



PHOTO COURTESY MELISSA BRAGG, OPVFD

Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department and neighboring agencies extinguish flames amidst dense smoke inside a house on Leigh Drive in Terns Landing last Wednesday.

Accidental fire guts house under construction in OP

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) The Worcester County Fire Marshal's Office has determined accidental causes were to blame for a house fire in the Terns Landing area of Ocean Pines that required assistance from half a dozen neighboring agencies last Wednesday.

After a neighbor in the vicinity of 36 Leigh Drive reported seeing an under-repair residence aflame, the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Depart-

ment responded to the scene at about 2:15 p.m. on Feb. 24.

First to arrive was Second Assistant Chief Mike Mather, followed closely by Engine 1102 crewmembers, after which the emergency responders quickly ascertained smoke was billowing from a chimney.

Firefighters employed attack line hoses to gain entry to the structure where ever increasing smoky conditions were encountered.

First responders then made use of

See OP Page 2

Town of Berlin opens offices following pandemic decline

But will return to modified schedules should covid-19 infection rates climb again

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) The 71 people who make up the Berlin town staff returned to work full-time in person on Monday after working modified schedules since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in the spring of 2020.

"Every employee with the exception of the police department has made this hybrid schedule ... available to them," said Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood.

The department heads were responsible for dividing the staff as best they could "to make sure they have equal capacity and capability amongst both team A and team B," Fleetwood said.

To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, he preferred town employees

not work consecutive days in the office.

"However, employees as they are able, we assigned tasks for them to do at home," Fleetwood said.

The Berlin town staff planned to return to full-time in person if the covid-19 positivity rate remained below 5 percent for seven consecutive days, which it has from Feb. 20 to present.

"I gave employees a week notice that we were going back to 'normalcy' in a week," Fleetwood said. "Following that, we will re-evaluate and probably go back to the limited attendance public meetings and limited access to public buildings."

If the positivity rate increases again, he said town staff will return to working modified schedules.

With the plan to open government buildings on March 8, attendance at meetings will be limited to 16 seats for presenters, members of the public and the press in addition to town of-

See BERLIN Page 2

Phillips joins Captain's Cove as senior general manager

Virginia seaside community changing its management structure, creates new post



Colby Phillips

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) After recently resigning following more than a decade with the Ocean Pines Association, Colby Phillips is head-

ing south to become senior general manager at Captain's Cove Golf & Yacht Club in Greenbackville, Virginia.

Phillips is set to take the reins at the HOA recreational community situated on the Chincoteague Bay by mid-month.

"Nothing's broke down there. They're really just looking to go to the next level," she said. "They're bringing in my position as a new position."

Phillips was brought onboard by Reston, Virginia-based Indigo Golf Partners, which had been managing the community's marina club and golf course, but is now assuming a larger oversight role.

"Captain's Cove is transitioning to a new management structure because they're going to be outsourcing all the operations to Indigo Golf," Phillips said.

See CAPTAIN'S Page 2

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Captain's Cove hires Phillips for senior post

Continued from Page 1

In the her new role, Phillips will report to Captain's Cove HOA Board and President Tim Hearn, as well as Chip Harris, regional director of operations at Indigo Golf Partners.

"I'm excited to work with them and bring Captain's Cove to the next level," she said.

During a multi-part interview process with Hearn, Harris and the board, Phillips was pleased to learn employee turnover at the HOA has traditionally been minimal.

"It's very small," she said. "People leave there because they retire."

Phillips said the interview process also gave her great insight into the community's social and operational structure.

"I just fell in love with their attitude, enthusiasm, support system and culture overall," she said. "It was a breath of fresh air."

In addition to working with department heads to improve and expand amenities, Phillips will team with General Manager Justin Wilder.

"He'll stay the GM and his input is invaluable," she said. "I'm looking forward to working with him and utilizing each other's strengths."

Although yet to meet in person, Phillips has already spoken extensively with her new team at Captain's

Cove.

One of her primary charges is assuring Accomack County leaders appreciate the economic impact the recreational community has on the region.

"I want to build relationships with Accomack County officials," she said.

Budgetary oversight and infrastructure improvements are also primary tasks.

"I'll be involved with bringing full service high-speed Internet to the Cove," she said. "I'm also involved in building and monitoring the Cove's \$5 million budget."

Hearn unveiled the new hire during a board zoom meeting last Tuesday.

"Colby has been a long time employee of Ocean Pines and currently has seven departments reporting to her," he said.

Hearn said in addition to past praise from Ocean Pines General Manager John Viola, Phillips was highly rated by a number of dual residents of both HOAs.

"Chip [Harris] interviewed Colby for two hours and gave a significant thumbs up in terms of how she ranked within the other senior level general manager positions Indigo Golf has around the country," he said.

Hearn noted Phillips' prior position involved substantial financial oversight functions.

"Ocean Pines, given the scale that it is, there's significant income statement activity happening in many of those departments," he said. "Not just on the expense side, but on the revenue side, in a non-covid world ... aquatics is a million-dollar-a-year

revenue piece."

Hearn said Phillips exhibits stellar interpersonal skills and has an extensive history of community engagement.

"She works at a high energy level," he said. "In my 17 years of being at the Cove, this is one of the best announcements I've been able to make in general."

Berlin offices reopen after covid-19 rates show decline

Continued from Page 1

officials and staff, as was the policy in fall 2020 before the closure.

Currently, the plan is to continue to livestream meetings on Facebook if meetings permit public attendance, Fleetwood said.

Safety protocols, including wearing face masks and using hand sanitizer, will remain in effect.

"Should an employee feel ill, have any of the covid symptoms [or] been exposed to someone with covid-19, we'll act accordingly with the direction of the Worcester County Health Department," Fleetwood said.

Between the entire Berlin Police Department and other eligible citi-



Jeff Fleetwood

zens, about 40 percent of town staff have received their first dose or both doses of the covid-19 vaccine. Fleetwood added that more than 50 percent of employees have expressed interest in receiving the vaccine.

"This has been a trying time for the citizens of the town and the citizens of the county and the entire country and the entire world, but the reality is folks have, I think, handled themselves overall well through this trying time," he said. "We've learned a lot of lessons, and we've learned from our mistakes."

OP fire draws other companies

Continued from Page 1

a thermal imaging camera to determine the seat of the fire.

The blaze intensified sufficiently to require assistance from fire departments from Berlin, Bishopville,

Ocean City, Showell and Selbyville, Delaware.

Multi-agency responders braved the conditions and eventually removed drywall to extinguish all existing hot spots.





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OP Budget cmte. looks at projects, January financials

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) The Ocean Pines Budget and Finance Committee discussed current and pending capital projects, in addition to examining the current fiscal picture, during its meeting last Wednesday.



John Viola

General Manager John Viola updated members on the status of a Worcester County proposal to irrigate the Ocean Pines Golf Course with treated wastewater effluent.

“Last year, Worcester County funded an outside independent firm for a study,” he said.

Viola said Worcester Assistant Public Works Director John Ross recently brought both Director of Golf John Malinowski and Superintendent Justin Hartshorne up to date on the feasibility study.

“The firm met with Malinowski and Justin a couple weeks ago,” he said.

Hartshorne has past experience using spray effluent when employed at the Glen Riddle Golf Club.

“He has gone through the process and said it was similar,” Viola said.

Treated effluent is being used for spray irrigation purposes at nearly three-dozen facilities across the state, nine of which are golf courses, with three located in Worcester County, including Glen Riddle, Eagle’s Landing and Lighthouse Sound.

“By spring they should have plans set,” he said. “We’re in favor of this thing.”

Although the proposal would still require board approval, Viola said initial discussions have proposed executing required upgrades to related infrastructure in stages to minimize course disruptions.

Committee member John O’Connor asked how the association would benefit.

“Do we really need it?” he said.

Viola suggested another town hall question-and-answer session, similar to one held last March with Ross and Worcester Public Works Director John Tustin, might be in order.

“When that treatment plant takes water and distributes it over land, that’s another filtering process,” he said. “Environmental groups and studies favor this from what I’ve heard.”

“Highly treated effluent” is defined as water meeting current Maryland Department of the Environment bay restoration standards.

Viola said the proposal would also require updating the golf course irrigation system, sections of which date

See BUDGET Page 4

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Budget, finance cmte. talks pending projects

Continued from Page 3
back half a century.

“The bulk of that system somehow, somehow is going to be needed to be replaced,” he said. “If we’re committing to taking this water, we can’t have the system breaking down.”

Viola said preliminary studies have confirmed the current system would be insufficient to handle the effluent pressure required for spray irrigation purposes.

Because of the absence of any cost figures, Viola proposed scheduling a committee meeting with Ross and Malinowski.

“The county came to us,” he said. “This is them doing it, not us.”

Turning to more technical matters, Viola said OPA staff continues to experience some small problems with implementing Northstar IT software, which the board originally approved purchasing in Jan. 2019.

Because of an issue with information retention, the Northstar point of sale system was pulled from the Clubhouse Bar and Grille just over a month ago.

Viola said Matt Ortt Companies CEO Ralph DeAngelus was able to revert to previously employed software in short order.

“That’s a very viable system and one he’s happy with it’s just not integrated,” he said.

Viola said DeAngelus is working with IT Manager Steve Grabowski to test the Northstar POS system for future implementation.

On a brighter note, recent feedback from other department heads regarding the Northstar software has been positive, Viola said.

“They said there was progress [but] it continues to be painful,” he said. “They are telling me, the department heads, that it is better than it was months ago.”

Director of Finance and Operational Logistics Steve Phillips said full implementation is more than half complete.

Committee Chairman Dick Keiling proposed a separate committee meeting to delve deeper into the matter.

“It would be good to look at the big ticket items causing issues and projected cost going forward,” he said.

Board Liaison Doug Parks asked to be involved in the upcoming special session.

As for the association’s financial circumstances, Phillips said the association closed January with slight budget surplus of just over \$1,200 for a year-to-date favorability of roughly \$1.14 million.

“We were about as close to flat as you could be,” he said.

Through January, the OPA FY20-21 budget reflects revenue over pro-

jections of about \$229,000 with expenses under estimates by more than \$916,000.

“Of course, that [factors in] approximately \$1.3 million in PPP funding and other revenues related to CARES Act funding,” he said.

Phillips said public works and general maintenance costs returned to previous positive trends for January.

“We had the \$250,000 transfer last month for pipes that got approved this month,” he said. “We had the big unfavorable last month but we reverted back to the favorable trend with timing of the repair maintenance.”

General administration closed January about \$30,000 unfavorable for the month.

“The biggest hit was legal expenses,” he said.

Included in that figure is \$25,000 earmarked for a pending referendum vote following the recent settlement reached between the OPA and former Director Slobodan Trendic regarding unauthorized board spending limits.

That was a starting point and we’ll fine-tune it,” he said. “It might be conservative but I don’t think we have a good handle on what the total costs are.”

On one last matter involving the golf course, Viola said a recent suggestion from Director Tom Janasek to begin marketing the Ocean Pines Golf

Course video simulator purchased last year gained quick traction.

“On Saturday, one of the board members asked me about the launch monitor,” he said.

During the board meeting on Feb. 20, Janasek noted other courses in the region have turned profits with video simulators, especially during offseason months.

The roughly \$20,000 piece of equipment was introduced at the Ocean Pines Golf Clubhouse in the wake of coronavirus last spring, which initially hampered its use.

“I didn’t think we should have people in there,” he said.

After learning other area golf courses are generating revenue with video simulators, Viola and Malinowski sent an email on Monday to association members highlighting the recent addition.

“He immediately got two people to sign up for [club] fittings this week,” he said.

Additionally, the launch monitor can be used for instruction.

“John has embraced that and he’s going to do lessons,” he said.

The aim now is to generate sufficient revenue to offset equipment costs.

“We want to grow it right now with the fittings, lessons and whatever else he can do in there,” he said.

OP email address covers all residents’ general questions

(March 4, 2021) To help improve customer service, Ocean Pines is asking that all homeowners and residents send general questions, complaints, or concerns to info@oceanpines.org, or contact 410-641-7717 during business hours, or 410-641-7747 after business hours and on weekends.

Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski and Public Works Office Manager Linda Martin will handle

questions sent to that email address and redirect them to the proper person or department, if needed.

“We feel this will be a more efficient method of ensuring that people’s concerns are being addressed in a timely manner,” General Manager John Viola said. “This will also allow us to have controls and metrics as part of a dashboard created by Linda, to make sure the system is operating efficiently.”



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SITE PLAN COURTESY AUTO ZONE

The Berlin Planning Commission approved a site plan for an earth-tone Auto Zone store that would replace the former McDonald's building on Route 50 in Berlin that features four faux windows, three different roof height variations, a decorative cornice on the roofline and pilasters that protrude from the main building made with split face block.

Auto Zone site plan approved for Route 50

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) A site plan for a beige Auto Zone store that would replace the former McDonald's building on Route 50 in Berlin was approved by the Berlin Planning Commission last Wednesday at a virtual special meeting.

Applicant Kevin Murphy told the commission the new landscaping plan showed additional trees as requested with three trees at the front of the site. Trees were selected based on the requested 15-foot or 20-foot height.

"It's nice to see the trees," said Commission member Pete Cosby. "Is it possible to get any on the east or west side or is that not possible to fit in?"

Eugene Dvorchak, senior engineer at MDM Surveyors & Engineers, responded that there is a storm line that runs down one side where there is some grass, which connects the rear stormwater management system to the stormwater management system in the front of the property.

"The day after our previous meeting for this site plan approval, Mr. Dvorchak, he reached out to our stormwater engineer, EA Engineering, and myself, and the three of us talked about it and they found a way to put these trees in in the front that will still satisfy stormwater requirements and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and it does not interfere with view lines for

State Highway for U.S. [Route] 50," said Dave Engelhart, Berlin's planning director.

Murphy submitted two color variations for review – a gray color scheme or a beige, earth-tone color scheme.

"Auto Zone's first choice is the gray color scheme," he said.

Murphy also discussed the architectural changes made from the first site plan, including four faux windows, three different roof height variations, a decorative cornice on the roofline and pilasters that protrude from the main building made with split face block.

He added that the parapets have always been incorporated in the design.

"I'll just say, Kevin, thank you for making all the changes. It looks great," said Commission member Austin Purnell. "I know it was some extra work on your guys' end and a delay from last time, but it looks great. I like it, and I'd say go with the earth-tone. That's my opinion."

The commission members favored the earth-tone option.

The Auto Zone project passed unanimously with Commission member Ron Cascio and alternate David "DJ" Lockwood absent.

Responding to Murphy, Engelhart said the project does not need to proceed for approval from the Berlin mayor and Town Council because the planning commission approves site

plans. Engelhart added that the mayor and council would only be in-

involved if the project involved annexation.

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AARP tax preparation site at Ocean Pines community ctr.

(March 4, 2021) AARP Foundation Tax-Aide has approved a new site at the Ocean Pines Community Center in White Horse Park, 235 Ocean Parkway, for tax preparation.

The site will be open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tax information will be scanned in on the first appointment and the tax return can be picked up and reviewed during the second appointment.

Taxpayers can call 443-373-2667 or www.mdwebscheduler.com to make an appointment.

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New superintendent of Berlin Public Works

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) James (Jimmy) Charles will step into the full-time role of the Berlin Public Works Department superintendent when Dave Wheaton retires near the end of March.



Jimmy Charles

Charles, 50, is originally from Lancaster, Pennsylvania and worked for a printing company for 15 years.

"I've had little side businesses of grass cutting and snow plowing," he said.

Since 2010, Charles has lived on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He worked with Somerset County Roads Division for three years then went on to serve as the Public Works Department supervisor for the City of Crisfield for five years.

At Somerset County Roads Division, Charles participated in tree-limbing services, grass cutting, stormwater removal and snow removal. In Crisfield, his department was responsible for maintaining streets, performing stormwater removal, clearing ditches and conducting trash and recycling collection.

Charles learned about the position in Berlin through the town's website.

"It's a great opportunity to work with the town of Berlin. Everyone has been very welcoming, and I am very much looking forward to working with the

town," he said. "Berlin is beautiful, friendly, inviting and a great place to live, visit or work."

As the Public Works Department superintendent, Charles will oversee a department of seven employees.

He said training under Wheaton for the role has made it an "easy transition."

"Dave has been great. He's been open and communicative with everything we've been learning," he added. "I'll be able to draw from Dave's experiences with the town of Berlin."

Wheaton has worked for the town since June 2004. He was initially hired as an equipment operator then served as an assistant superintendent of Public Works. He is retiring as superintendent of the Public Works Department, where he oversaw eight employees.

"He will be sorely missed by me. He's been a good friend and a good advisor," said Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood. "I wish him the very best in his retirement."

As an example of his character, Wheaton has agreed to be a phone call away for any "institutional knowledge" needed, Fleetwood added.

Fleetwood is excited to have Charles provide a fresh pair of eyes for the town.

Charles said the Public Works Department ensures that the streets are cleared, that trash and recycling are collected routinely every week and that the parks are clean. In addition, the department organizes and assists with

street closures during events.

"We're evaluating the equipment and we're getting ready for the summer with possible events with covid restrictions," he said.

Charles said he looks forward to working with town residents and welcomes any public insight.

"I am open to any ideas that the town has and look forward to helping make the town even better," he said. "The town is progressing, and I look forward to being a part of the town's growth."

Contact Charles at jcharles@berlinmd.gov or 410-641-4001.

Nonprofit to raise funds for recreational opportunities

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) We Heart Berlin Inc. has been established as a Maryland-based nonprofit to raise funds for town projects.

Organizer Tony Weeg said he used LegalZoom to set up the nonprofit, and is now embarking on the next step of pursuing tax exempt status through the federal government.



Tony Weeg

As a nonprofit, We Heart Berlin has a board of directors, consisting of Weeg, Jeffrey Smith, Brian Robertson, Denee Bowen, Adrian Bowen Sr., Tom Simon and Carol Rose. The board met for the first time on Monday.

Weeg said the purpose of the board is to decide how money will be spent to benefit the town.

We Heart Berlin's mission is "to improve and create recreational opportunities for the benefit of Berlin and its residents."

"[Bowen Sr.] wants to make a proposition to the Parks Commission, which will then go to the mayor, to get an art installation painted on top of the basketball courts at Henry Park," Weeg said. "He's writing up a proposal to bring to the Parks Commission."

We Heart Berlin will assist Bowen in raising funds needed for the art installation.

In addition, the nonprofit has established GoFundMe accounts to raise funds for an outdoor ping pong park at

John Howard Burbage Park on William Street and a skate park at Heron Park on Old Ocean City Boulevard.

"I set lofty goals for both. I put \$25,000 for the ping pong park and \$500,000 for the skate park, because if I could raise those two amounts for those two things, we could do a lot of things on our own," Weeg said. "We hope to just be an arm of money raising and the loudest wheel on the boat or the ship so that we can make the most good noise happen, raise the most money and make it so that everybody knows about these projects and it's not lost to anybody's ears."

To donate to the Berlin outdoor ping pong park, visit https://www.gofundme.com/f/we-heart-berlin?utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_li-co+share-sheet.

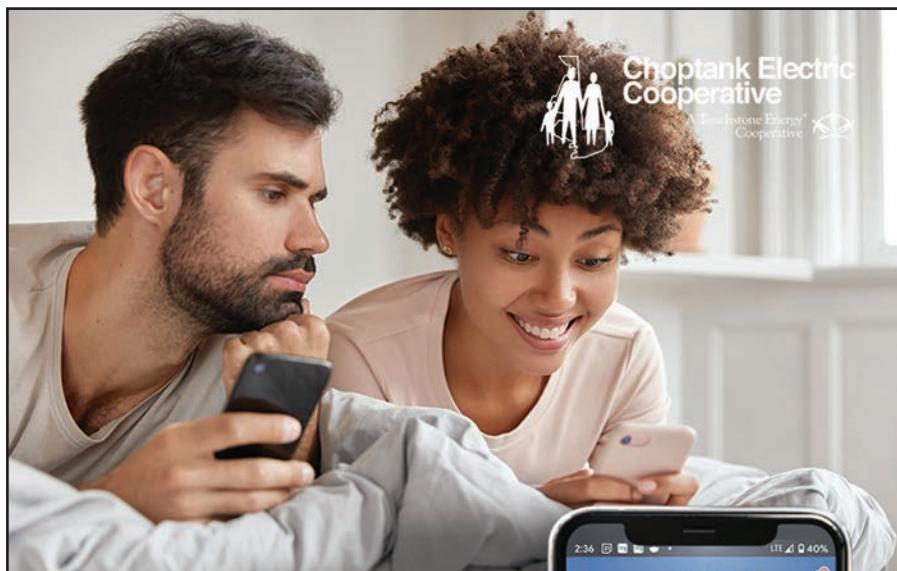
Weeg has donated \$250 to the ping pong park and Councilman Troy Purnell has donated \$750 through GoFundMe.

To donate to the Berlin skate park, visit https://www.gofundme.com/f/2a8hn-podlc?member=8777888&sharetype=teams&utm_campaign=p_na+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer.

Weeg has donated \$250 and Councilman Jay Knerr has donated \$500 toward the skate park through GoFundMe.

The Berlin Police Department is expected to contribute \$1,000 as well.

Donations can also be made to We Heart Berlin. See PROJECT Page 7



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Project proposed for William Street

Continued from Page Heart Berlin Inc. at Taylor Bank located at 24 N. Main St. in Berlin.

“We’re not looking at this as a rush. This is sort of a long game, and we’re just in the first inning,” Weeg said. “Donate if you can.”

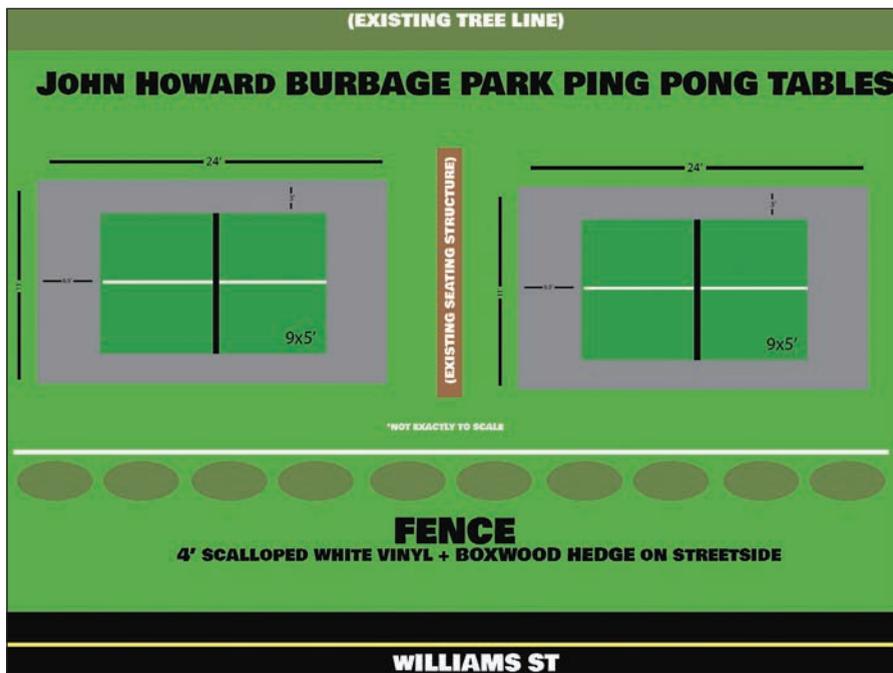
For more information about the non-profit, visit www.facebook.com/groups/weheartberlin.

During Weeg’s presentation about the ping pong park to the Berlin Parks Commission on Tuesday, he proposed permeable concrete pads and ping pong tables made locally from aluminum or steel surrounded by a white picket fence and hedges.

“I’m on the precipice of filing for non-profit status with the IRS,” Weeg added. “Once we have our nonprofit status, we’ll be able to sort of increase the level of donorship that we’ll get because [donors will] be able to use that money for write-offs.”

Responding to Town Administrator Jeff Fleetwood about maintenance of the ping pong park, Weeg said he hopes the project will be low maintenance, primarily requiring grass cutting.

Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen suggested the next step for the project would be to check for utilities underground at John Howard Burbage Park because of its proximity to the



PROPOSAL COURTESY TONY WEEG

We Love Berlin Inc., a Maryland-based nonprofit, has established GoFundMe accounts to raise funds for town projects, such as the outdoor ping pong park at John Howard Burbage Park on William Street in front of the power plant.

power plant. Then, the ping pong park proposal would be presented to the Berlin mayor and Town Council.

“We would also need at some point to have a professional engineer come in and examine it and make sure the ground can take it,” Bohlen said.

Furthermore, a memorandum of un-

derstanding would need to be established.

Bohlen also told Weeg that Mayor Zackery Tyndall plans to communicate with Jack Burbage, the late John Howard Burbage’s son, about their feelings regarding the ping pong park proposal.

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OP Board votes down sharing B-08 reports

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) Despite talk of transparency, the Ocean Pines Board opted this week not to release two recent B-08 ethics complaints against sitting directors.

Board member Frank Daly withdrew an earlier motion to publish related investigative reports during a special board meeting on Monday.

The board voted unanimously to enter closed session to receive advice from OPA attorney Jeremy Tucker, who later committed to preparing a report for private review by the directors.

OPA President Larry Perrone said board members would analyze the forthcoming report from Tucker and suggest any relevant changes.



Colette Horn

“The board has committed to use whatever tools or tactics are available [to] work in a more cohesive and effective manner,” he said.

Perrone also noted Director Doug Parks agreed to abandon an earlier motion to remove the board president.

Parks admitted the decision to rescind the motion was troubling.

“I’ve been giving it much thought for quite a while now,” he said. “We’ve had several conversations about how did we get to this place [and] what can we do going forward.”

Parks said fellow board members committed to acknowledge that a problem exists within the current



Larry Perrone

leadership roles.

“It will be a challenge ... for the next several months in order to address this issue,” he said. “I’ve made that commitment to my fellow directors ... if we can’t make any headway, we’ll make decisions going forward.”

Parks said based on prior experience, the present tensions are not insurmountable.

“I was president for three years, and quite frankly, on one of the worst boards that we’ve ever had at the very beginning and we got out of it,” he said. “I had a lot of help and I believe we can get out of it again.”

Director Dr. Colette Horn ex-



Doug Parks

pressed pride with the manner the board has conducted itself.

“In the past, boards have addressed their problems by waiting for them to solve themselves through director attrition,” she said. “We have also over the years addressed these problems by attempts to remove officers [or] directors.”

Horn said neither approach yielded lasting improvements.

“I would also ask the public to allow us the time and space that we need to do this work,” she said. “This is going to be a difficult process for us and it’s going to take a lot of courage and honesty on our parts.”

OP residents lead Worcester Bike Coalition

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) Ocean Pines resident and bicycle enthusiast Patti Stevens is uniting area partners to improve safety and accessibility for two-wheeled peddlers or two-footed pedestrians throughout Worcester County.

Last spring, Stevens teamed with longtime area bicycle advocate, and Pines neighbor, Tres Denk to establish the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition.

The group was sparked in February 2020 when Denk, who also serves as president of the Eastern Shore International Mountain Bike Association, traveled to Annapolis for Bike Lobby Day.

During the state house trip Denk spoke to Sen. Mary Beth Carozza about enhancing resources for bikers and hikers on the Eastern Shore.

Stevens said Carozza suggested contacting Worcester County Recreation and Parks Director Tom Perlozzo.

By April, Stevens, who also serves

as the Maryland Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Coalition’s Eastern Shore representative, joined Denk and other ESIMBA members to explore partnering with Perlozzo.

“We wanted to connect the different groups that are working on trails and pedestrian safety across the county,” she said.

After Worcester Recreation and Parks agreed to co-sponsor the organization, next steps involved soliciting participation from an array of county entities including the Worcester County Health Department, Worcester County Economic Development, the Lower Shore Land Trust and area municipalities Berlin, Ocean City, Snow Hill and Pocomoke.

Additional partners include Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks, the Greater Ocean City, Maryland Chamber of Commerce and West OC Pedal and Pedestrian.

“We did a survey to those participants who had been identified,” she said.

The responses were uniformly in favor of teaming up, with an outline



PHOTO COURTESY PATTI STEVENS

Taking part in an Ocean Pines holiday bike ride, from left, Tres, Marty and Kathy Denk, Barb Dunn, Pat Trate and Patti Stevens pause for a picture outside the Yacht Club.

of collaborative projects quickly assembled.

The inaugural meeting of the Worcester Bike and Pedestrian Coal-

ition was held last June, with total membership growing to 20 after half a dozen subsequent meetings.

See UNIFYING Page 9

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Unifying county projects to facilitate state trail funding

Continued from Page 8

Stevens said addressing inequities for access to bike trails and sidewalks in area neighborhoods, including parts of Ocean Pines and downtown Berlin, is a primary driver for the coalition.

“That’s a significant part ... to create, improve and expand safe places for people to bike and walk,” she said.

The intent is to assure safe pathways are available both within neighborhoods and communities and between common points of destination.

“Within Ocean Pines there are a lot of places you can ride or walk but if you wanted to go to the grocery store ... or even the library from the North Gate ... it’s difficult to do safely,” she said.

Stevens said other areas in Maryland and elsewhere have accomplished these goals by developing a complete streets plan.

While, in many instances, protecting younger bicyclists was a primary objective, the benefits also extend to older residents forced to abandon driving for alternative travel means, such as scooters or electric wheel chairs.

“When you create places that are safe for kids to walk and ride [as] AARP says, ‘If it’s safe for an 8-year-old, it’s safe for an 80-year-old,’” she said.

Stevens said online tracking data indicates the number of people biking and hiking for health and recreation across Worcester increased significantly during 2020.

“I think it’s a trend that’s happening across the country because people are not able to go to gyms and other indoor fitness activities,” she said.

Stevens said numerous bicycle shops in the area also attested to experiencing a spike in sales and rentals last year.

“It’s been an across the board trend,” she said.

In December, the coalition established priorities for this year, which in addition to developing new trail projects in Berlin, Snow Hill and the Pocomoke State Forest, includes raising awareness of the increased number of people walking and biking.

“We thought a good way to do that would be to have some community rides,” she said.

Several events are currently in production to coincide with National Bike Month in May. The League of American Bicyclists first launched the annual celebration in 1958.

Stevens said the group road rides

would average from 10-15 miles.

“We would work with law enforcement to identify potentially risky intersections to have increased visibility,” she said.

Stevens said details are being finalized for a community bike ride in Ocean Pines on May 1, with comparable plans underway in Snow Hill and Pocomoke that month.

“Just to get people out and riding together to show them, perhaps, some trails and routes they haven’t been on,” she said.

Stevens said as more details become available information will be posted on the coalition’s Facebook page, with all events open to confident riders ages 12 and above.

Plans are also afoot between Worcester Recreation and Parks and ESIMBA members for a bike safety-training course at John W. Smith Park in Snow Hill on May 15.

“Teaching kids the basics of how to ride safely and how to check their bikes [to confirm] brakes and tires are in good shape,” she said.

Stevens said participants could register for the safety course by contacting Derek Jarmon with Worcester Recreation and Parks at 410-632-2144 x2509 or emailing djarmon@marylandscoast.org.

The coalition is also a community partner with the Maryland Coast Ride, based in Ocean City set for May 8.

Looking forward, positioning Worcester County to access greater state funding and other grant opportunities for biking and hiking accessibility projects is the long game for the Worcester Bike and Pedestrian Coalition.

Stevens said the Maryland Department of Transportation’s 2019 Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan highlighted the general lack of strategic planning at the county level for upgrading walking and biking routes on the Eastern Shore.

“They looked to fund and finance projects that were not isolated and that showed connectivity with a larger biking and walking network,” she said.

Stevens said the overarching goal is establishing a master plan in Worcester that prioritizes trail and sidewalk connections as other Lower Shore counties have previously accomplished.

“We don’t have that in place now,” she said. “In some cases they’ve actually imbedded it into their comprehensive plan that’s a requirement for developers and county projects.”

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Virtual props workshop about film

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) As part of the fifth annual Ocean City Film Festival, prop masters on Disney's 2002 romantic fantasy and coming-of-age film, "Tuck Everlasting," will live stream a free workshop about their Berlin experiences and their work in the film industry in and around Baltimore for more than 30 years.

Steve and Lorrie Walker, of Lewes, Delaware, will host the workshop called "Props: The Little Things That Make a Movie Work" next Tuesday from 4-5 p.m.

Beginning in the early 1980s, the Walkers designed, constructed and dressed sets for hundreds of television commercials and small films. In the 1990s, they moved on to work predominantly as property masters on feature films and television series including "Homicide," the D.C. location filming of "The West Wing" and movies by John Waters, Barry Levinson and Bruce Beresford. Four of the movies — "Clara's Heart," "Silent Fall," "Swimmers" and

"Tuck Everlasting" — were shot mainly on the Eastern Shore.

Steve Walker was also an extra in "Tuck Everlasting," portraying the card dealer.

"Tuck Everlasting," which stars Alexis Bledel, Sissy Spacek, Ben Kingsley and William Hurt, takes place in the fictional village of "Treegap." For the movie, downtown Berlin was transformed back to the turn of the 20th Century, complete with dirt roads, horses and carriages.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of filming the movie in Berlin, said Ivy Wells, the town's economic and community development director.

Wells said the movie plays repeatedly at the Berlin Welcome Center on South Main Street along with "Runaway Bride."

In addition, the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum, 208 N. Main St. in Berlin, features pictures from filming, the movie poster and Assistant Director John Rusk's jacket from "Tuck Everlasting" alongside the "Runaway Bride" exhibit in the Harrison Room.

The museum is closed for the season, but virtual tours are available on Facebook and YouTube. With the plan to reopen the museum in mid-May, the operating hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

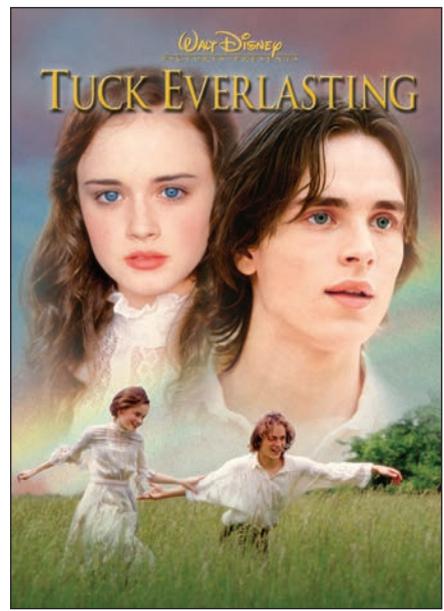
For more information, visit www.taylorhousemuseum.org or call 410-641-1019.

According to board member Donna Main, the Berlin Heritage Foundation is planning a weekend celebration of the movies filmed in Berlin at the museum scheduled for June 11-13.

A ticketed event open to the public and free for museum members will be held on Friday, June 11, followed by a showing of "Tuck Everlasting" on Saturday, June 12, and "Runaway Bride" on Sunday, June 13. More details will be confirmed shortly.

The Ocean City Film Festival will stream props workshop and live question-and-answer sessions at no charge to the public from this Thursday to next Thursday.

To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to watch.eventive.org/ocmdfilmfestival2021/live.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Steve and Lorrie Walker, prop masters from Disney's "Tuck Everlasting," will live stream a free workshop about their experiences of filming in Berlin in 2001 as part of the fifth annual Ocean City Film Festival.

Festival tickets and passes can be purchased online at OCMDFilmFestival.com or by calling 410-524-9433. Tickets start at \$10 per feature film or film block. Multi-film passes are also available: six features and/or film blocks costs \$49; 13 features and/or film blocks cost \$99. All-access passes cost \$149.

Proposed school budget approved by board

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) The Worcester County Board of Education unanimously approved the school system's Fiscal Year 2022 proposed operating budget of \$118.13 million during the board meeting on Feb. 16.

The FY22 budget process began last September, as principals were asked to submit a list of budget priorities for their schools, and a budget meeting seeking public comment was held on Dec. 1, when parent representatives from each school presented their priorities for the coming year. The financial package was reviewed again during a public work session on Feb. 2.

The new budget contains \$2 million

more than the current \$116 million package, said Vince Tolbert, the school system's chief financial officer. Of that total, 82 percent or \$95 million, comes from county appropriations.

Those same percentages would apply to the new budget, Tolbert said, with 82.14 percent, or \$97 million, expected from the county.

State aid for next fiscal year's operating budget totals \$20.3 million including a nearly \$168,000 increase. Other revenue sources will provide \$792,463.

The overall FY22 budget revenue increase is \$1.95 million.

Most of the rise in the total amount is because of \$1.8 million in salary increases proposed for the next fiscal year.

Another expenditure increase is

\$225,000 for the second year of a technology upgrade/refresh.

"On Feb. 2 at our work session, it looked like we were going to have to ask for about \$315,000 more to maintain those all-day programs at Pocomoke and Showell elementary schools. Over the past couple of weeks, we found out we're going to be able to bring forward some grant funding from the current year that's left over and also get some additional grant funding," Tolbert said.

Current projections for health insurance indicate no increase, but the actual rates will be finalized in May.

The one-time capital requests for FY22 include \$139,800 to replace the fire alarm system at Pocomoke Middle School and \$156,000 to replace the fire alarm system

at Snow Hill Middle School.

The FY 22 operating budget also includes a request for a restricted local grant of \$50,000 to maintain funding for Pocomoke Middle School After-School Grant Program.

For the past several years, the county has supported this program, Tolbert said.

"It's been very successful for the kids down in Pocomoke. It's an athletics-based program. The kids and the parents love it and want that program to be continued," he added.

The proposed FY22 total budget summary by category and object of expenditure showed \$1.81 million for administration, \$8 million for instructional support services, \$47.14 million for in-

See BUDGET Page 11

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Boxcar on Main supports WYFCS

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) For every purchase of the WoYo Brisket Grilled Cheese at Boxcar on Main, \$1 is donated to Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services.

The WoYo Brisket Grilled Cheese includes six-hour hickory-smoked brisket, bacon jam and sharp cheddar on sourdough bread from Berlin's own Crack of Dawn Bakery, 10452 Old Ocean City Boulevard.

"[Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services] is such an important team in our community," said Paul Suplee, chef and owner of Boxcar on Main. "They help children and families who are dealing with any sort of crises or struggles, and that is very important and dear to my heart."

In its first month, the restaurant was able to donate \$403 to the nonprofit organization.

Suplee plans to continue the partnership with Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services as long as the



PHOTO COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY YOUTH AND FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES
Dr. Jennifer Leggour, executive director of Worcester County Youth and Family Counseling Services, accepts a donation of \$403 from Boxcar on Main chef-owner Paul Suplee, center, and manager Jason Wade.

restaurant exists.

Since 1975, Worcester Youth and Family Counseling Services has provided mental health counseling, youth and adolescent enrichment programs, advocacy for abused and neglected chil-

dren and empowerment programs for those less fortunate.

"We are going to donate to Berlin Little League and already donate to the Women's Club of Ocean Pines scholarship fund," Suplee added.

Listening session about Heron Park

(March 4, 2021) The Berlin mayor and council are asking the public what it thinks of possibly selling two piece of property located in the Heron Park tract.

To do that, the town has scheduled a public listening session for March 15, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom and streamed live using the Town of Berlin's Facebook page.

During the March 15 meeting, the mayor and council will accept presen-

tations and comments from the public regarding the park and the potential sale of parcels 410 and 57.

Individuals who want to provide a formal presentation to the mayor and council during the meeting must comply with the following deadlines:

- Request to be placed on the public listening session agenda by Friday, March 5, at 4:30 p.m. by sending an email to info@berlinmd.gov
- Submit all presentation materials

to info@berlinmd.gov in .pdf, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, or .pptx (PowerPoint) format by Monday, March 8, at 4:30 p.m.

• Presentations will appear on the agenda in the order in which they are received

Public comment will only be taken via Zoom after all presentations have concluded. Advanced registration is not needed to provide a comment. For more information, visit the Town of Berlin website at www.berlinmd.gov.

Budget review with county planned

Continued from Page 10

structional salaries and wages, \$2.73 million for textbooks and instructional supplies and materials, \$966,000 for other instructional costs, \$11.53 million for special education, \$374,000 for student personal services, \$1 million for student health services, \$7 million for student transportation services, \$8.55

million for the operation of the plant, \$1.13 million for the maintenance of the plant, \$26.43 million in fixed charges and \$126,200 in capital planning.

With other requests totaling \$1.26 million, including \$200,000 for the technology program, \$100,000 for capital outlay, \$295,800 for school construction and \$660,250 for retirement

expenses, the proposed FY22 operating budget comes to \$118.13 million.

The next step for the budget process is a budget review with the county on March 23, followed by a county budget hearing on May 4. The county is expected to adopt the FY22 budget on June 1 and the board of education will approve the FY22 operating budget on June 15.



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WCPS calendar for 2021-22 features early summer break

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) Public school students will start their summer break a little earlier next year, following the Worcester County Board of Education's approval on Feb. 16 of a 2021-22 academic calendar proposal with a summer break that will begin on June 14.

The calendar shows a fall start date on Sept. 7, 2021, after Labor Day weekend. Students will have more than a week off for winter break, which will begin with a half-day on Dec. 22. Additionally, spring break will begin with a half-day on April 13.

Carrie Sterrs, the coordinator of public relations and special programs for the county school system, said the typical calendar work committee was not able to convene because of covid-19, but members' opinions about two calendar proposals was sought through a survey.

Two calendar proposals were drafted in November. The first proposal had an early summer release, while the second proposal featured more frequent and longer breaks, resulting in the extended summer break starting on June 21.

The proposals differ in length for vacation or breaks, marking periods and professional days, but both contain three inclement weather days built into the end of the year. Beyond those three inclement weather days, the 14 public schools will switch to distance learning rather than close.

The proposals were presented to the executive leadership of the county schools in November. The proposals were presented to the board of education in December 2020. Then, a survey was conducted for feedback from the school community from Jan. 11 to Jan. 29.

"It was conducted entirely online and publicized using our website, social media tools and our school messenger notifications," Sterrs said.

She added that the survey received

1,209 responses, which is nearly double the participation from the previous year's survey. Respondents identified themselves as parents, employees, students, bus contractors or community members.

More than 50 percent of respondents were parents and 37 percent were employees.

Stephen Decatur High School had the highest level of participation with 15.80 percent of votes originating from the school's region, followed by Stephen Decatur Middle School with about 10 percent of respondents.

Sterrs noted that the north end schools have greater populations than others in the county, which resulted in higher participation results.

The majority of parents favored the first option, which was an early release calendar. Similarly, 58 percent of the employee respondents preferred the first option.

Respondents identifying themselves as students, bus contractors or community members also overwhelmingly favored the first calendar proposal.

Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor recommended the adoption of the early release calendar proposal and the school board agreed unanimously.

2021 - 2022 SCHOOL SYSTEM CALENDAR
SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED CALENDAR

Worcester County Public Schools

AUGUST
16-26 New Teacher Orientation
30-31 Teacher Preparation & In-Service Activities

SEPTEMBER
1-2 Teacher Preparation & In-Service Activities
6 Closed: Labor Day
7 First Day of School

OCTOBER
14 Early Dismissal for Students: Professional Development
15 Closed: MSEA Convention

NOVEMBER
4 Early Dismissal for Students: Professional Development; End of First Marking Period (42 Days)
5 Closed for Students: Professional Day
24-26 Closed: Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER
22 Early Dismissal for Students
23-31 Closed: Winter Break

JANUARY
14 Early Dismissal for Students: Professional Development
17 Closed: MLK Day
26-27 Early Dismissal for Students, High School exams
27 End of Second Marking Period (48 Days)
28 Closed for Students: Professional Day

FEBRUARY
18 Early Dismissal for Students: Professional Development
21 Closed: Presidents' Day

MARCH
31 End of Third Marking Period (43 Days)

APRIL
1 Closed for Students: Professional Day
4 Closed for Students: Countywide PD Day
13 Early Dismissal for Students
14-18 Closed: Spring Break

MAY
30 Closed: Memorial Day

JUNE
13-14 Early Dismissal for Students, High School exams
15 End of Fourth Marking Period (47 Days); Two-week Last Day of School

CALENDAR LEGEND
Yellow - New Teacher Orientation
Red - Schools/Offices Closed
Blue - Early Dismissal for Students
Green - Schools Closed for Students
Orange - Inclement Weather Make-Up Days (if needed)
- End of a Marking Period

NOTES
Worcester County Public Schools has identified three (3) inclement weather days in this calendar. Beyond those three days, the school system will not close for inclement weather, but will transition to distance learning.

CALENDAR COURTESY WORCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
The Worcester County Board of Education voted on Feb. 16 in favor of a 2021-22 academic calendar proposal that begins the year on Sept. 7 and has an early summer release on June 14.

Early intervention services offered

By Ally Lanasa
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) Worcester County Public Schools officials believe in starting early to finish strong.

In accordance with federal and state laws, the county school system provides free intervention services through the Worcester County Infants and Toddlers Program for children up to three years old who have developmental delays or disabilities.

State regulations set a target that begins at birth for some children, said

Rae Record, special education supervisor for Worcester County Public Schools.

"When I first took over this position, we weren't finding those babies, so the early childhood implementation team worked very hard to increase our numbers," Record told the Board of Education on Feb. 16.

Kim McArdle, Infants and Toddlers Service Coordinator for the county school system, is responsible for doing the intake of a child referral and connecting the program providers

with families.

Referrals come from pediatricians, parents, childcare providers and anyone in the community with a concern about a child's educational welfare. The program now offers an online referral process.

"We serve children in the community birth to three years old that have either a 25 percent delay in any area of developmental or a medical issue that may cause a higher probability of delay," McArdle said.

See WCPS Page 13

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WCPS helps children with needs

Continued from Page 12

Since February 2020, 103 children were referred to the program and a total of 106 children were served throughout the year.

McArdle added that children are kept in their natural environments, such as in homes, childcare centers, daycare homes and Head Start, for the program.

“Research has shown that this is where a child learns best, using their own toys, their own routines,” she said.

The Infants and Toddlers Program employs a team, coaching, a primary service provider and learning assessment models.

“Every Thursday, we have a team meeting from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., where we assess all the new referrals and intakes,” McArdle said. The team then determines who would be the most appropriate evaluators of the child.

The team includes infant and toddler facilitator Bess Cropper, speech therapist Grace Scarfi, speech therapist Chris Wall, occupational therapist Jennifer Lewandowski, physical therapist Melissa LaCour, special educator Gina Russell, early childhood behavior coach Anna Simulis, teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing Lisa Taylor Franklin, teacher of the visually impaired Margo Ayers and family support services Jessica Tawes.

The program is set up so one primary provider serves a family, but works with a team to address all areas of the child’s developmental delay.

Team members said families prefer this model because they have one

point of contact who knows the child’s history.

When a child is deemed eligible for the program, a team member assesses the child’s skills, knowledge and behavior in normal setting. The provider talks with the family throughout the day about routines, and the family then determines where the provider can help.

As for the coaching model, providers brainstorm with the family to solve problems and support development of the child.

According to the presentation, 68 percent of Maryland students in third grade who received early intervention no longer need special education services. Additionally, 98 percent of Maryland families report that early intervention services allowed them to help their children develop and learn.

School Superintendent Lou Taylor commended Record and the Infants and Toddlers Team members for their services.

“I firmly believe, and I know the board does as well, that getting an early intervention is so important to the success of young people, and your team does an outstanding job. I hear a lot of positive comments in the community about that early intervention program that we have here,” he said.



Rae Record



Kim McArdle

TOWN OF BERLIN, MARYLAND NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Town of Berlin of Maryland proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2021, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 3%, from \$463,872,510 to \$476,571,675.

2. If the Town of Berlin maintains the current tax rate of \$0.80 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 3% resulting in \$101,593 of new real property tax revenues.

3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.7787, the constant yield tax rate.

4. The Town of Berlin is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The Town of Berlin proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.80 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 3% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$101,593 in additional property tax revenues.

Proposed real property tax rate will be introduced at 7 pm on March 8th at Town of Berlin via Zoom.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7 pm on March 22nd at Town of Berlin via Zoom.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 410-641-2770 for further information.

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Baker has rare disease surgery at Hopkins

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(March 4, 2021) After a lingering medical condition was finally diagnosed correctly as a rare internal tumor, Ocean Pines resident Dave Baker is headed to Baltimore for surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital on Friday.

Baker said the diagnosis came in mid-January when doctors at Atlantic General Hospital located an internal mass later identified as pheochromocytoma.

"That's a tumor that comes from the adrenal gland," he said. "It's very rare and approximately two out of one million people have it."

The investigative process took five days with medical professionals initially struggling to find answers from among the typical list of ailments.

"When I was in the hospital, I was fainting," he said. "They just couldn't figure out what was going on."

Eventually a CAT scan was run to obtain an internal overview.

"They saw the mass but then had to figure out what that mass was," he said.

Pheochromocytoma patients are at risk of excessive hormones being released from flair-ups.

"My blood pressure will go up and then it will go down," he said. "If I bend over too much, it will kick it up and it will start releasing too many hormones in my system."

Blood sugar spikes are also common with the condition.

"It sits on top of the kidney and mine's the size of a softball," he said. "It's actually pushing my kidney down [and] it needs to come out."

Following the unanticipated diagnosis, Baker faces a greater challenge during surgery.

"It's a dangerous surgery but that's why I'm going to Hopkins because they have people there that have done it before," he said.

On average, Hopkins surgeons perform one or two pheochromocytoma surgeries annually, Baker said.

"The good thing is if they can get this out and surgery goes well, I should be done," he said.

Baker said the positive outlook is tied in no small part to the tumor being identified as non-malignant to this point.



PHOTO COURTESY ROBYN BAKER

Ocean Pines residents Dave and Robyn Baker are heading to Johns Hopkins Hospital on Friday for surgery to remove a softball-sized mass later identified as pheochromocytoma situated just above his kidney.

"They don't think it's cancerous — and most of the cytomas are — so once it's out, things come back to normal," he said.

The medical emergency also made Baker aware of Rare Disease Day, which is held on the last day in February to increase knowledge of more than 7,000 conditions that are known to affect fewer than 200,000 people each.

Overall, however, the number of people affected by one of these 7,000 rare diseases is in the millions.

"It's awareness not just for people but providers and ... to make people aware there are support groups," he said. "I found out about it because there are support groups for pheochromocytoma."

Rare Disease Day originated in Europe in 2008 and went global the following year. The initial event took place on Feb. 29, with Feb. 28 marked in non-leap years.

The annual campaign seeks to raise public consciousness about a host of rare diseases, with treatment options yet to be developed in many instances.

Baker stressed the importance of being properly diagnosed to pursue potential treatments for uncommon maladies.

"They think I've had this now for a couple years and it's just gotten worse," he said. "Nobody's been able to diagnose it until I was in the hospital the last time."

Baker's wife, Robyn, who will accompany him during the stay over in Baltimore has set up a gofundme page to cover travel expenses and unanticipated costs.

On Monday more than \$400 towards an overall goal of \$6,000 had been donated online.

To learn more, visit [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) and search for Dave Baker, or go to www.gofundme.com/f/2afe9cc8lc?qid=957da46b4efb16b7dd58c19c6932a85

OBITUARIES

ROBERT F. GRADY

Ocean Pines

Robert F. Grady, 87, of Ocean Pines, died peacefully at home surrounded by family.



Robert Grady

Born on Sept. 25, 1933, he was the son of the late Joseph Grady and Mary Ryan Sexton.

Mr. Grady was a veteran of the National Guard, serving from 1948-1956. He was a member of Wessagussett Yacht Club for 19 years, and appointed commodore in 1988.

He retired from Local 33 in Boston, Massachusetts, and relocated to Ocean Pines with his wife, the late Harriet Grady, in 1994.

He enjoyed boating and fishing and was a member of the Anglers Club of Ocean Pines.

Robert is survived by his five children; Robert (Janine) Grady of Rochester, Vermont, Michael (Nancy) Grady of Duxbury, Massachusetts, Maureen Stage of Weymouth, Massachusetts, Susan (Michael) Ballard of St. Augustine, Florida, and Kathy (Jim) Fowler of Ocean Pines; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

All services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, Maryland 21802.

Arrangements are in the care of Eastern Shore Cremation & Funeral Service, 504 Franklin Avenue, Berlin, Maryland 21811. To send condolences to the family, please visit www.easternshorecremation.com.

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Opinion

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

OP has a problem, but don't worry about it

After acknowledging that it has a problem, the Ocean Pines Board of Directors this week went on to lose whatever marbles it has left by committing publicly to work privately on a concern it won't reveal, and thinking that's just fine.

One must assume that the board's decision to plow on through this unidentified trouble is for the good of ... well, that would be hard to ascertain, since it's a secret.

All that's known on the record is that whatever ails the board is serious enough to produce a call for the removal of the board president, followed by a special meeting that led to the withdrawal of that motion.

And it's all because of ... well, that too would be hard to ascertain, since no one's talking, possibly on the advice of counsel.

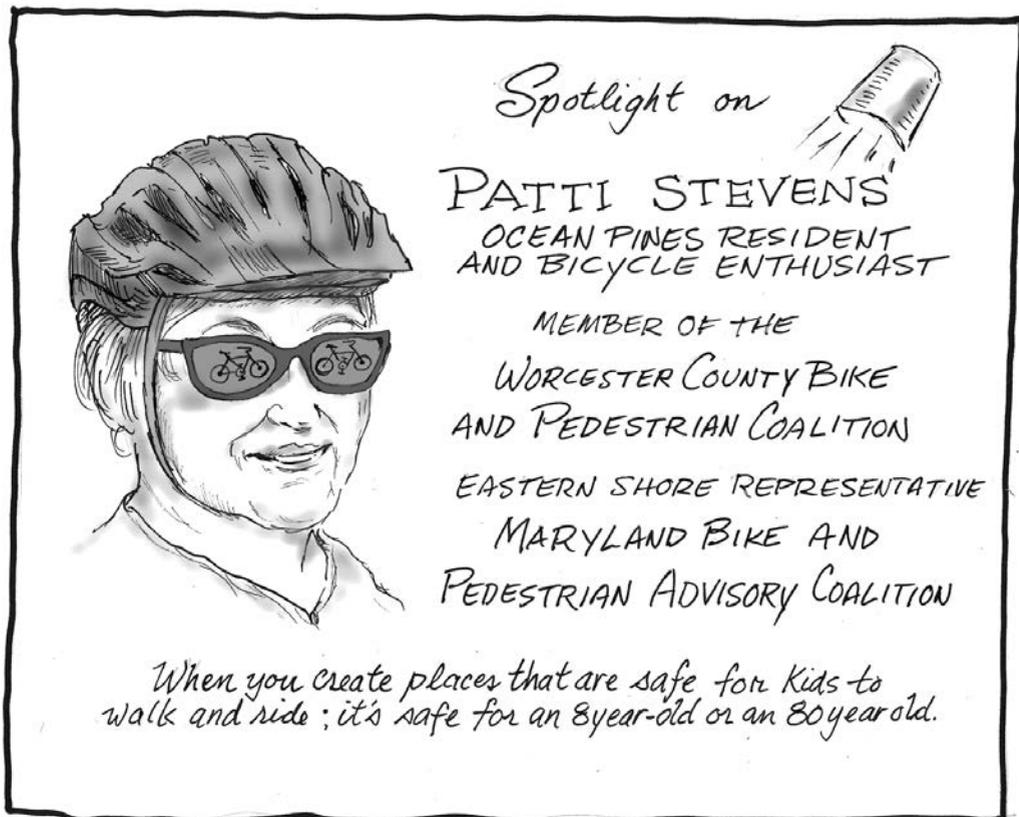
Ocean Pines voters, however, are being assured that the directors will work on their mystery illness with courage and honesty, because, well, because they said so, not that it's anyone's business.

This "trust us and leave us alone while we sort out our issues" wouldn't be so condescending if the trouble was a matter of personality clashes among the directors. But everyone who's been paying attention knows it's much more than that just by virtue of the public declaration of the situation's existence.

And that begs the question: why should the public give the board anything, much less the time and space to do its work, as if it is somehow unrelated to the association's interests?

Besides, many Ocean Pines residents already know that the board's current disagreement stems from allegations of unfair treatment of former top-level staffer Colby Phillips by the board leadership, and that these accusations were deemed sufficiently serious by two directors that they called for the ouster of association President Larry Perrone, but then rescinded their motions Monday.

But never mind all that, the board is saying. Leave us alone and we'll get it all sorted out. And when we do, you'll never know that either.



Letters

Women's History Month reflection

Editor,

At the beginning of Women's History Month it is important for us to reflect on those intrepid women who stood, and stand, for equity and equality.

This is particularly important in view of the most recent Ocean Pines Board of Directors nonsense reported in the *Bayside Gazette* last week.

It is unconscionable that any person, female or male, with appropriate experience and or qualifications should be denied a position based

on not having an earned college degree; unless specialized training, credentials, or licensure is required.

As the board of directors constantly reminds us, academic degrees do not equate to competence. Consider Oprah Winfrey, Ellen DeGeneres, Jessica Alba, Rachel Ray, and yes, Colby Phillips, who enjoy stellar success without earned degrees.

Perhaps it is time to consider hiring a professional HOA management company and weed out the egos. Professional management companies can provide better governance and legal com-

pliance, fairness and equity in handling disputes, efficient financial management, as well as other value.

The greatest benefit will be in not having to deal with the toxicity and apparent self-interest that has been endemic in Board activity in recent years.

Working "in the public interest" is a thankless job paid or unpaid. While I don't always agree with board methods, behavior, or results, I sincerely do thank the Ocean Pines Board, General Manager, staff and employees for their work on our behalf.

*Ellen Willingham
Ocean Pines*

'In Memory' program for Vietnam vets

(March 4, 2021) Area residents with friends or relatives whose lives were cut short after returning home from service during the Vietnam War now have an opportunity to honor their loved ones.

Applications are being accepted for the "In Memory" program offered through the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, and in conjunction

with the "Wall That Heals" exhibit coming to Ocean Pines this April.

"In Memory" honors Vietnam veterans who returned home and later died as a result of their service, but whose deaths do not fit the Department of Defense parameters for inclusion on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

All who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the

Vietnam War may be honored, and there is no charge for this service.

Applications may include a typed biography of no more than 300 words, to be used for the virtual "In Memory" honor roll.

Local applications submitted by March 5 will be displayed on the "Wall That Heals" exhibit in Ocean
See WALL Page 16

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Worcester tax, utilities telephone scam alert

(March 4, 2021) Following a recent report of scam attempts, Worcester County government officials warn the public not to speak with any caller pretending to be from the county and demanding information about or payment on a county water, sewer or tax bill.

The county government does not make calls of that nature, said Public Works Deputy Director John Ross, who oversees water and wastewater operations. "We do not maintain a list of users' phone numbers, and we

would never call a customer to discuss turning on or off their water. Like all other utilities, it's just not something we would do over the phone."

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that individuals who receive calls from anyone claiming to be from a utility company take the following steps:

- Thank the caller for the information. Then firmly tell them you will contact the utility company directly using the number on your bill

or on the company's website.

- Even if the caller insists you have a past due bill or your services will be shut off, never give banking information over the phone unless you place the call to a number you know is legitimate.

- Utility companies don't demand banking information by email or phone. And they won't force you to pay by phone as your only option.

- If the caller demands payment by gift card, cash reload card, wiring money or cryptocurrency, it is a

scam. Legitimate companies don't demand payment by gift cards (like iTunes or Amazon), cash reload cards (like MoneyPak, Vanilla, or Reloadit), or cryptocurrency (like Bitcoin).

- Tell your friends and loved ones about the scam, so they can protect themselves too.

Be sure to report the fraudulent activity to the FTC or your local law enforcement agency.

Learn more about how to avoid a scam at www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-avoid-scam.

'Wall That Heals' program OP Women's Club scholarships

Continued from Page 15
Pines, and in each touring exhibit thereafter.

In addition, an "In Memory" ceremony is held once a year at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

During the ceremony, names are read aloud, by family members if present, and then later included with the submitted biography on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial website where family and friends may leave messages of remembrance.

"In Memory" applications are

available at the Ocean Pines Administration Building and Ocean Pines Golf Club, and at select local restaurants.

Applications may also be obtained by contacting Larry Perrone at 443-513-1407, or Marie Gilmore at 410-726-2881.

For more information on the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation or the "Wall That Heals" exhibit, visit www.opvets.org.

For information on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, visit www.vvmf.org.

(March 4, 2021) The Women's Club of Ocean Pines will be awarding scholarships in June to students who are full-time residents of Ocean Pines.

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

These awards may be used by the recipient to help defray post-high

school expenses at any approved degree, certificate-granting college or university, technical or vocational school.

The Women's Club of Ocean Pines Scholarship committee will consider the applicant's needs, goals, scholarship, citizenship, community service, extra-curricular activities and motivation. The club believes in non-discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin or

family status, in both principle and practice.

Applications for these scholarships may be found on the Naviance website, www.naviance.com. All applications must be returned to a senior counselor at Stephen Decatur High School by March 22.

Qualifying applicants who do not attend Stephen Decatur High School are asked to call 410-641-8046 for information and/or an application.



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Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday 10am-12pm	14401 Tunnel Ave. #202, Ocean City	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$208,900	Lauren A. Smith/Keller Williams
Saturday 1pm-3pm	21148 Arrington Dr. #20, Selbyville, DE	4BR/3.5BA	Townhome	\$389,000	Lauren A. Smith/Keller Williams
Saturday 11am-2pm	13110 Coastal Hwy., Braemar #301	3BR/2BA	Condo	\$563,000	Rob Bouse/Berkshire Hathaway PenFed



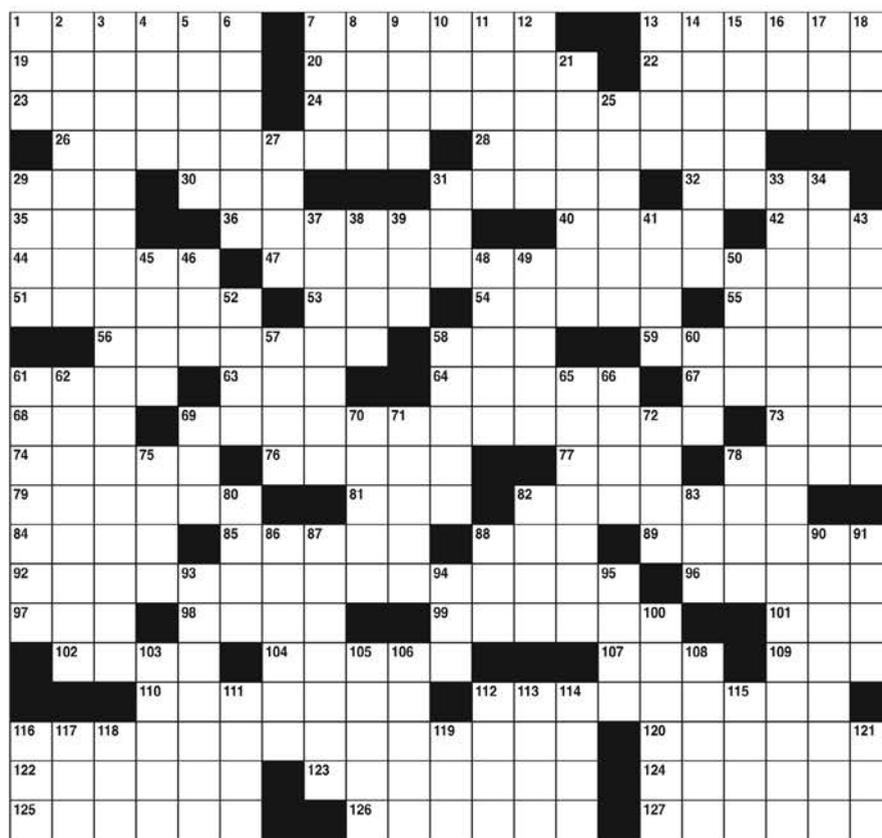
Puzzles

KARAOKE BARS

BY MATTHEW STOCK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Matthew Stock, 24, who is originally from Dallas, now lives in St. Louis, where he teaches ninth-grade algebra through an AmeriCorps-affiliated tutoring program. He started constructing puzzles several years ago after he attended a crossword tournament in Boston and "had a great time chatting with puzzlemakers throughout the afternoon." This is his third crossword (and first Sunday) for The Times. -W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Prayer, e.g.
 - 7 Market index, for short
 - 13 And so on and so forth
 - 19 Actor Ray of "Field of Dreams"
 - 20 Like a certain complex
 - 22 Relative of the mambo
 - 23 High winds
 - 24 Space bars? [Frank Sinatra]
 - 26 Healthful dessert options
 - 28 Overhauled, in a way
 - 29 "___ making a list ..."
 - 30 Offering in china ... or from China
 - 31 "Top Chef" chef ___ Hall
 - 32 Geographical name that comes from the Sioux for "sleepy ones"
 - 35 First prize at the Juegos Olímpicos
 - 36 Sink holes
 - 40 Biting
 - 42 Bird whose males incubate the eggs
 - 44 Mathematical proposition
 - 47 Wet bars? [Gene Kelly]
- DOWN**
- 51 Things many people lose as they grow older
 - 53 Big Five studio of Hollywood's Golden Age
 - 54 "Thus ..."
 - 55 St. Louis symbol
 - 56 Strongly endorse
 - 58 Hot place to chill
 - 59 ___ Adlon, Emmy winner for "King of the Hill"
 - 61 Papal name last taken in 1939
 - 63 Smallest state in India
 - 64 Options for outdoor wedding receptions
 - 67 Like some bread and cereal
 - 68 Director Lee
 - 69 Prison bars? [Elvis Presley]
 - 73 Bamboozled
 - 74 Weight right here!
 - 76 ___ Austin, Biden defense secretary
 - 77 Misidentify something, e.g.
 - 78 For the lady
 - 79 Center of a court
 - 81 They're often parked in parks
 - 82 Relevant
 - 84 Excited cry after scratching a lottery ticket
 - 85 Move a cursor (over)
 - 88 Pride : lions :: ___ : dolphins
 - 89 Hip
 - 92 Cash bars? [Abba]
 - 96 "Same here"
 - 97 "I mean ..."
 - 98 What goes right to the bottom?
 - 99 Got around
 - 101 "Hoo-boy!"
 - 102 Gist
 - 104 Last option in a list, maybe
 - 107 "That feels goo-oo-ood!"
 - 109 Practice
 - 110 Brainy?
 - 112 A+ earner
 - 116 Singles bars? [Robyn]
 - 120 First House speaker from California
 - 122 Not going anywhere
 - 123 Was snoopy
 - 124 Made square
 - 125 Japanese mat
 - 126 "We got permission!"
 - 127 Makes insulting jokes about
- ACROSS**
- 11 Where thrills provide thrills
 - 12 Something that's well-kept?
 - 13 Comeback
 - 14 It's turned, in a phrase
 - 15 It's a relief!
 - 16 Prefix with conscious
 - 17 Poetic shortening
 - 18 Food-pantry donation
 - 21 Broad valley
 - 25 Large expanses
 - 27 2006 film with the tagline "Keep it wheel"
 - 29 Hindu festival of colors
 - 31 Most-watched TV show of 2002-05
 - 33 Gold bars? [Queen]
 - 34 "Do you understand me?"
 - 37 Disappointing court result
 - 38 Black
 - 39 Habitat for Humanity is one, for short
 - 41 Sister restaurant of Applebee's
 - 43 Lets go of
 - 45 Gaping holes
 - 46 Weizenbock or Berliner Weisse
 - 48 Scruffs
 - 49 Ridiculous
 - 50 Seventh avatar of Vishnu
 - 52 It's a long story
 - 57 Muddy
 - 58 Beefcakes
 - 60 Thumbs-up



- 61 Solving crosswords, e.g.
- 62 Insect named for the way it moves, not for its length
- 65 Got hot on Twitter, say
- 66 Kind
- 69 ___ Psaki, Biden press secretary
- 70 Gymnastics apparatus
- 71 Oral equivalent of a facepalm
- 72 Native American tribe of Montana
- 75 Single
- 78 Box score column
- 80 Noted 1815 comedy of manners
- 82 Actress Chaplin
- 83 Flag carrier to Karachi and Islamabad
- 86 Traditional Chinese drink
- 87 Anointment
- 88 Perspective, in brief
- 90 "No more for me, thank you"
- 91 Minute
- 93 Element 39
- 94 Big bleu expanse
- 95 Alumni grouping
- 100 Stylish
- 103 World capital that's home to Kotoka International Airport
- 105 World capital that's home to Noi Bai International Airport
- 106 Horror film locale, in brief
- 108 Egg: Sp.
- 111 2016 No. 1 album for Rihanna
- 112 Pop
- 113 Really thin type
- 114 ___ Domini
- 115 "I beg of you," e.g.
- 116 Bit of Morse code
- 117 Actress de Armas
- 118 D.C. pro
- 119 "Of course!"
- 121 They're checked at check-ins

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HARD - 5

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

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



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., March 4

CPAP MASK FITTING

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

5TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The event will take place virtually and include free, live question-and-answer sessions with the filmmakers as well as a free, live workshop with prop masters of "Tuck Everlasting" on March 9, 4-5 p.m. To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to <https://watch.eventive.org/ocmdfilm-festival2021/live>. Festival tickets and passes are on sale now at OCMDFilm-Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

MERRY MAKERS-UPCYCLED GLASS PLANTERS

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Merry Maker's March craft will upcycle glass yogurt jars into mini planters. Kits include three jars, chalk paint, raffia, a few embellishments and some soil for participants to plant whatever they wish. Ten kits available by calling 410-208-4014. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

GOLDFINCHES & GREAT HORNS: A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION ON MARYLAND NATIVE BIRDS OF SPRING

Meeting via Zoom, 11:00 AM. The Salisbury Zoological Park Education Department will present Ambassador Raptors from their Education Collection and the Ward Museum will host a talk on songbirds and waterfowl, with a focus on avian species of the vernal variety. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

BOOK DISCUSSION: 'DIFFICULT WOMEN' BY ROXANE GAY

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

Fri., March 5

LEWES DELMARVA DOGFISH BIRDING WEEKEND

Featuring the seal and birdwatching boat cruises and strolls through some of the most pristine habitats on Delmarva. Birders will also enjoy a limited-edition beer release at Dogfish Head's Rehoboth brewpub, Brewing & Eats on March 6 at 11 a.m. The Dogfish INN will offer a special lodging package that includes a ticket to purchase a 4-pack of Binoculars, a slew of off-centered swag and a 10 per-

cent discount at the brewery's Rehoboth brewpub and its Milton-based Tasting Room & Kitchen. To book the package, type Delmarva Birding Weekend in the special requests section during online booking or call 302-644-8292. Field trips and events must be booked separately through <https://delmarvabirding.com/march-5-6-7-lewes-dogfish/>.

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The event will take place virtually and include free, live question-and-answer sessions with the filmmakers as well as a free, live workshop with prop masters of "Tuck Everlasting" on March 9, 4-5 p.m. To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to <https://watch.eventive.org/ocmdfilm-festival2021/live>. Festival tickets and passes are on sale now at OCMDFilm-Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

FIRST FRIDAY ART OPENING

The Art League of Ocean City will host a free virtual art opening where the artists and staff will share highlights from the new exhibits for March, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM. All are welcome. Zoom meeting ID: 849 5895 7918 and password: Friday. The event will also stream to Facebook Live and can be watched at www.facebook.com/artleagueofoceancity.

Sat., March 6

BIRD HOUSE WORKSHOP

Worcester County Recreation Center, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM. Participants in grades kindergarten through eighth will assemble, paint, and decorate a bird house. All materials will be provided. Cost is \$5. Info: Kelly Buchanan at 410-632-2144 x2503 or kbuchanan@marylandscoast.org.

DRIVE-THRU FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 36540 Mt. Pleasant Road, 11:00 AM. Menu includes four piece fried chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, apple sauce, roll and cupcake. Cost is \$14. Stay in your car and use the east driveway. 410-835-8340

LEWES DELMARVA DOGFISH BIRDING WEEKEND

Featuring the seal and birdwatching boat cruises and strolls through some of the most pristine habitats on Delmarva. Birders will also enjoy a limited-edition beer release at Dogfish Head's Rehoboth brewpub, Brewing & Eats on March 6 at 11 a.m. The Dogfish INN will offer a special lodging package that includes a ticket to purchase a 4-pack of Binoculars, a slew of off-centered swag and a 10 percent discount at the brewery's Rehoboth brewpub and its Milton-based Tasting Room & Kitchen. To book the package,

type Delmarva Birding Weekend in the special requests section during online booking or call 302-644-8292. Field trips and events must be booked separately through <https://delmarvabirding.com/march-5-6-7-lewes-dogfish/>.

5TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The event will take place virtually and include free, live question-and-answer sessions with the filmmakers as well as a free, live workshop with prop masters of "Tuck Everlasting" on March 9, 4-5 p.m. To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to <https://watch.eventive.org/ocmdfilm-festival2021/live>. Festival tickets and passes are on sale now at OCMDFilm-Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

'CREATIVE KIDS' FREE ART CLASS

Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St., 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Lindsey Winters, art teacher at Showell Elementary School, will lead children, ages 6 and older, in a fun art making session using a variety of mixed media. All materials provided. Masks required. Advance registration required: 410-524-9433 or www.ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org/Classes.

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., March 7

LEWES DELMARVA DOGFISH BIRDING WEEKEND

Featuring the seal and birdwatching boat cruises and strolls through some of the most pristine habitats on Delmarva. The Dogfish INN will offer a special lodging package that includes a ticket to purchase a 4-pack of Binoculars, a slew of off-centered swag and a 10 percent discount at the brewery's Rehoboth brewpub and its Milton-based Tasting Room & Kitchen. To book the package, type Delmarva Birding Weekend in the special requests section during online booking or call 302-644-8292. Field trips and events must be booked separately through <https://delmarvabirding.com/march-5-6-7-lewes-dogfish/>.

OCEAN CITY BEACH PATROL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY TESTING

Salisbury YMCA, 715 S. Schumaker Drive, 9:30 AM. The Beach Patrol will continue conducting pre-employment physical skills evaluations for the 2021 session. There are no pre-certification requirements and experience in ocean rescue is not necessary to apply. All training and certifications will be provided in a paid Surf Rescue Academy. Candidates are strongly encouraged to

pre-register by visiting www.ococean.com/ocbp. 410-289-7556

5TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

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Mon., March 8

5TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The event will take place virtually and include free, live question-and-answer sessions with the filmmakers as well as a free, live workshop with prop masters of "Tuck Everlasting" on March 9, 4-5 p.m. To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to <https://watch.eventive.org/ocmdfilm-festival2021/live>. Festival tickets and passes are on sale now at OCMDFilm-Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

INTERACTIVE STORY TIME 'LUCK, LAUGHTER AND LEPRECHAUNS'

Zoom in to laugh and listen to stories about mischievous leprechauns and lucky children, 10:30 AM. Also, preview this week's craft kit: Sticky Noodles. Ages 2-5 years. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

TRAVELING THROUGH BOOKS WITH KIKI AND FIFI

Takes place on Facebook, 2:00 PM. As Kiki and Fifi found themselves stuck in a time vortex, Episode 5 takes us through books to England, New York and Australia.

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., March 9

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Meeting via video call, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Group provides discussions and mutual support, as well as education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications and developments in treatment. Kay Kinnikin, kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org, 410-641-4765, <http://www.delmarvaparkinsonsal>

Calendar

Continued from Page 18
liance.org

HOW TO STRUCTURE A SPOKEN WORD POEM: PART 2

Meeting via Zoom, 6:30 PM. The participants will use the outlines structure from part 1 to create a spoken word poem. Participants will work on editing through peer position exchanges of each other's work. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

5TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The event will take place virtually and include free, live question-and-answer

sessions with the filmmakers as well as a free, live workshop with prop masters of "Tuck Everlasting" on March 9, 4-5 p.m. To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to <https://watch.eventive.org/ocmddfestival2021/live>. Festival tickets and passes are on sale now at OCMDFilm-Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

Wed., March 10

VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR FORESTRY PROGRAM

Tony DiPaolo, Maryland Licensed

Forester and Lower Shore Land Trust Board Director, will provide an overview of Maryland's forest industry, 4:00 PM. RSVP to Taylor Carty at tcarty@lower-shorelandtrust.org or by calling 443-234-5587.

5TH ANNUAL OCEAN CITY FILM FESTIVAL

The event will take place virtually and include free, live question-and-answer sessions with the filmmakers. To see a full schedule of workshops and to access them live, go to <https://watch.eventive.org/ocmddfestival2021/live>. Festival tickets and passes are on sale now at OCMDFilm-Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

Festival.com or by calling 410-524-9433.

COOKIE CUTTER BIRD FEEDERS

Takes place on Facebook, 3:30 PM. Learn how to make bird feeders using cookie cutters, gelatin and birdseed. For 4 years and older, with adult guidance. No registration required.

WOMEN IN MUSIC: FOLK, AMERICANA AND BLUES

Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 PM. A fun and informative live music program about the impact of women on music in America. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

JUNIOR RING CEREMONY

The annual Worchester Preparatory School Junior Ring Ceremony took place on Feb. 10, in the Athletic and Performing Arts Center. It is tradition that seniors present juniors with their rings along with a few meaningful comments as to why the recipient is special to them.



DONATIONS

Ocean City Jeep Club held its sixth annual Worcester County Humane Society Food and Supply Run on Feb. 20. With over 50 Jeeps in attendance, the club donated a large amount of supplies, including cat and dog food, bleach, laundry detergent, paper towels, dish soap, hand sanitizer and hand soap, to the Berlin no-kill shelter.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Call **410-723-6397**
by Monday 5 p.m.



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

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HELP WANTED

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Ocean City, MD 21843

WORCESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Seasonal Environmental Health Aide

Duties include conducting water quality analysis at public swimming pools/spas in Ocean City, Maryland. Some evening and weekend work a possibility. Applicant must be a high school graduate or possess a GED. Valid driver's license required. Pool Operator Certification preferred. Background check is required.

Please send resume and cover letter by
March 17, 2021 to Bart Dorsch,
13070 St. Martin's Neck Bishopville, MD 21813, e-mail
bart.dorsch@maryland.gov or fax to 410-352-3369.

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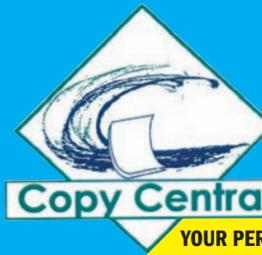
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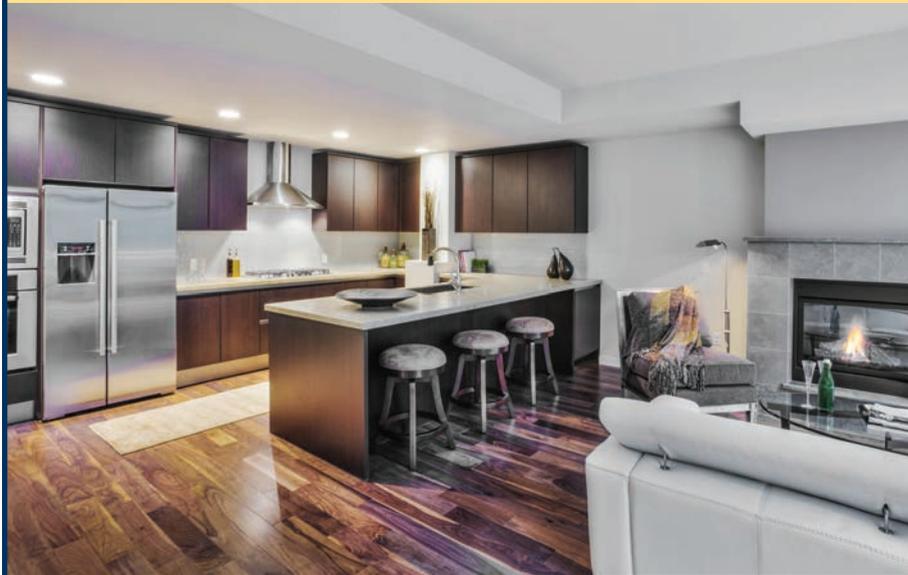
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