated, although some will argue that the acid will keep it shelf stable. I prefer to keep mine refrigerated as an added precaution. It has great staying power, and is at the ready when you are making dressings, sauces and cocktails.

—Paul Suplee is a Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College and owner of boxcar40.

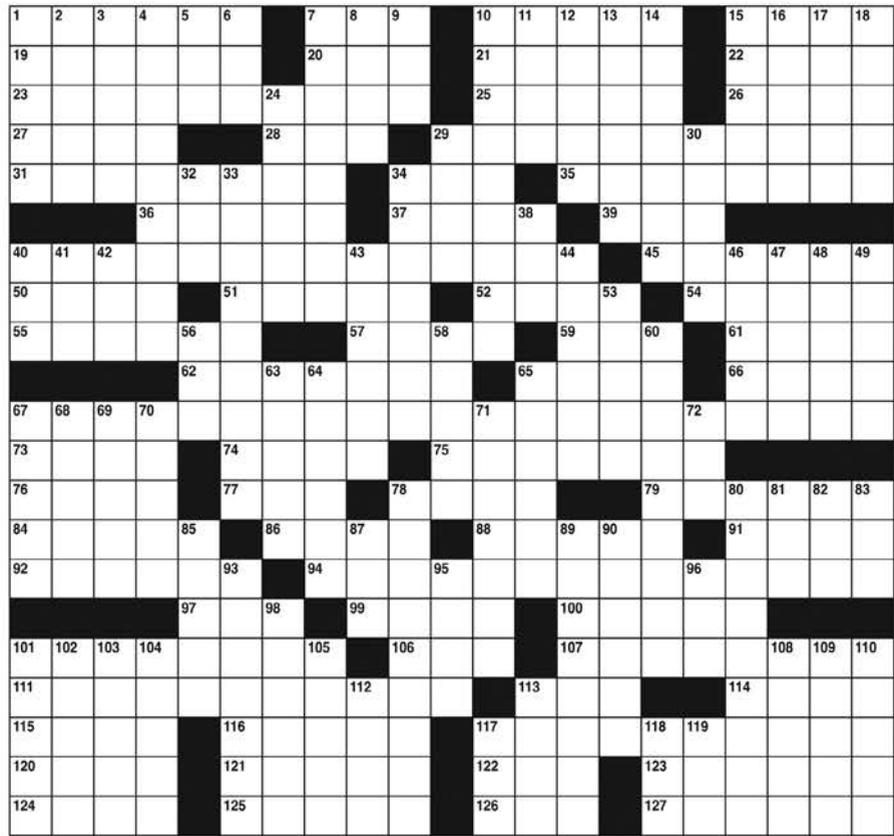
Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

Puzzles

WEST-SOUTHWEST
BY JULIAN LIM / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Julian Lim, of Singapore, is an assistant professor at the School of Medicine at the National University of Singapore. He leads the school's Awake Lab, which studies the effects of mindfulness practice on sleep, well-being and cognition. He holds a B.S. from Duke and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Julian started solving British crosswords in high school, later getting hooked on American ones. He says he has solved every New York Times crossword since 2004. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Amenity in G.M. vehicles
 - 7 R.N.'s workplace
 - 10 "Awake in the Dark" author
 - 15 Down at the bar?
 - 19 Peace and quiet
 - 20 Tease constantly, with "on"
 - 21 Bottom lines?
 - 22 Spanish Steps city
 - 23 What an unsteady tightrope walker may do?
 - 25 Number cruncher, in Wall Street lingo
 - 26 Spelling clarification
 - 27 CPR experts
 - 28 "___ to My Family" (song by the Cranberries)
 - 29 "It's just too \$%#@ hot!," e.g.?
 - 31 Fasten again, as documents
 - 34 Dish cooked in an underground oven
 - 35 Bolshoi debut of 1877
 - 36 Thesis defenses, e.g.
 - 37 Thereabouts
 - 39 Me-day destination
 - 40 What a beekeeper receives at work?
 - 45 Pettily punishes
 - 50 Dynamite
 - 51 Explode on Twitter, say
- DOWN**
- 2 Figure-skating champ Brian
 - 3 Tiffs
 - 4 Spots to shop for tots
 - 5 The Sun Devils' sch.
 - 6 One squat, for example
 - 7 What soap bubbles do
 - 8 Pet shop purchase
 - 9 "Yuck!"
 - 10 Sublime
 - 11 Toto's creator
 - 12 They're full of questions
 - 13 Holds on to one's Essence, say?
 - 14 Fasteners of some heels
 - 15 Go at a glacial pace
 - 16 Book before Joel
 - 17 Boat sometimes built around a whalebone frame
 - 18 Soul, e.g.
 - 24 Give a shout
 - 29 Nothing of the ___
 - 30 Digital sounds?
 - 32 Something up one's sleeve
 - 33 Original site of the Elgin Marbles
 - 34 Beyoncé, for one
 - 38 "How neat!"
 - 40 Uncle ___
 - 41 Heartbreak
 - 42 Martin who wrote the "Baby-Sitters Club" series
 - 43 Conclude (with)
 - 44 Coarsegrained igneous rock
 - 46 Tagging along
 - 47 Martial-arts-based workout
 - 48 Trial's partner
 - 49 Went cross-countrying, say
 - 53 Spiked wheel on a boot spur
 - 56 Farm-to-table program, in brief
 - 58 Shish ___
 - 100 Thrill
 - 101 Resident of the lowest circle of hell, in Dante's "Inferno"
 - 106 Spring setting in San Antonio: Abbr.
 - 107 Border of a lagoon, say
 - 111 What the ecstatic janitor did?
 - 113 Porcine pad
 - 114 Paul of "There Will Be Blood"
 - 115 Actress Taylor
 - 116 "Stop it, I'm blushing"
 - 117 "Michael Jordan's Top 10 Free Throws" and others?
 - 120 Rental units: Abbr.
 - 121 Ballet shoe application
 - 122 Shakespearean prince
 - 123 Cuts off
 - 124 Interlock
 - 125 Choral composition
 - 126 N.F.C. South city: Abbr.
 - 127 Kids' camp crafts project



- 60 Scientist who said, "The cosmos is also within us. We're made of star-stuff"
- 63 First string
- 64 Puts out
- 65 How obedient dogs walk
- 67 Gets a head?
- 68 Host of an Apple TV+ book club
- 69 In again
- 70 More sardonic
- 71 Paperless airplane reservation
- 72 Trifling amount
- 78 Because (of)
- 80 Sky fall?
- 81 Whitney of cotton gin fame
- 82 Headed
- 83 "Later!"
- 85 Button on an old video game controller
- 87 Org. that publishes the journal Emotion
- 89 Prepare for a guided meditation, perhaps
- 90 Cavity fillers
- 93 Homogeneous
- 95 ___ Gobert, 2018 and 2019 N.B.A. Defensive Player of the Year
- 96 Benchmark: Abbr.
- 98 "Over here!"
- 101 Religion symbolized by a moon and star
- 102 Make a choice on Tinder
- 103 Isle of Man men, e.g.
- 104 Gorillalike
- 105 Suite meet?
- 108 Made lighter
- 109 One might begin "Dear Diary ..."
- 110 "All That Jazz" director
- 112 Screenwriter Lee, sister of Spike
- 113 De-bug?
- 117 ___ cha beef (Chinese entree)
- 118 V-J Day prez
- 119 Ni'ihau necklace

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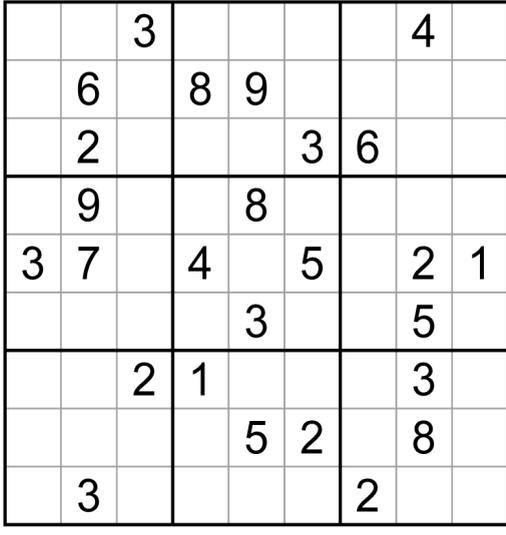
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HARD - 21

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



Answers to last week's puzzles

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



Calendar

Thurs., Nov. 12

EDIBLE THANKSGIVING CRAFTS

Recorded, 2:00 PM. Use melted chocolate, marshmallows, pretzels, caramels and more to make candy turkey legs, pilgrim hats and other sweet treats. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

'CREATE A RUBE GOLDBERG MACHINE'

Meeting via Zoom, 4:00 PM. The group will watch a few videos together and then participants will create their own machine. For ages 8-15 years. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org.

NEA BIG READ: PBS SPECIAL DOCUMENTARY: INTO THE DEEP

Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. The whaling industry in America, particularly in Nantucket, rises as an economic force in the 18th century but declines following the Civil War. This documentary complements the community read In the Heart of the Sea. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

Fri., Nov. 13

OCEAN PINES BOOK OF THE MONTH: "THE RADIUM GIRLS" BY KATE MOORE

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Copies of books are available at the Ocean Pines branch. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

CRAFT BAZAAR

St. Matthews By-the-Sea United Methodist Church, 1000 Coastal Highway, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Books, jewelry, crafts, baked goods, soup, chili and attic treasures. Anita Angeny, granita2@msn.com, 302-537-6353

2ND FRIDAY IN BERLIN

Featuring outdoor, live music including Stevensons Crossroads on Commerce Street, Zander Jett at The Atlantic Hotel, Honey Shine Blues Trio at Harvest Guitar Shop and live music and wine tasting at Sisters Wine Bar, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Lots of shops and restaurants will be open late. Remember to wear a mask. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1515087232032616>

BINGO WITH THE KNIGHTS

Columbus Hall, 9901 Coastal Highway, 6:30 PM. Doors open at 5 p.m.; bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Cash payouts for each game as well as the Big Jackpot coverall. 410-524-7994

Sat., Nov. 14

CRAFT BAZAAR

St. Matthews By-the-Sea United Methodist Church, 1000 Coastal Highway, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Books, jewelry, crafts, baked goods, soup, chili and attic treasures. Anita Angeny, granita2@msn.com, 302-537-6353

HOLIDAY FUN (D) DAY FOR MISSIONS

Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 4th St., 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Sale includes Christmas décor, wreaths, table arrangements and \$1, \$2 and \$3 bargains.

CARNE ASADE MEXICAN DINNER CARRYOUT

Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department, 10709 Bishopville Road, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. The menu is beef or chicken, cheese quesadilla, rice and beans, tortilla and homemade salsa for \$12. Extra chips and salsa available for \$5. Curbside carryout only. Cash or check accepted. Pre-order: 619-922-9950.

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., Nov. 15

PREORDER DEADLINE FOR FRESH SAGE SAUSAGE SALE

Preorders for hot or mild fresh sage sausages are made by calling 443-735-7473 by Nov. 15. Cost is \$20 for four pounds. Pick up is Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department.

Mon., Nov. 16

CLINT EASTWOOD AT 90 - PART 1

Meeting via Facebook, 2:00 PM. Join

Frank LeLucco and Harry Burkett for their first installment chronicles Eastwood's rise in Hollywood, from Rawhide and spaghetti westerns to Dirty Harry and critical success. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

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

VIRTUAL MARYLAND SAFE BOATING COURSE

This is an interactive class offered by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, held Nov. 16, 17 and 18, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Everyone is welcome. Those attending and passing the test will receive a Maryland Boating Certificate which is NASBLA approved and valid in all states. Cost is \$20. Checks should be made payable to USCGAUX 12-05 and mailed to P.O. Box 1682, Berlin, MD 21811. Payment via PayPal is also accepted. Register: Barry Cohen, 410-935-4807 or CGAUXOC@gmail.com.

Tues., Nov. 17

DOC & TALK SCREENING - 'BIRDERS: THE CENTRAL PARK EFFECT'

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Join the Doc & Talk film group to discuss this charming documentary. Prior to the discussion, view the film for free on Hoopla Digital

(<https://hoopladigital.com>). <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

ONE MARYLAND ONE BOOK: 'LESSONS FROM JEJU' AND 'CULTURE OF JEJU HAENYEO'

Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 PM. A Patagonia documentary about the South Korean female divers, the haenyeo. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

Wed., Nov. 18

ZOOM WITH YOUR BABY

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Songs, rhymes and stories for children under 2 years of age. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Meeting via Zoom, 11:00 AM. The workshop starts with a 20-minute lesson on genealogy research by Tom Dempsey followed by a question and answer session. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

NEA BIG READ: TED TALK: SURVIVOR'S WISDOM

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Join the group for this viewing followed by a facilitated discussion. <http://www.worcesterlibrary.org>

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Meeting via video call, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM. For survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Call 410-548-7880 or email Mentor@womensupportingwomen.org for Zoom meeting ID and passcode.



LIVE MUSIC

Acoustic duo Brews Brothers perform a set of classic, southern and alternative rock songs at Sisters on North Main Street in Berlin on Oct. 23. Sisters offers live music every Friday from 7-9 p.m.

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



MARKETPLACE CLASSIFIED

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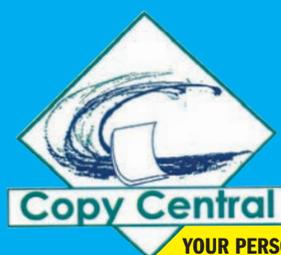
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