



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

SLIDING THROUGH WINTER

Berlin residents Twila Decker, 12, and Keaton Scott, 1, slide down the playground at Stephen Decatur Park on Tripoli Street on Jan. 17.

'Gifts Fulfilled' sees more growth ahead for program

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) Ocean Pines resident Kim Shanahan, who runs the web-based business "Gifts Fulfilled" that employs adults with intellectual disabilities, experienced an economic boost following the surge in online commerce after the onset of coronavirus last spring.

Shanahan, who is a board member with the Worcester County Development Center, relocated the previously home-based custom gift basket operation to a 1,200-square-foot production



Kim Shanahan

center in the Taylerville Center on Racetrack Road in September.

"We grew quite a bit last year and, hopefully, will continue to grow at that rate this year," she said.

Located in Newark, the Worcester County Development Center helps clients with intellectual disabilities cultivate job skills and provides varying levels of supervised residential housing.

See GIFTS Page 2

Royal Farms store for OP gets prelim county review

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) The Worcester County Technical Review Committee met virtually on Jan. 13 to discuss a site plan of a 5,154-square-foot Royal Farms convenience store near Ocean Pines with a 1,248-square-foot car wash and eight gasoline pumping stations under canopy.

The proposed Royal Farms will be located at 11073 Cathell Road next to the Walgreens just off Route 589.

The property is zoned for the C-2 General Commercial District and is owned by Delmarva Real Estate Holdings LLC. Becker Morgan Group, Inc. is the engineer for the project.

"The car wash has more than ade-

quate stacking for lining up without any interference with any of the onsite traffic circulation," said Jeff Harman of the Becker Morgan Group.

The State Highway Administration has completed an access feasibility study and a traffic impact study and reached approval for both studies.

"We've done much negotiation with them on the access from 589, and they have agreed to the entrance shown, and we are in the process of having the necessary break in right of way controls for us to be allowed to have that access," Harman said. "We're part way through that process. We have part of our approvals, but we're waiting for Board of Public

See ROYAL Page 4

Local healthcare partners will hold covid town hall

(Jan. 21, 2021) The flood of questions on the region's covid-19 vaccination plan should be answered next Monday in unprecedented virtual town hall meeting conducted jointly by Atlantic General Hospital, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional, and the Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset health departments.

The session, billed as the Tri-County COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall, is scheduled for 4-5 p.m. and is expected to provide an update on testing and to discuss plans for the rollout of the state of Maryland's community vaccination plan.

The town hall, which will take place via WebEx, will be moderated by Maryland State Sen. Mary Beth Carozza and feature panelist presentations by Lori Brewster, health officer for Wicomico and Somerset counties; Rebecca Jones, health officer for Worcester County; Matthew Morris, vice

president of patient care services at Atlantic General Hospital; and Kathryn Fiddler, vice president of population health for TidalHealth.

A 20-minute question-and-answer will follow the panelists' presentations. During this time, community members will have the opportunity to submit questions through the virtual platform for the panel's response.

Those unable to attend the live town hall at 4 p.m. on Jan. 25 will have the opportunity to view a recording of the event, which will be made available on each of the partners' websites.

To connect to the session, go to www.webex.com, then to the event number (access code) 180 843 4833, and then enter the case-sensitive password: TidalHealth.

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'Gifts Fulfilled' helps intellectually disabled

Continued from Page 1
ing.

After developing a business concept several years ago to employ people with disabilities to produce handmade gift baskets and care packages, giftsfulfilled.com's profile with the buying public went up considerably last year when it linked up with Amazon, Shanahan said.

"We were able to meet their requirements and get certified as an Amazon Prime shipper," she said. "That's what enabled me to grow out of the home and into the production center."

The global marketplace proved lucrative, with the Amazon listing luring in requests for wholesale orders.

The outcome was far different than Shanahan envisioned when the pandemic struck last March.

"I thought business would take a hit because people would stop spending but then online shopping blew up," she said.

Her expectations shifted after an unanticipated spate of orders were received over Easter weekend in mid-April.

"On Easter, I had everybody out and nobody was working except for me," she said.

After handling that holiday surge singlehandedly, Shanahan recognized the situation would likely intensify dur-



PHOTO COURTESY KIM SHANAHAN

Gifts Fulfilled offers a wide array of seasonal and holiday-themed keepsakes including Valentine's Day items.

ing the Christmas shopping season.

By June, Shanahan began scouting commercial properties but found limited options before finding a suitable vacancy in Taylorville Center.

"I look at every business decision from the realm of does this serve the company mission, which is to employ

people that have disabilities," she said. "That's how everything is guided."

What originally guided Shanahan to establish the company was heightened health concerns before delivering her final child at 40 years of age.

Although advised of developmental risks associated with older-age pregnancy's Shanahan opted against genetic testing determined to love her newborn regardless of outcomes.

"It gave me time to think about if this child's born with a disability what's that's going to look like," she said.

While Shanahan eventually delivered a healthy son, currently 10, contemplating the possibilities caused her to think of less fortunate parents.

"I'm worried once they hit adulthood," she said. "If I'm not around, and he's an adult, is he going to be in a home or institution?"

It was also evident to Shanahan that adults with developmental challenges have limited job options and face monumental challenges finding appropriate housing.

"All of these things that we face as adults if you have a disability — it's a

thousand times more difficult to navigate that whole process," she said.

In 2017, Shanahan's family settled in Ocean Pines after years of recurring relocations as a military spouse, at which point the business concept began to take life.

"My son was not born with a disability but I just had that belief that's sort of what I was meant to be doing with this idea," she said. "I was meant to take it further and not just let it die away."

With decades of experience preparing gift baskets and care packages under her belt, Shanahan decided to stick to familiar ground.

"I could take what I know about the gift basket industry and start a business to create jobs for people with disabilities," she said.

In short order, Shanahan crossed paths with Karen Waggoner, formerly business development manager at WCDC, at an Eastern Shore marketing event.

"I told her, 'I'm new to the area and the goal of my business is to employ people with disabilities.' She said 'you are in luck,'" she said.

Waggoner invited Shanahan to visit Worcester County Development Center and engage their clients to assess skill levels and adapt production methods accordingly.

"They gave me a chance to come in and set up projects and test things out with the clients," she said

The proving ground helped Shanahan confirm basket-making processes could be adjusted appropriately.

"I can adapt things to meet the skill levels of the people I was going to hire and not have it effect the quality of the product," she said.

Looking ahead, Shanahan hopes to find a larger production facility in the near future and expand staffing, but remains indebted for the initial assistance from the Worcester County Development Center.

"Taking my knowledge and then being able to put it to real world practice at WCDC, that was a gift for them to let me come in there and try this out," she said.



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Pines advisory committees 2021 objectives

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) Although the calendar year changed, more than three months remain in Ocean Pines' fiscal year, which has the community's advisory committees concentrating on wrapping up their assignments by the end of April.



Ken Wolf

vironment," he said.

Wolf reassumed the committee leadership role in the fall of 2019 from former chairman Tom Janasek, who stepped down after being elected to the OPA Board of Directors.

The pair has worked together for several years to establish a rapport with Coastal Bays, in hopes of bolstering watershed health and reducing pollution levels in the St. Martin River.

Looking ahead to the late January virtual meeting, Wolf said committee members are seeking further input on a number of issues related to water quality and drainage.

"We've asked some questions and are going to ask some more," he said.

Other pending topics to kick off 2021 include receiving results from bacterial levels tests performed at two smaller ponds in the north and the larger South Gate Pond late last year.

Wolf said the data should be in hand soon, with further testing slated this winter.

The tests are being conducted through a partnership with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, whose assistance was sought by Environmental Committee board liaison Janasek.

Testing includes quantitative polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and Next Generation Sequencing to identify envi-

ronmental DNA.

The samples are being taken to ascertain any water quality impacts from geese and other flocks of birds that congregate around the Pines' ponds.

Wolf said another area of attention relating to water quality involves CAFOs, or concentrated animal feeding operations.

Reining in resident Canada geese in the Pines will also take center stage among committee efforts this year.

"We need to control and not bring in additional resident geese," he said.

Wolf said the group is seeking humane tactics to curtail the wildlife presence.

One such avenue is deterring people from feeding fowl, with design work on educational signs for the South Gate Pond nearly completed.

"We're still working on the language," he said.

GOLF

Golf Committee Chairman Fritz Lahner said the group's priorities for 2021 include supporting efforts to improve course conditions along with the overall play experience.

In hopes of optimizing certain aspects of the game, the committee inquired about having maintenance crews hand cut tees and greens.

Lahner said both General Manager of Golf Operations John Malinowski General Manager John Viola concurred the

approach would be beneficial, although not during cold conditions.

"They're committed to doing it when it's warm or the greens show signs of stress," he said.

Lahner said the labor-intensive undertaking would ideally reduce subpar summer conditions experienced in certain course sections last year.

On a similar note, installing supplemental drainage, along with selective tree removals are in the works to address issues at troubling fairways and putting greens.

Lahner said selective pruning of diseased, waterlogged trees, as was performed last season, would be completed throughout the course, with holes 10 and 18 seeing further improvements.

"They're going to put additional drainage on those holes," he said.

Lahner said both locations are commonly bogged down with excessive water, while noting similar work is underway on fairways 8 and 14.

"They get lots of water and are shaded," he said.

Looking at other improvements, adding rakes on golf carts, instead of being placed throughout the course, is also under discussion.

"People throw the rakes, they get broken and people take them," he said. "We suggested they put them on carts."

Under current covid restrictions, including rakes on golf carts would require

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ENVIRONMENT

Maintaining productive partnerships with area agencies committed to water and land preservation is the primary focus for the Ocean Pines Environmental and Natural Assets Committee for 2021.

Committee Chairman Ken Wolf said the group has continued to deepen its working relationship with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program to improve environmental issues in Ocean Pines.

Wolf said a number of committee members participated in a Coastal Bays policy committee meeting in recent months and the entire group is on board for another virtual meeting with officials from the nonprofit on Jan. 28.

Wolf said in addition to Director of Amenities and Operational Logistics Colby Phillips, who joined the Coastal Bays Board of Directors last spring, board member Doug Parks also took part in the recent policy committee meeting.

"It's gratifying to me that after all these years there's really a buy-in from the Ocean Pines Association into the en-

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The Worcester County Technical Review Committee discussed plans for the development of a Royal Farms convenience store on Cathell Road near Ocean Pines with a car wash and eight gasoline pumping stations under canopy on Jan. 13. The Technical Review Committee recommended that numerous items be addressed on the site plan before an approval could be granted.
 ALLY LANASA/
 BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Royal Farms works on its site plan

Continued from Page 1
 Works with the state to finalize their approval.”

Then, construction drawings will be submitted for approval. “We have two further entrances off of Cathell Road. Both of them come into the site off full access entrances,” Harman said. “We have a shared entrance for the northwest part of the site there that goes to the Hileman Real Estate. That is an existing entrance, and that entrance is currently shared. It currently straddles the property line. We are moving it completely onto Royal Farms property, but we will be providing the cross-access easement to Hileman Real Estate.”

A cross-connection to the Royal Farms will also be provided to the neighboring Walgreens. In addition, the site plan shows 49 parking spaces were provided with two handicapped spaces.

The minimum number of parking spaces required is 25.77 spaces and the maximum is 51.4 spaces.

The project also has the necessary stormwater management subject to the Worcester County Stormwater Ordinance.

“We do have concept stormwater management plan approval from Bobby Shockley (who reviews stormwater management plans for the county),” Harman said. “We’re working on final approvals of that as well.”

Harman said he also spoke with

Frank Adkins with the Roads Division of Public Works, who requested some additions to the plan.

“We’ve got some striping and some storm drainage changes that we’re going to be making on there,” he said.

Kristen Tremblay, zoning administrator for the county, asked if the Viper lamps will continuously be energized, or turned on constantly. Harman replied that he will have to contact the electrical engineer for the answer.

“If they’re continuously energized, we do have a height restriction. It cannot exceed 18 feet,” Tremblay. “If that’s what you’re going to indicate that they are, just have that adjusted on the site plans, OK?”

The Viper lamps will be off during the daytime.

Daniel Wilson, D-1 access management regional engineer from the State Highway Administration, added that the project is also currently in the process of plat review.

Furthermore, Harman said the loading space was purposefully not included in the site plan.

“The way Royal Farms loads into their store is through their front door. They don’t have a rear delivery door,” he said. “So, there isn’t a need for a loading space because they have off hours delivery times.”

Tremblay said because the project site plan is a minor site plan, it is not necessary to go through the county Planning Commission for approval re-

garding the omission of a loading zone.

“Additionally, on the loading zone, as long as you’re showing it on the site plan whether it’s used or not that’s all I need in order to meet the requirements,” she said.

She added that a loading zone could be included on the eastern side of the project.

According to zoning laws, planting areas must be placed at each end of a parking row around the main building and the edges of the parking area needs to be curbed or buffered. Curbed islands are required adjacent to parking. Harman said there is a safety concern about islands in those locations because of tripping hazards.

“To have a landscaped island with curbing around it creates a liability for [Royal Farms] that they try to eliminate because it is a safety concern for them. Most of their stores do not have that,” he said. “Is there any way that you can eliminate those and do additional landscaping elsewhere onsite?”

Tremblay responded that there does not have to be a curb in this case. The island just has to be curbed or buffered.

“If you want to do something that’s flush and has the space for the vegetation, that’s more than welcome too,” she added.

The Technical Review Committee recommended that numerous items be addressed on the site plan before an approval could be granted.



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Pines committees plotting goals for 2021

Continued from Page 3
extra equipment and cleaning protocols. The implements had been removed altogether in the early stages on the pandemic.

Lahner said costs for the inclusion of rakes on carts would be considered in next year's budget.

To improve the larger experience for players and visitors to the Golf Clubhouse Bar and Grille, committee membership has been expanded to include perspectives from men and women.

"The committee is more diverse now ... it used to be all men," he said. "The ladies bring a different point of view."

While there are numerous annual tournaments for men or women at the Ocean Pines Golf Course, talks are underway for a unified joint event later this year.

"Last year, the women asked the men to back the Pink Ribbon Golf Tournament," he said.

Lahner estimated roughly half of Ocean Pines male golf members participated in the effort to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

Timeframes remain hazy for fundraising tournaments and other events at the course during 2021.

"It's not that we don't want to do them, we just can't plan for them," he said. "We can't pick a date because we don't know what the rules are."

While overall rates are under review as part of the next fiscal year budget deliberations, other suggestions for new

membership packages are being put on hold for now.

"When we go back to full speed, they'll take it under advisement, but at this time memberships will be as they are," he said.

Communications

The Ocean Pines Communication Committee is rounding the corner on completing a number of goals this year.



Jenny Rines

Communication Committee Chair Jenny Cropper Rines said prolonged work to obtain zoning authorization from Worcester County to replace the dozen-plus community marquee signs with digital messaging boards is ap-

proaching the finish line.

In early December, Rines joined committee member Cheryl Jacobs and board liaison Dr. Colette Horn to hash out final details on a zoning amendment with the Worcester County Planning Commission to authorize electronic signs in residential communities.

"It's dangerously close to my part of it being done," she said.

After an administrative review this month, the county commissioners are expected to vote on the amendment next month. The final text allows the OPA to retain three existing marquees and in-

stall three electronic signs at key points in the community.

Topping the committee list for 2021 is finalizing development of an online "virtual resident's academy."

"The most important thing we've been involved with pushing forward is the virtual residents academy," she said.

Prior to coronavirus halting committee meetings last spring in January 2020 the group had developed chapter headings for a modernized online version using an existing template from a previous Ocean Pines resident's academy.

At this point, the project is in the hands of Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski.

"It's being put in the hands of the staff that does the job," she said. "She has taken the lead on it."

Rines said the virtual academy has gained resonance during the pandemic.

"It's a step in the right direction and very good timing on that with covid and everything else," she said.

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

"We're also hoping from the spirit of volunteerism it will help in terms of recruiting," she said. "It could be a training tool for new board people."

Rines is also part of a newly formed Bylaws and Resolutions work group that is looking to, among other objectives, develop a "Master Calendar" to assure annual association procedural requirements are followed.

Rines said the aim is a reference document for committee chairs and new boards.

"To try and simplify that ... so we're not reinventing the wheel every year with every new board [and] new committee chair," she said.



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Chamber of Commerce shares goals for '21

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) After the novel coronavirus pandemic resulted in the cancellation of most Berlin Chamber of Commerce events in 2020 and brought challenges for the town's small businesses, the board of directors and chamber members are prepared for the changes that will come in the new year.

Steve Frene, immediate past president and deputy director of the chamber, said he is most proud of how Berlin came together during the pandemic to support the local business community.

"For the most part, most Berlin businesses were able to do well and some even thrived," Frene said. "Some had exceptional years because, for example, if they had outside dining, they were able to flourish because not everybody has a place you can sit outside in a beautiful setting like Berlin and enjoy a meal."

Fortunately, no businesses closed in Berlin as a result of covid-19.

"We were able to open a few new businesses," Frene added.

Harvest Guitar Shop, Cozy Recordings, The Globe, Boxcar on Main, Pop's Kitchen, Dolle's Candyland, Thunder & Anvil, The Buzz Meadery and East & Main Shore Supply were established in 2020.

In addition, the Berlin Chamber of Commerce announced changes in board personnel on social media Jan. 14.



Steve Frene

Mike Queen, the owner of Rayne's Reef Soda Fountain & Grill on Main Street and several real estate properties in Berlin, is the new president. Queen grew up in Berlin and is a graduate of Stephen Decatur High School. He has been involved with the chamber since 2004 and also served on the board of directors for the last two years.

Queen ran his first meeting as president on Tuesday.

He will oversee affairs, work with the board of directors to promote businesses in Berlin and participate in the planning of events as much as possible.

Queen said Frene will be a mentor to him during his term as president.

"Some presidents are more hands-off than others," Frene said. "I was very active and involved because ... I was in a position I could do that."

Frene and his wife, Debbie, sold Victorian Charm at 100 N. Main St. in November 2019 to retire.

As the new deputy director, Frene will now administer the daily busi-

ness of the chamber.

"I'm going to be the person that would be in the office," he said. "I'll be managing memberships, billing, communications – those kinds of things."

The executive director and the deputy director are the two paid, part-time positions of the chamber. Frene works about 20 hours per week.

"I've been involved with the Berlin Chamber of Commerce for about 25 years," he said. He joined as a member when he worked for a radio station in town.

"I went to a fundraiser at the old King's Pub, this was like a Christmas fundraiser they did," he said. "I ended up meeting the president of the chamber back then, who happens to be my wife now."

Since then, he has been running events for the chamber, primarily the Fiddler's Convention and the Jazz & Blues, Wine & Brews Festival.

Other chamber personnel changes include Nicky Chavis as treasurer. Shelly Bruder becomes the new president-elect.

Cate Nellans remains secretary, and Larnet St. Amant remains executive director. Other board members include Tori Grundman and Gerri Fentress.

To become board members, candi-

dates must complete an application at <https://berlinchamber.org/for-our-members/app-uploads-2019-12-member-of-the-board-of-directors-position-description-pdf/>.

"So, you have to be a chamber of commerce member in good standing, and then there's an application online for board directors," Frene said.

He added that applicants answer questions in essay form. The board of directors reviews the essays, followed by an interview process.

"We do require our board of directors to participate in the running of events," Frene said.

He said the Berlin Chamber of Commerce is searching for new board and chamber members.

With the new year, the chamber has several goals, such as informing businesses of potential grants and loans and launching new software called ChamberMaster designed for chambers of commerce.

"It's a software platform that allows you to manage your chamber better," Frene said.

The chamber is in the process of converting to ChamberMaster and hopes to have it fully integrated by the beginning of February.

Frene is engaged in virtual training for how to operate the new software.

See FRENE Page 8

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OP Board vets lowered assessment outlook

Earlier estimate for pending fiscal year fee increases cut from \$121 to roughly \$35

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) The Ocean Pines Board of Directors started its two-day review of the next fiscal year's budget on Tuesday, with instant good news after learning earlier estimates for potential assessment increases have been reduced substantially.

General Manager John Viola said earlier calculations indicated a \$121 assessment fee increase could be required, but that figure was readjusted based on guidance received from the Budget and Finance Committee last week.

"The increase on assessments could have been a couple hundred dollars," he said. "It's now in the \$35 range."

Although the final budget numbers are still taking shape, cost-trimming measures to this point have included reducing the added cost for bulkheads work from \$41 to \$25.

Ocean Pines Public Works is half way through a four-year bulkhead replacement program begun two years ago.

While numerous line items remain open to discussion, Viola said in-

creases for payroll, benefits and casualty insurance leave little room for flexibility.

"Salary and benefits account for 70 percent of the assessment," he said. "You can't ignore that."



John Viola



Frank Daly

Viola said one of the larger points of debate during the Budget and Finance Committee review earlier this month was where to shift the estimated \$650,000 the OPA will have netted above its budgeted bottom line.

Viola said one priority is paying off the roughly \$163,000 in past operating debt.

"I believe the favorability will cover the operating deficit," he said. "At the end of this budget it's gone and we covered it all."

The association incurred roughly \$1.6 million in operating budget debt three years ago, and Viola said that has been paid down without significant impacts on assessment rates.

Several proposed capital projects were also vetted by the Budget and Finance Committee earlier this month.

Deemed a primary project and supported by Budget and Finance are proposed upgrades to add court space at the Manklin Meadows Racquet Sports Complex.

Viola said the roughly \$160,000 to expand pickleball and junior tennis courts, along with fencing, could be sourced from either the new capital reserve account or current year budget favorability.

"I believe over time the racquet sports will break even," he said.

Although deemed a secondary project by Budget and Finance, Viola said costs to add T-Docks at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club should be recouped eventually.

"I believe that revenue over time will help us offset expenses," he said. "There are hard calls that might have to be made here."

OPA President Larry Perrone suggested a proposal to reallocate \$350,000 from the roadways budget to subsidize the Bainbridge drainage project would require further board discussion.

Board member Frank Daly said advised caution in that respect, saying, "In the past we let facilities crum-

ble to keep assessments from increasing."

Daly said between government mandated payroll increases and price volatility for materials, there are budget issues over which the association lacks control.

"The assessment goes up or situations get a hell of a lot worse," he said.

Perrone said the principal consideration is deferring road maintenance next year.

Board member Tom Janasek said if future drainage-related grants are awarded to Ocean Pines the roads funding could be reimbursed.

Agreeing was Director Doug Parks, who pointed to potential long-term benefits.

"Moving money from roads establishes a positive precedent for future grant pursuits," he said.

Daly, who backed the reallocation recommendation, also highlighted the 5-6 miles of underground pipe in Ocean Pines that are at or near the end of their useful life.

"There's a liability we face to replace pipe," he said.

Daly said the cost could eclipse \$30 million when addressed.

Frene named deputy director, Queen steps into presidency

Continued from Page 7

Furthermore, the board of directors and chamber members hope to continue to adapt and respond to coronavirus regulations.

"I think the main goal would be to navigate the coronavirus and try to get all of our events back on a modified platform to keep them going," Queen said.

He is also focused on promoting businesses through social media.

A part of that goal is marketing Berlin as a year-round business community and assuring residents and

visitors that it is safe, Frene added.

Frene said events are being planned now with the hope that large gatherings can occur in late summer or early fall.

For Spring Celebration on April 3, the chamber is planning a smaller event.

"We have certain activities that [children] can do, but like the Ice Ice Berlin thing, they'll be spread out around town," he said.

For the full list of 2021 chamber events, visit <https://berlinchamber.org/events/>.



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Community supports 'Adopt a Stephen Decatur Senior'

By Lisa Capitelli
Managing Editor

(Jan. 21, 2021) High school seniors – last year and this year – have missed out on many of the rites of passage that they look forward to, because of covid-19. So to boost the spirits of local 12th graders, the community has come together to support the “Adopt a Stephen Decatur Senior” campaign.

Tracy Brittan Tilghman created the “Adopt a Stephen Decatur Senior 2021” Facebook group on Sunday, Jan. 3, after it was announced that Worcester County Public Schools would not be returning to in-person learning following the holiday vacation, to abide by the Worcester County Health Department’s request.

Students started returning in small groups on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Tilghman said while talking to a friend who is a teacher in New York, she mentioned to her that her high school did an adopt a senior program for the 2020 class last year.

“[She said] how much fun it was and how the seniors just loved it and it brought up their spirits,” Tilghman wrote on Facebook.

“I went through their Facebook group and I was overwhelmed with what they [did],” she said last week.

With the success of that program, she decided to launch an initiative locally to support Stephen Decatur seniors.

“My daughter is a senior, and I just thought, “These poor kids, I want to do something for them,”” she said. “My daughter [Emily] thought it was a great idea, so I put her in there first.”

At first, Tilghman said she wasn’t sure how the project would be received, but to her surprise the community has responded overwhelming well.

“I started it one week ago and I can’t believe it - it’s just taken off like crazy,” she said last Monday.

She first invited about 10 parents to join the group, and then “it just exploded,” she said. As of Tuesday morning, the group had 827 members. It is a private group, so once someone is

“invited” to join, he or she has to be accepted by Tilghman or one of the other moderators.

Parents or guardians can post their senior’s full name, picture(s) and include a little something about them so they can be “adopted.” Those who don’t have Facebook can have another parent post for them.

“If they’ve been posted, they have been getting adopted,” Tilghman said.

Once a senior is posted in the group, they can be “adopted.” Those who wish to adopt that senior should comment under the post. After that, the adopter should send a private message to the family that created the post in order to coordinate a drop-off or mailing of surprises for the senior.

“The parent has to OK the adoption, and it’s working so far,” Tilghman said.

Seniors can be adopted by more than once person. People can also adopt multiple seniors.

Because of privacy laws, the school cannot give out names, so Tilghman acquired a 2020 yearbook – when this year’s seniors were juniors – to compile a list.

“The goal is to get all of the kids adopted, and we’re [more than] halfway there,” Tilghman said.

Stephen Decatur Principal Tom Sites said this year’s graduating class consists of 332 students. As of Tuesday night, 205 have been adopted.

“I think it’s great they’re doing something for the seniors. They’re getting cheated out of their senior year. Most of them haven’t stepped foot in school this year,” Sites said. “Bringing up their spirits is huge right now. Anything we can do to bring some normalcy.”

Sites, who is the parent of a sophomore and a senior, said as a parent he is involved just as much as a principal.

He said last week that his wife planned to submit a post to the group for their senior to be adopted.

“We want to make sure every kids is adopted. We don’t want to have any kid left out,” he said.

See CAMPAIGN Page 11



Emily Tilghman shows off the treats she received through the “Adopt a Stephen Decatur Senior 2021” Facebook group campaign.

PHOTO COURTESY TRACY BRITTAN TILGHMAN



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Dog art show perseveres through covid-19

Annual contest on Eastern Shore awards students for canine creations virtually

By Elizabeth Bonin

Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) After numerous requests from parents, the Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show Art Contest overcame numerous obstacles because of covid-19 to be held.

Art Show Chairman Jerry Milko said that he was originally going to cancel the fourth annual art show.

The event it is typically paired with the Eastern Shore Classic Dog Show in November, which was heavily modified because of covid-19. The dog show was shortened and only allowed exhibitors.

"We had some parents reach out to us and say 'Gosh, these poor kids are losing everything, please don't do this,'" Milko said. "We came up with an alternative."

He said plans for the art show had to be modified multiple times as covid-19 cases increased in the winter months.

"We reached out with emails to let the schools know we were going to do the art contest again, except that we weren't going to have any conjunction with the dog show," Milko said.

With only emails and Facebook posts for advertising this year, Milko collected 138 entries from students ranging from kindergarten to 12th grade.

The contest is open to students from any state. Although most entries are from students living on the Eastern Shore, Milko said he received an entry from Kansas one year.

These art pieces express what a dog means to the student under the theme "Dogs, Our Best Friend."

"We usually have over 200 entries, but the quality of the entries was phenomenal," Milko said. "It was unbelievable how good the entries were."

Instead of having the typical award presentation, the Best in Show, Reserve Best in Show and a select few others were chosen to be displayed at the Salisbury Kennel Club.

A group of six judges selected one winner from each grade level. Those winners received a \$25 prize.

Those winners were then considered for Best in Show and Reserve Best in Show, which awards \$500 and \$250 for a prize, respectively.

Hannah Perdue, a 12th grader from Worcester Preparatory School won Best in Show, and Abby Willis, an eighth grader from The Salisbury School, won Reserve Best in Show.

Worcester Prep Lower School students from Rebecca Tittermary's class captured first place in every grade level, Kindergarten through grade 5.

Worcester Prep Middle/Upper

School students in George Zaiser's art classes placed in every age category, in addition to Perdue capturing the overall Best In Show top honor.

Milko said that the art contest has a positive impact on students, especially when it was paired with the dog show.

"They get to participate, see the dogs, some of the societal benefits of people that have dogs, and it brings it into the school," Milko said. "Maybe there's kids that don't have a dog and they get to learn about it as well."

He said fourth grade had the highest participation this year.

"You see some of the expressions that these kids have, even the lower grades, what they're trying to express in their artwork and it's really very moving," Milko said.

The artwork was posted at the kennel club at the end of December and Milko's plan is to keep the artwork displayed through January.

As of now, public viewing is not available, but Milko is working on trying to change that. Those who participate in the kennel club's dog training classes can view the artwork in the lobby.

Town of Berlin Public Notice



NOTICE

of Public Hearings

Town of Berlin, MD

Board of Zoning Appeals

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

5:30 PM

Currently, meetings of the Board of Zoning Appeals are being held virtually with no in-person attendance by the Board, applicants or the public, HOWEVER, this meeting will be open to public participation via Zoom or call-in. Details regarding access will be available one week prior to the scheduled meeting on the Town website under Boards and Commissions, or by calling 410-641-4143 or emailing dengelhart@berlinmd.gov.

The Town of Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals will meet to consider two appeals pursuant to Town Code Sections 108-165 and 108-191 as follows:

1. An Appeal from Donald S. and Helen T. Ferguson, for Lot #3, Mount Pleasant, Broad Street for a Special Exception for a Variance from the rear setback requirement specified on the plat for Lot #3, Worcester County Tax Map No. 300, Parcel 1231. The proposed dwelling to be constructed on site represents an encroachment of 9 feet into the platted 40 foot rear Building Restricted Line.

2. An Appeal from Giovanni Pino Tomasello for 15 Harrison Avenue for a Special Exception for a Conditional Use to hold outdoor events for up to 100 guests, temporary tents and mobile restrooms, in addition to a request to modify a previously authorized Conditional Use allowing up to 30 dinner guests inside be increased to 50 guests at the Bed and Breakfast facility formerly known as the Waystead Inn.

OCD-1/21/1t

EASTERN SHORE CLASSIC DOG SHOW ART CONTEST WINNERS

Best in Show: Hannah Perdue, 12th grade, "Cuddle Puddle," Worcester Prep School

Reserve Best in Show: Abby Willis, eight grade, "Untitled," The Salisbury School

Special Recognition:

Linsey Marine, 12th grade, "The Ties That Bind," Marine Home School

Leianna Jones, 11th grade, "Hospital Friend," Parkside High School
Nadia Bullock, 11th grade, "Family Photo," Stephen Decatur High School

Angeline Todorov, eight grade, "Reunion," Worcester Prep

Digital Best in Show:

Sydney Todorov, seventh grade, "Dog Runway," Worcester Prep

Digital Reserve Best in Show:

Cayden Wallace, 10th grade, Laika, Worcester Prep

Twelfth grade:

First place: Hannah Perdue, "Cuddle Puddle," Worcester Prep

Second place: Lindsey Marine, "The Ties That Bind," Marine Home School

Third place: Zane Cutrara, "Pumpkin Pup," Wicomico High School

Eleventh grade:

First place: Leianna Jones, "Hospital Friend," Parkside

Second place: Nadia Bullock, "Family Photo," Stephen Decatur

Third place: Hannah Barsure, "Untitled," Worcester Prep

Tenth grade:

First place (tie): Ava Wilsey, "Stephen Ashley," Worcester Prep; Jenna Hess, "Maggie," Worcester Prep

Second place: Luke Loeser, "Repair Assistance," Worcester Prep

Third place: Cayden Wallace, "Laika," Worcester Prep

Fourth place: Autumn Huntington, "The Service Dog," Parkside

Award of Merit: Daphne Min, "NYC Travels," Parkside

Eighth grade:

First place (tie): Abby Willis, "Untitled," The Salisbury School; Angeline Todorov, "Reunion," Worcester Prep

Second place: Sydney Tingle, "Very Good Boy," Worcester Prep

Third place: Jayden Scoop, "Bodni the Bernadoodle," Worcester Prep

Fourth place (tie): Kate Oland, "Untitled," The Salisbury School; Caytlin Silva, "Blu the Confidant," home school

Award of Merit: Jaylyn Hollins, "Dog on a Swing," Millsboro Middle School

Seventh grade:

First place: Dylan Kyger, "Untitled," The Salisbury School

Second place: Hayden Galeone, "My Dog Roxi," The Salisbury School

Third place: Sam Willis, "Untitled," The Salisbury School

Fourth place: Sydney Todorov, "Dog Runway," Worcester Prep

Awards of Merit: Ashton Hevner, "Untitled," Abisha Shrestha, "Untitled," and Alice Terill, "Untitled," all of The Salisbury School

Sixth grade:

First place: Chloe Gilchrest, "My Dog Sascha," The Salisbury School

Second place (tie): Libby Donoway, "My Dog Cooper," The Salisbury School; Eve Donoway, "Going on A

Road Trip with Cooper," The Salisbury School

Third place: Akum Kang, "At the Dog Park," Worcester Prep

Fourth place: Haven Harrison, "Groomer Has It," Worcester Prep

Award of Merit: Hayleigh Galeone, "Untitled," The Salisbury School

Fifth grade:

First place: Harper Hertrich, "Lots of Love," Worcester Prep

Second place: Eli Short, "Untitled," The Salisbury School

Third place: Ryan Shipp, "Holiday Dog," Worcester Prep

Fourth place: Charlie Cox, "Untitled," The Salisbury School

Awards of Merit: Willet Cole: "Green Eyes Gazing," Sussex Academy Elementary; Reed Whisner: "Untitled,"

Emilia McGrew, "Untitled," Sophie Utter, "Untitled," Presley Soley, "Untitled," Olivia Hamilton, "Untitled,"

Zach Stratten, "Untitled," Sydney Matyiko, "Untitled," and Johnny LaViola, "Untitled," all from The Salisbury School; and from Worcester Prep,

Ellie Phillips, "Beach Pup," Elena Gjoni, "My Dog is my Eyes," Ruya Kucuk, "Dogs are my Life," and Katie Currie, "Girl's Best Friend"

Fourth grade:

First place: Vivian Spraul, "Pieces of Louie," Worcester Prep

Second place (tie): Jackson Dikes, "Untitled," The Salisbury School;

Ethan Jackson, "Retriever," Most Blessed Sacrament

Third place: Michael Windon, "Oof," Most Blessed Sacrament

Fourth place: Sam Metz,

Continued on Page 11

DOG SHOW ART CONTEST WINNERS

Continued from Page 10

“Dauschound on the Beach,” Worcester Prep

Awards of Merit: Lily Gilchrist, “My Pup;” Kayden Clear, “Princess;” and Ainsley Holdar, “My Pup,” all of The Salisbury School; Madelyn MacIntosh, “Toby;” Helena Udinski, “CoCo;” and Morgan Petrik, “Daisy, Waisy, Biasy,” of Most Blessed Sacrament

Third grade:

First place: Lilly White, “Playful Puppy,” Worcester Prep
 Second place: Somers Cole, “The Dog Next Door,” Sussex Academy Elementary
 Third place: Raia Gorfinkel, “Boston,” Worcester Prep

Fourth place: Ava Carver, “Untitled,” Glen Avenue Elementary

Second grade:

First place: Gavin Dennis, “Tinker My Best Friend,” Worcester Prep
 Second place: Suri Thomas, “First Day of Summer,” Worcester Prep
 Third place: Tijel Pillai, “King,” Worcester Prep

Fourth place: Alexandra Kuon, “The Dog Park,” Worcester Prep

Award of Merit: Remy Hertrich, “Dog Park,” Worcester Prep

First grade:

First place: Jack Parks, “Winston Dream,” Worcester Prep
 Second place: Nora Rafinski, “A Fall Day with my Puppy,” Worcester Prep

Third place: Tobias Blaska, “Yeti, My Favorite Puppy,” Worcester Prep

Fourth place (tie): Madelyn Tull, “Playtime;” and Brooke Arnold, “Puppy,” Worcester Prep

Kindergarten:

First place (tie): Isla Pippin, “The Family of Pink Poodles;” and Eric Thomas, “Fly Pup,” Worcester Prep

Best Digital (Computer) Submission:

Sydney Todorov, \$200 Worcester Prep

Library to host reading challenge

(Jan. 21, 2021) Worcester County Library has been selected as a recipient of a \$1,000 Beanstack Black Voices Microgrants.

The library partners with Beanstack to power reading challenges, especially the Summer Reading Program. Beanstack has offered these microgrants to help the library create its own program to promote diverse books and encourage reading among teens.

The library has created a Teen Reading Challenge on Beanstack and will use the grant money to provide

prizes. Participating teens will select books to read by authors from a variety of backgrounds, highlighting the rich diversity of the American experience.

Each book they read will earn them a chance to win one of two \$500 grand prizes. This challenge will last throughout 2021, and the prizes will be awarded at the end of the year.

“The scholar Rudine Sims Bishop famously said that books for young readers should be both mirrors and windows,” said Assistant Director Rachael Stein. “They should reflect the

experiences of the reader and also provide a glimpse into unfamiliar cultural worlds. The aim of this project is to offer teens those mirrors and windows, and to encourage them to look into as many new worlds as they can.”

The library will also host a monthly discussion program on Zoom, where teens can meet, share book recommendations and talk about the books they’re reading.

Visit www.WorcesterLibrary.org beginning on Jan. 1, for more information and to register for the program.

Campaign celebrates SDHS seniors

Continued from Page 9

Members of the community, parents and even Decatur alumni and teachers have adopted students.

“A lot of kids are getting adopted by teachers. They’re saying, ‘I remember when I taught’ him or her,” Tilghman said.

In the Facebook group’s announcement section, Tilghman posted some gift ideas for the graduating class, with each month having a theme. It includes: January: sports and snacks; February: music and must haves; March: SDHS logo items Class of 2021; April: get prom ready with flowers, cards, hair and nails; May: graduation 2021 items, signs for their yard, stickers for cars, school logo items; and June: OC/military/college apparel with logo.

“Whatever they want to do. These kids are so excited to be getting stuff,” Tilghman said.

Her daughter, Emily, has been adopted by several people.

“When my mom first told me about the idea I thought it was something very cool, but I was skeptical if people in the community would be as excited about it,” she said. “It’s taken off and grown so quickly. I think it’s interesting the community has come together for this.”

Emily said many of her fellow seniors have asked her questions about the

initiative, and once they learned more, they became excited.

“They think it’s nice people are thinking about them,” she said. “The [Facebook] group is made for everyone. They want to make sure all are included before graduation.”

Online schooling can be monotonous, but when receiving treats from her adopters, Emily said “it brightens up my everyday life.”

Emily, who hasn’t been back to the school since March, said she tries to look on the bright side. She enjoys interacting with her classmates during

Zoom classes.

“It’s a nice way to get to talk to them throughout the day,” she said.

Sites said he had a Zoom meeting recently with class officers and National Honor Society officers to discuss “what they wanted and what we can do for them.”

“My goal is to do as much as possible to get them the celebratory things [they would typically enjoy as seniors],” Sites said. “Senior year is the most exciting year in school and I’ll try to do everything in my power to make it the best it can be.”



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| THURSDAY: | Chicken & Dumplings | \$14 |
| | Fajitas Your Way | \$12 |
| | <i>Steak, Chicken or Shrimp</i> | |
| FRIDAY & SATURDAY: | BBQ Ribs | \$16 |
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| | Seared Scallops | \$24 |
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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DELIVERING GIFTS

Every year the Ocean City chapter of the Sons and Daughters of Italy participates in the annual gift-giving organized by Worcester County G.O.L.D. (Giving Other Lives Dignity). After collecting Christmas presents from its members for Worcester County families in need, the wrapped packages were loaded in seven vehicles and convoyed to G.O.L.D headquarters in Snow Hill on Dec. 16. In addition, G.O.L.D was given \$300 in gift cards to be presented to families, and the Lodge also donated \$200 in cash to the charity.



BEST 'UGLY' SWEATER

Merchants of the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market on Dec. 19, donned "ugly" holiday sweaters adorned with everything from wacky elves to melting snowmen, and even cracked-up nut crackers. Margareth Legaspi, owner of a marketplace boutique shop, was named the winner.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

OFFERING SUPPORT

Local seamstresses and donors from Pillowcase Ministry have been working to provide for the victims of Guatemala's two hurricanes, covid and economic disaster, and for children in Kenya's UpendoKids Village Orphanage. Kelly and Steve Smith of Living Sent Ministries in Princess Anne, welcome the donations and coordinate delivery of the handmade goods to the most destitute people. Gifts recently sent included: 173 dresses, 179 pairs of shorts, 557 market bags, 128 sleep mats, and 58 shower kits, as well as numerous other goods, including over 1,000 face masks. State-side, Pillowcase Ministries has helped the needy in the Appalachian region through the Christian Appalachian Project. Donations to them included: sweaters, hand-knitted winter hats, socks, diaper bags with handmade blankets, hats and baby supplies, hygiene products and food for children. Financial contributions are welcomed. Call Barbara at 443-669-3781 for information. Pictured are Kenya children holding their plarn (plastic yarn) school bags which contain school supplies.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

Lower Eastern Shore, Maryland, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America volunteers raised funds to brighten the holidays of critical care providers who deserve recognition for providing home health care services to residents of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties during the covid-19 crisis. Gift cards were purchased for 40 home health workers who consistently provided crucial services during the pandemic. "Be SMART" literature was included with the gift to inform the recipients of public safety measures to protect people from gun violence. Pictured are Alexis Southward, Be SMART Lead with children, Charlie and Ivy; Judy Davis; Nanci Osborne, local group leader; and Nicole Hollywood, donating to Don Boger, Home Instead Senior Care.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

NEW OFFICERS

At a small gathering in December, the Atlantic General Hospital Auxiliary celebrated the installation of its new officers for 2021. Pictured, from left, are Jackie Choate, recording/corresponding secretary; Bob Gresehover, treasurer; Ken Waters, outgoing president; Cindy Roman, incoming president; and Ann Hamilton, vice president.



PHOTO COURTESY JACK BARNES

TOP ANGLERS

The Atlantic Coast Sportfishing Association recognized its 2020 Angler of the Year in both bay and ocean divisions at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club recently. The Angler of the Year award is presented to the fisherman who catches the biggest fish of most species during the year. Pictured, from left, are Angler of the Year, Ocean Division, Dale Christensen of Ocean Pines; ACSA Secretary John McFalls; and Angler of the Year, Bay Division, Budd Heim of Ocean Pines.

Berlin museum hosts '21 membership drive

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(Jan. 21, 2021) The Calvin B. Taylor House Museum at 208 N. Main St. in Berlin encourages residents to become members of the museum to help preserve local history.



Melissa Reid

“We’re just really hoping that people will join, that we have done a really good job this past year of presenting what we’re doing and how we continued to grow and we’ve continued to update things during this pandemic and that all of that presented information to the community will really translate into members,” Melissa Reid, president of the museum said. “We need members.”

With a yearly fee of \$20 per person or \$30 per family, members will have access to a quarterly electronic newsletter, guest speakers, archive tours, free admission to the museum and multiple free events. Currently, the museum has 130 members.

“In June, we are partnering with the arts and entertainment district committee to put on kind of a mini Berlin film festival,” Reid said.

The film festival will be focused on “Tuck Everlasting” and “Runaway Bride,” which were filmed in town.

In September, the museum staff is working with The Greyhound Independent Bookstore and Fine Art Gallery for a literary event.

If any individuals want to attend the events who are not existing members, they will have to pay for memberships.

Memberships are valid from a year from the registration date.

This year, the museum added a \$100 business membership in addition to its corporate sponsorships.

Lifetime memberships are also available for \$400 per individual or \$600 per family.

Membership fees can be paid for with a credit card by calling the museum at 410-641-1019. Cash or checks can be mailed to P.O. Box 351 Berlin, Maryland 21811.

“If you become a member, you can know that your money is going towards certainly helping update new exhibits,” Reid said.

Funds also contribute to the general maintenance and operation of the museum and events. The membership drive allows the museum to continue telling the stories of Berlin, especially more inclusive stories.

“We’re really getting a big push to collect a lot of oral histories in Berlin, and we’re working to incorporate some of those oral histories into exhibits,” Reid said.



ALLY LANASA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Calvin B. Taylor House Museum at 208 N. Main St. in Berlin seeks to increase its membership. Yearly memberships cost \$20 per person or \$30 per family. Lifetime memberships are also available for \$400 per individual or \$600 per family.

She said the money helps the museum staff buy recording equipment and update cassette tapes to preserve them.

“Becoming a member of the museum seems a small thing, but membership is a big important part of the income stream,” Reid added. “I think we’ve all come to realize the impor-

tance of supporting local communities, community nonprofits, really.”

Reid said “a membership is an easy way to become involved in your community.”

Donations to the museum are also accepted.

For more information, visit <https://taylorhousemuseum.org>.

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Ward carving competition to be held virtual

(Jan. 21, 2021) The Ward Foundation, the non-profit that operates the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, Salisbury University, and hosts the Ward World Championship Wildfowl Carving Competition & Art Festival, has made the decision to hold a virtually modified, three-day event this April in lieu of the regular in-person event at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City.

Since 1971, the Ward World Championship has attracted hundreds of carvers and thousands of spectators from all over the world.

With large gatherings still limited in the State of Maryland and international travel to the United States restricted for many countries, the Ward Foundation believes a "World Championship" just wouldn't be the same without competitors and guests from around the world.

The event's programming will be held across multiple platforms, including Facebook and YouTube, April 23-25.

"It was a difficult decision to make because the competition in Ocean City is sort of a home-away-from-home for the carvers," said Rich Smoker, chairman of the Ward Foundation and world champion decoy maker. "The Ward Foundation agreed that we would be unable to host the competition as planned, especially with our international friends unable to compete. The board of directors unanimously agreed virtually modifying the event was the best, and safest, thing to do."

There will still be plenty of ways for fans and competitors of the Ward World Championship to look forward to during the weekend of April 23-25.

Over the course of three days, the Ward Foundation will host an assortment of virtual carving classes, workshops, demonstrations and talks with world-renowned and award-winning artists.

Those who attend the modified event will get to experience up close and personal tours of famous carvers' workshops, receive an in-depth analysis of what judges look for in a

Best in World carving, participate in live carving and critique sessions, among other activities.

The virtually modified Ward World Championship will also still have competitive components. Carvers from all over will be able to mail in carvings to compete in 12 unique categories that will be judged live, in-person at the Ward Museum.

The event will also host expanded "People's Choice" awards, where the public will be able to vote for their favorite Ward World Championship piece, favorite antique decoy, and favorite contemporary wildfowl carving online—all submitted by artists and collectors.

In addition to all this, there will also be a Living Legend Award ceremony honoring wildfowl artists Larry Barth (Stahlstown, Pennsylvania), Jett Brunet (Galiano, Louisiana), and Dan Burgette (Tetonia, Idaho).

The Living Legend Award recognizes individuals who have been long-time advocates for wildfowl art and the Ward Museum; who are generous in spirit and commitment to teaching others and passing on their knowledge, skills and talents; and who have created an impact on the field of wildfowl art and/or the Ward World Championship Wildfowl Carving Competition and Art Festival.

The Ward World Championship has long hosted the Benefit Art Auction, an auction of wildfowl art for amateur and veteran collectors alike.

This auction, which supports the Ward Foundation—including efforts toward an in-person show in 2022—is being moved to an online platform that will enable collectors and enthusiasts to bid on a variety of pieces from the comfort of their own home, all weekend long.

"It's incredibly disappointing to know we will not gather in person again this year; and we can't wait to see everyone when we return to the in-person format in 2022," said Ward Museum's executive director, Kristin Sullivan. "But I'm also excited to experience what's possible in the new hybrid virtual/in-person format—



The Ward World Championship Wildfowl Carving Competition & Art Festival will run as a virtually modified, three-day event in April this year.

bringing together carvers, artists and friends in new ways. We're looking forward to celebrating some of wildfowl art's best, and having a lot of fun along the way. There will be a lot to see, do, and learn for novices to world champions, collectors, and folks curious about this unique and varied art form."

Additional announcements about guest speakers, programming, and auction items for the modified Ward

World Championship will be made in the coming weeks.

Although the event will be happening primarily in a virtual setting, the Ward Foundation believes this year's event will still capture the spirit and excitement of the historic competition.

For more information, visit www.wardmuseum.org/learn-explore/program-calendar/world-championship.

U.S. Coast Guard boating safety course virtual in Feb.

(Jan. 21, 2021) The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering a virtual Maryland Basic Boating Safety Course, Feb. 2-4, from 6-9 p.m.

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 includes piloting in local waters, tying nautical knots, foul weather tactics, legal issues, updated

Maryland regulations, and common marine maintenance.

The cost is \$20 for all three evenings. Checks should be made payable to: "USGCAUX 12-05" and mailed to: USGCAUX 12-05, P.O. Box 1682, Berlin, Maryland 21811. Payment via PayPal is also accepted.

Register or get more information by calling Barry Cohen at 410-935-4807, or email CGAUXOC@Gmail.com

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AGH vascular lab earns added accreditation

(Jan. 21, 2021) Atlantic General Hospital Vascular Laboratory has been granted an additional three-year term of accreditation by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Echocardiography in the area(s) of Adult Transthoracic.

This latest accreditation awarded to Atlantic General Hospital Vascular Laboratory demonstrates the facility's ongoing commitment to providing quality patient care in echocardiography.

Accreditation by the IAC means that Atlantic General Hospital Vascular Laboratory has undergone an intensive application and review process and is found to be in compliance with the published standards, thus demonstrating a commitment to quality patient care in echocardiography.

Composed of a detailed self-evaluation followed by a thorough review by a panel of medical experts, the IAC accred-

itation process enables both the critical operational and technical components of the applicant facility to be assessed, including representative case studies and their corresponding final reports.

Echocardiography is used to assess different areas of the heart and can detect heart disease or signs of serious conditions.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, followed closely by stroke as the fourth-highest cause of death.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), more than 2,150 Americans die each day from cardiovascular disease, which amounts to about one every 40 seconds.

There are many factors that contribute to an accurate diagnosis based on echocardiography.

The training and experience of the sonographer performing the procedure,

the type of equipment used and the quality assessment metrics each facility is required to measure, all contribute to a positive patient outcome.

IAC accreditation is a "seal of approval" that patients can rely on as an indicator of consistent quality care and a dedication to continuous improvement.

Atlantic General Hospital has been providing quality health care to the residents of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties in Maryland, and Sussex County, Delaware, since May 1993.

Built by the commitment and generosity of a dedicated community, the hospital's state-of-the-art facility in Berlin, combines old-fashioned personal attention with the latest in technology and services.

Atlantic General Health System, its network of more than 25 primary care provider and specialist offices, care for residents and visitors throughout the region. For more information about Atlantic General Hospital, visit www.atlanticgeneral.org.

Big Brothers, Sisters charity golf event in Dec. sets mark

(Jan. 21, 2021) Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore's 28th annual Santa's Open Charity Golf Tournament, held on Dec. 12, was the biggest and most successful to date, with 32 registered teams and over 125 golfers.

This year's primary sponsor was M&T Bank and the event once again took place at Ocean Pines Golf & Country Club.

Each holiday season, Delmarva comes together for the opportunity to provide local children with a little "Peace on Earth."

Since 1992, Santa's Open has been a source of joy and community support for families facing adversity. As part of a golfer's registration, each individual also donated a toy, which was then distributed to a child who lives on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and is enrolled in the BBBSES program.

In addition to a round of golf, participants were able to enjoy a breakfast check-in, lunch with refreshments, a closest to the pin competition, and a hole-in-one contest for a chance to win a vehicle from Pohanka of Salisbury. This year's top team was Team Odell, and for the second year in a row, Team Wankmiller finished in the top two, placing second.

This event could not be possible without sponsors, volunteers, staff, the golf committee and all of the attendees. BBBSES is very grateful and thankful for their devotion to help the community children reach their potential.

BBBSES is an affiliate of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and offers services and programs in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and

Worcester counties.

To learn more about BBBSES and its programs, visit www.shorebiglittle.org or email info@shorebiglittle.org.



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Opinion

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

Get vaccine info from the source

People who have been complaining about the lack of information on the local covid-19 vaccination program, or are confused about who gets vaccinated when and where, should be sure to tune into a first-of-its kind online town hall meeting Monday.

Created via a partnership between Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin, TidalHealth in Salisbury, and the health departments of Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset counties, the "Tri-County COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall" is an unprecedented approach to addressing this area's worst public health problem in generations, and maybe ever.

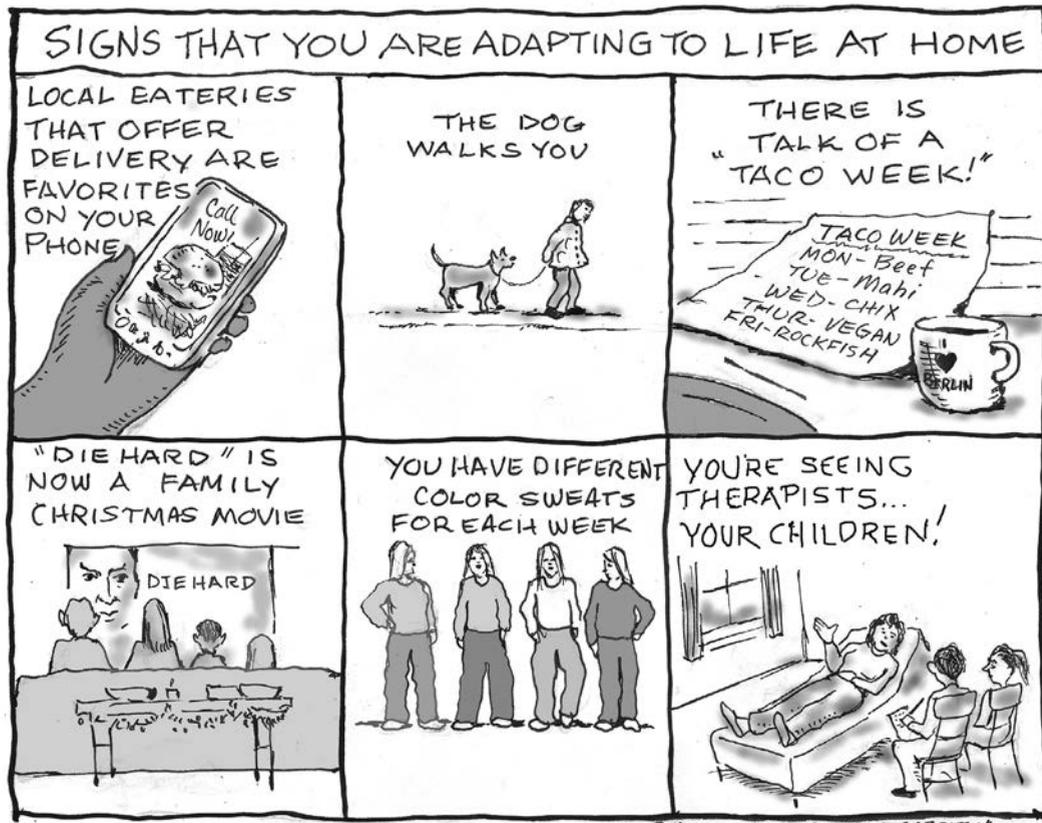
From 4-5 p.m. Monday, experts from these hospitals and agencies will explain the details of this almost unimaginable effort to save lives, to prevent devastating illness and to save the economy. They will answer questions from the public as well.

They know, as do so many residents of this region, that reliable information has been in short supply since last March. They also know it's not their fault, as the disjointed rollout of the vaccination program was a national circumstance caused by the absence of a real plan to get the job done.

Moreover, as one healthcare professionals observed recently, the vaccine delivery system was poorly organized from the start, as it depended on the same frontline people who were struggling to care for deathly ill covid patients to do double-duty as vaccine clinic providers, an impossible task.

Since it's incumbent on everyone who wishes to see a return of normalcy to get vaccinated, it's equally vital that they get the facts for themselves, rather than attempt to gather details and theories from friends and acquaintances, who just might not know what they're talking about.

Go direct to the source Monday, from 4-5 p.m. at www.webex.com. The log-in and password information is contained in this week's page one story.



Letters

AGH Phase 1B vaccine clinic

Editor,

A lot of people in the 1B over 75 age group were not aware that they would be able to receive the first covid vaccine shots in the entire state of Maryland when Atlantic General Hospital offered that opportunity on Saturday, Jan. 16.

No doubt the news was confusing to many when first released to the press on Monday afternoon, but by Tuesday morning the slots were filled.

Most of the proactive information I saw was disseminated on OceanPinesForum.com operated by Joe Reynolds which enabled many to sign up on Monday evening.

My wife and I were concerned, especially after seeing long lines in other areas of the country, how AGH would handle the hundreds of people signed up for their Saturday clinic at the Barrett building in Berlin.

Would we be driving into an unorganized mess? That fear proved to be unfounded as we drove into Healthway Drive and were met by AGH

volunteers. The operation would have made the military proud.

As we drove in from the street, your vaccination time was checked. If early, you were directed to the parking lot across the street at the new Cancer Center.

About 10 minutes prior to your shot time, you were released and drove across street to Barrett parking lot and directed to come into the building five minutes prior to your shot time. Volunteers roamed the lot to coordinate arrivals and answer any questions.

Inside, you were quickly processed after showing ID and moved into the room where shots were given at multiple stations.

After the shot was given you were moved down the line to wait for 15 minutes to check for any adverse reaction then released out the side door.

Nurses and staff were pleasant, impressive and amazingly efficient.

I understand more than 700 shots may have been given that day. Kudos to AGH for being proactive in getting these shots out ahead of everyone else and for their

staff who made sure it was a success. They should be a model for every other operation in the state.

Jack Barnes
Ocean Pines

Remembering John Smack Jr.

Editor,

It was with considerable sadness that I read of the passing of John Dale Smack, Jr.

I was town attorney for Berlin during the time in which Mr. Smack served on the Berlin Council, from 1980 to 1988.

As has been noted, Mr. Smack was the first African-American to serve on Berlin's Council. During his two terms in office, Mr. Smack served with dignity and dedication to service for all of Berlin's citizens.

If memory serves me correctly, in those pre-district days where all council members were elected at-large by all town voters, Mr. Smack at least once garnered more votes than any other member.

His service to the town and his outstanding contribution

Continued on Page 17

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Letters

Continued from Page 16

bution to the wellbeing of its citizens should be memorialized, and I try to shed some light on his service in this modest tribute.

He is a community leader who will be sorely missed.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph E. Moore
Berlin*

Vaccine clinic successful

Editor,

I would like to publicly thank Atlantic General Hospital personnel for the administering of the vaccine [Saturday, Jan. 16].

The efficiency and expediency I saw were nothing like the lines of cars we have seen on TV newscasts. From the men directing you into the parking lot, to the people who guided you into the building.... the painless injection and aftercare were beyond my expectations.

AGH knows how to get the job done and we should all be thankful for their planning and carrying out of this procedure...So often we take things for granted. I personally am very grateful.

*Blanche Deasy
Ocean Pines*

Community Briefs

Graduate

Kathleen Martyn of Berlin, recently completed her Master of Science in Justice Administration at Cumberland in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

Inducted

Jayna Griffith was inducted into the Alpha Nu Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Wor-Wic Community College on Oct. 19.



Jayna Griffith

Griffith is majoring in Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiographer, and is the daughter of Robert D. Griffith of United States Navy-Seal Team.

Dean's List

Kai McGovern, class of 2023, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2020 semester at the University of Vermont. McGovern from Berlin, is enrolled in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their

respective college or school.

McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland, recently announced its fall 2020 dean's list, recognizing full-time undergraduate students for outstanding academic achievement.

The list includes James Church of Ocean City, recognized with honors (grade point average of 3.90 or higher), and Hannah Burke, also of Ocean City, recognized with highest honors (grade point average of 3.70-3.89).

Mount St. Mary's University Emmitsburg, Maryland, recently announced that 664 students earned dean's list honors in fall 2020, including Carly Hoffman of Ocean City and Matthew Kinsey of Berlin. Students must have a GPA of 3.4 or higher.

Samantha Wolpin of Bishopville, was named to the fall 2020 University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences dean's list. Students on the dean's list earned 12 or more credit hours as letter grades with a minimum 3.60 GPA for the semester.

Recognition

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore (BBSES) has presented Dan Ervin, Ph. D., Professor of Finance at Salisbury University and board chair, as its 2020 Board Member of the Year.



Dan Ervine

This prestigious honor recognizes Dr. Ervin's unwavering commitment to empower youth to achieve their full potential at Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore.

Dr. Ervin joined the BBSES Board of Directors in January of 2017.

While he is currently board chair, Dr. Ervin has long dedicated unwavering support to the organization through financial counseling and visionary leadership.

He has been instrumental in the concept, construction and launch of programs and services provided to the community by Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Eastern Shore.

His role as board chair has become more vital in 2020. The covid-19 pandemic has undoubtedly challenged BBSES to provide mentoring, resources, and enrichment to the community.

Although the service delivery method of providing essential support to families in the community has changed, Big Brothers Big Sisters with the steadfast board leadership of Dr. Ervin, will continue to support the Eastern Shore community in overcoming adversity through leadership and collaboration.



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Cuisine

Suplee: put whatever you want into frittata

It's coming up on the weekend again. I have to try to figure out what to cook for the family. Oh, the drudgery.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

There is truth to the old maxim that the cobbler's children have no shoes, or the plumber's pipes always leak (perhaps that is a little too personal to make public, so I'll recant that after publication.)

You see, I really don't care to cook at home. I do it when I teach and I cook at both restaurants when needed, and I'm just an old, salty son of a gun when it comes to it.

Yet, I do understand that my kids deserve to eat.

And that's about where I stop. I am a terrible father. At least I can admit it while stocking the pantry with cans of soup, cellophane-wrapped Japanese and Korean 'noodle specialties' (I made it through college and most of my bachelorhood on those things, so don't knock them) and cereal.

This weekend, however, I plan on bringing an old classic back that I haven't made in a while; the frittata. And, I am embarrassed to say that I have always noted that the frittata is Spanish.

I was wrong, and I am glad to have been corrected. Apparently, 'frittata' is the Italian word for this wonderfully eggy creation, while the Spanish call it a 'tortilla'...although not that tortilla.

So what exactly is a frittata? Simply put, make a quiche and put it straight into a pan instead of dough, and you get a frittata...I mean a tortilla...but not that tortilla.

Want to have even a little more fun? Leave the dough out of it, make your filling and then soak some stale (or butter-toasted) chunks of bread just like you would with bread pudding, and bake that off. Then, it's a strata. Oh, the fun you can have with this cacophony of crazy concoctions.

And there are two pluses to making any of the three dishes that I just explained. Actually, I'll make that three.

One, they last for a long time in the refrigerator if cooled properly and wrapped (but no longer than seven days).

Two, they freeze exceptionally well, which serves us parents well while we wile our way through the various responsibilities that we have on our shoulders.

And, three? This is probably my favorite 'plus' of them all. And this is the fact and fortune that you can literally put whatever you want to put into these custardy delights, as long as it makes sense.

But, who does it have to make sense to? You! Who am I to say that you can't put chocolate in your crab strata? I would not dare.

What I would suggest, however, is a nice combination of meats and seafoods. If you go this route, precook said proteins before putting them in your final dish.

There are few things more disgusting than boiled meat, and meat boiled in eggs is right at the top for me. But, again, you do you.

After the meats and seafood, the world is your oyster, as Shakespeare so eloquently coined, or



whomever was actually writing his plays.

And speaking of oysters, did you know that if you add oysters and some other familiar ingredients to a frittata, you have what is called a "Hangtown Fry," a delicacy of a town in California made famous by how many thieves they hung during the Gold Rush.

Since the oysters came by train, they were literally worth their weight in gold.

Who knew that frittatas could be so entertaining? And yet, as interesting as it is to me, my job is to make these, serve them to my children, and relish in the eye-rolling that I get when I try to share my excitement. Isn't that at least one of my duties as a decent father?

Frittata

serves 6

8 large, whole eggs

1/2 c. cream or milk; dealer's choice

1 medium potato, diced and blanched

1/2 red bell pepper, roasted & peeled

2 c. baby spinach, blanched (yielding about 1/3 c.)

1/2 c. sharp cheddar cheese

3 tbsp. grated parmesan

1/2 c. crispy bacon or dry chorizo (optional)

Salt and pepper, to taste

1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

- Preheat oven to 350
- Whisk together the eggs and milk thoroughly
- Add remaining ingredients gently, but completely, so as to not break up anything
- Get a cast iron pan (for this much you could probably use an 8-10" pan) nice and hot. However, don't get it smoking hot. You want a crust on the bottom, but there's no reason to burn it. Think 'paella'
- Add clarified butter, a high flashpoint oil or pan spray
- Add your mixed frittata to the pan and cook for about 3 minutes, again making sure that it isn't burning on the bottom
- Remove pan from the range and place in your preheated oven
- Cook until the eggs have risen well-above the top of the pan. Even though it will still jiggle, you are looking for a firmness in the finished product
- As it cools, it will deflate. As long as it is set, it is ready to serve
- Serve this with a fresh arugula salad, fruit salad or breakfast potatoes (despite the fact that it may be a bit redundant as they're already in the main dish. But, who doesn't like breakfast potatoes? Seriously?)

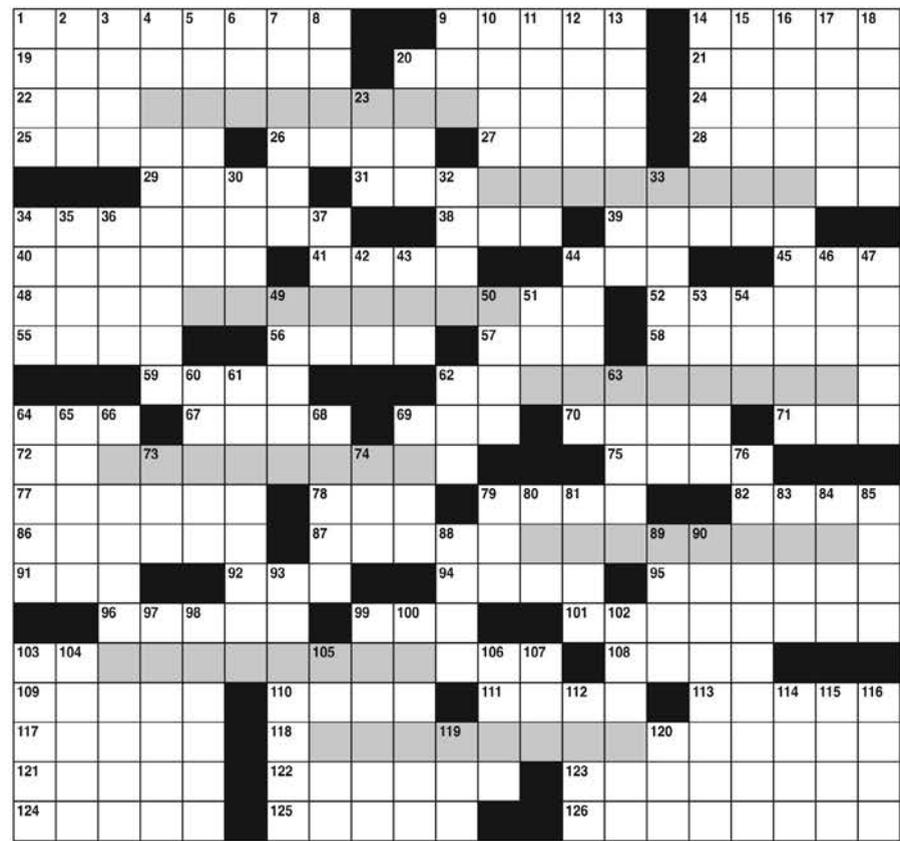
—Paul Suplee is a Professor of Culinary Arts at Wor-Wic Community College and owner of boxcar40. Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

Puzzles

OH, FOURPEAT'S SAKE! BY ALEX BAJCZ / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Alex Bajcz, of Morris Plains, N.J., is an assistant professor of biology and environmental science at Drew University. He studies how and why plants produce fruits — he says he's one of the few biologists who get to eat his research. The name Bajcz is Hungarian. Since that's difficult for American tongues, his family pronounces it "badges." This is Alex's sixth Times crossword and second Sunday. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 What a deadline increases
 - 9 Dental brand
 - 14 Neaten (up)
 - 19 Jet routes
 - 20 First name in flying history
 - 21 "___ the Doughnut," children's book series
 - 22 Classic saying originated by John Donne
 - 24 Like oxfords, but not slippers
 - 25 Really put one's foot down
 - 26 Shaded
 - 27 ___ O's (breakfast cereal)
 - 28 Love, love, love
 - 29 Population grouping, informally
 - 31 Aid for making a tiki-bar cocktail
 - 34 Isn't attending solo, say
 - 38 Bouncer's requests, for short
 - 39 Beethoven title woman (whose identity is unknown)
 - 40 Supreme Egyptian deity
 - 41 Standing on the street
 - 44 Carpenter ___
 - 45 Pin number?
 - 48 "Glad to have you back, dear!"
- DOWN**
- 2 Trashes
 - 3 Bombeck who wrote "At Wit's End"
 - 4 Participates in a mosh pit
 - 5 Los Angeles port district
 - 6 Sea urchin, at a sushi bar
 - 7 Took another take
 - 8 Isaac's firstborn
 - 9 Meditation sounds
 - 10 Click the circular arrow button, say
 - 11 Aids for sleepyheads
 - 12 Top part of an I.R.S. form
 - 13 Red morning sky, to sailors
 - 14 Part of an Italian sub
 - 15 Some pricey handbags
 - 16 Things Wyoming and Nevada lack
 - 17 Guy who hosts "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives"
 - 18 Overnighting option
 - 20 It's been performed more than 1,000 times at the Met
 - 23 Kan. neighbor
 - 30 Title for a lady
 - 32 Be outta sight?
 - 33 Alice in Chains genre
 - 34 Atlanta hoopster
 - 35 Repeated word in Hozier's 2014 hit "Take Me to Church"
 - 36 Base of an arch
 - 37 Video call annoyance
 - 42 Falling-out
 - 43 Mammal's head and heart?
 - 44 "Pokémon" cartoon genre
 - 46 High-ranking
 - 47 Chutzpah
 - 49 Call to mind
 - 50 Like Parmesan and pecorino
 - 51 "You do it ___ will"
 - 53 Stick (to)
 - 54 That guy
 - 60 Cheri of old "S.N.L."
 - 52 Actor/TV host Joel
 - 55 To take this, paradoxically, might signify taking a stand
 - 56 Wedding exchange
 - 57 The D-backs, on scoreboards
 - 58 Quack doctor's offering
 - 59 London neighborhood west of Covent Garden
 - 62 Most expensive block
 - 64 Kirghizia or Byelorussia: Abbr.
 - 67 Quick hit
 - 69 Word in the Declaration of Independence but not the Constitution
 - 70 ___ Rachel Wood of "Westworld"
 - 71 "Can't you ___?"
 - 72 Post-interruption question
 - 75 Plant used in making biofuel
 - 77 ___ Schomburg, Harlem Renaissance figure
 - 78 Haiti's ___ de la Tortue
 - 79 Like some coffee and sprains
 - 82 Heedless
 - 86 "Fantastic!"
 - 87 First ruler of a united Hawaii
 - 91 Boot attachment
 - 92 ___ Pre-V
 - 94 Loan option, briefly
 - 95 Like a narrow baseball win
 - 96 Fixture whose name translates to "small horse"
 - 99 Result of the '64 Clay/Liston fight
 - 101 Hitting the ground heavily
 - 103 Relatively light foundry product
 - 108 Wash. neighbor
 - 109 Lavishes affection (on)
 - 110 Super-quality
 - 111 "This one's all mine!"
 - 113 Like about 97 percent of U.S. land
 - 117 Oscar ___, 1987 Peace Nobel from Costa Rica
 - 118 Potful in some Italian kitchens
 - 121 Given (to)
 - 122 Stock-exchange worker
 - 123 Makes Don nod?
 - 124 Things that can be closed with a zip
 - 125 Brains
 - 126 Least spicy



- 61 "With what frequency?"
- 62 "The Masque of the Red Death" writer
- 63 Duck
- 64 Tries for a fly
- 65 Film character who says "That'll do, Donkey. That'll do"
- 66 Payback
- 68 Christensen of "Parenthood"
- 69 Grammy winner Stefani
- 73 Classic work by Karel Capek
- 74 Whitney for whom a Connecticut museum is named
- 76 Certain security officer
- 79 Prez No. 34
- 80 Quick pick-me-up?
- 81 Send forth
- 83 Atmospheric prefix
- 84 Ostracize
- 85 Be left undecided
- 88 Watered-down rum
- 89 Common lecture length
- 90 Giant in fairy tales?
- 93 Queen Anne's royal family
- 97 "Let me clarify ..."
- 98 Trashes
- 99 Yellow-brick-road traveler
- 100 Folds and stretches
- 102 Backpacker's lodging
- 103 Make lemonade from lemons, so to speak
- 104 Peter of "Casablanca"
- 105 "The Dick Van Dyke Show" co-star
- 106 Wood stain has a strong one
- 107 Tiny ___
- 112 Hurtful remark
- 114 Ploy
- 115 Pocket rockets, in poker
- 116 In the event that
- 119 Symbol on a Junction Ahead sign
- 120 Future zygotes

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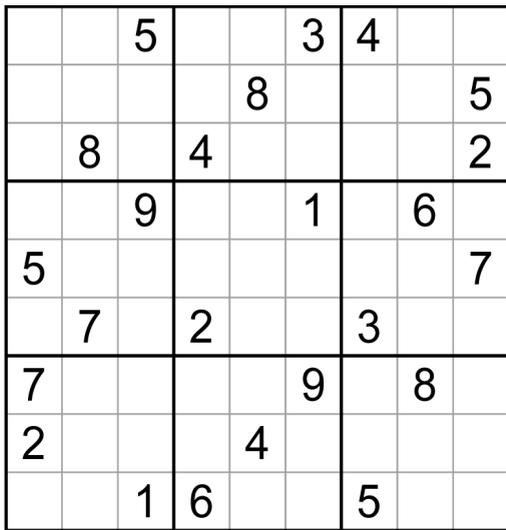
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HARD - 11

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



Calendar

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

Thurs., Jan. 21

ANNUAL OCEAN CITY BLOOD DRIVE

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 8:00 AM - 2:15 PM. To book an appointment, call 888-8-BLOOD-8 or visit www.delmarvablood.org. Donors are asked to only make an appointment if they are feeling healthy and well, with no cold or flu-like symptoms and no fever.

OPEN SKATE

Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, aswiger@marylandscoast.org, 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

CRYSTALS: WHAT'S BEYOND THE BEAUTY?

Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 PM. Participants will journey from past to modern day uses and attributes of crystals that include physical/emotional health as well as spiritual benefits and more. Register: worcestertlibrary.org under events.

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@womensupporting-women.org for Zoom meeting ID and passcode.

COVID-19 ZOOM PRESENTATION

Sponsored by the Worcester County NAACP. Dr. Angela Gibbs, Berlin family medicine doctor, will discuss the impact of COVID-19 on African Americans and the community. Join the Zoom meeting at 6:00 PM by visiting the groups Facebook page, Worcester County NAACP, or phone 410-213-1956.

STRONG BONES VIRTUAL WORKSHOP ON FACEBOOK

During the week of Jan. 18-22, Atlantic General will be hosting a Strong Bones Virtual Workshop with a series of engaging and educational posts on the Atlantic General Hospital Facebook page. AGH providers will be presenting on a number of osteoporosis-related topics. Visit www.facebook.com/atlanticgeneralhospital to view the videos.

Fri., Jan. 22

STORY TIME - SNOWMEN

Held via Facebook, 10:30 AM. Frosty stories, poems, finger plays and movement followed by a craft. For 2-5 year olds. No registration required.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

BOOK DONATION

Germantown School Community Heritage Center donated books to Buckingham Elementary to be included in the delivery of students' lunch distribution. The books feature African American leaders and their historical significance. Pictured are Germantown Board Members Bob Conner Jr., Tom Pitts, Judy Davis, with Vice Principal Deshon Purnell, center, and Curriculum Resource Teacher, Laura Arenella.

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'AN UNKINDNESS OF GHOSTS' BY RIVERS SOLOMON

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Books are available on Hoopla (hoopladigital.com). Register: worcestertlibrary.org under events.

STRONG BONES VIRTUAL WORKSHOP ON FACEBOOK

During the week of Jan. 18-22, Atlantic General will be hosting a Strong Bones Virtual Workshop with a series of engaging and educational posts on the Atlantic General Hospital Facebook page. AGH providers will be presenting on a number of osteoporosis-related topics. Visit www.facebook.com/atlanticgeneralhospital to view the videos.

Sat., Jan. 23

OPEN SKATE

Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, aswiger@marylandscoast.org, 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

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., Jan. 24

OPEN SKATE

Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM -

7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, aswiger@marylandscoast.org, 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

COURAGEOUS ARTS SHOWCASE

Worcester Connects and the Art League of Ocean City have teamed to present the Courageous Arts Showcase on Zoom for high school students, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM. Ash'iz Cuffee will guide students through Expressing Your Voice Through Spoken Word Poetry. Pre-register: 410-641-4598.

Mon., Jan. 25

STORY TIME - BEDTIME BEARS AND NIGHT TIME TALES

Held via Facebook, 10:30 AM. Bedtime stories about bears and nightmares and how the sun and moon get along. See the Craft Kit to Go for this week. For ages 3-7 years old. No registration required.

INTELLIGENCE2: BATTLE OF THE ANCIENTS

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Listen as two historians debate about Greece vs. Rome and decide who you think created the better civilization.

VIRTUAL COVID-19 TOWN HALL MEETING

The hour-long town hall, which will take place via WebEx at 4:00 PM, will be moderated by Maryland State Senator Mary Beth Carozza and feature panelist presentations by healthcare workers from the following partners: Atlantic General Hospital, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional and the Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset health departments. Those unable to attend the live meeting will have the oppor-

tunity to view a recording available on each of the partners' websites. To join: www.webex.com; event number (access code), 180 843 4833; Password, TidalHealth (case sensitive). Or join audio conference at 415-655-0001, event number (access code), 180 843 4833.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Meeting 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

Tues., Jan. 26

OPEN SKATE

Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Cost is \$2 per person for all skaters and skate observers. Price includes skate rental, 45 minutes of skate time and reserves your time slot. Time slots available each hour on the hour and are limited to 15 people. Participants must call ahead: 410-632-2144. Allen Swiger, aswiger@marylandscoast.org, 410-632-2144, Ext. 2520

DELMARVA APPRENTICESHIP: EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

Meeting via Zoom, 1:00 PM. Join the Maryland Department of Labor and Lower Shore Workforce Alliance for a live Apprenticeship Virtual Fair. Learn about opportunities available on Delmarva and how to apply. Learn more about local industries and employers. Register: worcestertlibrary.org under events.

NOTES ON THE BEACH: THE MUSIC OF TIN PAN ALLEY

Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 PM. Jeff played bass at the Kennedy Center, National and Ford's theaters, Wolf Trap and on Broadway for more than 40 years. Glen has performed at the White House, Vice President's residence, Kennedy Center, Smithsonian, as well as countless embassies, galleries and private homes. Register: worcestertlibrary.org under events.

Wed., Jan. 27

READ WOKE AFRICAN AMERICAN VOICES MEET UP

Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 PM. Teens, register on Beanstack for the Read Woke Challenge at WorcesterLibrary.Beanstack.org. Choose a book from African American Voices to read and discuss at the Zoom Meet Up. Every Read Woke Book you read and every Meet Up you attend earns badges. Each badge gives participants a chance to win one of two \$500 grand prizes. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

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5 P.M.



MARKETPLACE

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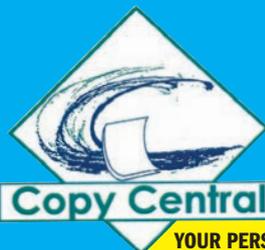
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