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GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The "Wall That Heals," a replica of the Vietnam War Memorial in D.C., pulled into Ocean Pines on Tuesday under the protection of a mob of military-honoring bikers.

Vietnam memorial rolls into Pines

'Wall That Heals' arrives with motorcade, salutes from roadside crowds

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) Flag-waving crowds lined roadways in Ocean Pines on Tuesday afternoon to welcome the Vietnam War Memorial replica "Wall That Heals" for a stopover at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial.

Escorted by a squadron of law enforcement vehicles, motorcyclists and Corvette enthusiasts, the three-quarter-scale traveling replica of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. arrived with a thunderous rumble after departing from Purdue Stadium in Salisbury just after 3 p.m.

The 50-plus foot tractor-trailer hauling the exhibit from North Car-

olina to Maryland lumbered up Route 589 to Cathell Road to roaring applause from an appreciative sunshine-drenched crowd.

At 375 feet long and bearing the names of 58,279 U.S. Armed Forces members who died during the Vietnam War, the display is the largest of three mobile reproductions of the D.C. memorial that were built in 1982 by the nonprofit Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.

Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore, who headed the effort to bring the Wall That Heals for a visit, shed tears as the motorcade turned into Veterans Memorial Park.

Among other parties escorting the arrival, the Hogs and Heroes Foundation brought a healthy contingent, which National Senior Administrator Phil "Mullinsky" Adkins estimated reached triple digits.

"We figure about a couple hundred," he said. "We actually had members of our foundation come from several different states and join in."

Adkins said many Hogs and Heroes members are military veterans and value the importance of honoring past sacrifices made overseas.

"We completely stand to support our military, our veterans, law enforcement officers and all of the first responders," he said.

After pulling into Ocean Pines on Tuesday, the exhibit was set for assembly on Wednesday.

The Wall That Heals will be on view in Ocean Pines 24 hours a day from today through Sunday at 2 p.m.

To provide historical context, the Wall That Heals display also features an "Education Center" that includes a timeline of the Vietnam War with

See FANFARE Page 6

OP attorneys tweak rental regulations

Proposed rules will follow county laws more closely

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) After canceling last Saturday's town hall meeting on proposed short-term rental guidelines just days before it was to take place, Ocean Pines Director Frank Daly said this week the regulations are being modified to address certain concerns.

In a letter sent to fellow board members last Wednesday, Daly said the existing motion would be withdrawn while legal counsel drew up revisions.

Speaking on Monday, Daly said OPA legal counsel is writing rental regulations that precisely match Worcester County code outside of several intended exceptions.

"The attorneys are in the process of re-writing what we want to do," he said.

Daly said the revised Pines regulations would differ slightly from county short-term rental rules in terms of parking, life-safety and refuse requirements.

"We are asking for a specific amount of trash containers and a specific amount of off-street parking," he said.

Daly said the amended regulations would also assure adequate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and functioning fire extinguishers were on site.

The proposed regulations would classify properties rented for terms

See SHORT-TERM Page 6



'The attorneys are in the process of re-writing what we want to do,' Ocean Pines Director Frank Daly



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OP Police search for suspect after shots fired into air

(April 22, 2021) New police evidence suggests someone in the south Ocean Pines area unlawfully discharged a firearm into the air, Sunday night between 9:30 and 10 p.m.

Ocean Pines Police responded to the area of Footbridge Trail and Nottingham Lane at around 10 p.m., just after the incident occurred.

Police Chief Leo Ehrisman said based on a thorough investigation last night and today, with assistance from the Ocean City Police Crime Lab and a review of video surveillance of the area, it was determined that the suspect discharged around 10 shots into the air from a moving vehicle.

A prior report suggested the vehicle may have been a Chevrolet Equinox, but police have since ruled that out.

"It didn't appear that there was any target. There was no sign of bullet holes or damage, and no one was injured," Ehrisman said.

The case remains open, and police are looking for the suspect or suspects.

To report any information, call Ocean Pines Police at 410-641-7747.

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Comm. committee mulls concerns

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) Along with updating the now live online Residents Academy last week, the Ocean Pines Communications Committee discussed how to gauge community member concerns shared on social media.

Reviving a topic from the group's March 25 meeting, Committee member Josette Wheatley raised concerns about commentary observed on the recently formed "Ocean Pines - Get Involved" Facebook community group.

"Should we be a voice for these people?" she said.

Wheatley noted during the prior month's discussion board liaison Dr. Colette Horn explained the group was an advisory committee to the board.

Still, Wheatley asked if the committee should attempt to ascertain issues of contention aired online.

"We don't want to see negativity in our community," she said. "We're supposed to be also helping out the residents."

Committee member Jenny Cropper Rines reiterated her contention from the last meeting that direction should not be derived from the Facebook group.

"We should be observant and be

able to identify what hot buttons may exist," she said. "We do have an opportunity here to advise the board as to what we may see as challenges."

Wheatley said she has one notion when learning neighbors have expressed areas of concern.



Jenny Rines

"My automatic thought is I'm going to figure out how to extinguish that," she said.

Rines said in some instances social media is used im-

properly.

"A perfect example of this happened yesterday when the short-term rental town hall got cancelled," she said. "I watched the whole thing play out because it was on Facebook before the entire board knew about it."

Wheatley acknowledged the Get Involved Facebook group, which currently has more than 620 members, has developed quickly.

"They have a voice and they're not happy with some things," she said.

Looking to clarify her stance from last month, Horn said the Facebook group is one of numerous sources to gauge community interests.

Committee Chairwoman Cheryl Jacobs said the board liaison is charged with communicating their meeting discussion points.

"We are a mechanism to collecting that information out there and passing it along," she said. "That fits right in with what it says in our resolution [that] we may give specific guidelines or suggestions."

Jacobs said the matter would be revived at the group's May meeting.

Switching to old business, Marketing Coordinator Julie Malinowski said the Ocean Pines Residents Academy has gone live online at oceanpines.org/ocean-pines-academy.

The online informational offering is broken down into categories, Malinowski said.

"We have input for all the different departments and amenities," she

said. "Hats off to everyone who consented to being video recorded."

The residents academy webpage includes video segments, quick facts and important links.

Malinowski said the site also includes the potential to develop a FAQ section.

"If there's something we didn't cover, people can reach out and let us know if there's something else we need to add," she said.

Jacobs asked if there were early indications the offering was being well received.

Marketing and Public Relations Director Josh Davis said the assorted video clips have been viewed anywhere from a few times to a couple dozen.

"Most of them have around 20 views so far," he said.

Jacobs said further video content delving into the history and founding of Ocean Pines is under consideration for the academy.

Committee member Marlene Ott, a resident of Ocean Pines since the community was established, would be enlisted to provide commentary on early area history.

Wheatley noted the wealth of history that's occurred over the last five decades in the Pines.

"Folks will come in and give us input that we may not have heard before," she said.

Rines said archival materials could also be incorporated.

"We have some of the original sales brochures that have ... the Cascade models," she said. "The first section could be talking about the sales center when it was in the parking lot at the Beach Club."

Jacobs said the committee should develop detailed plans and revisit the topic at its meeting next month.

Jacobs also welcomed returning member Elaine Brady (Gazette publisher) and newest member Ott, while noting other recent interest has been communicated.

"Two other people have inquired," she said. "Maybe we'll have more members ... the more the merrier."



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Farr throws in for 2021 Pines Board election in August

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) The candidate pool for the upcoming Ocean Pines Board election recently expanded to a trio after retired Air Force MSgt. Rick Farr entered the fray.

Farr, who purchased property in the Pines roughly two decades ago and transitioned to full-time residency two years back, has consistently monitored association operations.



Rick Farr

“I’ve followed it all along and more recently even closer,” he said.

In 2007, Farr retired from the Air Force with 22-years of service here and abroad and quickly moved to the corporate realm inside D.C.

“I’m on my second career as an executive in human resources,” he said.

The transition was a natural progression for Farr, who left the military as a human resources advisor.

“My passion was for people, so I wanted to get into a career that translated what I was doing in the military ... to the corporate world, which was human resources,” he said.

Farr said during his earlier tenure as first sergeant he was entrusted with maintaining morale and ensuring the welfare of enlisted military, while also moonlighting as an instructor.

“I taught accredited courses through the Community College of the Air Force for 11 years at night,” he said. “I taught conflict resolution, situational leadership and time management.”

Since 2019, Farr has worked remotely as a HR executive while living full-time in the Pines.

“I plan on retiring there within 10 years,” he said.

Now ensconced year-round in Ocean Pines, Farr said his motivation to join the board is to provide “fresh ideas.”

“When I purchased property in 1999, things were well taken care of,” he said. “Properties were looking nice and it seems over a period of time some of that has declined.”

Besides beautification issues, Farr said a priority is providing greater board transparency to improve community involvement.

“When there are closed-door meetings, that just defeats the entire purpose and puts a black eye on the board,” he said. “They may be doing things totally legit, but when you don’t have open transparency ... or discussion in meeting minutes of what transpired, you’ve already created the doubt.”

Farr advocates board accountability to counter any perception of malfeasance.
See FARR Page 4

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Carozza, Hartman recap for Pines Chamber

Eastern Shore legislators review 2021 session goals, look forward to next moves

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-38) and Delegate Wayne Hartman (R-38C) recapped progress and continuing legislative priorities during a Zoom meeting with the Ocean Pines Area Chamber of Commerce Tuesday, following the adjournment of the General Assembly last week.

Carozza said the 90-day session, which adjourned on April 12, marked an early success after kicking off Jan. 13 and passing Gov. Larry Hogan's covid-19 relief package by February.

Hartman said the Democratic-controlled legislature proved challenging for Republican priorities.

"We had a lot of opposition for anything that was pro-business conservative agenda," he said.

Despite other hurdles, Hartman said annual state budget passage was eased significantly through multiple federal funding initiatives for covid-19.

"We passed a budget that has \$1.4 billion back in the rainy day fund and \$700 million in reserves in the

general fund," he said.

Reviving legislation that stalled in 2020, Carozza worked in conjunction with Hartman to pass a ban on releasing balloons into the atmosphere.



Mary Beth Carozza

Hartman said the bill was tweaked to focus on public awareness.

"It was amended with taking out some of the penalties," he said.

Both legislators also backed passage of legalized sports betting in Maryland.

"It was time that we pass it here locally," Hartman said.

Approving sports wagering was largely motivated by comparable moves elsewhere.

"All the surrounding states have moved forward with sports betting," Carozza said.

Along with sports action, Hartman noted Ocean Downs Casino scored another financial boost this session.

"The moratorium on Ocean Downs not being able to have a hotel on the property has been lifted," he said.

Notching one last victory the final day of session, Carozza said a bill passed allowing alcohol purchases with carryout or delivered food, enacted temporarily after covid 19, to continue after pandemic restrictions are lifted.



Wayne Hartman

"Restaurants have been among the hardest hit with covid 19 [between] the closures, phased-in openings and all the challenges they faced," she said.

Despite failing to gain traction this session, a proposed income tax credit for in-state tourism will be revisited, Hartman and Carozza said.

"It was to create travel within Maryland," Hartman said "It would have provided a tax incentive for Marylanders ... as long as it was more than 50 miles from their home."

Current Eastern Shore legislative priorities the duo highlighted include bolstering Internet connectivity.

"If we learned anything during covid-19 it was our reliance and the need to build out our broadband accessibility," Carozza said.

Broadband service has gained importance with widespread use of remote access options in business, education and health sectors during the coronavirus pandemic.

"This became a priority across the board for ... all areas of the state," Carozza said. "Our job ... is to make sure the shore receives its fair share of funding and infrastructure for broadband build out."

One win for Carozza in 2021, which also provides a lesson in diligence, was the passage of Wade's Law, a public safety bill under development for five years.

Carozza said the multi-year effort was tied to a horrific car accident in 2016 that involved Worcester County road workers Wade Pusey and Scott Tatterson.

The criminally negligent driver took the life of Tatterson and left Pusey with life-threatening injuries.

After learning Maryland's maximum charge for criminally negligent drivers inflicting severe injuries was a \$500 citation, Carozza championed upping the punishment to one-year in prison.

"I wanted a just and fair penalty," she said.

Farr enters board election in Pines

Continued from Page 3
sance.

"We work at the pleasure of the people that vote us in, and we want to make sure their voices are heard," he said.

"There needs to be more oversight on the board," he said. "The board holding itself accountable for the things that they do in representing the residents of Ocean Pines."

Looking at other hot-button issues,

Farr supports the pending referendum to change the board's unauthorized spending limit from a percentage of annual assessments to a set sum.

"I think it should be locked at \$1 million," he said.

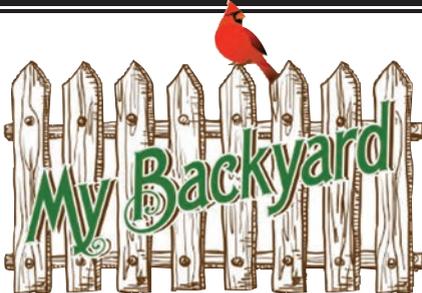
Farr also feels the onus for short-term rental regulations falls to county officials.

"I do support short-term rentals, but believe Worcester County needs to lead enforcement of their own regulations,"

he said. "They're collecting \$200 bucks a pop for the residents here and they're not enforcing it."

Due to escalating tensions in recent years, Farr is concerned the current board has lost sight of the best interests of the larger community.

"What that does is it erodes trust with the people," he said. "I come from the military where integrity is first and foremost."



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Community bike ride slated to roll May 1 in Ocean Pines

(April 22, 2021) Ocean Pines and the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition are teaming up to host a free community bike ride on Saturday, May 1.

The 14-mile ride will start at 4 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on 11443 Manklin Creek Road, and then finish at the racquet center.

Participants must be ages 12 and up, and organizers recommend that only experienced bike riders take part. Helmets are required and training wheels will not be allowed.

All participants will receive blinking bike safety lights courtesy of Worcester County Economic Development, and discounted treats from Sweet Shack on 11312 Manklin Creek Road.

Additionally, the Maryland Department of Transportation will supply brochures about the "Be Street Wise" campaign on safe walking, biking and driving practices.

For more information about the event or to register in advance, call 410-641-7052. Day-of registration starts at 3:30 p.m., at the site of the event.

"We hope that everyone will come out and meet your neighborhood riders, hear about bike safety, and enjoy a fun bike ride in the community," Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Director Debbie Donahue said.

The community bike ride is part of a series of local events organized by the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition to celebrate National Bike Month in May.

All events are meant to help increase interest in riding, share safe cycling routes to local places, supply feedback on riders' experiences, and improve awareness of how pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers can share the road.

According to the coalition, National Bike Month was established in 1956 "to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more people to giving biking a try." The coalition formed in June 2020 to promote safe walking and biking throughout Worcester County, to expand and improve trails, walkways and recreational facilities to attract tourism, and to offer transportation alternatives for those who live and work in Worcester County.

For more information about the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition, contact Patti Stevens at patti59.stevens@gmail.com or search for "Worcester County Bicycle Safety Coalition" on Facebook.

For more information, contact Ocean Pines Association Director of Public Relations and Marketing Josh Davis at 443-366-1844 or jdavis@oceanpines.org.

S. Main closed in Berlin Sat.

(April 22, 2021) South Main Street in Berlin will be closed to through traffic on Saturday, April 24, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. for necessary repairs on a sewer service.

Traffic will be temporarily di-

verted from the south via Buckingham Lane to West Street. Traffic from the north will be temporarily diverted via Buckingham Road to West Street.

Anticipate possible delays and plan accordingly.

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Fanfare greets arrival of 'Wall That Heals'

Continued from Page 1

further details about the D.C. memorial.

The Memorial Foundation is hosting a "welcome home" opening ceremony for the exhibit today at 11 a.m., and a candlelight ceremony on Friday at 7 p.m.

Scheduled speakers during the opening ceremony are Brig. Gen. Warner Sumpter, U.S. Army (retired) and chairman of the Veterans Home Commission; Maryland State Sen. Doug Peters; Maryland State Sen. Mary Beth Carozza; and American ex-Vietnam POW Ralph Galati.

Participants in the candlelight vigil on Saturday evening will have the opportunity to peruse the wall as names of "hometown heroes" from Worcester County, as well as from other counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, and Sussex County, Delaware.

Roughly 100 seats will be provided during the ceremonies, but audience members are encouraged to bring their own seats if possible.

Coronavirus protocols such as mask mandates and social distancing will be observed.

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 or call 202-393-0090.



Flag-flying motorcycles leading a convoy accompanying the "Wall That Heals" arrival in Ocean Pines rumbled into view on Route 589 Tuesday afternoon.

GREG ELLISON/
BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Short-term rental rules draft gets tweaked

Continued from Page 1

under 29 days as businesses and require owners providing rental units, in addition to acquiring a Worcester County rental permit, to also obtain a OPA-issued permit and sticker.

The regulations would also require a Pines-issued rental sticker be displayed on the front door and a responsible party associated with the rental reside within a 30-minute drive. Additionally, bed-and-breakfast establishments would be prohibited.

The annual permitting procedure outlined included hiring licensed Maryland home inspectors to perform annual property inspections that would also ascertain maximum occu-

pancy.

"The biggest deal was people were concerned that we were cutting the occupancy and that situations been addressed," he said.

Daly said when the proposal was drafted, there were variations between square footage requirements of the structure and bedroom specifics that were later amended.

The issue erupted last summer because of recurring problems at a few properties that were advertised on web-based platforms such as Airbnb, VRBO, Flipkey or Homeaway.

Because of the disruptive behavior, the board formed a work group consisting of Daly, and directors Camilla

Rodgers and Frank Brown to investigate the situation.

Daly said the work group uncovered at least 180 Ocean Pines properties that are regularly rented for short terms and anticipate the number to escalate in time.

Daly's letter last week to the board noted the work group was launched to develop short-term rental regulations in accordance with existing county rules that also provided a mechanism to address violations in a timely manner.

Since last summer, the short-term rental work group has held numerous meetings with the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) and public

safety officials, including the Ocean Pines Fire and Police Departments, Worcester County zoning, as well as consulting with property owners and renters.

Daly said it became apparent as the work group progressed that creating regulations to establish effective response capabilities for random violations was problematic, while also noting that community support seems to support the objectives.

Daly said the amended Ocean Pines short-term regulations would likely involve motions to address declaration of restrictions on a section-by-section basis, with final language anticipated by June.

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Inn Berlin gets approved to hold outdoor-tented events

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) The Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals voted 3-1 last Wednesday to permit private outdoor-tented events at The Inn Berlin, formerly The Waystead Inn, after tabling discussions in February over a larger request.

The Inn Berlin owners Giovanni Pino and Karen Tomasello, who purchased the property at 15 Harrison Avenue in 2020, asked the board on Feb. 3 for a special exception for a conditional use to permit outdoor gatherings for a maximum of 100 people.

Citing concerns over guest counts, parking requirements and frequency of events, Vice-Chairman Woody Bunting in February moved to table the matter until Planning Director Dave Engelhart could provide further clarity.

Returning on April 14, Attorney Hugh Cropper offered an amended variance request from the Tomasello's, reducing the maximum head count to 60 for private outdoor events on the 1.5-acre property.

Cropper questioned assertions the bed and breakfast operation, which is being leased to the Tomasellos' son and daughter-in-law, Marco and Mia,

would prove detrimental for the area. "They will be good neighbors ... they live there," he said.

Mia Tomasello said the goal is to hold intimate outdoor events for families celebrating anniversaries, birthdays or nuptials.

"Primarily, we'd like to have weddings as the thing we're looking most forward to," she said.

Cropper said Tomasello's earlier capacity count was based on minimum requirements for a Worcester County liquor license, which has been amended and now seeks approval for only beer and wine.

In October 2011, former Waystead Inn owner Mark Kauffman was approved to launch a bed and breakfast venue featuring five rooms for up to 10 overnight guests.

In June 2012, Kauffman was granted a conditional use to host dinner parties for a maximum of 30 people including overnight guests.

Cropper said the Tomasellos are now seeking a special exception to the previously authorized conditional use to allow tented events in the front or rear of the location.

"The indoor capacity would still be 30 people but it won't exceed 60 total," he said.

Cropper said entertainment would



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Inn Berlin at 15 Harrison Avenue was approved to hold limited private outdoor-tented events by the Board of Zoning Appeals last week.

be limited to non-amplified musical performers ending by 9 p.m.

"We will offer the same restriction to the [Worcester] liquor board next week," he said.

Cropper said in addition to 21 on-site parking spaces, an earlier agreement to use 40 spots at the Worcester Library at 13 Harrison Avenue was reached with the Worcester County Commissioners.

The terms specify the Inn Berlin must request use of library parking at least three-weeks in advance and outside of normal hours of operation.

Board member John Apple said the previous conditional use approval

failed to clarify the number of events allowed.

"This is still a residential property," he said.

Bunting said other concerns surround the possibility of the Inn Berlin to expand beyond bed and breakfast operations to offering restaurant services to the general public.

"Are you forecasting a large clientele?" he said.

Tomasello said the prior special exception conditional use approval permitted breakfast, lunch and dinner service.

"As of now, I'm not planning on
See BOARD Page 10

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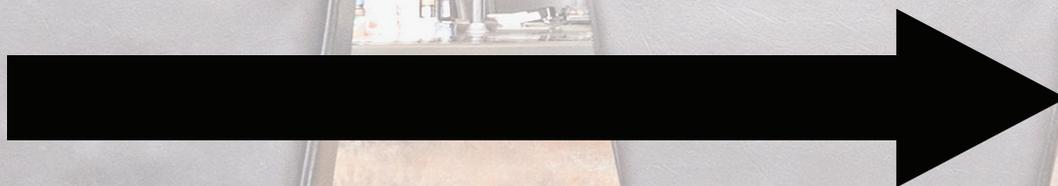
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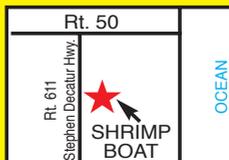


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Board Zoning Appeals allow outdoor tents at Inn Berlin

Continued from Page 7
serving breakfast, lunch and dinner to the general public," she said.

Still, based on the earlier agreement, Tomasello said the potential would exist to broaden offerings at a later date.

"We would like to be able to continue to do that and reevaluate our availability and offerings at a later date," she said.

Since establishing a website for the Inn Berlin, Tomasello said inquiries have been received for room bookings but not events or gatherings.

"The social media feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and especially from locals in Berlin," she said.

The website, theinnberlin.com, highlights background details for the 18th Century Victorian mansion, which was fully restored a decade ago.

"There's so much interesting history tied to the property," she said.

Cropper said the site has historical significance.

"This is a really nice old building that needs to be utilized by the public," he said.

Cropper also argued the R-2 zoned property provided a transition from the adjacent library and Berlin Fire Company headquarters building at 214 N. Main Street.

Bunting, who moved to approve the conditional use in 2012, said the special exception request failed to specify scheduling details for private events.

"I'm looking at this as a restaurant and it's in a residential area ... that technically isn't allowed," he said. "That was not my intent when I made the motion."

Bunting asked if the board should consider the matter a re-zoning issue.

"We're expanding upon that and I worry that makes it even more of a commercial use," he said.

Cropper said the bed and breakfast functions as a quasi-commercial use, while stressing the board's previously

approved conditional use was tied to the property and transferred to new ownership.

"It is an opinion of this board that is the record of this town," he said. "These folks bought this property and paid a lot of money for it based in no small part on this opinion."

Pino Tomasello testified that prior to purchasing the historic Harrison Avenue site last year, he confirmed permitted uses with town officials.

"I was told since 2012 it was used as bed and breakfast and restaurant," he said. "I don't want to create any issues with neighbors but I bought this property with what was given in writing." Tomasello, a seasoned Ocean City restaurateur, said the prior operator had installed commercial kitchen facilities.

After founding Pino's Pizza in 1983 and Giovanni's in 1986, Tomasello owned Fresco's on 83rd Street from 2000-2014, and then in West Ocean City opened Sello's, which he sold.

"I've been in Ocean City for 40 years and I've never had any issues with neighbors," he said. "We spent besides the purchase ... over \$150,000 on improvements."

Board chairman Joe Moore said the previous findings of fact were a primary factor for Tomasello to acquire the property.

"The issue [would be] is this property different in a detrimental effect," he said. "People have a right to rely on the action of any zoning authority that is reflected in the official findings of fact."

Engelhart said the previous owner didn't take full advantage of the restaurant operations permitted under the 2012 conditional use approval.

"The issue we're stuck on ... at the time is the mention of a dinner club, but that's not the way the motion was made," he said. "He was never asking for a restaurant."

Despite the apparent confusion between prior meeting minutes and findings of fact in 2012, Engelhart
See INN Page 12

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Ocean Pines Association Members:

VOTE **NO** ON THE PROPOSED REFERENDUM



The referendum seeks to unnecessarily hinder OPA's ability to conduct needed projects; fails to contemplate the impact of the ever-increasing costs of labor, material, and services; and will cause large expenses for OPA and to you as members.

The existing expenditure threshold for capital expenses was addressed along with several other changes to the OPA By-Laws in 2008 when the Amended and Restated By-Laws were adopted. The established limit on capital expenditures of 20% of the assessment income has served the Association well and has provided the intended guidance and safeguards on decisions involving this level of expense.

The threshold as a percentage of the annual assessment income, rather than a static dollar amount, takes into consideration the changes in financing associated with inflation and the time value of money. As prices for products, material, labor and services increase, the current threshold gives the Association flexibility in determining if these expenses should be considered. The current "20%" referendum requirement for capital expenditures has no direct effect on the annual assessment. A fixed dollar threshold will not reduce the annual assessment for OPA members, because the planning for the projects must continue.

Had the proposed fixed dollar threshold been in place, the Association would not have accomplished the much-needed upgrades to the administration building, police station, clubhouse, and cart barn in a timely manner. The Association would have also incurred approximately **\$50,000 - \$60,000** of expenses associated with conducting a referendum for each of those projects, as it is estimated that the cost of a referendum is approximately **\$25,000 - \$30,000** and requires additional significant staff time to administer the referendum, process the results and report the findings.

The requirement for a referendum will also cause unnecessary delays in sourcing, bidding, and determining the viability of a project. In some cases, a delay will create a lost opportunity for pricing deals from a contractor due to the inability to determine in a timely manner whether we can move forward with a project. This situation would also add to an increase in overall costs for a project. Beyond the implications on the above types of improvement projects, the proposed referendum will negatively affect OPA's ability to conduct its mandatory capital replacement work.

OPA must maintain, repair and replace the bulkheads. The bulkhead replacement costs for 2021 are forecasted at **\$1.783 million** and a 2022 proposed expense of **\$1.368 million**. These amounts are within the Board of Directors' current expenditure authority. Should the referendum pass, OPA will have to conduct a referendum before the annual bulkhead replacement projects can be authorized, which will result in substantial additional costs associated with the referendum. These additional costs will lead to an increase in the annual assessment to homeowners.



Based on the information above and knowing the established limit has not only served the Association well, but also aided in preventing unnecessary costs over the past 15 years, the Board of Directors strongly urges Association members to vote **NO** on the referendum question.

- Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors

Worcester Schools music education honors

(April 22, 2021) Worcester County Public Schools has been honored for the third year in a row with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education.

Now in its 22nd year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, the school system answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research In-

stitute at the University of Kansas.

"We are so proud of the work our music educators do with our kids every day, especially during these difficult times," said WCPS Superintendent Lou Taylor. "Music is an essential part of our county's curriculum, and I am so grateful that our work in this area has been recognized for the third year in a row."

Since the passage by Congress in 2015 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and a stated emphasis on a well-rounded education, many school districts have re-committed to music and arts education programs and found that in this time of a national pandemic, provides a valuable way to keep students engaged in school.

ESSA provides designated funding for well-rounded educational opportunities through Title IV Part A Student Academic Success and Achievement

grants. NAMM Foundation research has revealed that these grants are being widely used by school districts to address instructional gaps in access to music and arts education.

Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music: After two years of music education, researchers found that participants showed more substantial improvements in how the brain processes speech and reading scores than their less-involved peers and that students who are involved in music are not only more likely to graduate high school, but also to attend college as well.

Everyday listening skills are stronger in musically trained children than in those without music training. Significantly, listening skills are closely tied to the ability to: perceive speech in a noisy background, pay attention, and keep sounds in memory.

Later in life, individuals who took music lessons as children show stronger neural processing of sound: young adults and even older adults who have not played an instrument for up to 50 years show enhanced neural processing compared to their peers. Not to mention, social benefits include conflict resolution, teamwork skills, and how to give and receive constructive criticism.

Berlin sponsoring curbside yard waste collection in May

(April 22, 2021) The Town of Berlin will hold free curbside Yard Waste Collections in May for improved, occupied, residential properties.

For those neighborhoods which have Tuesday and Wednesday trash collection, Yard Waste Collection will be on Wednesday, May 5. For Thursday trash collection customers, Yard Waste Collection will be on Wednesday, May 12.

Residents must place leaves, grass clippings, pine needles and cones, and flower bed or garden waste in a

paper or plastic bag. Small branches or brush must be cut into four-foot lengths and bundled no larger than 18 inches in diameter.

Materials such as animal waste, stones, rocks, metal, dirt, sod, or other materials will not be collected.

Items must be at the curb by no later than 6 a.m. the morning of collection.

For more information, visit berlinmd.gov and go to the Public Works page under Departments or contact 410-641-2770.

Inn Berlin OK for private events

Continued from Page 10

said the current appeal is to hold tented events outdoors.

"It's not a question of the previous conditional use," he said.

Cropper said the venture would be of a low-impact nature.

"We would like to limit it to 20 maximum events annually," he said.

Mia Tomasello said all events would be monitored first hand.

"We will be on site to enforce any

restrictions," she said. "We hope to hold events to enrich the community, bring people to town and develop the economy."

In one final concession, Tomasello agreed to limit outdoor gatherings to no more than one unrelated event per week.

The Board of Zoning Appeals voted 3-1 with Bunting opposed to approve the special exception request.



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Harris-Cottman college externship program

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(April 22, 2021) Berlin native Joyce Harris-Cottman, 82, is being immortalized for a lifetime of inspiring family and friends through a new college externship to help minority students pursue a career in sports administration.

The initiative was launched by her great-grandson, Deshaun Harris, 24, CEO & co-founder of Intrusive Sports Agency, who said his great grandmother overcame significant hurdles early in life and for nearly half a century has served as a conduit for societal change.

"It's the first year establishing the externship initiative," he said. "Joyce Harris-Cottman encapsulates the reality that Black(s) heroes are everyday individuals that choose to continue the selflessness and sacrifice that has brought our beautiful country to this point."

Harris said his motivations for starting the program were multifaceted and multi-layered.

"I set out to impact others' lives anyway possible," he said. "Seeing and understanding generational ancestral sacrifice internally and externally has always led me to two words that I live by, and that's 'purpose' and 'obligation.'"

Harris-Cottman said the honor was

humbling and that it caught her by surprise.

"I don't know anything I've done special. I just helped people where I could," she said. "Some people think I give good advice, and maybe I do, but it seems like I can't take my own advice to stop worrying about people."



Deshaun Harris

Deshaun Harris' father, Shaun William Harris, was raised in Berlin and graduated from Stephen Decatur High School before entering the military and later relocating to the West Coast.

"I'm the son of a military veteran, multiple business owner and community leader," he said. "He's the current dean of athletics at Westcliff University."

After landing in California over a quarter century ago, Shaun Harris crossed path with, Neki, who became his wife.

"My upbringing, and my family empowering me to assist them in different spaces, continued to show me that purpose and obligation can really drive different visions or aspects of life," he said.

Harris-Cottman grew up in Berlin until she left at age 18 to pursue family life.

"My husband and I moved to Baltimore and he was also from Berlin," she said. "I got pregnant at 16 and didn't finish high school."

After suffering through family trauma, and with six kids in tow, Harris-Cottman eventually opted to return to the Eastern Shore



Joyce Harris-Cottman

"I was in an abusive relationship and was getting beat up every week," she said. "Actually, I just woke up one day and said, 'I'm tired of this,' and got on the Trailways bus and came home."

As a single mother, Harris-Cottman had no idea how she would support her children.

"I came back home and the only thing I knew how to do was housework," she said.

Starting as a housekeeper at a resort hotel, Harris-Cottman said a trip to the unemployment office after the seasonal gig ended inspired her next move.

"I was waiting for my turn and everyone coming out of the office said, 'They're sending people to the chicken factory,'" she said.

Dismayed by the idea of working in a poultry processing plant, Harris-Cottman's spirits brightened after she

spied a sign suggesting a better pathway.

"There was a sign on the wall that said, 'Do you want to be an LPN,'" she said.

Sensing a better option was at hand, Harris-Cottman quickly completed testing requirements and ventured down a new professional path.

"I was one of five people that made the cut," she said. "I was in nursing for 26 years and have been retired now for 20 years."

After spending roughly a decade as an LPN, Harris-Cottman again renewed academic pursuits and became a RN.

"I loved nursing," she said. "I do have a lot of people that remember me and it's a nice feeling [but] I can't remember them because I can't remember what I had for breakfast."

Deshaun Harris said his great grandmother left an indelible mark on numerous souls over the years.

"She is a walking image of grandeur in a space that did not always openly accept people who look like her," he said.

The family blueprint for success extended down the generations with Deshaun Harris joining his father's nonprofit Erudition Leadership Academy in 2007 to assist student-athletes achieving high grades cover travel

See GREAT Page 14

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MCBP educates with Living Local initiative

Goal to provide agricultural environmental instruction through trips, workshops

(April 22, 2021) Maryland Coastal Bays Program's (MCBP) Living Local initiative began in 2019 to educate the community about the beneficial impacts of small-scale farming with sustainable practices on the Coastal Bays watershed.

The initiative was well received by the community, and in 2020, MCBP's Education Coordinator Liz Wist applied for and received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Education Grant Program to continue and expand Living Local.

The goal of the expanded initiative is to provide agricultural environmental education through the implementation of educator trainings, student field trips, and community workshops on local farms.

These components are designed to

address the environmental and human impacts affecting agriculture, as well as the benefits best farm practices have on Maryland's Coastal Bays.

MCBP exists to protect and conserve the waters and surrounding watershed of Maryland's five Coastal Bays, and 71 percent of the land in Worcester County is declared agriculture.

"The Living Local initiative is necessary because the protection and conservation of the Coastal Bays watershed must involve the recognition of healthy and sustainable farming practices," said Chandler Joiner, MCBP's environmental educator. "The students we are targeting with this program have no required agriculture education embedded in their curriculum and thus we wanted that to be provided through the Living Local program."

The Living Local educator training will be made available to both formal and informal educators in Worcester County via workshops offered this spring, summer and fall. The training

includes an introduction to the Coastal Bays and new agriculture curriculum.

Once educators have delivered the Living Local lessons, their students will be eligible to attend experiential farm field trips and develop action projects to solidify their sustainable agriculture knowledge.

Community farm visits are made available to the public and involve farm tours, farmer Q&As, and hands-on experience.

The first of these farm visits will be held on Thursday, April 22, at Cross Farms located on Pitts Road in Berlin. During the two-hour event, attendees will hear from farmer Carol Cross about topics such as soil conditions, weather forecasting and companion planting. They will also assist with some daily farm tasks such as planting and transplanting.

"We are thrilled to be able to provide our community with an opportunity to explore local farms and learn about the unique connection between agriculture and water resources. The

beauty of an initiative like this is the real-world application for students and the focus on our local community – hence the name Living Local," Wist said. "To 'live local' is necessary for the integrity of our Coastal Bays watershed and those that work in and rely on it. We hope to create more environmentally literate citizens and equip them with tools to help them critically think, problem solve, and make responsible decisions towards a sustainable future for our local community."

For more information on 2021 Living Local community workshops or upcoming educator trainings, email the Joiner at, cjoiner@md-coastalbays.org or call 410-213-2297 ex. 107.

The Maryland Coastal Bays Program is a 501(C)(3) consensus non-profit, partially funded by the EPA, dedicated to protecting the Coastal Bays behind Ocean City and Assateague Island through education and restoration projects.

Great-grandson inspired by Harris-Cottman

Continued from Page 13
costs for basketball.

"Playing a role in the day-to-day operations gave me the confidence that my purpose and obligation can be consistent and constant in anything I do," he said.

After a handful of years with the leadership academy, Deshaun Harris developed a network of collegiate basketball directors, coaches and players.

"I grew up building personal relationships with some of the brightest talents currently playing at the professional, collegiate, and grassroots levels throughout the United States," he said. "I've also witnessed my younger brother [Dominick Harris] become a ... top basketball ... player at Gonzaga University."

In 2018, Deshaun Harris completed undergraduate studies at the University of California San Diego and

enrolled at Cal Baptist University to obtain a master's in communication.

The following year proved eventful, as Deshaun Harris completed graduate school and received professional agent certification from the National Basketball Players Association.

"After months of diligence and studying in both, I became the youngest current NBPA Certified Agent at 22 in January 2019 and shortly after graduated ... from Cal Baptist University," he said. "That year was definitely a blessing."

In 2020, brushing aside multiple offers from well established sports agencies, Deshaun Harris charted a different course.

"After evaluating if these companies aligned with my purpose, obligation and desire to offer change [or] impact, the short answer was no," he said.

Having previously formed the Intrusive Sports Agency in 2017 with his fathers' assistance, Deshaun Harris began scouting clients.

"In the spring of 2020, we welcomed an array of amazing human beings as members, with playing contracts secured in Portugal, Germany, Belgium, Australia, and North Macedonia, along with many marketing activations initiated," he said.

In 2021, Intrusive Sports started the Joyce Harris-Cottman Externship.

"The program is designed to expose, engage, educate, and empower students by providing hands-on industry work experience and meaningful mentorship," he said.

Deshaun Harris said the initiative was inspired by his great-grandmother's legacy of self-determination.

"She easily could have taken a handout, but decided not only am I

going to better myself, but I'm going to make sure I take care of my family and others along the way," he said. "After a 30-year career of public service she's still going and continues being a beacon of light for Berlin and Ocean City."

Although quick to deflect credit, Harris-Cottman expressed gratitude for the recognition.

"I don't see anything I do that's different than anybody else [but] it's always good when someone says something nice about you," she said.

While long retired from the health care field, Harris-Cottman is still an active member at St Paul's United Methodist Church in Berlin and a charter member of its senior "Happy Club."

"I just like keeping in touch with people," she said. "You never know when somebody needs someone just to say hello or how's your day going."

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Ocean Pines Public Works yard set to open May 1-28

(April 22, 2021) The Ocean Pines Public Works yard will be open to Ocean Pines residents May 1-28 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Yard debris may be dropped off during this time. Only loose yard debris, such as leaves and limbs, is accepted. Yard debris may also be placed in paper bags. Plastic bags are not allowed.

Other debris should be taken to the Worcester County landfill. For more information, visit www.co.worcester.md.us/departments/publicworks/waste/facilities.

Republic Services customers may place up to four additional bags of leaves or yard debris curbside for each scheduled pickup. Republic will also pick up branches if they are tied in bundles no longer than 4 feet and weighing no more than 50 pounds.

Trash collection days for residents south of Route 90 are Tuesday and Friday. For residents north of Route 90, the collection days are Monday and Thursday.

Ocean Pines is not currently offering bulk pickup, because the practice was determined to be cost prohibitive.

For more information, contact Public Works at 410-641-7425.

Pines Open Air Community Expo scheduled for May 1

(April 22, 2021) Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce will host its second annual Open Air Community Expo on Saturday, May 1, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., socially distancing at White Horse Park.

Reserve an exhibitor space at <https://business.oceanpineschamber.org/events/details/2021-community-expo-12674>.

For more information and to register, call the Ocean Pines Chamber at 410-641-5306 or email info@oceanpineschamber.org.

The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce is a 501 (c) (6) nonprofit corporation comprised of area businesses organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the area so that its citizens and all areas of its business community shall prosper.

Rain date is Saturday, May 8.

More than 50 local businesses and community agencies will be on hand, including health care, education, home services, retail and nonprofits.

There is no cost to attend.

Exhibitor fees are: Chamber partners pay \$175 for one exhibition space with 8-foot table; \$200 for non-chamber businesses and nonprofits and government agencies \$75.

Worcester Co. Government offices, facilities to reopen

(April 22, 2021) Effective May 3, Worcester County Government offices and facilities will fully reopen to the public.

required. Computers are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Call the library at 410-632-2600 with any questions.

Enhanced health and safety protocols are already in place in all county facilities to maintain a safe environment and prevent the spread of covid-19. All visitors will receive a health screening upon entry and be required to wear masks and maintain social distancing.

The Circuit Court for Worcester County has remained open to the public in various capacities during the pandemic and will return to full operation April 26. Learn more about Circuit Court operating hours at mdcourts.gov or call 410-632-5500.

Those who prefer to continue depositing essential documents in drop-off boxes in the Worcester County Government Center first floor atrium and at the Isle of Wight office building will be able to do so.

For information on state agencies operating in WCG facilities and/or the availability of state services being handled by county departments, contact those agencies and departments directly.

All five library branches are currently open. Masks are

For information on WCG services and operating hours, visit www.co.worcester.md.us.

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Pines native stages diaper drive

Butrum organizes push to collect largely overlooked need at Slippery Rock U.

(April 22, 2021) Most government benefits and safety-net programs don't recognize diapers as a basic need, but a Slippery Rock University student certainly did while working at a local pediatrics practice. She decided to do something about it.

Haley Butrum, a graduate student in the physician assistant studies program from Ocean Pines, has organized a diaper drive that in just one week gathered more than 70 boxes of diapers – nearly 14,000 diapers – thanks to public donations at drop-off locations and through financial contributions.

The diapers are being donated to families at Next Generation Pediatrics in Butler, where Butrum recently completed her clinical rotation.

"We kept getting babies coming in with diaper rashes, and one of the common problems with diaper rashes is parents not changing their babies as often as they should," Butrum said. "A lot of the reasons why they don't change them often is because they can't afford diapers – diapers are really expensive."



Haley Butrum

According to the National Diaper Bank Network, the average baby requires 12 diapers per day, which adds up to a cost around \$900 per year, and 1 in 3 American families struggle with diaper needs.

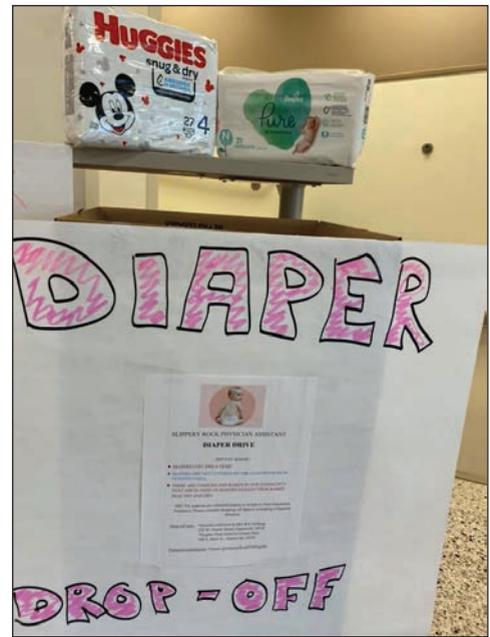
Diapers aren't offered to families who qualify for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as SNAP, or other government-assistance programs for low-income families, such as Women,

Infants, and Children, also known as WIC.

"That doesn't make any sense to me," Butrum said. "Diapers are essential. So, I organized a diaper drive for patients at this practice, at least short-term, to prevent these infections. Also, I'm trying to get the message out to everyone as much as possible that this is a problem, and if we can somehow get some attention on this issue, maybe this can be changed in the future (for more government assistance)."

Butrum created a TikTok video that was also shared on other social media platforms, including the SRU PA program's Facebook page.

The video featured Butrum, fellow PA students and nurses and staff from Next Generation Pediatrics displaying facts and messages on sheets of paper about the need for diapers, as well as methods



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Haley Butrum, a graduate student in the physician assistant studies program at Slippery Rock University, developed a campaign that collected more than 70 boxes of diapers for families in need.

by which people can donate to the diaper drive.

See GRADUATE Page 17

AGH Foundation modifies anniversary plans

(April 22, 2021) Atlantic General Hospital Foundation is planning a modified version of its Anniversary Celebration due to the covid-19 pandemic.

The annual celebration is the hospital's largest fundraising event of the year, which commemorates the opening of the local facility in 1993.

"As we continue to prioritize the health and safety of our community, we have reimagined the 28th Anniversary Celebration as, 'The Party to Which You Give, but Don't Go' and your support of this year's fundraiser is more important than ever," said Michael Franklin, president and CEO of Atlantic General Hospital.

"The healthcare industry was hit hard by the covid-19 pandemic, and our local hospital is no exception. Throughout the pandemic, it has become increasingly evident that supporting our healthcare workers and

ensuring the future of quality health-care at Atlantic General Hospital is so critical for our community," he said.

In lieu of an in person event, the fundraiser will rely on sponsorships and donations of its invitees.

The elimination of the overhead expenses of a traditional in-person party will allow all funds raised to go directly to support Atlantic General Hospital's mission to provide a coordinated care system with access to quality care, personalized service and education to create a healthy community.

Bob Kelly, president of Bil-Jac Foods, also known as Kelly Foods Corporation, finds great value in donating to the community hospital and has signed on to be title sponsor again this year. The continued endorsement has been important to him and his family for years.

This year marks Kelly Food's 17th consecutive as Legacy Sponsor. Kelly

Foods and the Kelly family have contributed more than \$189,000 to Atlantic General Hospital since 2004, with plans to continue the family tradition of giving to the local community hospital as an annual sponsor of Atlantic General Hospital's Anniversary Celebration.

Kelly's father always believed it was very important to give back to the community and he demonstrated this by contributing financially, in addition to volunteering his time to serve the local hospital in their hometown of Medina, Ohio.

"When I moved to the Eastern Shore in the 1970s, I remember what it was like when there was no hospital in Worcester County. A local community hospital is not something that should be taken for granted. I encourage our community members to help support our local hospital in any way possible, especially during such try-

ing times," Kelly said.

Bob Kelly's father, Bill, and Bill's brother, Jack, founded Bil-Jac Foods in 1947 based on their passion to help dogs thrive by improving their nutrition through the best combination of ingredients, vitamins and minerals. Although the Kelly Foods headquarters is located in Medina, Ohio, it also has a presence in Berlin with a pet food plant that is located half a mile from Atlantic General Hospital.

Additional event sponsorships are available. To purchase online, visit www.agh.care/anniversary.

All proceeds benefit Atlantic General Hospital Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, and all gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

For more information, contact Joy Stokes, event coordinator, at js-tokes@atlanticgeneral.org or by calling the Foundation office at 410-641-9671.

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Pines Garden Club observes Arbor Day with event at park

(April 22, 2021) The Ocean Pines Garden Club (OPGC) held its annual Arbor Day memorial ceremony on April 8 at Pintail Park in Ocean Pines.

The event, which the club cancelled last year because of the covid-19 pandemic, was an opportunity for OPGC members and friends to celebrate the lives of loved ones lost in either 2019 or 2020.

The tradition of the Arbor Day ceremony in Ocean Pines goes back many years and includes the planting of a tree to recognize the holiday and to memorialize those who passed away. This year's tree was a Yoshino cherry.

During the ceremony, club members read the names of loved ones and tolled a bell, and a friend or family member placed a shovelful of dirt around the tree and received a white rose. This year, a second tree also served as memorial to all those lost to covid-19.

A series of painted rocks signify memorial trees in Pintail Park and include the tree's type and the year it was planted.

OPGC President Patti Lookner and Arbor Day Committee Chairwoman Ann Shockley introduced the pro-



The Ocean Pines Garden Club held its annual Arbor Day memorial ceremony on April 8 at Pintail Park in Ocean Pines. Delmarva Chorus Director Carol Ludwig, left, is joined by Arbor Day Chair Ann Shockley, and Bagpiper Mike Castoro.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

gram, which also included historical and poetry readings by garden club members, music by the Delmarva Chorus and bagpiper Mike Castoro, and proclamations from the Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors (presented by Association President Larry Perrone) and the Worcester County Commissioners (presented by County Commissioner Chip Bertino).

The OPGC thanked those who took part in making this event a special one, and that includes the Ocean Pines Public Works landscaping crew, who made sure the park was looking its best.

For more information or to join the Ocean Pines Garden Club, email Garden Club President Patti Lookner at plookner@gmail.com.

Graduate student recognizes lack of basic baby needs

Continued from Page 16

Collections sites were set up at several locations. Online monetary donations were also accepted through a Venmo account operated by the SRU PA program, @SlipperyRockPAProgram.

"The response has been incredible," Butrum said. "Once we hit \$500, I was just at a loss for words. Everyone has been so giving and it's so great to see. People like me had no idea that this was such a big problem."

"Haley's efforts were astounding by how well she organized (the diaper drive)," said Kelli Sovek, practice manager at Next Generation Pediatrics. "We are in shock by the amount of diapers coming in and the patients are very grateful, especially when it costs almost \$40 per box. We also had a lot of fun with the videos and this has been great for the practice to have a closer bond with our patients."

Nurses at Next Generation Pediatrics are distributing the diapers proportionately to all their patients as they come in for their appointments.

Diaper and monetary donations will continue to be accepted.

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Worcester second graders produce book for children

(April 22, 2021) Worcester Preparatory School Lower School teachers, Abby Harrison and Julia Alison, inspired their second graders to create and publish their own children's book, "Mighty Max."

Beginning in February, students were guided through the writing and illustration process to prepare them to design their page for the class book.

The children used their thoughts and imaginations to make up the storyline about a puppy's adventures and create their individual pages complete with colorful drawings.

Not only did the young authors work hard to write and illustrate their book, they also used it as a teachable lesson by encouraging children to always explore the possibilities in life.

On March 4, the two second grade classes gathered all their pages and sent their completed manuscript to Studenttreasures Publishing.

When the published book arrived back at Worcester Prep on March 31, the students shared the story via live Zoom with their parents by each displaying and reading their one-of-a-kind page.

Diabetes Center at AGH to provide education classes

(April 22, 2021) The Atlantic General Diabetes Center at Atlantic General Hospital will be offering diabetes self-management education classes in May.

The series of three, three-hour sessions will address blood glucose monitoring, foot care, nutrition, exercise, and other self-management skills to help individuals better manage their diabetes. A family member is invited to attend.

The program is recognized by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) for quality education, and program staff includes a registered nurse and a rRegistered dietitian, both of whom are certified diabetes educators.

Advance registration and a referral from a primary care provider (which the program can obtain) are required.

Diabetes Self-Management is a Medicare benefit and the cost of the classes is covered by most insurances.

Classes will be held on the following Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: May 13, 20 and 27, at Atlantic General Hospital Regional Cancer Care Center, 9707 Healthway Drive, in Berlin.

Call 410-208-9761 for more information and to register.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Worcester Preparatory School Lower School teachers, Abby Harrison and Julia Alison, inspired their second graders to create and publish their own children's book, "Mighty Max."

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WCAC to present students awards from \$500 to \$2K

(April 22, 2021) The Worcester County Arts Council's Student Arts Scholarship award program is underway.

The scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$2,000 for qualifying high school seniors who are Worcester County residents interested in majoring in the arts.

Scholarships are also available to college art majors wishing to continue their education in the arts.

In 2020, a total of \$10,000, including the John Sisson family's contribution, was awarded to five students pursuing an education in the arts.

The Worcester County Arts Council's Student Arts Scholarship program is designed to identify, recognize and encourage students who demonstrate excellence in creative writing, culinary arts, dance, music, theater, or visual arts.

This is a merit scholarship and award decisions are based on evaluation of talent, dedication, and potential – not financial need.

The number and amount of the award are based on the funds' availability. Funds are provided for tuition costs and fees and are paid directly to the applicant's school.

Application and scholarship guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website: www.worcestercountyartsCouncil.org/artsscholarship. All applications must be received by Monday, May 3.

For further information, contact Anna Mullis, executive director, at anna@worcestercountyartsCouncil.org.

The Worcester County Arts Council welcomes donations to support the arts scholarship fund.

To make a tax-deductible contribution, visit www.worcestercountyartsCouncil.org.

The Worcester County Arts Council is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support, promote and encourage visual, performing, and literary arts in Worcester County.

As designated by the Maryland State Arts Council County arts agency, the Worcester County Arts Council is committed to fostering the excellence, diversity, and vitality of arts, artists, and arts organizations and increasing access to the arts for all members of our community.

The Worcester County Arts Council is funded by the grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and supported by memberships, donations, and local sponsorships.



BE SMART PROGRAM

Maryland's Lower Shore Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America volunteers partnered with the Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund to provide education and awareness about child gun deaths and responsible gun storage through the Be SMART program. Be SMART Moms partnered with the "Lemonade Bookstand" initiative to distribute spring bags stuffed with art supplies, notebooks and snacks to homeless youth in Worcester and Wicomico counties. Pictured are Charlie and Alexis Southward, Linda Powers, Judy Davis and Nanci Osborne with Susan Blaney, food pantry/volunteer coordinator for Diakonia, second from right.

PHOTO COURTESY IVY SOUTHWAR



GRANT

Cato, Inc. awarded Worcester Preparatory School a \$500 ExxonMobil Educational Alliance program grant on April 9. This year's grant will be applied toward Worcester Prep's math program. Accepting the check is long-time math teacher Cyndee Hudson and some of her students, Paxton Mault, Kain Crossett, Tyler Netting, Sydney Todorov and Anisha Batra.

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Opinion

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

Rental regulations should be enacted

Obviously, people who own single-family homes and use them for short-term rentals support the unfettered use of their property. Just as obviously, people who live next to or near short-term rentals do not.

Neither party can be blamed for feeling the way they do, as landlords want and maybe need to receive that additional income, while neighboring homeowners don't want to surrender the peaceable enjoyment of their own properties to accommodate weekly visitors who may not be as peaceable as they should be.

The question that has yet to be resolved in the numerous attempts to regulate the growing vacation rental business in residential neighborhoods is whether one owner's property rights should, or even can, supercede another's.

The assertion that the appearance of short-term rental properties in a quiet residential neighborhood doesn't change its character isn't so. It absolutely does alter its composition, since neighbors are supplanted by a changing cast of strangers, whose only tie to that particular community is a weeklong stay.

It might even be safe to say that a large cluster of detached houses occupied exclusively by weekly renters would warrant some kind of zoning change to reflect the unique character of that neighborhood.

But when weekly rentals pop up here and there in single-family zones, officials find it difficult to impossible to institute strict standards, much less prohibitions, after the fact.

That's why the Ocean Pines Association should do its utmost to enact its short-term rental regulations quickly with whatever revisions deemed to be appropriate.

This is not so much to affect existing rental properties, which do deserve consideration, but as a safeguard for residential neighborhoods whose residents prefer it staying that way as much as possible.



"And you're absolutely sure the CDC endorsed Dr. Fauci tattoos for all Front Line Healthcare Workers."

Wor. BOE announces appointments

(April 22, 2021) During the April 20 Worcester County Board of Education meeting, several administrative transfers were announced as well as new administrative appointments. The new assignments are effective July 1.

The two appointments announced filled vacancies from 2019-2020 retirees that are currently occupied by interim personnel.

First, Dr. Michael Browne, principal of Pocumoke Elementary School, has also been appointed the school system's coordinator of Equity & Multicultural Education.

Next, joining Worcester County Public Schools is newly appointed Grant Writer Carla Makinen.

A graduate of WCPS, Makinen is a certified grants management specialist with more than a decade of experience from Wor-Wic Community College, where she currently serves as the college's director of grants.

Several administrative transfers were also announced.

Succeeding Dr. Browne as principal of Pocumoke Elementary School is Joshua Hamborsky.

Hamborsky brings four years of experience as assistant principal at Snow Hill High School as well as three years of experience at the elementary level.

Pocumoke Middle School principal Matthew Record will move to lead Snow Hill Elementary School as current principal Karen Marx transitions to an assistant principal role at Showell Elementary School.

Pocumoke Middle's Melissa Freistat was appointed to succeed Record as principal; she has served as assistant principal at the school for three years.

In addition, several changes at the assistant principal level were announced:

Berlin Intermediate School Assistant Principal Jennifer Garton will transfer to Stephen Decatur High School, filling the vacancy left by Katherine Cater's previously announced retirement.

Worcester Technical High School Assistant Principal Brian Phillips will transfer to Snow Hill High School.

Showell Elementary School Assistant Principal Dr. Wynnette Hansen will transfer to Worcester Technical High School.

Stephen Decatur High School teacher Joseph Stigler was appointed to become assistant principal at Pocumoke Middle School.

Mathematics Instructional Coach Kristy Clark was appointed to become assistant principal at Berlin Intermediate School.

"These changes are another step in the right direction for our school system," said Superintendent of Schools Lou Taylor. "We have a deep pool of incredibly talented educational leaders here in Worcester County. I am confident that each of these appointments and transfers will lead to greater educational opportunities for our students. I congratulate them all, and I thank them for continuing to bring their best to these new roles."

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Donaway earns \$40K education scholarship

(April 22, 2021) Nationally, nearly 4,000 students in the class of 2021 won College Board Opportunity Scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$40,000, including Snow Hill High School senior Leia Donaway.



Leia Donaway

tainty and challenges caused by the pandemic. Leia serves as a model that all students can follow to make their college dream attainable.”

Twenty-five students in the class of 2021 from across the country, including Donaway, each earned a \$40,000 scholarship toward their education by completing all steps in the College

Board Opportunity Scholarships program—steps that help them plan, prepare and pay for college. They were surprised live on Good Morning America last week.

“This scholarship is for every student, no matter their background or what school they attend. It’s about giving all students a chance to raise their hands and be seen,” said College Board CEO David Coleman. “These 25 students are as diverse and strong as the country we call home; they come from

small towns, cities and everywhere in between. What unites them is that they have overcome adversity and taken a series of small steps to earn themselves a big future.”

More than 1 million students from all 50 states have joined the College Board Opportunity Scholarships program since it launched in December 2018. Students have won more than \$10 million in scholarships.

In addition to the 25 \$40,000 Complete Your Journey winners from the class of 2021, nearly 4,000 students from 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands earned \$3.6 million in smaller scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,000.

College Board has dedicated \$25 million over five years to the program that lays out six simple steps all students can take to get to college. Research shows that completing specific steps can help clarify the complex college planning process, especially for low-income and first-generation students.

When students finish all six steps, they’ll be entered into the drawing for a \$40,000 scholarship. Class of 2022 students who opt in now and get started by building their college list on BigFuture by June 30 will be eligible for the next \$40,000 Complete Your Journey scholarship.

Wor. students named to dean’s list

(April 22, 2021) A total of 414 Wor-Wic Community College students have been recognized for superior performance by being named to the dean’s list for the recently-completed fall term.

Worcester County students who maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher while taking six or more credit hours during the fall term include:

Berlin: Lance Adams, Nathan Adkins, Jurgita Blake, Amanda Brown, Mikayla Cantine, Nicholas Cargiulo, Laura Carpenter, Judith Celozzi, Braelyn Clark, Benjamin

Cooper, Allison Cordial, Meghan Cummings, Sierra Dacre, Brooke Davis, Darrian Day, Paul Dehuarte Jr., Michael Delaurentis, Robert Dixon, Sawyer Ellis-Gaal, Jordan Ferguson, Hailey Golczynski, Ramona Gray, Skylar Griffin, Sarah Haskell, Kayla Higgins, Allison Hunter, Gavin Jarman, America Juarez-Martinez, Salina Kc, Anya Knappenberger, Hunter Lago, Samantha Lokey, Jonathan Marton-Rollins, Mandi McCready, Mihaela Mollichelli, William Mossop III, Victoria Mueller, Candice Palmer, Conor Perry, Colin Porter, Julia

Prokopovich, Brooklynn Pugner, Ricku Ramesh, Steven Redner, Daniel Richardson, Brianna Romersa, Bradley Schaeffer, Catherine Serio, Tori Shriner, Michael Sidell, Melissa Smack, Sarah Stephan, Malory Sterrett, Ashley Thoren, Michael Todd, Stephanie Vangasbeck, Ainsley Wissler and Luke Zolenski

Bishopville: Cole Espy, Thelma Gault Godinez, Sophia Kokkinos, Alora Lockhart and Jenna Shumate

Girdletree: Kellyann Belka and Victoria Makuchal

See WORCESTER Page 22



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Worcester County residents named to fall dean's list

Continued from Page 21

Newark: Kyle Ailstock, Lauren Lewis and Mohammad Nawaz

Ocean City: Ricardo Agurto, MacKenzie Barrett, Ian Bell-Andrews, Westin Blake, Maddox Bunting, Megan Card, Kelsei Dukes, Monica Garcia, Caroline Herl, Rachel Hreshko, Christopher Kenny, Devon Kramer, Allison Marx, Kara Mihavetz, Hannah Mourlas, Samuel Rakowski, Ilona Randolph, Lauren Rolleston, Cody Rompalo, Alexandria Russell, Aldo Santana, Yasmeen Shih, Morgan Schroeder, Nicole Sparagana, Hannah Stolba, Tiernan Weinstein, Lydia Woodley and Catherine Zannino

Pocomoke City: Dylan Barnes, Hilary Bishop, Bethany Cheeks, Deyton Dean, Patrick Giordano, Gary Hillard Jr., Caleb King, Ellie Litton, Kacy Lynch, Madison McDorman, Emma Merritt, Emmanuelle Phillips, Svetlana Sadakbaeva, Demond Selby, Bridget Stevens and Amanda Wright

Showell: Jazmine Bailey

Snow Hill: Jonathan Adams, Cindy Allebach, Charlie Blakelock, Miranda Carter, Benjamin Chase, Marissa Fetters, Cassandra Messler, Jason Odegard, Justin Smith and Marlin Yoder

GOLF DAY
Mild spring afternoons lure golfers to the Ocean Pines Golf Course.
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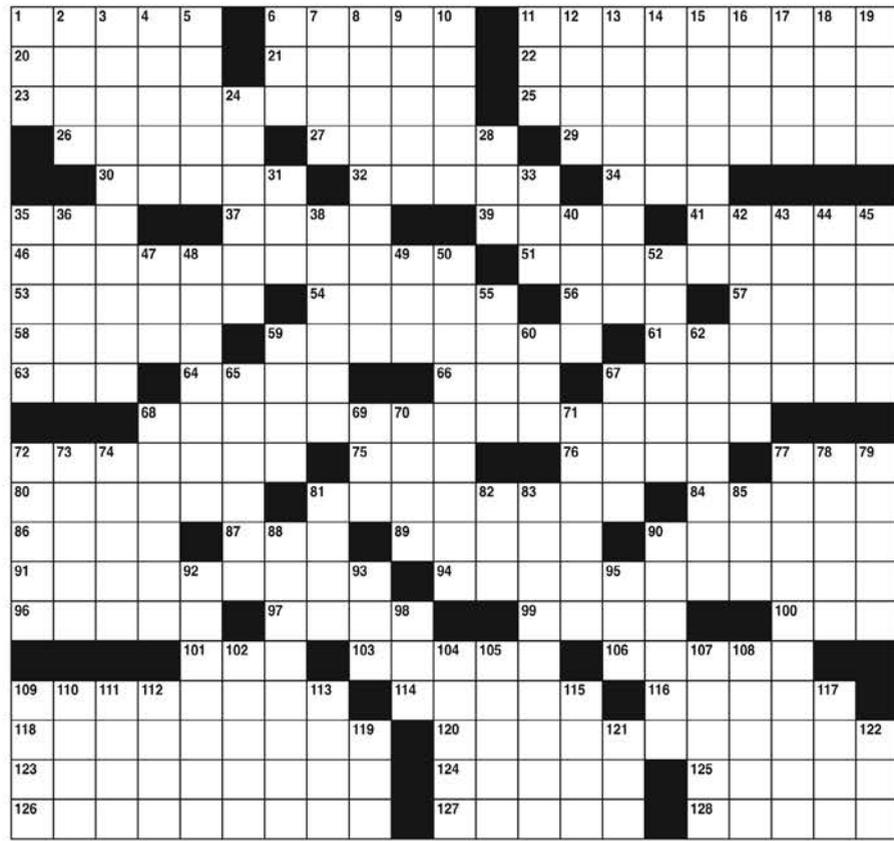
Puzzles

MERGER MANIA

BY DICK SHLAKMAN AND WILL NEDIGER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Dick Shlakman, who turns 82 next Sunday, is a retired lawyer and corporate executive from Plano, Texas. Will Nediger, 31, is a professional crossword constructor from London, Ontario. Dick saw Will's offer of crossword mentorship on Facebook and reached out for his help. They've now made several puzzles together. "I come up with a theme idea that I think is absolutely perfect," Dick says, "and Will shows me the error of my ways — then suggests how to take that idea and make it ideal." This is Dick's third crossword for The Times and Will's 37th. — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Men are pigs (after she's through with them, anyway!)
 - 6 The "A" of James A. Garfield
 - 11 Naysayers
 - 20 Lower-cost option on a popular rideshare app
 - 21 Egg: Sp.
 - 22 Frontiersman's headgear
 - 23 Result of a merger between Quaker Oats and Greyhound?
 - 25 Maintaining equilibrium
 - 26 Discourage
 - 27 Soft drink concentrate, e.g.
 - 29 "Night on Bald Mountain" or "Finlandia"
 - 30 With 18-Down, what has four legs and sprints?
 - 32 Musician who was booed in 1965 for playing electric guitar
 - 34 Letters before Gerald R. Ford and Ronald Reagan
 - 35 Luau instrument, for short
 - 37 Zoom
 - 39 Corner
 - 41 Second-longest human bone, after the femur
- DOWN**
- 46 Result of a merger between Kraft and Hershey's?
 - 51 Result of a merger between Google and Planters?
 - 53 Like the wights on "Game of Thrones"
 - 54 Best of the best
 - 56 Spelling ____
 - 57 What Santa checks twice
 - 58 R-rated
 - 59 Rulers' staffs
 - 61 Fire man?
 - 63 On the ____
 - 64 Poet Lazarus
 - 66 Prefix with thermal
 - 67 Bad sound for an engine
 - 68 Result of a merger between Hasbro and Nikon?
 - 72 Bird like the Canada goose or arctic tern
 - 75 LummoX
 - 76 Cheese offered tableside at Italian restaurants, informally
 - 77 Recipe amt.
 - 80 Eagle constellation
 - 81 Passive acquiescence
 - 84 Voice a view
 - 86 Firm decision maker?
 - 87 Revolutionary Guevara
 - 89 Klum of "Project Runway"
 - 90 "My love," in Madrid
 - 91 Result of a merger between Procter & Gamble and Jacuzzi?
 - 94 Result of a merger between Hormel and Instagram?
 - 96 Warehouse
 - 97 10 to 10, say
 - 99 ____ reform, cause for the Marshall Project
 - 100 Middling grade
 - 101 Pub choice
 - 103 Shot across the bow?
 - 106 ____ Waldorf, the so-called "Queen B" on "Gossip Girl"
 - 109 Leaves nothing to the imagination
 - 114 Measured
 - 116 "Been there, done that" feeling
 - 118 Disney's world
 - 120 Result of a merger between Ralph Lauren and Starbucks?
 - 123 "Stop your foolishness outside!"
 - 124 Not on
 - 125 Chops up finely
 - 126 Was uncomfortably hot
 - 127 Basil-based sauce
 - 128 ____ Allen, one of the founders of Vermont
 - 10 Iraqi city on the Tigris
 - 11 Kimono accessory
 - 12 Natural talent
 - 13 ____ Young-White, comedian/correspondent for "The Daily Show"
 - 14 Lead-in to an Indiana "-ville"
 - 15 ____ Ng, author of the 2017 best seller "Little Fires Everywhere"
 - 16 Piehole
 - 17 "Oops!"
 - 18 See 30-Across
 - 19 Part of a musical note
 - 24 Held forth
 - 28 "Two thumbs down" review
 - 31 Answer to "Are you asleep?" that can't be true
 - 33 Drift off to sleep
 - 35 Ordinary
 - 36 "Eh, not really"
 - 38 1981 hit Genesis album whose name resembles a rhyme scheme
 - 40 Balls in the sky
 - 42 Little sounds
 - 43 Muscular
 - 44 "Who's there?" response
 - 45 Nancy who served as the first female member of the British Parliament
 - 47 Come together
 - 48 Like some thinking
 - 49 A.O.C., e.g.
 - 50 Meets
 - 52 Evening prayer
 - 55 Come together
 - 59 Raw material?
 - 60 Quintana ____ (Mexican state that's home to Cancún)
 - 62 Mayhem
 - 65 Land governed by the House of Grimaldi
 - 67 Obedience school command
 - 68 More hackneyed
 - 69 A head
 - 70 A head
 - 71 Best-case scenarios
 - 72 Clipper parts
 - 73 "You can't fire me!"
 - 74 Italian poet Cavalcanti who influenced Dante
 - 77 Procrastinator's problem
 - 78 [Bo-o-o-oring!]
 - 79 In essence
 - 81 Where heroes are made
 - 82 Sass
 - 83 Co-founder of the N.A.A.C.P.
 - 85 Word that, when spelled backward, becomes its own synonym
 - 88 Member of the inn crowd?
 - 90 One of the Canterbury pilgrims
 - 92 One doing the lord's work
 - 93 In which you might do a deep dive
 - 95 Mistruth
 - 98 JAMA contributors
 - 102 Tool in a wood shop
 - 104 Shred
 - 105 ____ hole
 - 107 Battery part
 - 108 Language group related to Yupik
 - 109 Birkin stock?
 - 110 From scratch
 - 111 Quinceañera, e.g.
 - 112 Man's name that spells a fruit backward
 - 113 Passed-down stories
 - 115 "Stop stalling!"
 - 117 "The slightest" or "the foggiest" thing
 - 119 Oscar-winning lyricist Washington
 - 121 Classic Pontiac
 - 122 Phishing target, for short



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© Puzzles by Pappocom

HARD - 98

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.

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

Answers to last week's puzzles

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

S	N	A	R	F	J	U	S	T	S	O	M	A	N	N	E	R	E	D
W	A	L	D	O	U	N	P	A	C	K	I	T	S	A	L	I	V	E
I	D	E	A	L	B	R	E	A	K	E	R	N	E	W	H	A	V	E
F	I	X	K	E	Y	E	N	A	M	E	L	P	A	R	S			
T	R	A	U	M	A	B	U	N	T	S	E	R	I	O	U	S	L	Y
						L	U	S	H	E	S	A	V	E	R	S	E	
L	A	W	N	S	T	U	D	E	N	T	S	A	R	L	O	S	A	W
S	I	N	A	I	M	E	R	L	O	T	S	Y	S	T	O	L	E	
A	M	B	C	O	B	S	C	R	U	B	S	H	A	S	T	E		
T	E	A	S	B	E	D	S	O	F	A	I	R	S	O	G	O	O	
						P	E	O	R	I	A	O	N	E	T	W		
L	I	N	E	D	E	T	E	C	T	O	R	E	T	A	N	C	O	
T	H	E	C	W	S	E	A	D	O	G	I	R	E	A	L	A		
D	O	R	S	A	L	S	L	E	B	R	O	N	G	O	M	A	D	
S	P	F	R	O	O	S	L	A	B	O	R	O	F	G	L	O	V	
						A	D	U	L	T	S	A	S	L	O	P	E	
I	N	V	I	S	I	B	L	E	S	I	N	K	G	L	O	B	A	
C	H	O	O	D	A	R	W	I	N	S	I	A	E	R	A			
H	O	T	W	A	T	E	R	E	X	T	R	A	I	N	N	I	N	
A	P	I	A	R	I	S	T	R	A	R	I	N	G	T	R	I	O	
S	E	T	L	I	S	T	S	M	O	O	T	H	S	A	N	T	O	

Cuisine

Scallops with butternut puree, bacon jam

Oh, the Last Hurrah; the fleeting moments of joy for the small group of us strange humans who enjoy this chilly weather.

As we enter the throes of great heat and humidity, we cling to every morning during which frost adorns our lawn. I know. I know. It is strange, but I love all four of our seasons in Maryland.



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

Honestly, I've seen plenty of evidence to indicate that we experience quite a few more seasons than four, but I believe that you get my point. Chilly mornings will soon give way to balmy, ridiculously humid days, and most Marylanders will complain about that, but for me, this was literally the reason that I moved back to Maryland from San Diego in 1992.

As much as I loved Southern California, it is a bit of a "rinse and repeat" sort of state when it comes to weather. The ocean never truly warms up, once the fog clears every day is sunny, there is never a rainy season, and every day is just about the same. While it sounds entrancing, after three and a half years, it simply got old.

I remember on one specific trip back home, I was picked up at the airport by my parents. They had moved from Annapolis to Denton (or as I used to call it, 'satanic Mayberry') and as we crossed the bay bridge, it happened. I received my sign. I had a revelation that would be the cause for me moving back home: I witnessed a squall racing across the bay threatening every boat in its path.

A thick thunderhead, almost black and incredibly intense, built and grew out of nowhere and we witnessed the storm raging across the Bay and then dissipating as though it had never existed. I remembered those fast-hitting, violent storms as they would smack us sometimes as we sailed across the Magothy or the Chesapeake and they can be terrifying. But, seeing it on that particular day made me realize that California was a nice place to visit, but it was time to move back home.

And, here I am. And here I will stay, short of some trips down to Central America or The Keys.

Yep, I will take Maryland weather any day. And a part of that lends itself so well to hearty dishes such as this one; one of my favorites. Any seared



seafood is a beautiful thing, but serving it with a roasted squash puree? It is to die for. And it fits this weather perfectly! Once the heat hits, this won't be quite so apropos, but for now? It's quite the last hurrah.

Seared Scallops, Butternut Puree

serves 4

- 20 Dry sea scallops
- Clarified butter, as needed
- 1 c. chorizo chips
- 4 c. Butternut Puree (recipe follows)
- 4 c. Sautéed wild mushrooms (recipe follows)
- 1 c. Bacon jam (recipe follows)
- 2 c. Garlic kale (recipe follows)
 1. Pat scallops dry and set aside.
 2. Heat the clarified butter in a good, heavy duty saute pan until it is just below smoking.
 3. Season scallops on both sides and carefully place them in the butter.
 4. Sear for about 3 minutes, or until you have a nice amber-brown sear.
 5. Using a fish spatula, turn and cook for 2 more minutes.
 6. Remove from heat so that you do not overcook.
 7. Place puree in the center of the plate, surrounding it with little piles of bacon jam.
 8. Place a scallop on each little

mound of jam, and top with chorizo chips.

9. Top with mushrooms and kale.

Butternut Squash Puree

makes about 1 quart-ish

- 1 Butternut squash, peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 c. Chicken stock
- 1/2 c. Cream
- 3 oz. Whole butter
- S&P to taste

1. Place all of the ingredients in a small saucepan that has a lid.
2. Bring to a simmer, cover and cook until the squash is tender.
3. Use a stick blender, food mill or food processor to puree the goo until it is nice and smooth.
4. Season and keep hot until ready to use.

Sautéed Wild Mushrooms

makes 1 quart

- 2# Fresh assorted wild mushrooms
 - 2 cloves fresh garlic, smashed
 - 1 med. Shallot, fine julienne
 - Clarified butter, as needed
 - 1/2 c. Chicken stock
 - Salt & pepper, to taste
1. Add mushrooms to heated butter in a hot frypan.
 2. Eventually the heat will break down the mushrooms and they will release their water.

3. Add the garlic and shallots and cook thoroughly.

4. Add the chicken stock and leave it be, stirring only occasionally enough to let everyone get to know each other.

5. Season and keep hot until service.

Bacon Jam

Makes about a cup

- 6 strips bacon, cut into little bits
 - 1/2 med. White onion, fine julienne
 - 3 tsp. White vinegar
 - 3 tsp. Brown sugar
1. Place bacon and onion in a pan and set the heat to medium or even better, low.
 2. Pay attention to your family, and completely forget about your bacon jam, of course assuming that your stove setting is on medium or preferably low.
 3. Once onion and bacon have an uber-roasted feel to them, pull off the heat and drain.
 4. Add the vinegar and sugar, and salt and pepper to taste. You can make it a little loose at this point, as it will thicken as it cools.

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

Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

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., April 22

25TH ANNUAL SPRING DELMARVA BIRDING WEEKEND

Featuring boat trips, paddling treks and expeditions on foot. Visit <https://delmarvabirding.com/spring-dbw-april-2021/> for more information and to sign up for the Spring Delmarva Birding Weekend field trips.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

Pocomoke Library, 301 Market St., 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Join the event outside for an Earth Day craft and plant an herb or flower in our library garden. Free vegetable seed packets available while supplies last. For children of all ages. Mask and social distancing required. Weather permitting.

'WALL THAT HEALS' OPENING CEREMONY

Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines, 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 11:00 AM. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own seating. COVID-19 protocols to be followed. The exhibit will be open to the public, 24 hours a day, from April 22-25 at 2 p.m. <http://www.opvets.org>

ZUMBA FOR ALL LEVELS

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Join certified Zumba instructor Joyce Landsman for an hour of Zumba. This is a webinar style program, meaning you can practice your moves without being seen. Register: worcesterialibrary.org under events.

JOHN SINGER SARGENT: SOCIETY PORTRAIT PAINTER AND SO MUCH MORE

Meeting via Zoom, 2:00 PM. Join Richard Husband, local Pocomoke artist, as he discusses Sargent's life and work. Register: worcesterialibrary.org under events.

EARTH DAY SUCCULENTS

Meeting via Zoom, 3:00 PM. Joan LaHyme from the Worcester County Garden Club, will demonstrate the planting and care of succulents. Pick up your succulent to-go program kit from any branch prior to the program so the group can construct them together. Register: worcesterialibrary.org under events.

VIRTUAL THERAPEUTIC ART WORKSHOP

Self Portraits will be offered to all community members, 12 years and older, free of charge, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM. Participants will create a self-portrait drawing through imagination and pencil-drawn spiral forms as a means of exploration and self-expression. All materials will be provided. Register: <https://flowcode.com/p/pbP09SGa>.

Fri., April 23

25TH ANNUAL SPRING DELMARVA BIRDING WEEKEND

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ditions on foot. Visit <https://delmarvabirding.com/spring-dbw-april-2021/> for more information and to sign up for the Spring Delmarva Birding Weekend field trips.

MARYLAND INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL

Ocean City beach, from Third to Seventh streets. Throughout the festival there will be exhibitors and demonstrations including stunt and power kite lessons, Giant kite displays and more. The festival will showcase some of the best kite flyers from around the world. All activities are wind and weather dependent. 410-289-7855, <https://kiteloft.com/kite-festival/Maryland-International-Kite-Expo/>

HOME, CONDO & OUTDOOR SHOW/ART AND CRAFT FAIR

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Exhibitors will showcase ideas on decorating, remodeling, accessorizing, renovating and building homes. The Art and Craft Fair will offer a wide assortment of creative and unique gifts and accessories. There will be free drawings, valuable door prizes, up to \$50,000 Temple Bat Yam 50/50 cash raffle drawing and bargains everywhere. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors 55 and older, \$4 for students (14-22) and free to ages 13 and younger, military, police and fire with ID. <https://oceanpromotions.info/events/spring-home-condo>

CHUCK BERRY: FATHER OF ROCK AND ROLL

Held via Facebook, 7:00 PM. Frank DeLuco and Harry Burkett discuss the legendary Chuck Berry.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO

Fridays - Columbus Hall, behind St. Luke's Church, 9901 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. Masks are required while moving around inside. 410-524-7994

Sat., April 24

25TH ANNUAL SPRING DELMARVA BIRDING WEEKEND

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CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Ocean City Presbyterian Church, 1301 Philadelphia Ave., 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Attendees are asked to wear masks and social distance.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST

Whaleyville United Methodist Church, 11716 Sheppards Crossing Road, 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM. Menu includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, scrapple, scrambled eggs, chipped beef, hash brown potatoes, toast, fruit and assorted beverages. Masks are required. Indoor dining at 50 percent capacity and carry-out. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

YARD SALE FUNDRAISER

11238 Adkins Road, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM. Sponsored by the Stephen Decatur High School's Key Club.

RUN JUMP THROW EVENT

Worcester County Recreation Center, 6030 Public Landing Road, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Students, in second to eighth grade, will have fun with four learning stations: running, long jump, softball throw and speed/agility training. This event is free. Register: runjumpthrow.usatf.org. Myro Small, msmall@marylandscoast.org, 410-632-2144, Ext. 2512, <http://www.playmarylandscoast.org>

HOME, CONDO & OUTDOOR SHOW/ART AND CRAFT FAIR

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TREE SONGS PUPPET SHOW

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Jason and his puppet friends take attendees on an interactive, musical adventure. Sing and dance to tree songs, while exploring preschool science. Registration: <https://aacpl.librarycalendar.com/events/tree-songs-puppet-show>. For children 5 years and younger.

KIDS UNITE

Trimper's Rides, 700 S. Atlantic Ave., 12:00 PM. Join local first responders as they teach kids what to do in emergencies like being lost on vacation or getting caught in a rip tide and how to prepare and stay calm. Emergency vehicles will also be available for kids to admire close up. Un-

limited ride wristbands will be discounted to \$20. Park events are weather-dependent. <http://www.trimperrides.com/upcomingevents>

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Cost is \$8. Dine-in or carryout. Proceeds benefit the three Ocean City Scouts BSA units. Buy tickets and view auction items by visiting www.alpost166.org and click on Spaghetti. Tickets will also be available at the door.

'WALL THAT HEALS' CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY

Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines, 11144 Cathell Road, Ocean Pines, MD, 7:00 PM. Guests may walk along the wall, holding a candle, as volunteers read aloud the name of hometown heroes from Worcester County, as well as from other counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia and Sussex County in Delaware. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own seating. COVID-19 protocols to be followed. The exhibit will be open to the public, 24 hours a day, from April 22-25 at 2 p.m. <http://www.opvets.org>

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., April 25

25TH ANNUAL SPRING DELMARVA BIRDING WEEKEND

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HOME, CONDO & OUTDOOR SHOW/ART AND CRAFT FAIR

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM. Exhibitors will showcase ideas on decorating, remodeling, accessorizing, renovating and building homes. The Art and Craft Fair will offer a wide assortment of creative and unique gifts and accessories. There will be free drawings, valuable door prizes, up to

Continued on Page 26

Calendar

Continued from Page 25

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Mon., April 26

25TH ANNUAL SPRING DELMARVA BIRDING WEEKEND

Featuring boat trips, paddling treks and expeditions on foot. Visit <https://delmarvabirding.com/spring-dbw-april-2021/> for more information and to sign up for the Spring Delmarva Birding Weekend field trips.

POEMS OF SPRING

Held via Facebook, 10:30 AM. Join Miss Susan as she shares poems, songs and fin-

ger plays of the spring season for 2-5-year-old children. No registration required.

FEMALE VOICES MEET UP

Meeting via Zoom, 3:30 PM. Teens register on Beanstack for the Read Woke Challenge at WorcesterLibrary.Beanstack.org. Choose a book from Female Voices to read and discuss at the Zoom Meet Up. Earn badges that give participants a chance to win one of two \$500 grand prizes. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Meeting via conference call, 6:00 PM - 6:30 . 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 Cam-pion, 410-641-0157

Tues., April 27

KIDS YOGA WITH MINDFUL START

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 AM. Join the healthy mind-body movement class, that teaches mindfulness, breathing, sharing and self-regulation. For 3-10 year olds. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

PORTRAIT/CARICATURE DRAWING

Meeting via Zoom, 8:00 PM. Using simple

shapes and line techniques learn the basic steps to draw portraits and exaggerate facial features. No prior drawing experience needed. Attendees will need paper, pencil and eraser. Register: worcesterlibrary.org under events.

Wed., April 28

FIRST STATE DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

American Legion Post #166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., 12:00 PM. Any Marines and Navy Corpsman who have served in the Corps, living in Worcester and Sussex counties, are welcome to join the meeting. websergeant@firststatemarines.org, 410-430-7181

MASK LANYARD MEET UP

Meeting via Zoom, 3:30 PM. Go to <https://worcesterlibrary.libwizard.com/f/ProgramToGo> to request the Mask Lanyard Kit. Pick it up and join the Zoom to craft a beaded mask lanyard. For ages 10 years and older. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

FREE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. The goal of the group is to provide participants hope for the future and the skills to help find their way by provid-

ing a supportive and safe place, allowing them to share stories confidentially and spend time with others who understand. The group plans to meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

FAIR HOUSING: KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS

Meeting via Zoom, 6:30 PM. The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights discusses the Fair Housing Act which provides protections for all Marylanders. Register: worcesterlibrary.org under events.

ONGOING EVENTS

FLAGS FOR HEROES SEEKS SUPPORT

On Armed Forces Day, May 15, through the Fourth of July, a colorful display of flags will fly in Veterans Memorial Park along Route 589 in Ocean Pines. Each flag will honor a local hero. Flag sponsorships are \$50. Each flag will include a medallion with the sponsor's name and the name of their chosen hero. All orders must be received by May 10. Make checks payable to Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation, with "Flags for Heroes" in the memo line. Mail checks to WCVMF, P.O. Box 1576, Ocean Pines, MD 21811. All proceeds benefit student education and outreach projects, community charities and the Rotary Club's Scholarship fund. There are multiple sponsorship opportunities. For more details, email cliffo917@aol.com.

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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Ocean Aviation Flight Academy seeks **Assistant Office Manager**

Friendly small office environment. P/T. Weekends plus some weekdays. Year Around Position. Responsible for student interaction, dispatch and check in of flights, filing, retail sales and keeping our offices neat and clean. Must be customer oriented and be proficient in data entry and have good computer skills. Previous office experience preferred.

Please forward resume to mfreed@flyoceanaviation.com

We prefer initial contact be through e-mail only. Qualified applicants will be contacted for in person interviews.
Please contact me via e-mail at mfreed@flyoceanaviation.com.

Administrative Assistant

Full Time - \$14 - \$15 per hour

Franchise Management Services, one of the fastest growing restaurant organizations in the Delmarva region, has an immediate opening Administrative Assistant.

Job Description

Responsible for providing administrative, clerical and accounting support to management.

Jobs Tasks and Responsibilities

- Filing, Mail, Correspondence and Data Entry
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