



OP ballot candidate draw set

Rules outlined, forums arranged, process begins for voting to start in June

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) With four candidates vying for two open seats in the Ocean Pines Board of Directors election, the Election Committee set the ballot order and laid out the rules last Friday for this year's contest.

Election Committee Chairman Steve Habeger conducted a four-card draw, ace through four, to select ballot order among the 2021 candidates: Frank Daly, Rick Farr, David Hardy and Stuart Lakernick.

Orchestrated in alphabetical order, Daly pulled first and grabbed an ace card.

"Remind me not to play poker with him," Habeger said.

Farr followed with a four card, while absentee selections were made for Hardy and Lakernick, with the official candidate order running: Daly, Lakernick, Hardy and Farr.

The Elections Committee also held a candidate workshop on Friday to outline contest rules and deadlines.

Habeger said two candidate forums were scheduled, the first being held June 9, with number
See OP Page 9



Frank Daly



Stuart Lakernick



David Hardy



Rick Farr



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

CONJURING ELVIS

Straight out of "Graceland," Elvis tribute artist Bob Lougheed, backed by the Memphis Mafia, rocked out before an appreciative swarm of fans at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club on Saturday.

SDHS seniors cut own path through covid

Unexpected year met with resolve by Class of 2021

By Mallory Panuska
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) Members of Stephen Decatur High School's class of 2021 missed out on a lot of rites of passage because of the covid-19 pandemic.

But last week, thanks to the lifting of strict pandemic-era capacity and mask restrictions, they got to experience an almost completely normal graduation ceremony on the lawn of their school's stadium in Berlin.

"Each one of you have had dreams of what your senior year would be," Superintendent Lou Taylor said to the 302 graduates decked out in their blue and white caps and gowns last Tuesday evening.

"No matter how fantastical those dreams may have been, I know none of them included a global pandemic ..." he continued. "This is the hand you've been dealt [and the fact] that you made it here tonight — in person no less — is worth celebrating."

Taylor and others who spoke during the ceremony — including principal Tom Sites, class president Emily Stitely and the official commencement speaker, Al "Hondo" Handy — liberally used words like perseverance and resilience to describe the

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Black Eyed Susan finally paddling home

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) The Black Eyed Susan riverboat's long and arduous journey to Snow Hill will conclude this weekend.

Tomorrow or Saturday, the riverboat will pull into Snow Hill after spending the last few months in Salisbury at the Murtech Marine to undergo various upgrades and repairs.

"We added things that didn't get completed (earlier in the process)," former Snow Hill Town Manager Gary Weber said. "There were several things that we didn't have planned but got taken care of. It's an ordeal to go long distances — the boat moves very slow. In addition to the recommended repairs, we put in all new plexiglass on the second level, painted the floor, got rid of the old nasty peel-and-stick carpet. They painted it and got the floors done."

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Bylaws Committee examines policy details

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) The Ocean Pines Bylaws & Resolutions Committee discussed the following topics during a virtual meeting last Friday.

Board policy resolutions
Committee Chair Jim Trummel outlined four resolutions (F-02, F-03, M-05, M-07) the Board of Directors must regularly review.

“They come to the board for full review,” he said.

Resolution F-02 concerns annual budget development and outlines actions required by the general manger and staff to prepare an annual operating budget and capital expenditure plan.

Resolution F-03 outlines financial reserve accounts.

Trummel said recent monthly financial reports have listed a drainage reserve account, which is not specified in F-03.

“The bylaws require the reserve funds be specifically designated,” he said.

This includes related criteria for particular reserve accounts, Trummel said.

“We’re picking it up in the treasurers report as a separate fund,” he said.

Board liaison Camilla Rogers, who noted the topic had been discussed



Ocean Pines Bylaws and Resolutions Committee members, clockwise from left, Jim Trummel, Lora Pangratz, Keith Kaiser, board liaison Camilla Rogers and Bob Hillegass met virtually last Friday.

among directors with no conclusion reached, agreed to follow up on the issue.

Resolution M-07 addresses bulkheads and waterway maintenance, which Trummel suggested would be a candidate for review by the Marine Activities Committee.

Trummel said resolution M-05,

which addresses animal control, dates back a decade and was instituted in regards to the Ocean Pines Police Department taking custody of stray animals.

During a previous resolution review, a recommendation was made to eliminate the section since animal control is the responsibility of Worcester County.

“The chief of police at that time wanted to have Ocean Pines declare its authority to charge to maintain animals taken into custody,” he said. “The chief wanted to make sure there was reimbursement.”

Trummel said any potential changes would be weighed during the routine review procedure.

Rogers proposed sending F-02 and F-03 to General Manager John Viola and Finance Director Steve Phillips for review and potential updates, along

mittees.

In recent years, the Search Committee has not functioned efficiently, either not forming or having less than the mandated five members.

“I got responses back from Communications and Elections,” he said.

Trummel said the Search Committee is still preparing its reply, which would be part of an annual report outlining its actions required by June 30.

“The draft is under review by Search Committee members and should be received soon,” he said.

Trummel said both the Elections and Communications committee’s responses indicated a preference to limit their role to present duties.

Communications Committee members would share information about elections schedules but not take part in finding candidates.

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Workgroup finds omissions in some areas

Continued from Page 2

The Elections Committee sought to deal solely with conducting the contest, while not soliciting candidates to avoid any suggestion of conflict.

Trummel asked for suggestions for modifying related provisions to improve the committee's function.

"My feel for the direction is probably to retain the Search Committee," he said

Committee member Lora Pangratz asked why Search Committee members serve one-year terms, while other advisory groups include three-year commitments.

Trummel said bylaws provisions mandate the association president appoint the committee by Feb. 1 each year.

"It doesn't specify one-year terms but effectively it does," he said.

Trummel said reappointing members the following year is not prohibited, while also noting that the bylaws grant the board authority to specify committee terms and duties.

"That reference could be made for the Search Committee and the board could take the length of term into con-

sideration," he said.

Rogers said during her time on the board the Search Committee has been dysfunctional.

"Do we want to continue it or just have people interested in running just fill out an application?" she said.

Trummel said before 2008, when the Search Committee was created, association bylaws included a provision for a Nominating Committee.

"That committee was to go out and nominate people," he said. "You didn't get on the ballot unless that committee nominated you."

The approach was altered during the 2008 bylaws revisions process.

"The Nominating Committee actually did the screening," he said.

Trummel said the Search Committee was instituted as the prior approach failed to address whether potential board candidates had suitable qualifications.

Committee member Keith Kaiser proposed tabling the discussion until obtaining a response from the Search Committee.

Trummel concurred and said the reply would be forwarded to commit-

tee members once received.

"I'm skeptical of the reaction to doing away with a Search Committee entirely," he said.

Architectural review committee Another bylaws issue raised by the work group is board oversight of the Architectural Review Committee.

Trummel said association bylaws give the board authority to establish and enforce polices, including fees and procedures, for Architectural Review, which was originally designated as the Environmental Control Committee.

"There's a provision ... in [declaration of restrictions] that decisions of ARC are final," he said.

Adding a layer of confusion to that subject, the association's declaration of restrictions created after 1995 reference an appeals process

"The process of the appealing is

supposed to be outlined in the ARC guidelines but that has never been done," he said.

Trummel said the work group wondered if the appeals provision oversteps the authority granted to architectural review.

"That question has been around for years," he said.

Trummel said to try and address the uncertainty, the work group has suggested requesting board permission to seek a legal opinion from Ocean Pines Association Attorney Jeremy Tucker.

Trummel said once final comments are received from Bylaws Committee members, he would email a list of questions to Rogers to forward to Tucker.

The next Bylaws & Resolutions Committee meeting is scheduled for July 9 at 1 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY GARY WEBER

The Black Eyed Susan riverboat will paddle into Snow Hill later this week. The boat has spent its time most recently at the Murtech Marine in Salisbury for various repairs and renovations.

Weber dispels myths about riverboat's maneuverability

Continued from Page 1

Weber left his position with the town this week.

All this occurred after the town sweated it out with Leonardtown to even purchase the boat in 2020.

Weber said it'll be nice for himself and all those involved with seeing the project through to have the opportunity to enjoy the final product.

"There have been a lot of people involved in getting the boat to Snow Hill and Worcester County," Weber said. "There will be an event to include anyone who's helped get the boat here."

Weber also dispelled some rumors about why boat repairs were taking so

long and that the project was doomed — claims from the boat being too tall to pass under fixed bridges and an inability to turn in the open water among them.

"The paddwheel is not fixed. It's separated, just like a regular boat with twin screws," Weber said. "There has been a lot of (criticism) online and on Facebook that isn't accurate. It'll be nice to take a ride on the boat myself. (After enduring all of that) I think I deserve it."

The 111-foot paddwheel boat itself is nearly 33 feet tall, Weber added, with the lowest bridge it'd have to pass under being 35 feet tall.

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Hardy rounds out Pines Board candidates

Annual directors election brings one incumbent and three newcomers to contest

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) Ocean Pines Board candidate David Hardy is looking to translate nearly half a century of military and federal government experience into managing the community's budget expenditures, while also soliciting wider input from homeowners.

"We're a rule of the majority with respect to the minority," he said. "You have to ensure everyone feels like they participate at some level."

Hardy, the latest of four candidates to enter the fray, enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1974 and spent more than half a dozen years on active duty in the U.S., Europe and North Africa.

After this, Hardy transitioned into an active reservist role for over 14 years.

"I was in a command position and responsible for the people, materials, and equipment, as well as the mission," he said.

During this era, Hardy's sites of service expanded to include Central America and Canada.

"At the same time ... I managed to

work in private industry," he said.

Following over a decade in private industry, Hardy gained employment in the federal civilian service.

"I work in contracts and acquisitions for the government," he said.

After beginning as a civilian employee with the Department of the Army, Hardy later worked for the Department of Defense, followed by an eight-year stint at the Department of Energy.

"I managed programs at the National Labs," he said.

In more recent years, Hardy has been employed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Harford County.

"I'm a systems engineer and I manage contracts and acquisitions," he said. "So, I know how to manage money in a manner that is responsible."

While Hardy has yet to determine a precise retirement date, in anticipation of that day Hardy purchased property in Ocean Pines three years ago.

"I'm slowly moving my butt to Ocean Pines and I'll get there fulltime eventually," he said.

Hardy and his spouse of nearly

two decades, Edie, have lived part-time in the Pines to this point.

In addition to both his military and governmental background, Hardy's resume includes six years serving on town council in Framingham, Massachusetts.

"We created and approved the town budget," he said. "Unlike our federal government, or some limited state governments, where it seems to be a fulltime job, it really was a part-time endeavor."

Starting in the late 1980s, Hardy served two terms on the Framingham council, which managed a budget in the \$100 million range for a population, at that time, of roughly 40,000 people.

"It was called a town but had the population of a small city," he said. "As the town got bigger, we had a meeting council where we had probably about 500 meeting members."

Hardy said the municipal government stint imparted a crucial lesson.

"You have to get the job done as expeditiously as you can, but you've got to respect all participants," he said.

During his time in the Pines, Hardy, has felt the larger community lacks involvement in financial decisions.

"As a resident, I don't feel I have input to the annual budget and what projects are done," he said.

Hardy also questioned how the association allocated more than \$1 million in Payroll Protection Program funds awarded by the Small Business Administration.

"That seemed to get spent awful quick," he said. "Maybe it was totally legitimate, but I believe in total transparency."

Hardy found the situation reversed in terms of expectations while working in federal government agencies.

"It's a totally different animal," he said. "I was reminded, you're not spending your money, you're spending the taxpayers."

Hot button Pines issues Hardy is focused on includes addressing short-

term rentals.

"I believe ... that the county has policies which are excellent and address all of the concerns," he said. "It's an issue of enforcement."

While cognizant of community concerns over inconsiderate short-term visitors, Hardy cautioned that some perspective must be applied.

"Some of these problems are caused by a very small percentage, if you can even call it a percentage," he said.

Hardy stressed that it's important to avoid condemning the majority of responsible homeowners who provide short-term accommodations.

"I don't want that to happen in any community that I live in," he said.

Hardy believes that the core issue boils down to what level of assistance Worcester County could use to improve enforcement of rental regulations.

"If the county is saying they need help, we need to find out how to help them," he said. "It's not necessarily simply creating more rules and another oversight board."

Although fully supportive of instituting a work group to analyze county rental rules, Hardy opposes establishing more restrictive regulations.

"There's got to be a way to do it without being onerous," he said.

Fiscal transparency is another major platform Hardy is championing.

"Should seven people have authority to decide how to spend \$1 million alone?" he said.

In past budget dealings, Hardy said the overwhelming bulk of capital projects were funded annually.

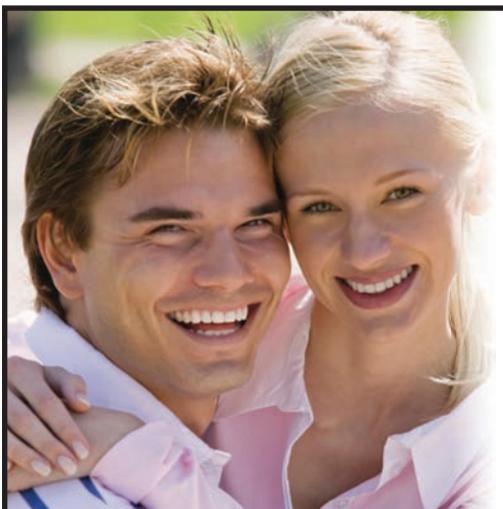
"They decide how much money to spend on everything and then they move forward," he said. "They don't, in the middle of the year, have additional capital projects that they can approve."

In contrast to his current pursuit, Hardy said being involved in politics was discouraged when he was in the military and employed by government agencies.

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David Hardy



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Pines election ballots due Aug. 11

Continued from Page 4

"You're not allowed to be political," he said. "I'm not a political animal, but I want to be involved in my community in an apolitical manner."

The other OPA Board 2021 candidates are Stuart Lakernick, Frank Daly and Rick Farr.

Stuart Lakernick, who finished third in the 2020 board election, announced his current candidacy in February for the pair of open board seats.

Lakernick, a Philadelphia-based chiropractic functional neurologist, is also the husband of former OPA Board member Esther Diller.

After filing earlier this year, Lakernick admitted weighing another election run for several months before making his decision.

Speaking in February, Lakernick cited "unhealthy dynamics" with current board membership and a lack of diverse viewpoints as primary motivators for his candidacy.

"Having a board with differences in opinions is good and can work in unity for what's best for our association," he said.

Incumbent Frank Daly jumped in the candidate pool in early April.

Daly, who is winding down an initial stint on the board after being elected in 2018, is seeking another three-year term to continue what he characterized as a commitment to assure long-term financial stability for the association.

"We have to make sure that we can sustain what we have done in the short term over the long run," he said in April.

Daly, who was born in Pennsylvania and reared in Cleveland, made an initial unsuccessful board bid in 2016, finishing fourth out of 11 candidates vying for three open seats.

Following the 2016 setback, Daly served as chairperson for the Ocean Pines Comprehensive Planning Com-

mittee before staging a successful board run in 2018.

After consulting with his spouse in early April, Daly unveiled plans to pursue re-election for another term.

"Over the last three years, a lot has been accomplished," he said. "We don't have any dilapidated facilities anymore [and] we have a stable assessment."

Despite improved management of association amenities in recent years, Daly said in April work remains to establish succession-planning parameters to ensure continuity of operations as board members or the general manager position changes.

Daly stated his primary motivation for seeking another board term is an aversion to stepping away from long-term planning efforts.

"Just to make sure that the community is on solid footing, that the progress we made is not a one-and-done situation," he said. "A lot of the easy problems have been taken care of, but now we have big problems, like drainage."

The candidate pool expanded further in late April when retired Air Force MSgt. Rick Farr entered the race.

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

"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.

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 in April 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."

Another priority Farr keyed on in April 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 also advocated board accountability to counter any perception of malfeasance.

"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."

The first OPA Board candidate forum was slated for June 9, with a second installment set for June 19 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Assateague Room in the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Ballots are due by Aug. 11 to be followed by a vote count on Aug. 13 beginning at 10 a.m.

The OPA Annual Homeowners Meeting takes place on Aug. 14 with time and venue yet to be announced.

For questions about the election, or to submit questions for the candidate forum email elections@oceanpines.org.

Rusko memorial bench dedication June 12 in Pines

(June 10, 2021) Community members will host a memorial bench dedication in honor of Paul Rusko on June 12 at 11 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.



Paul Rusko

Rusko, who passed away in December, was seen as a mentor to many in the Ocean Pines area and in Anne Arundel County, where he was the coordinator of physical education and athletics for more than three decades.

Among those he mentored is Tim McMullen, the current Ocean Pines Racquet Sports program coordinator and a former athletic director at Broadneck High School in Anne Arundel County.

"Paul was a mentor to hundreds of teachers and coaches in Anne Arundel County, and in Ocean Pines he was the founder of the 'Early Bird' group many years ago," McMullen said. "We would get together and play tennis, and then go out to breakfast and solve the problems of the world."

"He was a phenomenal person," McMullen continued. "We're hoping the tennis community here, and the teachers and coaches from Anne Arundel County will attend this memorial dedication."

The Ocean Pines Racquet Center is on 11443 Manklin Creek Road, in Ocean Pines. For questions about the dedication, contact McMullen at mac122147@gmail.com.

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

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Rusty Anchor Seafood Market opens in Berlin

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) The Rusty Anchor Seafood Market, which opened yesterday in Berlin, adds a fresh wrinkle to America's Coolest Small Town with high quality carryout seafood and gourmet cuisine.

Established area restaurateurs, Barry Kruemmel and Chris Diforte launched the new venture at 8 Pitts Street.

Kruemmel has operated the Flying Fish Café and Sushi Bar in the Village of Fenwick Shoppes for the past seven years.

"I have a sushi restaurant in Fenwick Island," he said. "We've won best sushi in Sussex County six of the seven years we've been open."

Diforte, who operates Rusty Jimmies in the Village of Fenwick Shoppes, is partnering on the fresh concept.

"He used to own Brewmaster's Pub in Ocean City years ago," he said.

After shuttering Brewmaster's Pub, Diforte, a native of Chincoteague, switched gears and became a waterman.

"He was a wholesale fisherman," Kruemmel said.

Five years ago, Diforte opted to quit selling wholesale to other establishments and open his own joint, Rusty Jimmies.

At that time, Kruemmel doubted the neighboring eatery would thrive.

"Having been in the restaurant business my whole life, I just wasn't sure if he could pull it off," he said. Witnessing the eventual success of Rusty Jimmies was inspirational for Kruemmel.

"I watched him for like 5 years just churn away at it with a pure and devoted work ethic," he said. "He proved to me he was unflinching."

The pair became friends and grad-

ually developed a mutual respect, which culminated with Diforte proposing a partnership last year.

"I never thought I wanted a partner in any kind of venture," Kruemmel said.

Earlier this year Kruemmel changed his tune after envisioning a new business concept in Berlin.

"I moved to Berlin about two years ago and absolutely fell in love," he said. "I live right on Main Street [so] I can walk to the market."

As Kruemmel began making acquaintances and developing friendships with neighbors in Berlin, a plan began to develop.

"I knew I wanted to be a larger part of the community by owning my own business," he said. "I flirted with the idea of doing another sushi restaurant, because I knew it would be very popular."

Shortly thereafter, Kruemmel spied an available commercial space on Pitts Street.

"The price was right and it was right close to Main Street," he said.

After assuming the building lease in March, Kruemmel was still uncertain what direction to head with the business plan.

"I always kind of flirted with the idea of a seafood market because of my background dealing with fresh fish and seafood," he said.

In short order, Kruemmel drafted a business plan and impromptu menu to pitch to Diforte.

"I can bring this amazing Japanese sushi-grade fish that you can't find at most fish markets," he said. "You can bring all the local stuff, [like] oysters, clams, mussels, rockfish and fresh-picked crab meat."

The approach proved appealing to Diforte.

"We decided to join forces to do the best of both worlds," he said.

The partners are in lockstep re-



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Rusty Anchor Seafood Market opened for business on Wednesday at 8 Pitts Street in Berlin.

garding marketing concepts.

"People appreciate consistency and uncompromising quality," he said.

In addition to offering fresh caught tastes from area waterways, the Rusty Anchor also features a selection of "take and bake" menu selections, including clams casino, jumbo lump crab dip, baseball-size crab cakes and bacon-wrapped scallops or barbecue shrimp.

"These things are individually par done ... where all you have to do is just put it in the oven, bake it off, and you're ready to go," he said. "You have a restaurant quality meal at your house for half the price you'd pay going out."

Sandwich selections include jumbo shrimp salad on a croissant, lobster roll or a broiled crab cake.

Also available is fresh albacore tuna salad and hot or cold soups, available by quart or pint.

"We have a creole cream of crab

which is an award-winning soup," he said. "Everybody that has it says it's the best cream of crab they've ever had."

The Rusty Anchor Seafood Market is focused on providing stellar customer service, while also offering an inviting ambiance.

"We treat every customer like they're a VIP and take care of everyone," he said. "Everything's consistent, beautiful and fresh."

Kruemmel intends to operate the business year-round.

"Berlin's a year-round town," he said. "Like a lot of small towns, they like to put their money back into their community."

Kruemmel is cognizant that Berlin town officials and area consumers have discriminating palates.

"They are very picky about what they let come into town," he said. "I want to know if I put all this time and effort into opening this little boutique seafood market, I don't want a Sunsations being next to me."

Speaking on Tuesday, Kruemmel said final preparations were underway for a grand opening the next day.

"All day today we'll be in there cooking and prepping and then tomorrow we open at 11 a.m.," he said. "We're prepared for success and we're prepared to be busy."

Town of Berlin Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

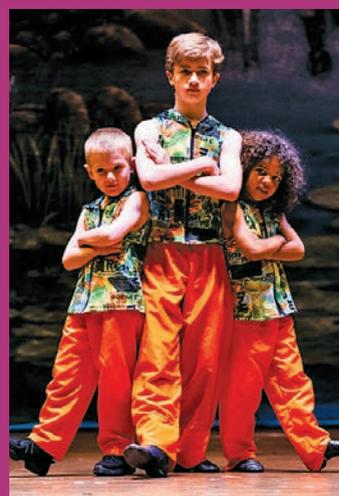
AT&T proposes to modify an existing facility (new tip heights 138.2') on the water tank at 100 Franklin Ave, Berlin, MD (20210606). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

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OP ballot mailing deadline set for no later than July 12

Continued from Page 1

two scheduled on Sat., June 19 at 10 a.m. in the Assateague Room of the community center.

Election forums start with each candidate provided three minutes for opening remarks, followed by a series of questions, with each given two minutes to answer. An additional three-minute window is granted to the candidates to offer closing thoughts.

Habeger said candidates are not required to attend election forums, which allow questions to be posed to the contestants.

Daly announced he would skip the second forum on June 19 as it coincides with his 50th wedding anniversary.

Habeger also noted the importance for board members to be well versed on related governance documents, such as the Maryland HOA Act and OPA bylaws, so as to fully engage with the community.

"I encourage all candidates to have a working familiarity with the foundational documents that rule this organization," he said.

Elections Committee member Mark Heintz reviewed size and placement limitations for candidate signs.

"Election materials can't be distributed on Ocean Pines property except during candidate forums," he said.

Election signs or handbills are prohibited at Pines amenities and facilities.

Heintz said signs are only permitted on private property with the owner's permission and should not exceed four square feet or measure longer than 38 inches.

All election signs must be removed by Aug. 20.

Property owners are limited to displaying one sign per candidate, except for residences on canals, or those backing to the golf course or Route 589, Route 90 or Beauchamp Road, where an additional rear sign is allowed.

Habeger said election ballots would be mailed no later than the week of July 12 and must be received no later than close of business on Aug. 11. The vote count begins on Aug. 13 at 10 a.m. with results announced during the OPA annual homeowners meeting on Aug. 14.

The Election Committee is scheduled to meet on June 22 at 10 a.m. to confirm that materials are ready for printing and mailing ahead of a July 5 deadline for submitting to associa-



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Election Committee Chair Jim Trummel displays roughly 100 ballots for the recent spending referendum that arrived late, while advising to allow sufficient mailing time for the upcoming Ocean Pines Board contest during a candidate draw on Friday.

tion officials.

"We're aiming to have the ballots in the voter's hands for about 30 days," he said.

While holding up a stack of late-arriving ballots from the recent spending referendum, Habeger stressed the importance of allowing adequate delivery time.

"They're invalid ballots and we don't even open the envelopes," he said. "We don't want to see an election decided by 10 or 12 votes and have 100 unopened ballots."

Habeger said the late arrivals in the recent referendum vote would not have altered the outcome, while also noting ballots mailed from the Eastern Shore would be routed to Balti-

more prior to delivery.

"The best way to do it is to drop into the drop box in the [Ocean Pines] Police Department lobby," he said.

Habeger said just 3 percent of referendum ballots were received in the Police Department drop-off location, while also noting the association was advised that delivery times to Pennsylvania and New Jersey took up to two weeks.

"The postal service seems to be running slowly these days," he said. "If you've got 30 days and it takes two weeks to get the ballot, boy, the clock is ticking."

For questions about the election, or to submit questions for the candidate forum email elections@oceanpines.org.

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Mary Christine Strobel

Local Author Goes Nationwide

Berlin resident records her tumultuous memoir.

Mary Christine Strobel (Benton), known as Christine, was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1962. She re-

located to the small town of McDaniel, Maryland in 1975 where she lived on the watershed of the Chesapeake Bay. As an adult, Christine moved to Roxana, Delaware. It was during that time she began to document her life's experiences, as a therapeutic way of overcoming many trials and tribulations she had experienced that lasted decades; challenges that few, if any, could withstand.

After several years of nudging from her husband, Michael Strobel, Christine began the long tedious process to turn her timeline into a book. Her motivation was also to share her story with her children,

grandchildren, and her family for generations to come and to possibly help others who find themselves in the throes of life changing hardships.

Christine presented her manuscript to long time editor, Bill Cecil, M. Ed. and technical writing professor at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore Campus for review and editing. After reading Christine's manuscript, Bill encouraged her to persevere through the challenges of completing her memoir, *Stuffing Cotton*. There has been a lot of interest in Christine's story thus far. Those who have read *Stuffing Cotton* have attested to its impact as being one of the most powerful books they have read to date. *Stuffing Cotton* has also been reviewed by Hollywood Producers for a possible screenplay.

Christine loves the Delmarva Peninsula and she wishes to share her story with the community that she is grateful to be a part of.

For more information, please feel free to contact Christine at stuffingcotton@gmail.com or visit www.stuffingcotton.com.

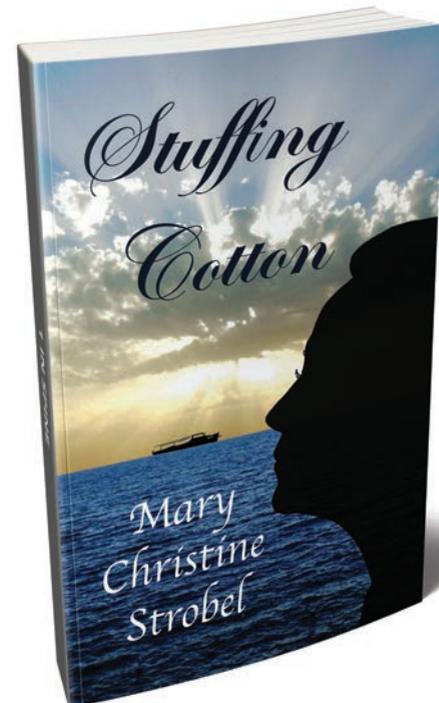
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MALLORY PANUSKA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Stephen Decatur High School Principal Tom Sites addresses the Class of 2021 graduates during their commencement ceremony in Berlin on June 2.



MALLORY PANUSKA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Stephen Decatur High School graduate Eric Berry poses for a photo after receiving his diploma.

Decatur graduates make it through uniquely bizarre yr.

Continued from Page 1
young men and women who received diplomas last week.

The ability to overcome the challenges of a global pandemic was something the students had not prepared for, but it was something they took in stride. And they even managed to go above and beyond with an array of awards and accomplishments in academics, sports, arts, service and more that will set them up for bright futures.

"There is uncertainty in where we are headed now coming out of a worldwide pandemic but I have confidence because of what I see in front of me this evening," Sites said to the graduates.

Handy, who was one of the first Black students to attend Stephen Decatur, is no stranger to overcoming challenges. He recalled the early difficulties of maneuvering hallways filled primarily with students who were not like him, and the struggle of excelling at basketball as a short guy. But he shared a sound piece of advice

that his longtime mentor gave him when he expressed a desire to play the sport, and encouraged the graduates to take it with them as they move on to their next chapters: "If you think you can, you can."

And Handy did. He was a member of the 1970 Stephen Decatur championship basketball team and went on to become a pillar of the Ocean City Recreation and Parks Department, retiring in 2019 after more than 40 years in the position. He also earned a number of awards and recognitions over the years for his work and dedication, and passed some of the life lessons onto the 2021 graduates.

"Whatever you choose to do, you must be committed. Commitment is vital to you if you want to be successful," he said. "I encourage you to think about some of the things that I promoted at the recreation center, things like respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility and perseverance."

For Stitely, seeing her fellow classmates finally gathered, ready to accept their diplomas and start their



MALLORY PANUSKA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Stephen Decatur High School graduate Anisha Carson walks off the stage after receiving her diploma last Wednesday.



MALLORY PANUSKA/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Yunjin Bang smiles after receiving his diploma during the Stephen Decatur High School graduation ceremony last Wednesday.

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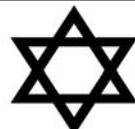
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PHOTO COURTESY JAMIE GREENWOOD

Family, friends and educators gather for the Stephen Decatur High School Class of 2021 graduation ceremony held in the Louis H. Taylor Stadium last Wednesday in Berlin.

Scholarship totals hit \$8.7 million

lives after four years of hard work was a positive experience. And despite the challenges of the pandemic, the graduates accomplished quite a bit.

“This class has accounted for numerous sports wins and titles, breaking school records and state records, and all while maintaining extraordinary grades,” she said. “Numerous service projects have blossomed from the minds of our class and gone into action within our community. From beach cleanups and little free libraries, to donation drives and fundraisers, there’s no doubt that we will be leaving this community with a

positive impact from our time here at Decatur.”

Stitely also pointed out that she and her classmates missed out on important social experiences, like their homecoming walk at the beginning of the year when the pandemic was still surging, and the chance to be “at the top of the food chain” as seniors after four long years of waiting for it.

For that, she led her peers in their first and only seniors chant, a tradition passed on annually from class to class and typically belted out at sporting and other public events, many of which the class of 2021 missed out

on. Sites also provided the following stats regarding the class of 2021:

- 302 total graduates
- 130 attending four-year schools, 61 attending two-year schools, and nine attending trade and technical schools.
- 9 students entering the military
- 18 entering into work in a related field of study
- 75 entering the workforce.
- A total \$8.769 million in scholarships were offered to the graduates and school officials have yet to finalize how much will be accepted



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Taylor House film fest revamps Sunday event

Three-day shindig focuses on two Hollywood releases incorporating Berlin setting

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) Looking to mark history, while also starting a new chapter this weekend, the "Movies of Berlin: Film Festival" that launches tomorrow at the Calvin B. Taylor

House Museum is the inaugural installment of monthly "Sunday at the Museum" events scheduled through September.

Taylor House Museum President

Melissa Reid said the three-day cinematic celebration of twin Hollywood productions filmed on location in Berlin commemorates the 20th anniversary of "Tuck Everlasting," on Friday and Saturday, while 1998's "Runaway Bride" takes center stage on Sunday.

"It's really focused on the films of Berlin," she said.

The film festival at the Taylor House Museum is being produced in conjunction with Berlin's Arts & Entertainment District and the Worcester County Arts Council.

In 2002, Berlin doubled as the fictional "Treegap," during the filming of "Tuck Everlasting," which featured Sissy Spacek, Ben Kingsley and William Hurt.

Before a free screening of "Tuck Everlasting" Saturday night, "Movies of Berlin" will begin with a ticketed event Friday at 6:30 p.m., when Maryland Film Office Director Jack Gerbes drops by for a meet and greet.

"He was involved in the filming of "Tuck Everlasting," she said. "He will be there to share his experiences."

Cost of admission for the Q-and-A session with Gerbes is \$20 per person or \$30 for families and free for museum members, with paid entry also covering a yearly membership.

"If you come that night and buy the ticket ... you would get a member-

ship for the rest of the year," she said

Opening night tickets can be purchased in advance or in person Friday.

"It's the only paid event," she said.

Attendees at Friday's opening night shindig will also have an opportunity to peruse artifacts from the filming of "Tucker Everlasting" on display in the museum's Harrison room.

"We have a jacket on loan from a crew member, scripts, storyboards, and a couple of photo albums that were put together that show what Berlin looked like during the filming," she said.

On Saturday, "Tuck Everlasting" will have a public screening on the lawn outside the museum starting at 8:30 p.m.

"That's free, just come and bring a blanket and sit on the lawn," she said.

In light of the 20th anniversary of that film, Gerbes coordinated with director Jay Russell to record an opening presentation.

"Jack was able to get a video introduction done for the museum event by Jay Russell," she said. "It will be a wonderful evening on the lawn."

Berlin's weekend film festival will end Sunday with a free screening of "Runaway Bride," starring Julia Roberts and Richard Gere, on the lawn starting at 8:30 p.m.

Shot in Berlin, the 1998 release is set in the fictional town of Hale, Maryland.

Reid said diehard fans of the Garry Marshall directed Roberts-Gere romantic comedy might want to arrive before show time.

"In the Berlin Welcome Center vestibule, there is a brochure that's a self-guided walking tour of all the "Runaway Bride" film sites," she said. "We'll be giving that out on Sunday night, but by 8:30 it's pretty dark."

Reid said the festival is only the first installment of a reimagined take on a previous offering from the Taylor House Museum.

"The impetus for these events was about 20 years ago ... the museum began what we called "Concerts on the Lawn," she said.



FILE PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Taylor House Museum will host the three-day "Movies of Berlin: Film Festival" starting on Friday with movie screenings on the lawn Saturday and Sunday.

Reid said the museum sponsored monthly music performances on second Sundays from June through September until last year.

"Now the events are called "Sunday at the Museum," she said. "This [first] one we morphed into a three-day event."

After the covid-19 pandemic limited offerings last year, museum leadership re-evaluated its traditional summer concerts.

"When we started those events, there was really not a lot of live music in Berlin," she said.

With that in mind, museum officials opted to take a different approach.

"What is wonderful, now there is there's a lot of live music in Berlin," she said. "The dates are the same but the events are different."

On July 11, "Sunday Evenings at the Museum" will feature a free live performance by the Old School OC

Band on the museum lawn from 7-8 p.m.

The script flips the following month, with a free storytelling evening for kids on Aug. 8.

Sunday Evenings at the Museum for this year will conclude on Sept. 11-12 with an event highlighting recent local literary releases.

"In September, we're going to be doing a book festival," she said.

On Saturday, Sept. 11 Maria Grosskettler, author of "Tracks," a young-adult mystery set in Berlin, will be present for a book signing.

The session with Grosskettler is free for members, while the cost to non-members is \$20 per person or \$30 for a family.

"She's going to come and do an event on Saturday night with us and then we'll have some author readings on Sunday," she said.

On Sept. 12, numerous local writ-

See WEEKEND Page 13

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Weekend cinema celebration starts revamped offering

Continued from Page 12
ers will be available for book signings, including, Mindie Burgoyne author of "Haunted Eastern Shore," Joe Moore, author of "Murder on the Eastern Shore," and Susan Ayres Wimbrow author of "Death is My Life."

Reid said in addition to the upcoming trio of paid events, also included in the cost of museum membership will be a ticketed Christmas extravaganza.

Paid museum members also receive a quarterly electronic newsletter and free regular admission.

Reid envisions the new take on Sunday events at the Taylor House Museum breathing new life into its mission to preserve local history.

"It's a conscious choice on the museum's part to update our programming," she said. "We wanted to provide some events that would make people realize why it's important to be a museum member."

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

The Calvin B. Taylor House Museum is located at 208 N. Main Street in Berlin. For more information, visit taylorhousemuseum.org.



Sun worshippers and water seekers inhabit the Ocean Pines Beach Club pool on Sunday.

GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Pines staffing challenges minimal

By Greg Ellison
Staff Writer

(June 10, 2021) In contrast to the steady drumbeat regarding staffing needs at the resort and elsewhere, Ocean Pines officials overseeing amenity operations report minimal problems with finding employees.

Matt Ortt Companies CEO Ralph DeAngelus, who identified staffing as the largest challenge this year, said sufficient labor has been obtained to avoid closing the Yacht Club, Club-

house Bar & Grille or Beach Club.

"Staffing, without a shadow of a doubt, has been our biggest issue this year," he said. "Luckily, we're the only restaurant group with five or more locations that has not had to close for a day part or a day."

DeAngelus said maintaining restaurant operations has been accomplished without stressing or overtaxing current staff.

"It's been a tightrope and we're walking a very fine line," he said.

DeAngelus said the delicate balance could quickly alter with the departure of just a few employees.

"We're in a good situation that we're year-round and because of that people feel they have job security," he said. "They tend to stay."

DeAngelus said the Matt Ortt Companies strives to be a "staff friendly company."

"We take good care of our employees and that seems to go a long way,"

See OCEAN Page 14

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Wor. Humane Society bingo event this Sat.

(June 10, 2021) Worcester County Humane Society will hold its fourth annual "Wags and Whiskers" Thirty-One Bag, Cash and More Bingo fundraiser on Saturday, June 12 at the Ocean Pines Community Center.

Doors open at noon. The center is located at 235 Ocean Parkway Ocean Pines. All proceeds benefit the dogs and cats at the no-kill shelter in Berlin.

Participants will have multiple chances to win official Thirty-One bags, cash and many other prizes.

The bingo games will run from 1-4 pm. Guests must be 18 or older.

Advance tickets are \$25 for 20 regular games for Thirty-One bags full of goodies and gift cards. There will be two special bingo games for an additional small fee.

There will also be an opportunity to participate in a Chinese auction, raffle boards and a candy bar game for additional items and prizes as well as snacks and beverages available for purchase.

"Whether a person comes alone or brings a group of friends, the event offers a fun atmosphere of fellowship for all," said Diana Snyder, event chair.

A limited number of tickets will be available at the door the day of the event for \$30.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.worcestercountyhumanesociety.org, at the WCHS Thrift Store at 12703 Sunset Avenue Units 5 & 6 or by calling Snyder at 443-987-2870. The rain date for this event will be

Sunday, June 13.

Worcester County Humane Society is private, nonprofit, no-kill animal shelter that depends on donations and fundraisers to help care for the many cats and dogs who call the shelter home until their forever families are found.

Follow the shelter on Facebook and Instagram for updates on events. Check out the shelter website www.worcestercountyhumanesociety.org for available pets.

OP free platform tennis clinics June 16, 23

(June 10, 2021) The Ocean Pines Racquet Center is offering free clinics for new platform tennis players, June 16 and 23.

Platform tennis is an outdoor racquet sport for any age group that combines elements of tennis and racquetball.

The game is usually played as a dou-

bles sport, with players using a solid paddle and a spongy ball. Platform tennis courts are one-third of the size of a normal court, and surrounded by screens to help keep the ball in play.

The free clinics are scheduled from 7-8 p.m. Organizers will supply all the necessary equipment.

"Even if you've never played a rac-

quet sport, we will get you playing," Ocean Pines Platform Tennis Association (OPPTA) Board member Karen Kaplan said. "If you used to play, you will love this game that's played year-round on our fenced-in platform courts."

The OPPTA offers four drop-ins each week, along with co-ed, men's

and ladies' leagues, and social events.

"It's a very friendly group," Kaplan said. "Come on down and join us!"

For questions or more information, email oppaddle2020@gmail.com, call 516-508-0313, or visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/platform-tennis>.

Ocean Pines amenities staffing at full mast

Continued from Page 13

he said. "We have a genuine vested interest in their health and well being."

The lack of staff at numerous Ocean City businesses has affected the bottom line for DeAngelus.

"The staff shortage in Ocean City has really raised the hourly wage for cooks and dishwashers," he said. "We've had to give some people some bumps to keep them around."

While an that's an issue in the short term, DeAngelus envisions the scales balancing out in the end.

"Our company always thinks long-term so we're not going to panic," he said.

Director of Aquatics Kathleen Cook said despite some limited early season rotating pool closures, the outlook for this summer appears bright.

"It's not unusual at the beginning of the season nor at the end," she said.

Cook said with an abundance of lifeguards, who start as young as 15, just nearing the end of school the staffing picture is on the verge of improving.

"We tend to struggle the first couple weeks of the summer and the last two weeks of the summer," she said.

During the slight staffing lull experienced during early and late summer, facilities are prioritized based on uses.

"We always put the focus on guarding the indoor pools because it has classes," she said.

Also deemed of prime importance are the Yacht Club and Beach Club.

"It helps facilitate the food and beverage," she said. "It's really no different than any other year."

Despite instituting limited pool closures on weekdays, peak times have not been impacted.

"We've been able to accomplish keeping all the pools running on the weekends," she said.

General Manager of Golf John Malinowski said staffing challenges have eased tremendously as compared to last spring.

"Right now, I think we're fully staffed both on the operations side and golf maintenance," he said.

Malinowski said greens are in superior condition as the summer season hits full stride.

"The new clubhouse helps with getting people in and out in a timely manner," he said.

Malinowski said when larger numbers of players begin invading the golf course in springtime there are typi-

cally a few staffing challenges.

"When things first get busy we're running a little bit tight," he said. "We were probably a little bit short staffed but now that the college kids are coming back were ok."

Malinowski said unlike past years where some staff preferred to work fewer hours, this season the sentiment has changed.

"This year we've got guys and girls that want to work," he said. "I like where we're headed with our staff and everything else for this year."

Based on early indicators Malinowski foresees a successful summer at the Ocean Pine Golf Course.

"It's the first time, probably since I've been here, that I haven't had to worry too much about shifts getting covered," he said. "That's a good thing, especially after last year."

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Study seeks to secure state approval for OP

By Jack Chavez
Staff Writer



John Ross

(June 10, 2021) The Worcester County Commissioners approved an \$11,399 contract on June 1 with EA Engineering to conduct a study that officials hope will convince the state to allow an increase in the water allocation for the Ocean Pines Service Area.

“In the last few years, we’ve had some capacity management plan studies completed of our service areas, and specifically the Ocean Pines service area seems to be pretty well off with the amount of water we can pump out of the ground,” said John Ross, Department of Public Works deputy director. “Unfortunately our water allocation permit does not reflect that ability to pump that much water out of the ground over the last eight or nine years.”

Ross told the commissioners that in recent years, Showell Elementary School, Pines Plaza and a couple churches have been taken off their own water well supply and connected to the

Ocean Pines system, which has put extra stress on it.

Last month, the commissioners approved the addition of a proposed development that will consist of 45 dwelling units to the service area.

“We believe we have a really good case to get a water allocation increase from the state,” Ross said. “Unfortunately, sending them a letter (which I did) was not enough. They need to have a professional engineer to do a study of the aquifer and region to determine if they can approve that

water allocation increase.”

Cockeysville-based EA Engineering, which has an office in Ocean Pines, presented the county’s public works department with a proposal that cost less than half the price quoted by a rival firm.

In its proposal, EA referenced the increase in demand on the service area, which currently uses an average of 1.5 million gallons of water per day, with a maximum of 2.5 million gallons of water per day.

After the study is completed, EA expects the need will be to accommodate 2 million gallons per day on average with a maximum of 3 million.

Commissioner Chip Bertino, who represents Ocean Pines, asked about the customers already hooked up to the service area.

“Is this a situation where we’re taking on too much and we’re not

going to be able to service the customers we still have?” Bertino asked.

Ross said his department is “well capable” of pumping “far more” water from the Pleistocene aquifer north of Ocean Pines.

“The (county) wells (that pump the aquifers) have been examined a number of times,” Ross said. “The concern we have here is that we’ve taken on a lot with Showell Elementary School, Pines Plaza, some of the bigger water consumers in the area. Because of the fact that we removed some of those wells from the ground, we should be entitled to the allocation that (those places) used to get. They’re pumping out of the same aquifer. Again, it requires someone to do a study.”

Ross said he expects to have the findings from the study within 90 days.

Diabetes association recognizes AGH efforts

(June 10, 2021) The American Diabetes Association Education Recognition Certificate for a quality diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) service was awarded to Atlantic General Hospital on April 19.

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) believes that this service of Atlantic General Diabetes and Endocrinology Center offers high-quality education that is an essential component of effective diabetes treatment. Atlantic General was originally recognized in April 2008.

The ADA’s Education Recognition Certificate assures that educational services meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support. The DSMES Standards were developed and tested under the auspices of the National Diabetes Advisory Board in 1983 and are revised periodically by the diabetes community.

DSMES services apply for recognition voluntarily. Entities that achieve

recognition status have a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who can provide participants with comprehensive information about diabetes management.

“The process gives professionals national standards by which to measure the quality of services they provide,” said Darlene Jameson, MPH, RDN, CDCES, AGH diabetes education coordinator. “And, it reassures the health care consumer that he or she will receive high-quality service.”

Education recognition status is verified by an official certificate from ADA and awarded for four years.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2020 National Diabetes Statistic Report, there are 34.2 million people, or 10.5 percent of the population, in the United States who have diabetes. Unfortunately, about 20 percent of them are not aware that they have this disease.

Each day more than 3,900 people are diagnosed with diabetes. Many

will first learn that they have diabetes when they are treated for one of its life-threatening complications – heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, blindness, nerve disease, or amputation.

Diabetes is the seventh leading

cause of death in the US in 2017 as it contributed to 270,702 deaths.

For more information about the diabetes education services of the Atlantic General Diabetes and Endocrinology Center or to make an appointment, call 410-208-9761.



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SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean Pines Racquet Center served as the site for friends and cohorts to celebrate and commemorate the legacy of tennis player Jim Freeman, who lost a battle with cancer on March 15.

Freeman honored by platform tennis players

(June 10, 2021) About 100 platform tennis players gathered at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on Saturday to remember Jim Freeman, an active player who passed away on March 15 after a battle with cancer.

Freeman was recalled both as a teacher, and as a friendly and fun-loving guy who enjoyed the sport. He also loved a cold beer, and his favorite football team, the Eagles, from his native Pennsylvania.

Sue Walter, who organized "The Celebration of Life – Play & Party" in honor of Freeman, said more than \$2,200 had been donated for the event by platform members. The funds covered the luncheon expenses and a memorial to Freeman, and the rest will help with costs of future Platform Tennis Club events.

Walter said Freeman's request for his own celebration of life, was that his friends "gather, play, eat and drink and party."

"I think he'll be watching today," she said.

Indeed, the event was filled both with heartfelt remembrances, and with lots of smiles and laughter.

"I don't think you could even imagine how much it meant to Jim and, when he was sick, what a bright spot you were," June Freeman, his widow, said. "The best move we ever made was joining [the Platform Tennis Club]. Our life is so much richer and fuller, and we have so many friends ... I could never ask for anything better in my life."

"All I can say is, I love you and thank you so much. You've been so good, and you are family to me and always were family to Jim, and always put a smile on his face. He just loved you all," she added.

John Walter remembered Freeman as a man who was born to be a teacher. Freeman worked for 31 years as a seventh-grade science teacher at Keith Valley Middle School in Horscham, Pennsylvania.

After he retired, Freeman continued teaching – as a platform tennis instructor in Ocean Pines.

"If it wasn't for Jim, we wouldn't have met anybody here," Walter said, becoming emotional. "We're all close. We've had Christmas dinners with June and Jim ... and it's been a blessing."

Walter also recalled one of the first times he played platform tennis with Freeman, when he learned about his "very colorful vocabulary."

"When I started to play platform tennis, one day he was off the rails, [and] there were f-bombs, s-bombs ... everything. I said to June, 'What's this all about?' June told me, 'He doesn't play well with other people sometimes,'" Walter said, getting a

big laugh from the crowd.

Last year, he said they went on a fishing trip together, and that colorful language came out again when the fish started eating all of Freeman's bait.

"All he was doing was stomping back and forth ... This went on for five and a half hours! And we caught zip," Walter said, to more laughter.

"Jim's meant a lot and the only thing I can say to end this is, 'Fly, Eagles, fly,'" he added.

Tracy Jones said she'll remember Freeman for hosting Thursday night platform tennis parties, with grilled food and plenty of cold beer.

"He always dropped the f-bomb with me, but he said I was one of the guys," she said.

Susan Morris said she met Freeman at a platform tennis tournament. Her family was visiting from New Jersey, and he invited them to play the next day.

See OP Page 17



SUBMITTED/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Sue Walter, second from left, points to a tabletop comprised of eight wooden platform tennis paddles that highlight arase of interest to Freeman.

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Knights of Columbus award Curry MBS teacher of the yr.

(June 10, 2021) The Knights of Columbus, Council #9053, presented Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School kindergarten teacher Joanne Curry with its 2021 Teacher of the Year Award.

The award ceremony that occurs annually will not take place this year as a result of the covid-19 pandemic.

Curry has served in the ministry of

faith and academics as a kindergarten teacher since 2004 and was one of the first employees starting the year MBS opened in 2003.

In nominating Curry, one of her colleagues spoke about the professionalism that she exhibits saying, "Mrs. Curry creates a positive structured classroom environment that is conducive to learning. She establishes effective rules for classroom behavior, and observes, evaluates and records students' academic and social progress."

Another colleague wrote, "Joanne is one the most kind, compassionate and wonderful teachers on our staff. She always goes above and beyond for her students, and she is often found at school on the weekends. She



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

The Knights of Columbus, Council #9053, presented Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic kindergarten teacher Joanne Curry, left, with its 2021 Teacher of the Year Award. She is pictured with Principal Kathleen Manns.

OP racquet center hosts tribute for recently departed

Continued from Page 16

"I thought, wow – how generous was that, that this man walked over, a total stranger, and said, 'Won't you come and join us,'" she said. "Within a couple of weeks, we bought a house and were here. And it was because he walked over and said hello that we're here."

Betty Biondi also recalled Freeman's generosity.

"Three years ago, when [her husband] John had his stroke, it was Jim who kept coming over, cutting the lawn, raking. That's Jim," she said.

Karen Kaplan said she was a late joiner to platform, but she found Jim to be an enthusiastic teacher and ambassador for the sport.

"He was so welcoming and so warm ... and that's the way he was," she said. "He was just a really welcoming, warm [person], and his passion for this sport and for this club, it just came through. And for me, it was contagious. I'll never forget Jim."

In planning the physical part of the memorial, Walter said she first thought about a getting bench in honor of Freeman. She said Tracey Jones had another idea and reached out to her brother, Doug Dawson, a master woodcraftsman, who quickly sketched a design of a wooden bar table filled with symbols of some of Freeman's favorite things.

"He blew our socks off, what this man has done," she said.

The memorial, unveiled on Saturday, features a tabletop of eight hand-carved, wood platform tennis paddles, with pictures of some of Freeman's favorite things on each one, from his beloved Philadelphia Eagles and his favorite Yuengling beer, to fishing, photography, golf, and the U.S. Marines emblem. It will become a permanent part of the Ocean Pines Racquet Center.

The inscription reads, "In loving memory of Jim Freeman, from your friends at OPPTA. 'Perform random acts of kindness' - Jim."

To view a video of the memorial dedication, visit <https://youtu.be/naKM3OPqtlQ>.

is someone I look up to and strive to emulate."

Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic

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Snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

INDUCTED

Thirty students were inducted to the Worcester Preparatory School National Art Honor Society on April 8. The National Art Honor Society recognizes students who have shown outstanding ability in art scholarship, character and service. Pictured, in front, from left, are: Grade 12: Will Mears, Cole Lamson-Reich, Graham McColgan, John Arrington, Brugh Moore, Waverly Choy, Ava Gerachis, Summer Walker, Maddy Warren, Meredith Cummings, Bryn Elliott, Arusa Islam, Hannah Perdue, Ryan Brafman and Nathan Oltman; middle row: Grade 10: Morgan Schoch; Grade 11: AnnaMarie Buas, Brooke Emeigh, Marshall Mumford, Bennett Tinkler, NAHS President Hannah Brasure, NAHS Vice President Hugh Thomas Cropper IV, Austin Cannon, Brice Richins, Nick Hearne, Charlotte Catapano, Sumira Sehgal, Morgan White, Anna Williams and Grace Baeurle; and in back, Assistant Head of School and Head of Upper School Mike Grosso, Technology teacher Nancy Raskauskas, Middle School/Upper School art teacher George Zaiser and Head of School Dr. John McDonald. Not Pictured: seniors Mason Brown and Sarah Butler.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

THANKS

Bethany United Methodist Church thanked the Berlin Police Department for its valuable service to the community with gift cards. Lyn Burr, co-chair of the Outreach Team, and Reverend Bill Sterling, pastor of Bethany UMC, present gift cards to Chief Arnold Downing.



CRAFTER

The Pine'eer Craft Club of Ocean Pines has announced Sharon Cooper as the June crafter of the month. Cooper and her husband, Ray, moved to Ocean Pines 15 years ago from Carroll County. Soon after, she began making jewelry as a hobby and it took off from there. Several years ago a close friend encouraged her to join the craft club and put her jewelry in the shop. Her goal is to make unique and affordable jewelry. View her projects and other handmade items at the Artisan Gift Shop in White Horse Park, on 239 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines. The shop is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

ART CLASS

Students in Heather Riser's 3D Art classes at Berlin Intermediate School created pinch pot succulent planters in clay. Their designs were based on animals or mythical creatures. Students used technology to assist them in painting their designs with watercolor paints. Alivia James is pictured creating a Scarlet Macaw.

SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

DONATION

Every year in October, Zumba and its instructors worldwide host "Party in Pink" Zumbathons to increase the public's awareness that they are fighting and dancing for a cure for cancer. This year, five area Zumba instructors joined forces to raise funds and awareness in Ocean Pines during the events. All proceeds from the Zumbathon were presented to Believe in Tomorrow House by the Sea in Ocean City, a beach respite five-unit complex. Also pictured are Zumbathon organizer and instructor Joyce Landsman, second from left, and instructors Carla Ennals, Charlotte Moore, Angie Barton and Sherry Stephens, with director Wayne Littleton.

Worcester GOLD charity golf tournament set for June 16

(June 10, 2021) Worcester County GOLD (Giving Other Lives Dignity) announces the return of GOLD on the Green Charity Golf Tournament, scheduled for June 16 on the Newport Bay Course at Ocean City Golf Club.

“We can’t wait to get out there and see everyone,” said Executive Director Nicholas Cranford. “We’ve got some really exciting things planned for this year, including use of the course’s newly designed outdoor space for the awards dinner.”

Proceeds benefit GOLD, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides emergency assistance for urgent needs like housing, utilities, and basic needs for children and vulnerable adults.

GOLD is seeking teams of golfers, sponsors and donors to make this fundraiser a success. Call 410-474-3414 or visit www.WorcesterGOLD.org to access additional information or submit the registration form.

Worcester County G.O.L.D., Inc. provides financial aid and basic needs items for Worcester County residents living in poverty and low-income circumstances. It believes no member of the community should suffer without access to basic needs like housing, utilities, food, clothing, and items for children and vulnerable adults.

In addition to emergency services, GOLD offers special programs like summer activities for at-risk youth, school supplies for students, Thanksgiving turkey meals, and Helping Hands for the Holidays.

For more information, contact Nicholas Cranford, executive director, at Nicholas.Cranford@maryland.gov, 410-474-3414, or visit www.WorcesterGOLD.org, email WorcesterCountyGOLD@gmail.com, or call 410-677-6830. Check out Worcester Gold Facebook at www.facebook.com/worcestergold, and Instagram, www.instagram.com/worcestercountygold.

OP short-term rental town hall scheduled for June 12

(June 10, 2021) The Ocean Pines Association Board of Directors has scheduled a town hall on proposed short-term rental regulations on Saturday, June 12 at 6 p.m. in the Assateague Room of the Ocean Pines Community Center on 235 Ocean Parkway.

Director Frank Daly, in May, introduced new attorney recommendations for a Declaration of Restrictions amendment about short-term rentals in Ocean Pines.

Daly said a short-term rental workgroup worked with parties on both sides of the discussion to provide a balanced approach to regulat-

ing short-term rentals in the community.

He said after many discussions over the last two years, that workgroup determined that the best solution is to adopt the existing Worcester County short-term rental regulations into Ocean Pines Declarations of Restrictions, with “enhanced enforcement provisions.”

To view the proposed amendment, visit <https://www.oceanpines.org/documents/10184/89280/Short+term+rental+proposal.pdf>.

To send questions or comments in advance of the town hall, email directors@oceanpines.org.

Delmarva Blood Bank short on supply, seeks donations

(June 10, 2021) Blood Bank of Delmarva announced this week a blood emergency, with a three-day overall blood supply and just a 1.2-day supply for type O blood.

The long-term impact of the pandemic has resulted in a year of virtually no youth first-time donors, 235 fewer blood drives and 5,000 Delmarva residents that have yet to return to donate since before the pandemic.

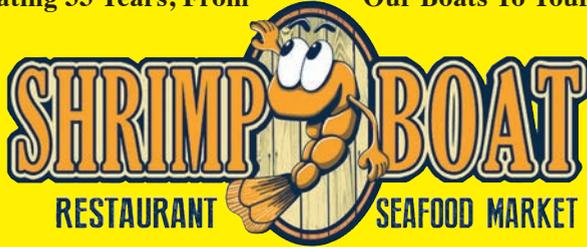
Complicating matters, recently there has been a surge in blood usage

as hospitals perform surgeries and patients seek medical care that was postponed during the pandemic. The increased need and lag in donors has created a chronic gap in blood donations.

“As the region reopens, hospitalizations are going up and far outpacing the number of donations we are receiving,” said Patty Killeen, senior executive director. “Through our new media campaign, we must raise awareness and encourage lapsed

See DELMARVA Page 20

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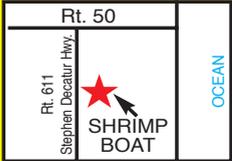
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Grace Center awarded tests for pregnancy through grant

(June 10, 2021) Through a grant from AmeriCorps, the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin, was awarded 175 hospital grade hCG pregnancy tests - a staple at the facility for providing free early and preventative prenatal healthcare to the Delmarva community.

The grant was submitted by Jennifer Jasmin McClure, the Grace Center's 2020/2021 member of ShoreCorps, AmeriCorps at Salisbury University.

The stock is arriving at a timely moment as the fruits of covid-19 exhausted the Grace Center's supply of pregnancy tests. Executive Director Jasmine Dennis shared that pregnancy exams were being conducted at twice the rate earlier this year than at the same time period last year.

Nurse Manager Jackie Failla, RN, and Maternal Newborn Specialist Bobbi Hauck, RN are the heartbeat of the clinic as they conduct the pregnancy exams and prenatal checkups.

Additionally, they teach one-on-one prenatal and parenting classes tailored to each woman's pregnancy.

They have a gift for building trust with clients that results in meeting below-the-surface needs of families.

"The difference in us is that we're personalized: we are a small, flexible program," said Bobbi Hauck. "We are not just looking at the pregnancy, we are also looking at the psychological, social and addiction issues in order to treat them as a whole person to assure that there will be a healthy (pregnancy) and healthy parenting skills." Failla emphasizes the pivotal importance of the pregnancy exam.

"The test can be the difference for people who are in active addiction getting into treatment and getting (additional) prenatal care. That's why we are so important, because we realize that there's a certain population that's not accessing care, and through us we can make sure that they're accessing care (by) getting them onto state insurance and all the state benefits that they can have."

Hauck shares that after the trust is built, clients tend to be more honest about such issues. Rather than have a judgmental mindset, the nurses are



SUBMITTED PHOTO/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Through a grant from AmeriCorps, the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health in Berlin, was awarded 175 hospital grade hCG pregnancy tests. Pictured, from left, are AmeriCorps member Jennifer Jasmin McClure, Nurse Manager Jackie Failla, Executive Director Jasmine Dennis and Receptionist Kay Windsor.

solutions-based and see this honesty and disclosure as an opportunity to address needs that can be met that lead to healthier families. The pregnancy exam is what brings people in the door.

To learn more about the breadth of

free services provided by the Grace Center for Maternal and Women's Health, visit <https://gracematernalhealth.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/gracematernalhealth>. Call the office at 443-513-4124 to schedule an appointment.

Delmarva Blood Bank outreach for donations

Continued from Page 19

donors who have not donated since before covid-19 to return and to attract the next generation of blood donors to help us build a healthy blood supply."

In partnership with advertising agency Markham Yard, BBD's new campaign spans radio, cable, social media and other outlets. Through humor and compelling narrative, the campaign is being launched to show a new generation of potential donors not only how important it is to regularly donate blood, but also how easy it can be.

With this campaign, BBD is hoping a bit of humor will help tackle preconceived notions around donat-

ing blood and send the message that donating blood is easy.

With funny and relatable advertisements that list "things that hurt more than giving blood," BBD is using the campaign to demonstrate to the public that giving blood is simpler and less painful than life's awkward moments.

In addition, BBD will partner with a number of local breweries this summer in an effort to bolster collections. Donors will receive a coupon for discounts on the charity brew and a commemorative T-shirt.

Donating blood is safe and it only takes one hour. BBD is taking extra precautions to help prevent the person-to-person spread of covid-19. As

always, people are not eligible to donate if they're experiencing a cold, sore throat, respiratory infection or flu-like symptoms. Additional information on donor eligibility and COVID-19 precautions is available here.

Donors can schedule appointments by calling 1-888-8-BLOOD-8 or visiting www.delmarvablood.org.

Blood Bank of Delmarva is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) community blood bank with a simple mission: saving lives. The Blood Bank of Delmarva achieves its mission every day by providing safe blood and blood products to all 19 hospitals in Delmarva and relies on over 80,000 volunteer blood donors each year to ensure patients'

needs are met.

The Blood Bank of Delmarva distributes over 130,000 blood products annually and operates four donor centers. Each year, the Blood Bank of Delmarva normally hosts over 600 blood drives. These blood drives would not be possible without the commitment of community organizations that volunteer to serve as sponsors or coordinators, which provides opportunities for blood donors to give blood and help patients in need. BBD is a New York Blood Center Enterprises affiliate and a member of AABB and ABC. For more information, visit delmarvablood.org or follow at facebook.com/delmarvabloodbank.



VETERANS BUILD



HABITAT HOME REPAIR PROGRAM APPLICATION EXTENDED for VETERANS

Habitat completes critical repairs and rehabs for qualified Worcester County veteran homeowners who are otherwise unable to complete the work themselves or obtain a conventional loan to do so. Examples of critical home repairs are roofing, exterior painting, accessibility, weatherization and repair of other structural issues such as porch, stairs, siding and gutters.

See if you qualify at habitatworchester.org, then send an email to families@habitatworchester.org to begin your application

Obituaries

PATRICIA O'NEILL WAYSON

Ocean Pines

Patricia O'Neill Wayson, age 85, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 31, 2021.

Born in Govan, Scotland in February of 1936, Patricia was the daughter of the late Patrick and Ann (McCann) O'Neill.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Deveney, and her sister, Ann Ferguson.

She is survived by her current husband, George Daniel Wayson; son, Brian Deveney (Karen); and daughters, Irene Humphries (Edward) and Pauline Harrington; three grandchildren, Thomas (Jen), Eileen and Patricia Harrington; as well as two great-grandchildren, Kayleigh and Kinsleigh Martin.

Also surviving is her brother, Arthur O'Neill; and sister, Catherine Brannan; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Wayson had worked at the University of Maryland Graduate School in College Park, Maryland, until she retired in 1993.

Upon her retirement, she worked preparing taxes at Peninsula Financial Group in Georgetown, Delaware, for 10 years.

Mrs. Wayson was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Ocean Pines, the Ocean Pines Red Hat Society, and had been a volunteer with the AARP Tax Service for 10 years.

A memorial service will be held at a future date at the Gate of Heaven in Silver Spring, Maryland.

A donation in her memory may be made to: Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733 Salisbury, Maryland 21804. Letters of condolence may be sent via: www.burbagefuneralhome.com. Arrangements are in the care of the Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

JOHN PETER HENGLEIN

Ocean Pines

John Peter Henglein passed away on Memorial Day, May 31, 2021, at the age of 81 after courageously fighting pancreatic cancer, diabetes, asbestosis and several other health issues.

John was born to Pete and Millred Henglein on July 19, 1939, in Rockaway Beach Queens, New York. He grew up near the water where he loved fishing, clamming and crabbing in Jamaica Bay.

He joined the US Navy at 18 and served four years as a maintenance mechanic second class.

He worked for Con Ed in New York as an engineer and eventually worked for the New York City Board of Education as a facilities manager overseeing numerous public school buildings.

He retired to Ocean Pines and was active in many organizations which brought him many friends.

John was a member of the boat club, anglers club, 500 club, platform tennis and most importantly the Ocean Pines Fire Department, where he volunteered for many years driving the ambulance, directing traffic and assisting EMTs and police attending fires.

John was also instrumental in the development and maintenance of the Ocean Pines Veterans Memorial, volunteering to place bricks, helping to maintain the grounds, purchase flags and oversee the raising and lowering of the flags for commendations.

The Worcester County Veterans Foundation presented John with recognition for his service as a member of the Board of Directors and at a ceremony in Annapolis he earned the

title of one of "Maryland's Most Beautiful People" in 2009.

John's passions in life were fishing, boating, vacationing and going on cruises with his wife and friends. He loved participating in raft ups with his friends and participating in the Believe in Tomorrow program, where he took families for boat rides, fishing and seeing the ponies in Assateague.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 44 years, Carolyn Henglein; and his children, Elaine Hoffer of DeBary, Florida, Timothy Gusek of Fort Ann, New York, Stacey Rollman of Rockaway Beach, New York, Marilyn Merlot of Hampstead, Maryland, and Michael Gusek of Pearl River, New York; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

His final wishes will be respected - he will be cremated and his ashes spread in the water that he loved so much. A celebration of life will be held in July at the Ocean Pines Fire Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the Ocean Pines Fire Department in John's name.

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

OP Beach Doubles Festival supported by USTA, June 19

(June 10, 2021) The deadline is fast approaching to register for the Ocean Pines Beach Doubles Festival on Saturday, June 19.

The single-day event is for men and women ages 50 and up and ages 60 and up, and the registration deadline is Monday, June 14.

The tournament will be held at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center on 11443 Manklin Creek Road.

Tennis Director Terry Underkoffler said the United States Tennis Association (USTA) is sanctioning the tournament and the style of play will be "single elimination consolation match."

"That means if you lose in your first match, you're guaranteed a second," he said. "So, every team of two are guaranteed at least two matches."

The tournament entry cost is \$26, and players must be USTA members. A one-year USTA membership is \$44, and Underkoffler said there are many benefits for joining.

"The USTA has a myriad of resources for players, once they join," he said. "You'll get newsletters, documentation and links to YouTube videos on training tips, and you'll also

See OP Page 23



John Henglein



Patricia Wayson

OBITUARY NOTICES

Submitted obituaries cost \$50 per week for print and online publications.

editor@baysidegazette.com
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Opinion

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

Schools, graduates showed adaptability

To the graduating high school seniors of Worcester County, their teachers, support staff, advisors and the administrators who put it all together, well done.

The graduation of these classes of 2021, from north to south, and both public and private schools, might have been accompanied by a great exhale countywide, as all involved surely wondered at some point whether these days of caps and gowns would arrive on schedule.

That they did is a testament to their ability to adjust to circumstances that were unimaginable some 18 months ago, when the covid-19 pandemic had only begun its ruinous spread into every corner of our existence.

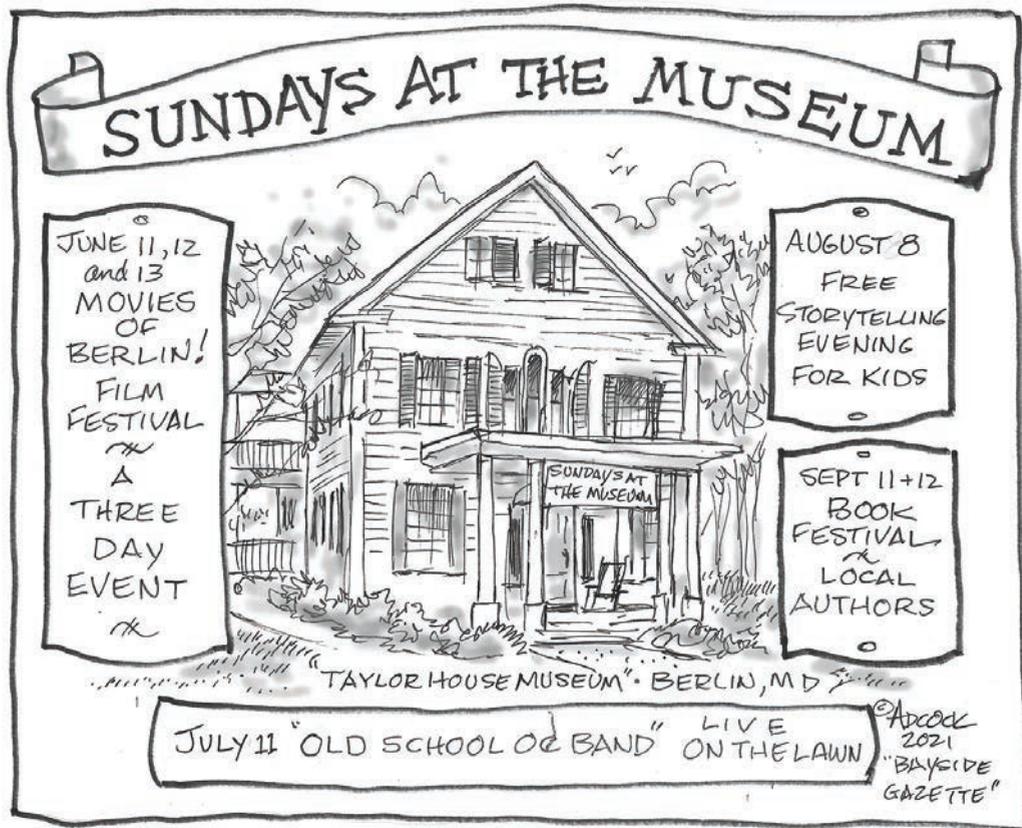
Last year's graduations were remarkable in their own right, as the pandemic began to gain strength, but the students and school personnel in the scholastic cycle just concluded endured a full year of doubt, sacrifice and urgent improvisation just to see the year through.

No one could know a year ago that the pandemic's decline in this country would require 12 more months of having to invent new ways to achieve some sort of success despite the vicissitudes of covid-19.

In a way, this viral seige tested schools and students for a skill that can't be taught and yet is a vital part of the human pursuit — adaptability.

These graduations prove they not only passed, but that they also emerged a little stronger. The knowledge that they can overcome adversity will serve them well as they encounter other, and frequently lesser, obstacles along the way.

Our hats are off to the graduates, teachers, school employees and officials who found a way to push themselves and to help each other over this unprecedented adversity. The future will be better for it.



Letters

OP supports fire victims

Editor,

Last week a tragic fire hit one of our Worcester County families in Ocean Pines. Within moments of posting needs for the family, the community came once again in full force to help "thy neighbor."

Clothing, food, tablets, toys, furniture, prayers...the outpouring of love this community gives in times of need, is something I have been blessed to witness time and time again.

As I write this, we are \$200 away from reaching the \$10,000 Go Fund Me goal that was started for the family by Lisa Layfield just a few days ago.

I wanted to thank everyone who once again stepped up to try and make a sad situation a little easier. Thank you to our local fire departments and police who risk their lives to keep us all safe during these moments. Thank you to the Worcester County Board of Education who reached out to me the very next day to make sure their "school children" were

going to have all they need.

Just another reason we are all so blessed to have our children in this amazing school system. Thank you to OPA for allowing drop-off locations.

Every day we see tragedy, and the kindness these tragic moments bring forward, is what life is truly about. Life becomes easier and more beautiful when we see the good in other people.

Colby Phillips
Local Help for You
Worcester County

Fire prevention requested

Editor,

An open letter to the Ocean Pines Fire Department

The house fires are too close to home and the two recent ones on Sandy Hook and Ocean Parkway are total devastation. How does it happen?

We should look toward total prevention of house fires through education. If the fire department would speak very loudly about what caused the fire and how the home owner could

have prevented it, it could prevent the next fire.

We should all use good thinking about the care of our homes, but I think we need to think prevention at all times. We also need reminders that may seem obvious to some, but not others.

Firemen ... talk to us about prevention and help us make OP a safer community through education. We need to make your job easier.

Blanche Deasy
Ocean Pines

Stephen Decatur graduates aided

Editor,

For the past few weeks, Stephen Decatur High School has been extremely fortunate to host live events and celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating class of 2021.

Members of the class of 2021 did not have the easiest of senior years. In the prime of their high school experience, the landscape of schooling changed. Still, our seniors learned new technology and learned to navigate on-line classrooms.

Continued on Page 23

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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Letters

Continued from Page 22

They forged new ways to serve and, perhaps most importantly, they learned how to adapt to change. On behalf of the Stephen Decatur High School faculty and staff as well as our entire community, let me say how proud we are of them.

Celebrating their successes in such spectacular ways would not have been possible without the support of our parents, students, faculty and staff, and community members.

Specifically, we would like to recognize and express our sincere appreciation to the following individuals and organizations whose enthusiasm, dedication, commitment, and selfless support truly made possible a Senior Awards Night, a Baccalaureate Service, a Boardwalk Procession, and a Commencement Ceremony.

Ocean City Mayor Rick Meehan
Special Events Director for the Town of Ocean City Frank Miller
Ocean City Police Lt. Scott Harner
Ocean City Police Department
Ocean City Public Works Department

Bob Roethermel and crew from Team Productions

Worcester County Sgt. Robert Trautman

Worcester County Sheriff's Department

Bill Baker, Jessica Martinez, and

Power 101.7 Radio Station

Meeghan and Jake Robinson of The Seaboard

Chris Bunting and Ocean Aerial Ads

Coastal Community Church
Keller Williams Realty

Susan Jones of the Ocean City Hotel-Motel Restaurant Association

Ocean City Fire Department
Ocean City businesses and restaurants

School Resource Officer Kenny Reed

Technology Specialist for Worcester County Public Schools David Dodson

Stephen Decatur High School faculty and staff

Stephen Decatur High School After Prom Committee

Worcester County Public Schools administrative staff.

I am so honored to be a part of this amazingly supportive community. The Stephen Decatur High School graduating seniors are our students but they are the sons and daughters of our community.

Thank you again to everyone in our village who had a role in raising them and supporting them, and thank you to everyone who assisted us in celebrating their achievements!

*Thomas Sites, Principal
Stephen Decatur High School*



GREG ELLISON/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

HOOD PEAK

Main Street was filled with classic American made muscle cars, and trucks, during the annual Berlin Spring Cruisers event on May 22.

OP welcomes next USTA event

Continued from Page 21

be able to play in USTA leagues, festivals and tournaments."

He said the Beach Doubles Festival is the second USTA-sanctioned event in Ocean Pines.

"Last year, we did our first USTA singles tournament in September – the NTRP national ratings tournament – and it was a success," he said. "We're going to be doing that again, this coming September."

For tournament registration, visit <https://playtennis.usta.com/Competitions/ocean-pines-association/Tournaments/Overview/19670985-a0e6-417f-b1e5-af981d3c61c4?fbclid=IwAR3F6wAa9D-zZlGDJDCu8pyEmnjiS2qBjZ3OoXN8XCEim3f6CWtxMuwnVxg>.

For questions or more information, contact the Ocean Pines Racquet Center at 410-641-7228

OPEN HOUSES

JUNE 10 - JUNE 17

DAY/TIME	ADDRESS	BR/BA	STYLE	PRICE	AGENCY/AGENT
Fri-Mon, 11am-4pm	Heron Harbour, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2BR/3BR/4BR+	Condos, Towns & SF	-	Nanette Pavier/Holiday Real Estate
Saturday 11-2	1016 Larecorp. Dr., Salisbury	4BR/2BA	Single Family	\$254,900	Power of Two/Hileman Real Estate
Saturday 11-1	12 Mulberry Lane, Ocean Pines	3BR/2BA	Single Family	\$269,900	Debbie Hileman/Hileman Real Estate



Calendar

Thurs., June 10

SMOKED PULLED PORK CARRYOUT ORDER DEADLINE

Bishopville Volunteer Fire, 10709 Bishopville Road, Bishopville. Offering 1/2 pint smoked pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw and a roll (for sandwich making) for \$12. Additional pint of pork \$10. Call 619-922-9950 by June 10 for orders. Pick up is June 12, 5-7 p.m.

ZUMBA FOR ALL LEVELS

Meeting via Zoom, 4-5 p.m. These classes uplift and improve mood. This is a webinar style program, meaning you can practice your moves without being seen. Register: worcesterlibrary.org under events.

FAMILY BEACH GAMES

Carousel Hotel, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free interactive fun for the whole family. Games include sand castle contests, tug-of-war, relays and more. Parents must stay with their children. Weather pending. <http://www.ococean.com>

Fri., June 11

2ND FRIDAY IN BERLIN

Downtown Berlin, 5-8 p.m. Live music, artists, duck and bird carvings, Mermaid Museum and Seaside Dance Academy performances. 410-629-1716, aearyl@berlinmd.gov, berlinmd.gov

ROADWAY SAFETY BOOK AVAILABLE

Ocean City Boardwalk Tram Station, 801 S. Boardwalk, Ocean City, 4-8 p.m. The Cheswick the Crab mascot and safety ambassadors will be distributing free copies of the book, "Cheswick the Crab and the Smart Summer."

MARYLAND CRAB CAKE DINNER

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 4-6:30 p.m. Costs are \$12 for a one-crab cake platter including sandwich, green beans, baked potato and Cole slaw; \$20 for a two-crab cake platter; and \$8 for a crab cake sandwich. Bake sale table available. 410-641-1137

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., June 12

27TH ANNUAL SAND DUELS BEACH SOCCER CHALLENGE

Wicomico Street Beach, Ocean City, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. U-8-U13 Play on Saturday.

OCEAN PINES ANGLERS CLUB MEETING

Worcester County Library - Ocean Pines Branch, 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Speaker will be local legend and

arguably one of, if not the best, all-around fisherman in Ocean City. Also learn updates on fishing regulations and the fishing issues. Jack Barnes, 410-641-7662.

TIDES AND TEMPESTS OCEAN RENAISSANCE

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Elements from historical reenactment, steam punk, sci-fi and fairy tales to create a diverse and eclectic environment for all ages. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 and teens, 13-17 years.

WORLD WIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY

Worcester County Library - Snow Hill Branch, 307 N. Washington St., Snow Hill, 10 a.m.-noon. World Wide Knit in Public Day was started in 2005 and is the largest knitter run event in the world. All fiber lovers welcome. www.worcesterlibrary.org

MEMORIAL BENCH DEDICATION IN HONOR OF PAUL RUSKO

Ocean Pines Racquet Center, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines, 11 a.m.-noon. Paul Rusko, who passed away in December, was seen as a tennis mentor to many. He was the founder of the Early Bird tennis group. Tim McMullen, mac122147@gmail.com.

4TH ANNUAL 'WAGS AND WHISKERS' THIRTY-ONE BAG, CASH AND MORE BINGO FUNDRAISER

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 1-4 p.m. Doors open at noon. Tickets cost \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Also featuring two special bingo games, a Chinese auction, raffle boards and a candy bar game. www.worcestercountyhumansociety.com, 443-987-2870.

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., June 13

27TH ANNUAL SAND DUELS BEACH SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Wicomico Street Beach, Ocean City, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. U14-Adult Play on Sunday.

CAPTAIN SCHOEPF RELAY

Seventh Street Beach, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-noon. Relay begins at 7th Street and runs to the end of Ocean City followed by a swim the entire length of Ocean City and ran back to 7th Street. The direction if contingent on ocean current.

TIDES AND TEMPESTS OCEAN RENAISSANCE

Roland E. Powell Convention Center, 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Elements from historical reenactment, steam punk, sci-fi and fairy tales to create a diverse and eclectic environment for all ages. Admission is \$20 for adults

and \$10 for teens, 13-17 years.

ARTS DAY AT THE WINERY

Windmill Creek Vineyard & Winery, 11206 Worcester Highway, Berlin, 12-8 p.m. Featuring more than 25 artists and Lauren Glick performing from 5-8 p.m. Fun activities all day for the whole family. Rain date is July 11. ArtLeagueofOceanCity.org, 410-524-9433.

SUNDAES IN THE PARK

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 7-9 p.m. Enjoy free music and each week children are offered various free activities and entertainment. Ice Cream and beverages available for purchase. Followed by the new drone show. <https://www.ococean.com>

OC DRONE SHOWS

Northside Park, 200 125th St., Ocean City, 9-9:30 p.m. Come experience Ocean City's new drone shows.

BERLIN FARMERS MARKET

Sundays through September - Downtown Berlin, 9:00 AM - 1:00 pm. More than 30 farmers, bakers, distillers and more. Live music, live bunnies, real bee hive and free kids art projects. <https://www.berlinmainstreet.com/farmersmarket/>

Mon., June 14

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR BEACH DOUBLES FESTIVAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Ocean Pines Racquet Center, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines. Deadline to register for the Ocean Pines Beach Double Festival to be held on June 19. For men and women ages 50 and older. Entry cost is \$26 and must be USTA members. <https://playtennis.usta.com>, 410-641-7228

INTERACTIVE STORY TIME 'TAILS AND TALES'

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Featuring animal stories and an introduction to the animal and story themed Summer Reading Program. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org.

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

The Macky & Pam Stansell House Coastal Hospice, 1500 Ocean Parkway, Ocean Pines, 3:15-4 p.m. Register: Kay Kinnikin, 410-641-4765 or kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org. <http://www.delmarvaparkinsonsalliance.org>.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY MEETING

Atlantic General Hospital, Conference Room 1, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. Meeting in-person and via conference call. Reservations required for in-person: Rose Champion, 443-880-8884. For call-in option, dial 605-472-5789, wait for voice command, then press 944874.

Tues., June 15

PRIDE FILM SERIES: 'PARIS IS BURNING'

Meeting via Zoom, 6-8 p.m. This documentary is about the "house culture" in New York City. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

DELMARVA HAND DANCE

Tuesdays - Selbyville Elks Lodge 2173, 13324 Worcester Highway, 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Dance to the sounds of the '50s and '60s music. A \$5 donation to benefit Veterans and local charities. Members and guests welcome. dance@delmarvahanddancing.com, 443-783-4872, <https://delmarvahanddancing.com>

Wed., June 16

ZOOM WITH YOUR BABY

Meeting via Zoom, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Babies under 2 years and caregivers join in for songs, rhymes and stories. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org under events.

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Held via Zoom, 11 a.m.-noon. A 20-minute lesson on genealogy research by Tom Dempsey followed by a Q&A session. Register: www.worcesterlibrary.org.

FREE PLATFORM TENNIS CLINICS

Ocean Pines Racquet Center, 11443 Manklin Creek Road, Ocean Pines, 7-8 p.m. Platform tennis combines elements of tennis and racquetball. Organizers will supply all the necessary equipment. www.oceanpines.org, 516-508-0313

MOVIE ON THE BEACH

Carousel Hotel, 11700 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, 8:30-11:59 p.m. Featuring "The Angry Birds Movie." Weather pending, Ocean City Recreation & Parks, 410-250-0125, <http://www.oceancitymd.gov>.

ONGOING EVENTS

LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKETS

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City will be selling their "Lottery Raffle" tickets on Saturdays at the Ocean Pines Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., through the end of the year. Tickets cost \$20 and entitle the purchaser to 365 chances to win throughout 2022, based on the Maryland "Pick 3" daily evening drawing. Proceeds benefit local youth. www.kiwanisofopoc.org

OC LIFE-SAVING STATION MUSEUM PROGRAMS

Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum, south end of the Boardwalk, 813 S. Atlantic Ave., Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m., through Aug. 31. All programs are free. Featuring "History of our Surfman" on Mondays, "Beach Safety" on Tuesdays, "Knot Tying" on Wednesdays, "All About Sharks" on Thursdays, "Land Sky & Sea" on Fridays, and "Aquarium Feeding on Saturdays. 410-289-4991, <https://www.ocmuseum.org>.

Puzzles

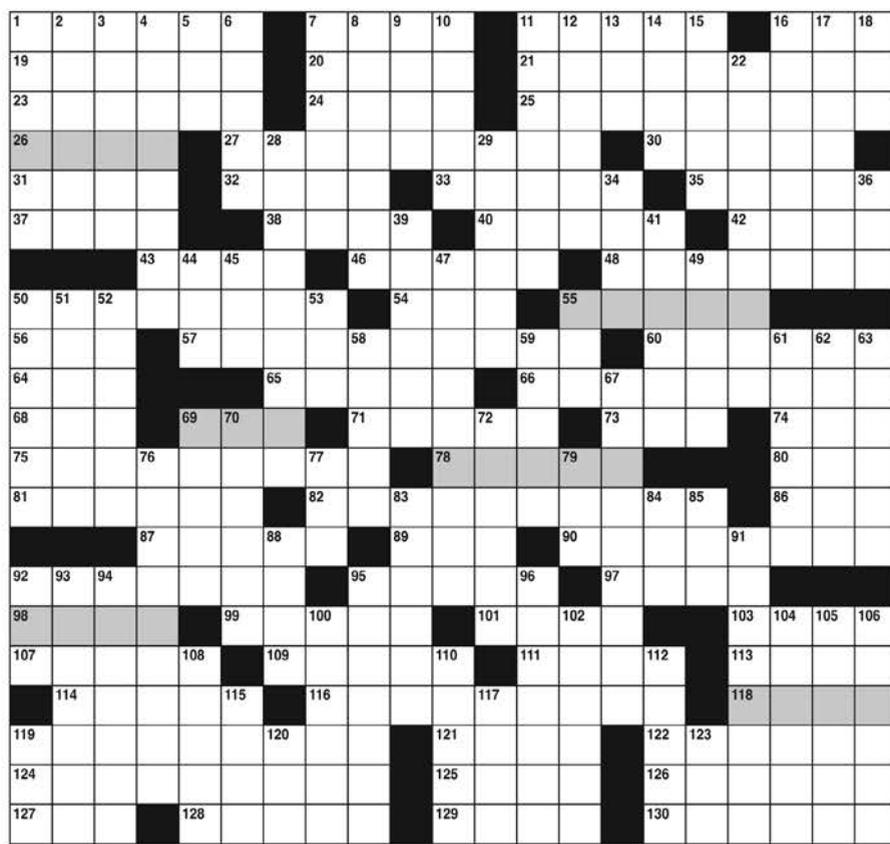
GAME OVER

BY ADAM WAGNER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Adam Wagner, of Oakland, Calif., is a senior copywriter for an ad agency in San Francisco. He says his real No. 1 job, though, as of about two months ago, is being a first-time dad. Adam solves the Times crossword aloud every night with his son cuddled next to him — “so I imagine he’s one of the few people alive who can claim that he literally has a lifelong New York Times crossword solving streak.” — W.S.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Gilda of the original “S.N.L.” cast
 - 7 They may need to be cut off
 - 11 Ways of making ends meet?
 - 16 Degree in design, for short
 - 19 Cow’s-milk cheese that’s often grated
 - 20 Sweet-16 org.
 - 21 Honor named for a Greek goddess
 - 23 Site of a lighthouse that was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World
 - 24 “___ pass”
 - 25 Where snow leopards and blue sheep roam
 - 26 King of a nursery rhyme
 - 27 Went to bat (for)
 - 30 Test versions
 - 31 Good fashion sense, in modern slang
 - 32 Appear
 - 33 Features of some indoor arenas
 - 35 Theater-curtain material
 - 37 Fired off, say
 - 38 Grind
 - 40 Money of the Philippines
 - 42 Follow
 - 43 One giving a khutbah sermon
- DOWN**
- 44 Level the playing field?
 - 45 Put one past
 - 47 One ending for a classic board game — another of which (when a player resigns) is represented visually six times in this puzzle
 - 49 Tough spots
 - 50 Bother incessantly
 - 51 Scoring win after win
 - 52 Mowry who starred alongside her twin Tia in the ‘90s sitcom “Sister, Sister”
 - 53 ___ Z
 - 55 Cubs’ place to play home games
 - 58 Wilson who wrote the lyrics to 75-Across
 - 59 Play areas
 - 61 The “Bel Paese,” to locals
 - 62 Borrower
 - 63 Scale
 - 67 Quintessentially cowardly
 - 69 Mosaic maker
 - 70 Remove from under the seat in front of you, say
 - 72 Ducks known for their soft down feathers
 - 76 Tinker (with)
 - 77 Yes or no follower
 - 79 “I’ve got it!”
 - 83 Rob ___, British comedian and TV personality
 - 84 Samosa tidbit
 - 85 Part of an office phone no.
 - 88 Tool for a duel
 - 91 Sidewalk drawings
 - 92 One of the Manning brothers
 - 93 Disentangle oneself
 - 94 Main source of energy?
 - 95 Breakout 1993 single for Counting Crows
 - 96 Stay awhile
 - 100 Only color of the rainbow not seen on the L.G.B.T. pride flag
 - 102 Portable dwellings
 - 104 Richie with the No. 1 hit “All Night Long”
 - 105 Borrower
 - 106 Potato cultivar that was developed in Ontario, despite its name
 - 108 Pelvic exercise
 - 110 Nintendo dino
 - 112 Like diamonds from a mine
 - 115 Father
 - 117 Weak, as a case
 - 119 “Oh, and another thing ...,” for short
 - 120 Graffiti signature
 - 123 College, to a Brit
- ACROSS**
- 46 Smaller alternative to a Quarter Pounder
 - 48 Chicago team, in old “S.N.L.” sketches
 - 50 Ski-lodge mugful
 - 54 Fraternity letter
 - 55 King of ancient Israel
 - 56 Comic actress
 - 57 Left, cutely
 - 60 Great Lakes nation
 - 64 Pickup line?
 - 65 Like the columns of the Lincoln Memorial
 - 66 Cures
 - 68 “___ we good?”
 - 69 King of ancient Egypt
 - 71 Tattoo artist, so to speak
 - 73 Org. with a complex code
 - 74 “Happy Days” network
 - 75 Beach Boys song set to the tune of Chuck Berry’s “Sweet Little Sixteen”
 - 78 King of myth
 - 80 4G letters
 - 81 ___ pace
 - 82 Not doing so hot
 - 86 F-, e.g.
 - 87 Discourage
 - 89 Waze way: Abbr.
 - 90 Piece of plastic with a gladiator pictured on it
 - 92 Physics demonstration often done from the roof of a school
 - 95 ___-Briggs Type Indicator (popular personality test)
- DOWN**
- 1 “I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure,” e.g.
 - 2 King of Shakespeare
 - 3 “Keep Austin ___” (city slogan)
 - 4 Annual presidential address, for short
 - 5 Partner
 - 6 “No worries”
 - 7 “Bon appetit!”
 - 8 Christ, to Bach
 - 9 Place
 - 10 Chimney channels
 - 11 Warning on presents stashed in the closet
 - 12 King of Skull Island
 - 13 “Huddle up!”
 - 14 Actress Elisabeth
 - 15 When: Sp.
 - 16 Early adolescent years, so to speak
 - 17 Engage
 - 18 Opposite of wind up
 - 19 Infinitesimal
 - 20 Toys with much assembly required
 - 21 Travel-brochure listings
 - 22 Named
 - 23 Some hip-hop collectibles
 - 24 On dry land
 - 25 Join a conference call, say
 - 26 Quick to fall asleep, in a way
 - 27 Sense of self
 - 28 Día de San Valentín gifts
 - 29 Tearfully complain
 - 24 Tabloid nickname for mother Nadya Suleman
 - 25 Powder in the powder room
 - 26 Course with greens
 - 27 Machiavellian sort
 - 28 Omits
 - 29 Objective
 - 30 Gateway city to Utah’s Arches National Park
 - 31 Some after-Christmas announcements
 - 32 Home to about one in five Californians
 - 33 Long-running sitcom set in Seattle
 - 34 Them’s the breaks!
 - 35 Spent some time on YouTube, say
 - 36 Nobel Peace Prize recipient who wrote “No Future Without Forgiveness”
 - 37 Sought-after position
 - 38 Pop
 - 39 G.P.s, e.g.
 - 40 City about 25 miles S.E. of Chicago, IL.
 - 41 ___-faire (social adeptness)

Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



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- 53 ___ Z
- 55 Cubs’ place to play home games
- 58 Wilson who wrote the lyrics to 75-Across
- 59 Play areas
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- 91 Sidewalk drawings
- 92 One of the Manning brothers
- 93 Disentangle oneself
- 94 Main source of energy?
- 95 Breakout 1993 single for Counting Crows
- 96 Stay awhile
- 100 Only color of the rainbow not seen on the L.G.B.T. pride flag
- 102 Portable dwellings
- 104 Richie with the No. 1 hit “All Night Long”
- 105 Borrower
- 106 Potato cultivar that was developed in Ontario, despite its name
- 108 Pelvic exercise
- 110 Nintendo dino
- 112 Like diamonds from a mine
- 115 Father
- 117 Weak, as a case
- 119 “Oh, and another thing ...,” for short
- 120 Graffiti signature
- 123 College, to a Brit

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HARD - 91

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



Answers to last week’s puzzles

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



Cuisine

Tuna poke bowl with Hawaiian BBQ sauce

We catered a wedding last weekend at a private residence. The happy couple happens to be family friends, and they own my great-grandfather's mansion in Cumberland.

George Truog, my great-grandfather, was an eccentric Italian-Swiss artist who owned one of the largest glass companies on the East Coast at the turn of



By Paul Suplee,
MBA, CEC, PC-3

the century. I still have a considerable collection of his work, and the only way I can describe his magnum opus is that he made stadium cups.

Yes, stadium cups, as in when you go to the dock bar and get your orange crush, and it comes in the custom, logoed plastic cup? Well, that is pretty much where he made his bread and butter, he made logoed glasses and was a master in acid-etching.

Of course, I am minimalizing his talents, as many of his glasses are ornate and highly detailed, not having anything to do with particular brands or marketing. But, as far as I have been able to tell, the logo work is how he was able to build his opulent 27-room house.

After he lost his house around 1908 (a long and sordid tale), the house became the Franklin Mental Hospital, and if you consider turn-of-the-century psychological care, you can only imagine the heebie jeebies one gets as one walks through the hallowed halls.

To further accentuate this spiritual maelstrom, it later became the Leisure-Stein funeral home, which operated until the '90s. Indeed, it is creepy. It is an amazing monument nonetheless. When you look at the front of the house, there are two cherubs formed in concrete above the front porch. Those are likenesses of my grandmother as a baby.

Back to the wedding, during the announcements, Joni noted to her guests (most of whom are well aware of the Truog House) that dinner was being prepared by the great-grandson of Truog. I had never been introduced as such, and it was a wonderful feeling knowing that I had such a connection to the event. And my team, being in the flow, or the groove, made it the easiest wedding possible.

And then I was asked my favorite question by a guest in a rather assuming manner: "Chef, I'm gluten-free, so I am assuming that I won't have



much to eat today, right?"

Hold my wine.

Gluten-free is literally the easiest of all dietary limitations for which we can cook. As practitioners in this field, we should understand and sympathize with anyone and their restrictions. People do not choose allergies and sensitivities, and as such we need to ensure that we take care of our guests in every manner.

It was time for the passed hors d'oeuvres as it were, so I told him to give me five minutes. I returned with a plate of treats that would have sufficed as a meal in and of itself.

On the plate: House-smoked bluefish salad with pickled red onions and Alabama White BBQ sauce, assorted deviled eggs, a lovely goat cheese & heirloom grape tomato salad with basil puree and sweet vinegar glaze, and a tuna poke bowl. And then I told him that he could eat everything on the buffet except for two items. He shared that he is not a mac 'n cheese guy, so he wasn't hurt in the least.

He ate. They all ate. And at the end of the day, I was proud to play a part in such a special day for our friends. I can only hope that I made my eccentric great-grandfather proud.

Tuna Poke Bowl

serves 4

- 1# fresh ahi tuna
- 1/2 c. Hawaiian BBQ Sauce (Recipe follows)
- 4 c. Sushi rice (Recipe follows), cooked and cooled
- 1/2 c. Seaweed salad (purchased online)
- 1/4 c. Pickled ginger
- Sesame seeds and sushi seasoning, to taste

Hawaiian BBQ Sauce

makes about 1 quart

- 1 c. Soy sauce
- 1 c. Pineapple juice
- 2 Tbsp. Ketchup
- 1/2 c. Rice wine vinegar
- 1/2 c. Brown sugar, light
- 1/4 c. Roasted garlic
- 3-inch piece of peeled ginger, fresh
- 3 Tbsp. Black and white sesame seeds
- 2 Tbsp. Red pepper flakes

1. Combine everything in a saucepan except for the sesame seeds and pepper flakes.

1. Bring to a simmer and slowly reduce until it has slightly thickened. As it cools down, it will thicken more, so

don't go too far. Also, the more you reduce it, the saltier it will be, so be judicious in your simmering actions.

3. Strain to remove the ginger after you are happy with the consistency

4. Add the sesame seeds and red pepper flakes and refrigerate until ready to use.

Sushi Rice

Makes about 1 quart

- 2 c. Sushi rice
- 1/2 c. Rice wine vinegar
- 2 Tbsp. Sugar
- 1 piece of kombu or other sturdy seaweed

1. This isn't as much a recipe as it is a guide, since every sushi rice manufacturer has slightly different procedures for making their rice.

2. Adjust the amount of water to add the vinegar. This is more of a Korean-style rice, but it works perfectly with the poke bowl.

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

Visit him at www.boxcar40.com.

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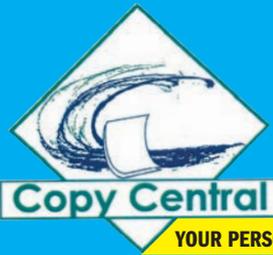
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